RSABI
Supporting People in Scottish Agriculture

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For year ending March 31st 2023

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RSABI
(A company limited by guarantee)
Company No. SC268622 (Scotland)

OSCR
Scottish Charity Regulator
www.oscr.org.uk
Registered Charity SC009828

Chair's Statement

The year ending 31 March 2023 was a year of many highlights for RSABI. One of these was seeing the charity celebrate 125 years of service to the Scottish agricultural community and we are grateful to many of our supporters who made a special effort to celebrate with us and raise funds to support our work too.

However, we were very much saddened in our special anniversary year to lose our Patron, Her Majesty the late Queen Elizabeth II. Her Majesty was a wonderful supporter of the charity and is sadly missed.

RSABI was founded in 1897. As our name back then suggested, we were founded as a benevolent institution, to provide financial support to those in the farming community, who had fallen on hard times. In those days it was principally tenant farmers we supported (hardly surprising since more than three-quarters of farmers were tenants at the time) and of course we also provided financial support to farm workers in need.

Much has changed over the years, moving from horses to small tractors, to a much more modern fleet of high tech equipment. But behind all this there is something that hasn't changed. People are still the beating heart of farm businesses. There are just fewer of them and, as a consequence, the challenges they face are different.

RSABI has also evolved to meet these different needs. Yes, we still provide financial support, but increasingly our work has become more focused around the provision of practical and emotional support. Our support has also expanded to cover a much wider age range – from young farmers to those now retired from the sector.

In the past year our staff have returned to more normal working patterns, following the interruption caused by Covid. The workflow has not diminished. It has been driven by rising energy prices and the general increase in the cost of living. It has also been influenced by the continued uncertainty in farming as support mechanisms and markets change following the UK withdrawal from the European Union.

In common with many charitable organisations our income from our investment portfolio has been under pressure, as economic uncertainty persists. We have been very fortunate to receive a number of legacies, which have compensated for some of the reduction in investment income. We have also been privileged to have received significant donations from a number of businesses. The use of the Gogarburn Conference Centre, kindly provided to us without charge by the Royal Bank of Scotland, enabled us to raise £65,000 from our 125th Anniversary dinner. In addition, we received £70,000 from the NFU Mutual Charitable Trust, which has supported us to develop and start to deliver accredited Mental Health First Aid training for the sector, in conjunction with IED Training (led by a group of former Royal Marines).

We are also grateful to the Scottish Government for their continued support, including a £50,000 donation in the year under review. Large donations inevitably make the headlines and there have been great results which many of you will have seen highlighted in the farming press. But for me, the large number of smaller donations we receive are just as important - individuals, out in all weathers, raising funds or simply making donations themselves. They are all doing their bit to reach out indirectly, showing kindness to those who are struggling with life – and believe me even a little bit of kindness can go a long way, when you feel like life has hit you in the face with a cricket bat!

The Great Glen Challenge returned as a live event and we had wonderful support from our main sponsors, United Auctions. Although numbers were down a little on pre-COVID years, we were encouraged by the enthusiasm of those involved and grateful for the £34,000 raised. It remains a major fundraiser for RSABI and a positive team building event for those who compete.

I am pleased that our Supporters' Scheme has also grown steadily over the year, with total numbers reaching 770, at the year end. Our Supporters' Scheme has a high renewal rate and will continue to be fundamental to the future funding of the organisation. We would be grateful if you could encourage other farmers or colleagues to become regular supporters of RSABI.

I would also like to acknowledge the work of our board of trustees and our trainee trustees. We are fortunate to have such a wealth of talent giving their time freely. They come from diverse backgrounds including farming, accountancy and finance, agricultural law, marketing & PR, counselling and agricultural policy. During the year, David Leggat stepped down as Chair of Trustees at the end of his two-year term. David, who remained a trustee, was an exceptional chair and we appreciate the positive way he has led the board.

Our trustees, supporters and beneficiaries all recognise the vital role our staff play in meeting our charitable objectives. We have a small team of staff, some of whom are part-time, but all are absolutely dedicated to the cause. This year marks the first full year as CEO for Carol McLaren. Under her leadership the charity's reputation and profile has continued to grow and new ideas and ways to help those in need are flourishing.

Finally, I want to thank you for your continued support. As I mentioned earlier our supporters and donors are vital to the future viability of RSABI. We will continue to work to achieve our charitable objectives, serving those in our sector who are struggling for various reasons, but we cannot do that without you.

James McLean
RSABI Chair

Report of the Board of Trustees
for year ending March 31 2023

Introduction

The Trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended March 31 2023.

The financial statements comply with the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), 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 (FRS102) issued in October 2019, and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Objectives and strategy of the charity

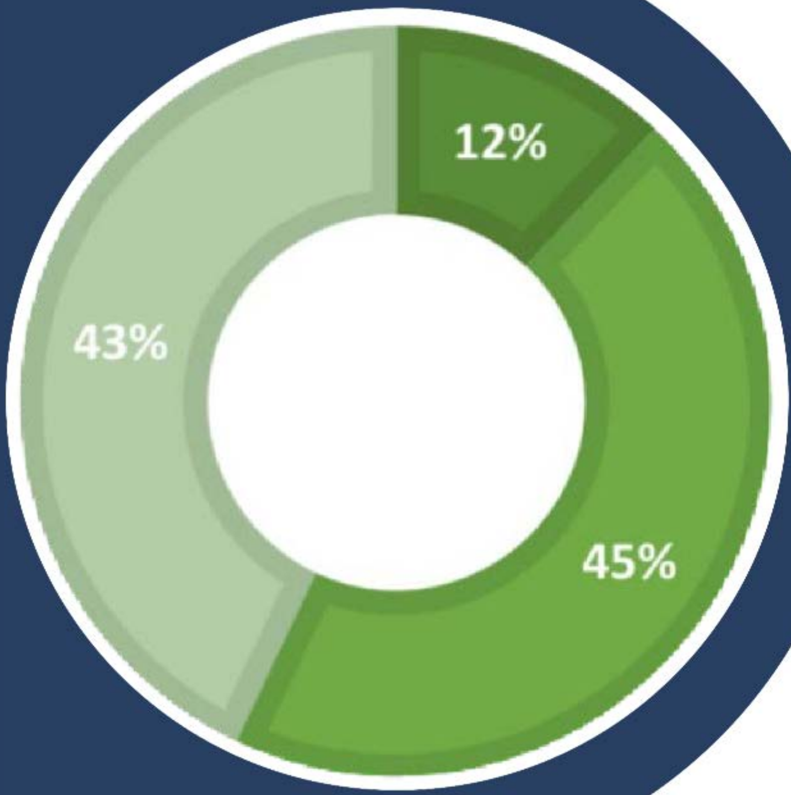
The Trustees adopted a five-year ongoing Business Plan to ensure RSABI's activities are relevant to the people we help and the environment in which it operates.

The Trustees constantly monitor the performance of the charity and review the business plan every year. The key strategic objectives of the charity remain unchanged, namely:

1. Increase annual income of the charity through the Supporters' Scheme to meet the costs of delivering the increased services while maintaining current levels of voluntary income.
2. Deliver such support to clients in a professional, confidential and friendly manner, and develop this support in response to changing circumstances and needs.
3. Demonstrate legislative compliance, transparency, efficiency, and good practice in all of the charity's policies, procedures and practices.
4. Develop the capacity and skills of its Trustees and staff in pursuit of these objectives.

Welfare Overview

- Financial 12%
- Practical 43%
- Emotional 45%



Breakdown of Welfare Team time dedicated to helping clients

> ***"Last year saw a continuation in the shift of recent years from predominately financial, to practical and emotional support, with casework becoming increasingly complex as we provide clients with a range of different support to move forward."***
>
> ***Chris McVey, RSABI Welfare Manager***

The 2022/23 year saw the welcome return of farming events and shows which restarted after a long period of restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There was a sense that normality was returning for most of the clients that RSABI supported throughout the pandemic and the welfare team were happy to be able to meet clients in person at local events and agricultural shows.

The first major event we attended was Scotsheep at Over Finlarg Farm in Tealing and the team highlighted that there was a real buzz amongst attendees being able to meet and chat to friends and colleagues in person. It certainly highlighted the importance of socialising to maintaining good mental health and wellbeing.

As well as being able to attend local shows and events, the welfare team began to meet with partners and stakeholders in person again to build positive working relationships which are incredibly important in being able to provide support for RSABI clients.

However, naturally, there remained some people who were understandably hesitant due to anxiety or a loss of confidence about socialising. Moreover, the reality for many was that they experienced no real change when COVID restrictions were removed as isolation and loneliness existed before the pandemic.

The welfare team were very aware of this and continued to make outgoing emotional support calls to those who find this support really valuable. For some, this continued to be the only social contact they had, with many clients commenting that their regular support call was a life-line.

We are very grateful to the Royal Highland Agricultural Society of Scotland (RHASS) for continuing to provide funding to assist with the costs of running our helpline.

Time spent providing emotional and practical support was once again greater when compared with financial support. This is a trend that has been seen over the last few years and we expect it to remain the same for the foreseeable future. However, it is important not to downplay RSABI's ability to provide financial support to those that are in most need.

Our ability to provide short-term financial support, especially during a cost-of-living crisis, allows individuals to refocus and concentrate on moving forward, for example by accessing a business review or obtaining financial advice to organise their finances.

As suggested above, another common reason for contacting the helpline in 2022/23 was the cost-of-living crisis which impacted individuals and families throughout the industry. High input costs and the increased cost of fuel, energy and essential items like food squeezed budgets throughout the country making it more difficult to make ends meet. We also saw demand for our counselling support treble in 2022/23 compared to the previous year.

While it is positive that more people feel comfortable to reach out for such support, it is an indication that mental health support is more needed than ever.

As we neared the end of 2022/23, the financial and emotional pressure on many looked set to continue into 2023/24. It is important that RSABI remains responsive and well-equipped in order to support an industry that is not only facing financial pressure but will also be going through a period of change over the next few years.

Financial & Practical Support

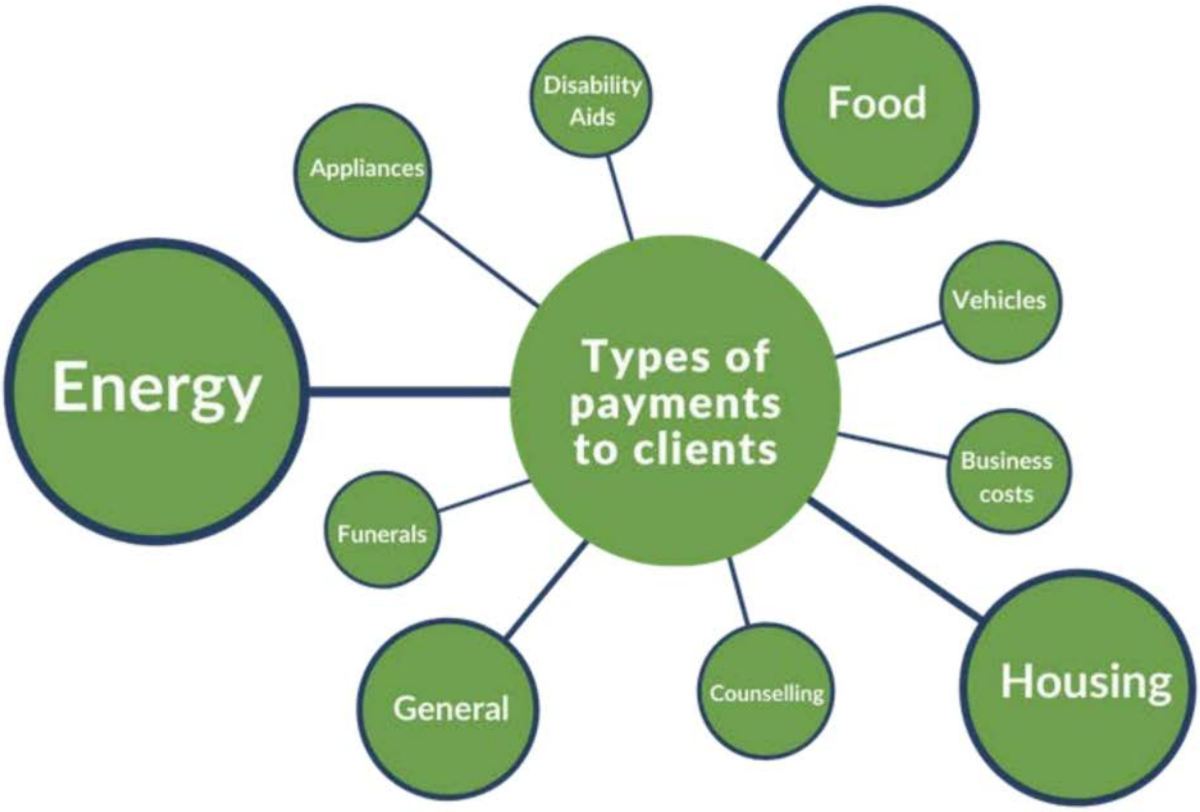
As with 2021/22, the work of the welfare team has continued to become increasingly complex and includes working with a number of local and national partners and stakeholders to achieve satisfactory outcomes for clients.

The team carried out over 10,000 interactions in 2022/23 with, or on behalf of, our clients. These included telephone calls, visits, emails, application submissions and research activities. This also included making over 2,000 emotional support calls to lonely and isolated individuals.

Access to business reviews through the Farm Advisory Service (FAS) and funded by the Scottish Government is an area of practical support that the welfare team utilises regularly in order to help move farmers and crofters forward. We remain grateful to the Scottish Government for continuing to provide this funding.

The welfare team have also worked with a number of statutory and non-statutory agencies throughout 2022/23 and RSABI is very grateful to all those working in a wide variety of agency roles, who are understanding and show patience when clients experience difficulties.

The welfare team also secured additional income of £71,000 in the form of financial gains for clients. This included identifying areas that clients could maximise their income, such as claiming state benefits and submitting applications to other charities.



Of those households receiving direct financial assistance, 170 received monthly payments totaling £195,000. Most of those receiving monthly payments have backgrounds in agriculture who have retired from active work due to age, illness or disability.

Due to the cost-of-living crisis the Board of Trustees also agreed to a one-off cost-of-living payment made to each household receiving monthly payments to assist with rising prices.

In addition, we distributed 256 single grants - totaling around £69,000. These clients, who are assessed as having a low disposable income and low savings, are provided with support for a wide variety of purposes ranging from essential household items, such as food and toiletries to part supporting the cost of home adaptions due to disability or illness.

Of particular note was the level of demand for our Help for Heating grants which totalled £41,000 in 2022/23.

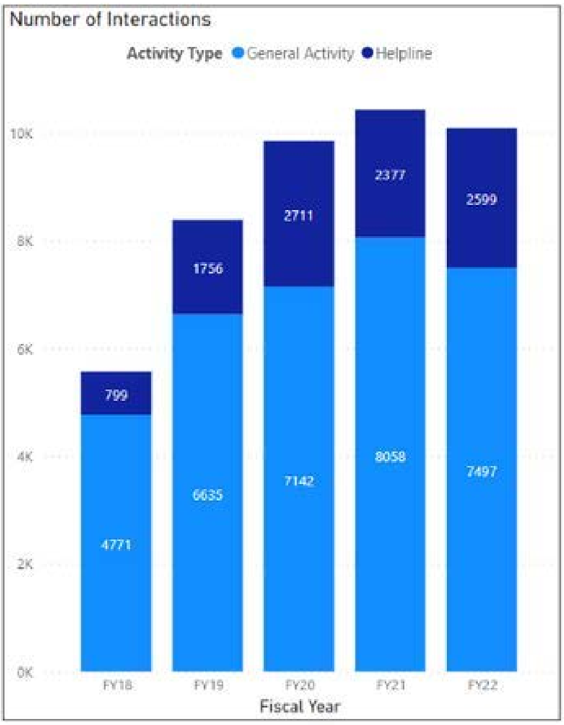
Helpline

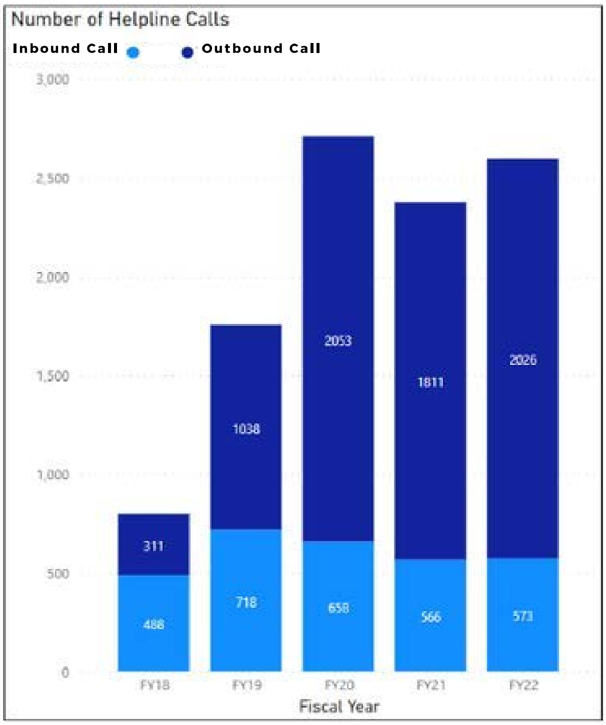
Our helpline – 0808 1234 555 – is now an easy to remember freephone number, which will not appear on a phone bill, adding to confidentiality. From the beginning of 2022/23 the helpline has been available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Calls to the helpline, both outbound and inbound, have remained steady and we continue to make regular outbound emotional support calls to those who are lonely, isolated or are in need of a listening ear. We are grateful to the small team of volunteers who help us with our regular outbound calls.

We also introduced a new way to get in touch with us this year via webchat, which can be accessed through our website. The use of webchat steadily increased in popularity throughout 2022/23 and has been utilised by a broad demographic. Some view webchat as a more confidential method of making initial contact with RSABI and has been used to find out a bit more about our support services before getting in touch through our helpline.

Number of interactions and helpline calls





An "**Interaction**" as defined above occurs when a member of the team records an **activity** for or on behalf of a client.

Welfare Initiatives in 2022/23

Mental Health First Aid Training

In autumn 2022, we began to trial Mental Health First Aid and Awareness courses, working with former Royal Marines who offered a unique insight into mental health but also shared similarities with the agricultural sector.

The aim of the initiative is to work with organisations and businesses who are in regular contact with farmers and crofters and to give individuals the skills and confidence to identify the signs when someone may be struggling, to know how to have a supportive conversation and how to help them find further help and support from organisations like RSABI.

The pilot phase proved to be a success and since then we have trained over 300 individuals involved in Scottish agriculture in Mental Health First Aid.

Demand for this training continues to gain momentum and we are grateful to be able to travel to all parts of Scotland to provide this training free of charge due to much-appreciated funding received from the NFU Mutual's Charitable Trust.

Thrive Mental Wellbeing App

We also began piloting a new mental wellbeing app with young farmers, as part of our commitment to engage with and support more young people in the industry.

The app is approved by the NHS and includes access to mental health support, such as Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) and resources on mindfulness and relaxation techniques. Access to live chat with trained therapists is also available at the touch of a button if individuals are in need of professional support.

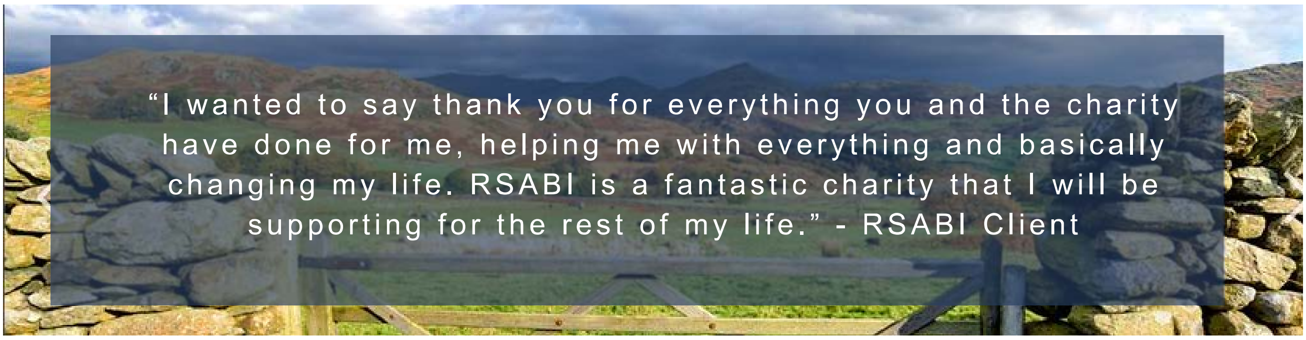
The app is currently being piloted with three Young Farmers' Clubs – Aberfeldy, Bell Baxter and Biggar – under the direction and guidance of the Scottish Association of Young Farmers' Club's Development and Wellbeing Committee.

Farm Resilience Programme

The Royal Countryside Fund (RCF, formerly The Prince’s Countryside Fund) has worked in partnership with RSABI to deliver the Farm Resilience Programme, a series of workshops providing free business skills training and one-to-one support to farming families.

As part of the partnership agreement, the RCF awarded a £15,000 grant to RSABI to assist the work the charity does to support people in Scottish agriculture. Families in Stranrar, Ullapool and Caithness took part in the programme which is open to dairy and livestock family farm businesses and crofters and takes a whole-farm and whole-family approach.

The Farm Resilience Programme has supported hundreds of farming families to improve their business performance and make real changes on farm. A recent independent evaluation of the programme found it delivers significant economic, social, and environmental benefits for farmers, with 58% of farmers reporting increased profitability and 73% improving their business skills.



Development Overview

During the year under review RSABI delivered a lively programme of PR activity to raise awareness of its services and its impact helping people in Scottish agriculture. As well as increasing awareness of our activities, press and social media activity also helped to encourage people to very kindly offer to raise funds for the charity.

As well as growing our social media following, we developed a new website to engage with people and to provide them with the tools and digital assets to efficiently maximise the impact of their fundraising and awareness raising initiatives.

A host of farming folk united to record an adaptation of “Silent Night” to raise awareness of the potential for loneliness in the Scottish agricultural community in winter 2022/23. The adapted version of the carol was pulled together as part of our #KeepTalking campaign to encourage people in Scottish farming to look out for each other. We also supported the growth of the Carols at the Marts initiative being delivered by several marts in Scotland.

After 40 years of service in Scottish Government agricultural roles, Gregor Caldwell stepped down and chose to donate his retirement collection to RSABI. Gregor was the founding chair of the Ayrshire Volunteer Committee which has raised £120,000 in the past 12 years.

Two awards for outstanding contribution to RSABI were presented at a Jubilee event on board HMS Albion, attended by Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal. The awards were presented as part of a range of 125th anniversary year initiatives by RSABI to thank the volunteers, fundraisers, and others for their invaluable support. The award for individual contribution went to agricultural journalist, Andrew Arbuckle, and a group award to Gregor Caldwell, representing the Ayrshire Volunteer Committee. Andrew Arbuckle has raised more than £100,000 for RSABI – as well as lots of smiles – through the sale of a series of three light-hearted books. The books were compiled by Mr Arbuckle, with his late brother John also working on two of the titles.

Supporters' Scheme

The Supporters' Scheme remains a key part of our development activity to create a reliable and diversified income stream. It also allows us to keep in touch on a regular basis with individuals and businesses who want to support their community.

It remained a challenging year to recruit new supporters with a reduced staff compliment. We are very grateful to all who joined or continued as members of the scheme or helped us grow our number of supporters for yet another year.

770+ Supporters' Scheme members

Grants and Trusts

The Scottish Government were instrumental in allowing us to continue and expand our services to clients by providing a grant amounting to £50,000.

The Royal Countryside Fund (RCF), formerly The Prince's Countryside Fund, worked in partnership with RSABI to deliver a series of workshops providing free business training skills, and one-to-one support to farming families in Scotland across Stranraer, Ullapool and Caithness. This Farm Resilience Programme saw RSABI awarded a £15,000 grant to assist the work the charity does to support people in Scottish agriculture.

ROYAL HIGHLAND & AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND

We very much value our partnership with The Royal Highland Agricultural Show Society for their continued support of the RSABI Helpline (£16,000).

Notable donations were received from The NFUM Charitable Trust, The Kiltwalk (in conjunction with The Hunter Foundation), The Scottish Holstein Club and The Misses Robinson Charitable Trust.

Donations

We are extremely grateful to everyone who has given their time and effort to fundraise for, and donate to, RSABI. We will continue to work hard to encourage people to make RSABI their charity of choice.

During the year, we were delighted with public-led fundraising activities from the likes of Drew and Ann Young who held an event to celebrate their wedding anniversary and birthdays (£35,000 for RSABI). David Cooper organised the Ayrshire Ball (£24,000) at the Lochgreen House Hotel. Ross Agri Services' 50th Anniversary Machinery Show held in Aberdeen saw the firm raise over £28,000 thanks to the generosity of supporters.

Other contributors included the Stirling, Strathendrick and Strathkelvin Young Farmers who held a Stockjudging and Charity Auction event, Turriff and District JAC who held "Turra's Tartan Fling" as part of their 90th anniversary, and the NFU Scotland North East region's annual Joe Watson testimonial event.

The Farmers' Choir, celebrating its 10th anniversary, hosted a concert at Easterbrook Hall; the Agricultural Industries Confederation (AIC) donated through its Scotland Member businesses at its annual dinner; and Quality Meat Scotland raised funds through the sale of their t-shirts at the Royal Highland Show.

We are deeply indebted to those families that have lost loved ones and chose to donate the funeral collections to RSABI. Thinking of others during times of such sadness is very much appreciated by the team at RSABI – thank you. A special consideration for Morton Fraser LLP who donated £20,000 plus gift aid in memory of one of their late partners, James Rust.

Legacies

Leaving a gift in your will to RSABI is a way to support our work for many years to come. RSABI's reserves have been built over the years in the main due to legacies left by individuals keen to make a difference. Those reserves not only generate an annual income but also ensure that RSABI is able to support people in Scottish agriculture for many more generations to come. Legacies make a lasting difference, whatever the size.

During the year, RSABI has benefitted from the estates of the late Isabella Alexander, Mary Prentice, Robert Mclelland, James Gibb and Jeremy Dewhurst.

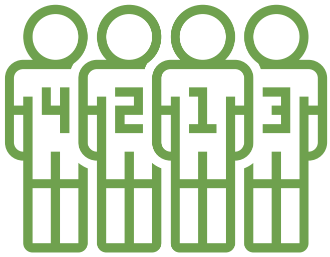
Fundraising

Two major fundraising events took place in 2022: Our ongoing partnership with corporate supporters, the Royal Bank of Scotland, led to a Gala Dinner at Gogarburn, raising an amazing £65,000 after receiving a special contribution from The Wiseman Family Charitable Fund. We were also delighted to be able to run the Great Glen Challenge in 2022.

Great Glen Challenge 2022

£34,000

46 km



17 teams

Our Great Glen Challenge has become an established fixture in the agricultural calendar, raising over £300,000 since its inception. We held our first physical event since Covid and were amazed at the response. Our thanks go out to all teams, sponsors, volunteers and staff who have taken part in the past and those who came forward to participate in the 2022 event. A special #Challenge 125 campaign also saw the community dedicate kilometres to maintaining good mental health through physical exercise.

Christmas Sales

With a streamlined sales process, our trading allowed us to raise awareness through the distribution of over 26,000 branded Christmas cards and raise £15,000 in sales revenue.

Financial Review

In order to meet our strategic aims (reviewed and updated in 2019), and to continue providing a meaningful service to our clients, the Board recognised capital expenditure was required and agreed to fund planned annual operational deficits from RSABI's reserves with an aim to reducing these to zero within five years.

During this challenging year, no deficits were experienced mainly due to an increase in individuals and organisations coming forward to raise funds for their charity of choice. Substantial contributions were also received from the Scottish Government (£50,000) and the NFUM Charitable Trust (£70,000). The charity ended the year with an operating surplus of £239,000.

After adjusting for a decrease in the investment portfolio, the charity closed the year with total funds of £15,000,000 which represents an overall decrease in funds of £502,000.

The income derived from funds under investment will hopefully allow the charity to reduce its planned deficits in the years to come as well as enabling the charity to support future generations of farmers, crofters and people in Scottish agriculture.

The ethical allocation of investments is regularly monitored by the Trustees who elected to create the Lasting Legacy Fund with a remit to actively target investments that seek to create material, measurable and positive impacts on people and the planet. Following review, the Trustees maintained to increase the balance of the designated Crisis Fund to enable the charity to quickly ramp up support to the industry in case of future crises.

At RSABI, we are deeply committed to sustainability, guided by our mission to support those working in Scottish agriculture. Our dedication to sustainability encompasses environmental responsibility, social engagement, and economic resilience. In our pursuit of environmental sustainability, we prioritize reducing our carbon footprint and conserving resources.

Economically, we ensure responsible financial stewardship while supporting rural livelihoods and collaborating with stakeholders to create lasting solutions. Our sustainability commitment is integral to our mission, ensuring a vibrant and resilient future for Scottish agriculture.

Income: £1.312m

Investment Policy and Performance

The first half of the financial year saw global markets plummet as high inflation and interest rates took hold, before a recovery ensued in the investment market values. We ended the financial year with an overall capital depreciation of the investment portfolio by -£740,000 (2022: +£612,000). With such short-term volatility, it is wise to remember that balance sheet figures such as these only present a snapshot of the value of our investment portfolio and it is more appropriate to consider a long-term view when assessing performance.

Investment income remained at post-Covid reduced levels with annual dividends amounting to £355,000 (2022: £276,000). The increase is attributed to income generated through the new Lasting Legacy Fund, opened with contributions of £4.4m. The fund is managed by Abrdn, who developed a portfolio aligned to RSABI's values and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, targeting global positive impacts and driving positive change. They believe that capital growth in real terms is achievable whilst providing a necessary stable income stream to RSABI through assets in social infrastructure and renewable energy.

Other income

A breakdown of our other income streams can be summarised as follows:

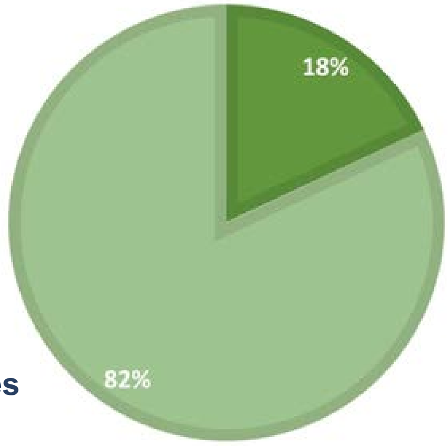
- General Donations amounted to **£500,000 (2022: £248,000)**
- The Supporter Scheme continues to grow, contributing **£132,000 (2022: £126,000)**
- Fundraising income over the year was **£128,000 (2022: £22,000)**
- Trading Income was **£15,000 (2022: £22,000)**
- Legacies amounted to **£81,000 (2022: £407,000)**
- Grants received were **£96,000 (2022: £286,000)**

Expenditure: £1.073m

Charitable activities

Charitable Activities cost £870,000 (2022: £729,000).

These consist of the following three categories essential for meeting the increasing demands on the charity's services:



(i) Direct Payments

Around £302,000 of this expenditure was directly paid to clients (2022: £257,000). The increase is mainly due to existing long-term clients receiving a one-off cost of living payment (£125) to help with rising costs and an increase in applications for our Help for Heating grant. We also contributed directly (£38,000) to other charitable organisations, usually due to redistributions as agreed with our fundraisers.

(ii) Delivery Costs

Delivery costs of £504,000 (2022: £421,000) includes a proportion of staff costs relating to providing support, helpline services as well as background office support. This year, we incurred additional costs to extend the Helpline to a freephone 24hour/365-day service, to deliver Mental Health First Aid Awareness Training for the Scottish agricultural sector through our training partner, former Royal Marines at IED Training and for the first time in the UK, a mental wellbeing app was procured to roll out to young farmers in a pilot scheme. This Thrive Mental Wellbeing app is approved by the NHS, and includes access to a live in-app chat feature with qualified therapists available at the touch of a button.

(iii) Governance costs

To ensure that the charity complies with all relevant legislation and maintains its reputation within the industry it is important to adequately resource governance of the organisation. These costs amounted to £63,000 (2022: £50,000). During the year, the Trustees gathered for two planning days as well as their usual Board meetings.

Raising funds

Raising funds for the charity cost £204,000 (2022: £115,000). This relates to generating voluntary income, fundraising, trading, and investment management fees.

Additional costs were incurred with the management of the new Lasting Legacy Fund investment portfolio, a campaign to increase awareness of the charity's services and increasing staff numbers to meet the growing demand for our services.

The return in terms of the quality of the professional services provided is immeasurable and the increase in general donations can be attributed indirectly to "telling our story" to a more engaged and expanding audience.

Reserves Policy

For over 100 years RSABI has built up its capital reserves. The Trustees believe sustainability is paramount to our clients and that the level of reserves should allow the charity:

1. to maintain payments to clients even over prolonged periods where our income may be reduced until such time as income can be re-developed or all funds are exhausted
2. allow for the strategic aims of the charity.

The charity's funds mainly consist of unrestricted funds which may be applied or designated to further any of the charity's purpose, and endowment funds (restricted) where the Trustees have no power to expend the capital.

Total Funds	£15,000,172
Restricted and Endowment Funds - the largest of which is the Turnbull Trust	(£2,963,269)
Crisis Fund – Designated fund to respond quickly to any future emergency faced by the industry. The Trustees believe it is important to the reputation of the charity that it retains a capability to respond properly to such calls for support as it has done so in the past and may again be required in the light of any upcoming Brexit transitions.	(£1,394,780)
General Fund – remaining (unrestricted) funds	£10,642,123
Less: Tangible fixed assets	(£24,371)
Available Reserves	£10,617,752
i. An analysis of our long term obligation to our current annual clients indicates a maximum amount required to maintain a minimal administration service and continue to make payments for the next 10 years	(£2,101,000)
ii. Amount estimated by Trustees to cover operational deficits over the next 5 years	(£229,000)
Remaining reserves	£8,287,752

The Trustees feel that the current level of funds is appropriate and necessary to generate income for the Charity to fulfil its charitable objects for the long term. During this year, the charity was able to maintain its level of support to its clients without the need for any withdrawals from the reserves. With additional investment income received via dividends from the "Lasting Legacy" fund and the continued strategic aim of the charity to expand the Supporter Scheme, it is hoped that planned operational deficits will reduce over the next 5 years to manageable levels. These planned deficits are funded by the reserves which does deplete their ability to generate income.

Trustees have been advised that the financial impact of high inflation and interest rates will be felt for years to come, with income from investments likely to remain low for some time and a difficult economic outlook is forecast. It is therefore imperative that funds are maintained to cover the risks associated with the ensuing stock market volatility, a possible reduction in voluntary donations, any unexpected expenditure and for working capital requirements. A complete change in government agricultural policy is also expected. This will impact on farming and crofting businesses and may cause difficulties for some people practically and emotionally. There is a possibility of an increase in demand for RSABI support services as a result.

Plans for future periods

RSABI's financial position at the year-end far exceeded expectations mainly due to the generosity of the agricultural community, as well as grants received from the Scottish Government and philanthropic organisations. These may be considered one off and as such, the trustees need to ensure that the future financial outlook of the charity is not undermined.

In the next 12 months, the Trustees anticipate:

- A review of RSABI strategy and objectives and the development of a new business plan.
- Careful planning to ensure we can meet increased demand for support services given potential reductions in income from investments, fundraising and donations.
- Continue to actively collaborate with key industry stakeholders and build our network of partnerships.
- The appointment of a Head of Fundraising to support the priority being given to optimising income streams for RSABI.
- Close liaison with the Scottish Government and other key stakeholders to gain timely insight to the potential impact of government policy on farmers/crofters and their families, so we can plan accordingly in terms of workload, staff resource and funding needed.
- Continuous review of the support services to ensure that effective support is available from the welfare team and external professional services where appropriate.
- Continue to look at new ways of engaging with different demographics throughout the industry, particularly young people.
- Assessment of the Thrive Mental Wellbeing app which is currently being trialled by three young farmers' clubs.
- Further development of the new Health Hut initiative to encourage farmers to look after their physical and mental health.
- Expanding a program to provide free Mental Health First Aid Training to the Scottish agricultural industry, with a view to developing a network of mental health first aiders around the country and continue to raise awareness of our services.
- Participating in the Royal Highland Show and other key agricultural shows and events.
- Expansion of the #KeepTalking call to action in the agricultural community to encourage people to look out for those who may be feeling low or lonely and raise awareness of our Helpline and counselling services.
- Setting up a Transition Plan to net-zero by 2030 for RSABI. People and businesses will have to respond to the climate change emergency. It will undoubtedly affect farmers and crofters and their businesses. RSABI is no different. Understanding what is involved and what our impact on people and the planet is, will help us understand the challenges faced by those in the agricultural industry who are having to adapt.

Supporters of RSABI as at 31st March 2023

283 Individual Supporters

416 Business supporters

74 Corporate supporters

Corporate supporters

- Achentoul Farms Ltd
- AIC Scotland
- A K Stoddart Ltd
- A Ritchie & Sons
- ABP Perth
- Agrovista UK Ltd
- Anderson Beaton Lamond
- Ardwell Estates Ltd
- Atholl Estates
- Bank of Scotland
- Begbies Traynor
- Bell Ingram LLP
- Biggar Farmers Club
- Binn Group
- Birsay Farmers Ltd
- British Polythene Industries Ltd
- Carrs Billington
- Cheviot Trees Ltd
- Craig Wilson Ltd
- Davidson & Robertson
- Dunbia (UK) Highland Meat
- East Coast Viners Grain (Drumlithie) Ltd
- East of Scotland Growers Ltd
- Galbraith
- Gillespie Macandrew LLP
- Haddo Estate
- Harper Macleod LLP
- Hoodles Playbarn & Coffee Shop
- Johnston Carmichael (Scotland) Ltd
- Keith & Fiona McElrea Ltd
- Kettle Produce Ltd
- Lawrie & Symington Ltd
- Lothian Machinery Ring Ltd
- Lycetts
- Macphie Ltd
- Malcom Allan Housebuilders Ltd
- Margaret & Alan Wiseman
- Moncreiffe Agricultural Enterprises
- Moncreiffe Farming
- Muirhall Energy Ltd
- NFU Mutual - Glasgow
- NFU Scotland
- North East Farm Management Association
- Over Hillhouse Farm
- Roadhead Farm Feeds
- RHASS
- Ringlink (Scotland) Ltd
- Royal Bank of Scotland plc
- SAOS
- Savills UK Ltd
- Scot Agri
- Scottish Quality Crops
- Scotland Food & Drink
- Scotland's Rural College (SRUC)
- Scotmin Nutrition
- Seed Logistics Ltd
- Shepherd & Wedderburn
- Stewart Agricultural Ltd
- Tarff Valley Ltd
- The Earn Coffee Shop
- The Fresh Milk Company (Lactalis)
- The Hon John Dewar Charitable Trust
- The James Hutton Foundation
- The Moredun Foundation
- The Royal Northern Agricultural Society
- The Scottish Farmer
- United Auctions Ltd
- Virgin Money Bank
- Watson Seeds Ltd
- WCF Ltd
- Welbeck Scottish Farms Ltd
- Yara UK Ltd

Charitable Trust Contributors

- A E H Salvesens Charitable Fund
- Aaron Mclean Trust
- AIC Scotland
- Cairnfold Charitable Trust
- Callendar Charitable Trust
- Drummond Estates
- Gannett Foundation
- Howman Charitable Trust
- March Brown Charitable Trust
- Mrs L D Rope's Second Charitable Settlement
- NFU Mutual Charitable Trust
- The Alastair and Margaret Miller Charitable Trust
- The Appletree Trust
- The Buccleuch Charitable Foundation
- The Geoffrey Clark Charitable Trust
- The Kiltwalk & The Hunter Foundation
- The Misses Robinson Charitable Trust
- The Privy Purse Charitable Trust
- The Wiseman Family Charitable Fund

Structure, Governance and Management

RSABI is a recognised Scottish charity (No. SC009828) and is a Company limited by guarantee and not having share capital (Company number SC268622). The Memorandum and Articles of Association by which it is governed can be viewed on the RSABI website at www.rsabi.org.uk.

The Trustees of the charity share responsibility for its management, for strategic planning, for public accountability and for its efficient and cost-effective management. The Trustees are also Directors of RSABI under company law.

RSABI's Trustees are appointed by, and from within, the membership of the charity in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Memorandum and Articles of Association. These provide that the Board may comprise up to nine elected Trustees and may co-opt a further three individuals to assist its work. The process for appointment of new Trustees, their duties and performance requirements are detailed in RSABI's Trustee Code, "The role, appointment and conduct of Trustees of RSABI".

This includes a "skills matrix" defining the range of expertise and experience required within the Board for it to competently discharge its responsibilities in a changing world. A "Board rotation" model is maintained to forecast future Board composition if retirement rules are followed through, and this assists succession planning.

Details of Trustees serving during the reporting period are provided in the Reference and Administrative Information section at the end of this Report. The Board met formally on a total of five occasions during the year, and while the vast majority of its work was undertaken as a full Board some issues between Board meetings were determined by electronic communication.

Assisting the Trustees, are the following sub committees which meet at least twice per year and report on relevant matters to the Board:

1. Human Resources & Remuneration subcommittee which consists of two Trustees and a human resources professional. Their remit includes overseeing remuneration, reviewing and benchmarking salaries and contracts, and monitoring the targets & performance of the chief executive.
2. Finance subcommittee consists of three Trustees with relevant expertise. Their remit includes overseeing the preparation of the annual financial statements in liaison with the auditors and conducting regular oversight of the performance of our investment managers.

Key Management Personnel and Remuneration

The Trustees consider the Board of Trustees, the chief executive, finance manager, and welfare manager as comprising the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling the charity and running and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis. All Trustees give of their time freely for Board matters.

All Trustee expenses are disclosed in note 10 to the accounts and there were no related party transactions to disclose. Trustees are required to disclose all relevant interests and register them with the chief executive and in accordance with the charity's policy withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises.

The pay of the charity's personnel is reviewed annually by its remuneration committee and normally increased in accordance with average earnings. The remuneration is also bench marked with charities of a similar size and activity to ensure that the remuneration set is fair and not out of line with that generally paid for similar roles.

Risk Management

At each Board meeting the Trustees formally review the RSABI risk register, particularly focusing on those risks that threaten the financial stability of the charity, its operations and its reputation. Risks associated with new activities or perceptions of new threats are addressed as they arise. It is important that adequate systems are in place, or appropriate measures are being taken, to mitigate exposure to the major risks identified.

The Trustees consider the high dependency upon investments' income and market volatility to constitute the charity's major financial risk which has recently heightened due to COVID-19. This is mitigated by working closely with our investment managers and having a diversified investment portfolio. In addition, we continue to develop our Supporters' Scheme to create a stable source of annual revenue.

The risks posed to the Scottish agricultural industry from changes in agricultural policy and global economics, could increase pressure on RSABI's services. This is mitigated by routinely engaging with Government and other key industry stakeholders to ensure we are in a strong position to judge changes in demand for services. We also continually review the evolving needs of our clients. The Trustees will regularly monitor and review working practices and costs.

Reference and Administrative Information

Honorary Patron
Her Majesty The Late Queen*

Honorary President
The Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry KBE FRSE DL

Honorary Vice Presidents
Mrs Margaret Anderson MBE
The Earl of Airlie KT GCVO PC*
Robin J Forrest OBE DL FRAgS
Mrs Sheena Lamont
The Earl of Rosebery DL
Dr John Ross CBE FRAgS DVMS LL
Andrew Arbuckle FRAgS
John Forbes
Arthur Anderson (appointed as of 16th November 2022)
John Kinnaird (appointed as of 16th November 2022)
Ewan Pate (appointed as of 16th November 2022)

**It is with great sadness that we record the death of Her Majesty The Queen on the 8th September 2022 and the death of the Earl of Airlie on the 26th June 2023.*

Board of Trustees
James McLean BSc(hons) Agric, FRAgS – Chair (appointed as Chair as of 6th December 2022)
David Leggat MBE FIA (Scot) FRAgS – Chair (retired as Chair as of 6th December 2022)
Christine Bowie MSc (Counselling), MBACP, PQD
Hamish Lean LLB Dip LP (retired as of 16th November 2022)
Jane Mitchell ARAgS
Lois Newton (appointed as of 16th November 2022)
Mairi Renwick MacKenzie ARAgS
Patricia Glennie
Rebecca Dawes (retired as of 21st March 2023)
Sandy Hay (appointed as of 6th December 2022)
Stephen Young

Trainee Trustees
Eilidh Walker
John Armour

Chief Executive
Carol McLaren ARAgS

Company Secretary
Harry Seran CPFA

Registered and Principal office
The Rural Centre, West Mains of Ingliston, Newbridge, Midlothian EH28 8LT

Auditors
Chiene + Tait LLP (trading as CT), Chartered Accountants, 61 Dublin Street, Edinburgh, EH3 6NL

Investment Managers
RBC Brewin Dolphin, Atria One, 144 Morrison Street, Edinburgh, EH3 8EX
Abrdn, 1 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2LL

Principal Bankers
Bank of Scotland, 38 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, EH2 2YR

Legal Representatives
Anderson Strathern, 1 Rutland Ct, Edinburgh, EH3 8EY

Trustees’ Responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Trustees (who are also directors of RSABI for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Board of Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including FRS102: the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

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 that year. In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

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

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and 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.

Trustees

The Trustees (who are also directors for the purposes of company law), who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 25.

Auditors

A resolution proposing the reappointment of the auditors of the company will be placed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 26 September 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

James McLean, Chair

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees & Members of RSABI

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of RSABI (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023, and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- 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.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report and the strategic report, included within the trustees' annual report, have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the 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' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- 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
- the 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; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 26, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the 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.

Auditor’s responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with regulations made under those Acts.

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We gained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the charitable company and the sector in which it operates and considered the risk of acts by the charity which were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud. These included but were not limited to the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and 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).

- We focused on laws and regulations that could give rise to a material misstatement in the charitable company’s financial statements. Our tests included, but were not limited to:
- agreement of the financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation; enquiries of management and the trustees;
- review of minutes of trustee meetings throughout the period;
- review of evidence provided by third parties to ensure the valuation of investments is not materially misstated;
- ·specific consideration was given to transactions with related parties; and
- obtaining an understanding of the control environment in monitoring compliance with laws and regulations

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

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

Use of report

This report is made exclusively to the 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 section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members and the charitable company's 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, its members as a body, and its trustees as a body for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Malcolm R Beveridge

Malcolm Beveridge (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of
Chiene + Tait LLP (trading as CT)
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor 61 Dublin Street
Edinburgh EH3 6NL

2023 28 September 2023

Chiene + Tait LLP (trading as CT) is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and Legacies	3	792,448	16,000	-	808,448	1,066,776
Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities		5,425	-	-	5,425	-
Fundraising and trading income	4	142,999	-	-	142,999	44,030
Investments	5	264,514	-	90,766	355,280	276,297
Total income		1,205,386	16,000	90,766	1,312,152	1,387,103
Expenditure on:						
Raising Funds	6	198,649	-	5,318	203,967	114,505
Charitable Activities	7	768,068	16,000	85,448	869,516	728,811
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	1,422
Total expenditure		966,717	16,000	90,766	1,073,483	844,738
Net income before investment losses	11	238,669	-	-	238,669	542,365
Net (losses) / gains on investments	13	(662,508)	-	(77,602)	(740,110)	612,313
Net (expenditure) / income and net movement in funds		(423,839)	-	(77,602)	(501,441)	1,154,678
Total funds brought forward	17,18,19	12,460,742	-	3,040,871	15,501,613	14,346,935
Total funds carried forward	17,18,19	12,036,903	-	2,963,269	15,000,172	15,501,613

The charitable company has no recognised gains or losses other than those included in the statement of financial activities above.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 34 to 45 form part of the financial statements

RSABI

BALANCE SHEET
as at 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	12	24,371	34,550
Investments	13	13,947,802	10,307,454
		13,972,173	10,342,004
Current assets			
Debtors	14	179,808	180,884
Cash at bank and in hand	15	915,344	5,034,050
		1,095,152	5,214,934
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(67,153)	(55,325)
Net current assets		1,027,999	5,159,609
Total assets less current liabilities		15,000,172	15,501,613
Funds			
Unrestricted Funds			
General fund	17	10,642,123	11,429,998
Designated funds	17	1,394,780	1,030,744
Restricted funds	18	-	-
Endowment funds	19	2,963,269	3,040,871
Total funds		15,000,172	15,501,613

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on the 26th September 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

James McL

James McLean
Chairman

Company Registration Number: SC268622 (Scotland)

The notes on pages 34 to 45 form part of the financial statements

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Net cash (used in) / generated by operating activities	23	(90,685)	3,607,940
Cash flow from investing activities:			
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(2,843)	(23,415)
Proceeds from sales of investments		2,274,489	1,551,444
Purchase of investments		(6,436,060)	(1,535,966)
Interest received		3,676	4,666
Income received from investments		351,604	271,631
Net cash (out) / in flow from investing activities		(3,809,134)	268,360
Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents		(3,899,819)	3,876,300
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April 2022		5,138,217	1,261,917
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2023		1,238,398	5,138,217
Being:			
Cash in hand and in bank		915,344	5,034,050
Investments – cash deposits		323,054	104,167
		1,238,398	5,138,217

The notes on pages 34 to 45 form part of the financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2023

1. **Accounting policies**

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

Company status

RSABI is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated in Scotland. The address of the registered office is given in the charitable company information on page 25 of these financial statements.

(a) **Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

RSABI meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historic cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). The functional currency is GBP and these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

The trustees are of the opinion that there are no material uncertainties with respect to the charitable company and its ability to continue to meet its obligations as they fall due for the foreseeable future. As a consequence, the trustees have prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

(b) **Income**

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

Income, including donations, gifts and legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature are recognised in the period in which they are receivable, which is when the charitable company becomes entitled to the resource. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donations must only be used in future accounting years; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charitable company has unconditional entitlement.

Income from fundraising and trading activities is recognised when the charitable company has delivered goods or services and is therefore entitled to the resource, receipt is probable, and the income can be reliably measured.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charitable company, this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

(c) **Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and includes any irrecoverable VAT.

(c) **Expenditure (continued)**
Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charitable company in the delivery of its activities and services. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Expenditure on raising funds are those costs directly attributable to the charitable company's efforts to raise funds together with investment management costs.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charitable company and include the audit fee and costs linked to the strategic management of the charitable company.

(d) **Grants policy**
Grants payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable activities of the charitable company. Grants are accounted for where the Trustees have either agreed to pay the grant without condition, the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant, or any condition attaching to the grant is outside the control of the charitable company.

(e) **Tangible fixed assets**
Items are capitalised where expenditure exceeds £500. Items below this limit are written off against revenue in the year in which expenditure is incurred.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost less any estimated residual value of each asset over its' expected useful life, as follows:
Motor vehicles – 4 years
Fixtures and fittings – 10 years
Computer equipment – 3 to 5 years

(f) **Fixed asset investments**
Investments are recognised initially at fair value which is normally the transaction price. Subsequently, they are measured at fair value with changes recognised in 'net gains / (losses) on investments' in the statement of financial activities if the shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably. Other investments are measured at cost less impairment.

(g) **Debtors**
Trade debtors and prepayments are recognised at the settlement amount due and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

(h) **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 account.

(i) **Creditors and provisions**
Creditors are recognised where the charitable company 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 reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

(j) **Financial instruments**
The charitable company only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

(k) **Taxation**
As a charitable company, RSABI is exempt from tax on income and gains to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charitable company.

The charitable company is not registered for VAT.

(l) **Pension costs**
The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the statement of financial activities in the period to which they relate.

(m) **Operating leases**
Leasing charges in respect of operating leases are recognised in the statement of financial activities over the lives of the lease agreements as incurred.

(n) **Fund Accounting**
Funds held by the charitable company fall into one of three categories:

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

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

Restricted funds – these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charitable company. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for a particular restricted purpose. These include endowment funds.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. **Legal status of the charity**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

3. Donations and legacies

	2023 £	2022 £
Donations	727,622	659,907
Legacies	80,826	406,869
	808,448	1,066,776

Total donations and legacies in the year were £808,448 (2022: £1,066,776) of which £792,448 (2022: £1,050,776) related to unrestricted funds and £16,000 (2022: £16,000) to restricted funds.

4. Other trading activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Fundraising events	127,607	22,041
Trading income	15,392	21,989
	142,999	44,030

Other trading activities relate to unrestricted funds in both the current and prior year.

5. Investment income

	2023 £	2022 £
Listed investments	351,604	271,631
Bank interest	3,676	4,666
	355,280	276,297

Total investment income in the year was £355,280 (2022: £276,297) of which £264,514 (2022: £188,149) related to unrestricted funds and £90,766 (2022: £88,148) to endowment funds.

6. Raising funds

	2023 £	2022 £
Generating voluntary income – promotional costs	2,428	17,455
Generating voluntary income – support costs (note 9)	79,070	51,966
	81,498	69,421
Fundraising and trading income:		
Costs of fundraising events	14,611	1,916
Cost of goods sold	4,343	5,459
Other direct costs	11,881	14,059
Support costs (note 9)	42,362	21,282
	73,197	42,716
Investment management costs	49,272	2,368
	203,967	114,505

Total fundraising costs in the year were £203,967 (2022: £114,505) of which £5,318 (2022: £nil) related to endowment funds and £198,649 (2022: £114,505) related to unrestricted funds.

7. Charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Basic Benefits Grants		
Endowment Funds - The Turnbull Trust Fund	85,448	88,148
Restricted Funds	-	-
	85,448	88,148
Unrestricted Funds	109,331	107,007
Total Basic Benefit	194,779	195,155
Single Grants		
Unrestricted funds - single grants	69,417	61,347
Designated funds - Crisis Fund	-	-
Total Single Grant Payments	69,417	61,347
Contributions to other charitable organisations	38,179	-
Total grants	302,375	256,502

Delivery Costs	Unrestricted General £	Restricted Helpline £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Staff costs	177,469	10,996	188,465	150,635
Travel/car expenses	7,290	-	7,290	2,307
Advertising	-	5,004	5,004	3,214
Promotional Material	16,281	-	16,281	744
Professional fees	62,320	-	62,320	68,484
Direct office costs	13,533	-	13,533	10,095
Support costs (note 9)	210,761	-	210,761	185,844
	487,654	16,000	503,654	421,323
Governance costs (note 8)			63,487	50,986
Total cost of charitable activities			869,516	728,811

Total expenditure on charitable activities in the year totalled £869,516 (2022: £728,811) of which £768,068 (2022: £624,663) related to unrestricted funds, £16,000 (2021: £16,000) to restricted funds and £85,448 (2022: £88,148) to endowment funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 March 2023

8	**Governance costs**	2023 £	2022 £
	Meeting costs	5,138	923
	Trustee indemnity insurance	525	502
	Auditors' remuneration	10,740	8,700
	Legal costs	1,688	2,351
	Support costs (Note 9)	45,396	38,510
		63,487	50,986

9	**Support costs 2023/2022**	**Management Costs £**	**Property Costs £**	**Development Costs £**	**Office Admin £**	**2023 Total £**
	Voluntary income (note 6)	33,697	1,321	12,142	31,910	79,070
	Fundraising/Trading (note 6)	18,053	708	6,505	17,096	42,362
	Charitable activity (note 7)	89,819	3,521	32,364	85,057	210,761
	Governance costs (note 8)	19,346	758	6,971	18,321	45,396
		160,915	6,308	57,982	152,384	377,589

Support costs 2021/2022	**Management Costs £**	**Property Costs £**	**Development Costs £**	**Office Admin £**	**2022 Total £**
Voluntary income (note 6)	26,606	1,532	8,653	15,175	51,966
Fundraising/Trading (note 6)	10,896	627	3,544	6,215	21,282
Charitable activity (note 7)	95,148	5,479	30,947	54,270	185,844
Governance costs (note 8)	19,717	1,135	6,413	11,245	38,510
	152,367	8,773	49,557	86,905	297,602

The above costs, which are attributable to more than one activity, are apportioned across cost categories on the basis of an estimate of the proportion of time spent by staff on those activities.

10	**Staff costs**	2023 £	2022 £
	Salaries	385,518	319,767
	Social security costs	35,067	27,691
	Pension costs	21,945	17,855
		442,530	365,313
	Recruitment costs	986	5,927
	Other staff costs	11,552	7,612
		455,068	378,852
	Average number of employees	10	10
	Average number of employees (full time equivalent)	9	9

10 Staff costs (continued)

One full time employee received emoluments in the range £80,001 to £90,000 in the year (2022: one part time employee received emoluments in the range £60,001 to £70,000). In addition, pension benefits were accrued for these employees under a defined contribution arrangement of £4,000 (2022: £5,000).

The key management personnel of RSABI comprise the trustees, the Chief Executive Officer, Finance Manager, and Welfare Manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charitable company were £202,306 (2022: £186,088).

There was £2,453 outstanding pension contributions at the year end (2022: £3,270).

No trustee received remuneration in the year (2022: nil).

Two trustees received reimbursement of travel expenses, totalling £740, during the year (2022: nil).

11 Net income and expenditure

	2023 £	2022 £
Stated after charging:		
Depreciation	13,022	11,903
Auditors' remuneration (excluding VAT)	8,950	7,250

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Motor Vehicles £	Fixtures and Fittings £	Computer Equipment £	Total £
Cost:				
At 1 April 2022	9,922	3,209	66,814	79,945
Additions	-	-	2,843	2,843
Disposals	-	-	(1,777)	(1,777)
At 31 March 2023	9,922	3,209	67,880	81,011
Aggregate Depreciation:				
At 1 April 2022	9,922	1,506	33,967	45,395
Charge for year	-	235	12,787	13,022
Disposals	-	-	(1,777)	(1,777)
At 31 March 2023	9,922	1,741	44,977	56,640
Net book value at 31 March 2023	-	1,468	22,903	24,371
Net book value at 31 March 2022	-	1,703	32,847	34,550

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 March 2023

13 Investments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Market value at 1 April 2023	7,326,325	2,981,129	10,307,454	9,697,084
Acquisition cost	6,199,361	236,699	6,436,060	1,535,966
Disposal proceeds	(2,025,657)	(248,832)	(2,274,489)	(1,551,444)
Movements in cash on deposit	206,754	12,133	218,887	13,535
Net (losses) / gains on investments	(662,508)	(77,602)	(740,110)	612,313
Market value at 31 March 2022	11,044,275	2,903,527	13,947,802	10,307,454
Listed Investments	10,761,960	2,862,788	13,624,748	10,203,287
Unlisted Investments	-	-	-	-
Cash Deposits	282,315	40,739	323,054	104,167
	11,044,275	2,903,527	13,947,802	10,307,454
Historical cost of investments	10,461,134	2,374,263	12,835,397	8,244,740

The net investment loss for 2023 totalling £740,110 related to £662,508 for unrestricted funds and £77,602 in endowment funds.

There are no investments in individual entities held at 31 March 2023 which are over 5% of the portfolio by value.

14 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	31,924	12,650
Amounts held by brokers	102,818	20,984
Prepayments and accrued income	45,066	147,250
	179,808	180,884

15 Cash in bank and in hand

	2023 £	2023 £
Bank balances	915,064	5,033,970
Cash in hand	280	80
	915,344	5,034,050

16 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	30,633	31,155
Accruals and deferred income	18,750	8,700
Other creditors	6,656	5,124
PAYE/NIC liabilities	11,114	10,346
	67,153	55,325

17 Unrestricted funds

2022/23

	At 1 April 2022	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Net losses on investments	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Designated						
Crisis Fund	1,030,744	-	-	-	364,036	1,394,780
General Fund	11,429,998	1,205,386	(966,717)	(662,508)	(364,036)	10,642,123
	12,460,742	1,205,386	(966,717)	(662,508)	-	12,036,903
Unrestricted income funds	11,075,877					11,453,762
Revaluation reserve	1,384,865					583,141
	12,460,742					12,036,903

2021/22

	At 1 April 2021	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Net gains on investments	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated					
Crisis Fund	972,845	57,899	-	-	1,030,744
General Fund	10,573,511	1,225,056	(740,590)	372,021	11,429,998
	11,546,356	1,282,955	(740,590)	372,021	12,460,742
Unrestricted income funds	10,238,563				11,075,877
Revaluation reserve	1,307,793				1,384,865
	11,546,356				12,460,742

The revaluation reserve fund is required by the Companies Act 2006 and represents the amount by which the unrestricted investments exceed or have decreased from their historic cost.

General Fund
General unrestricted funds are available to support the objects of RSABI.

Crisis Fund
The Board of Trustees have established the Crisis Fund as a separate designated fund. The fund is disbursed to alleviate problems associated with unforeseen events and crisis beyond the scope of existing RSABI resources. The fund is limited to 10% of the charitable company's current capital under investment at the time.

18 Restricted funds

2022/23	At 1 April 2022 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	At 31 March 2023 £
Helpline Fund	-	16,000	(16,000)	-
	-	16,000	(16,000)	-

2021/22	At 1 April 2021 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	At 31 March 2022 £
Helpline Fund	-	16,000	(16,000)	-
	-	16,000	(16,000)	

Helpline Fund
The Helpline Fund was established to provide a single point of contact for Scotland's farming and land based community to access support and financial assistance. During the year, the fund received a £16,000 contribution from the RHASS and this was fully depleted during the year whilst fulfilling this commitment. We continue to provide help and support across a wide range of issues through our 24 hour freephone helpline and webchat services with the assistance of Connect Assist, service provider, for out of hours cover.

19 Endowment funds

2022/23	At 1 April 2022 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Net losses on investments £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
Turnbull Trust	3,040,871	90,766	(90,766)	(77,602)	-	2,963,269
	3,040,871	90,766	(90,766)	(77,602)	-	2,963,269

2021/22	At 1 April 2021 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Net gains on investments £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2022 £
Turnbull Trust	2,800,579	88,148	(88,148)	240,292	-	3,040,871
	2,800,579	88,148	(88,148)	240,292	-	3,040,871

The Turnbull Trust Fund (1978)
The income from this fund is to be equally distributed amongst the beneficiaries at the close of the calendar year in accordance with the terms of the will of James Turnbull.

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

2022/23	Tangible Fixed Assets £	Investments £	Net Current Assets £	Total £
Unrestricted Funds	24,371	11,044,275	968,257	12,036,903
Endowment Funds	-	2,903,527	59,742	2,963,269
	24,371	13,947,802	1,027,999	15,000,172

2021/22	Tangible Fixed Assets £	Investments £	Net Current Assets £	Total £
Unrestricted Funds	34,550	7,326,325	5,099,867	12,460,742
Endowment Funds	-	2,981,129	59,742	3,040,871
	34,550	10,307,454	5,159,609	15,501,613

21 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year (2022: none).

22 Financial Commitments

At 31 March 2022 the charitable company had total commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023		2022	
	Property £	Other £	Property £	Other £
Due within one year	3,654	2,006	1,705	2,006
Due between two and five years	-	1,003	-	3,009
Due in more than five years	-	-	-	-
	3,654	3,009	1,705	5,015

The current property lease will expire at the end of March 2024. A new lease is expected to cover a 10 year period and should continue to reflect the reduction in office space negotiated since June 2021.

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Net movement in funds	(501,441)	1,154,678
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	13,022	11,903
Losses / (gains) on investments	740,110	(612,313)
Losses on sale of tangible fixed assets	-	1,422
Income received from investments	(351,604)	(271,631)
Interest receivable	(3,676)	(4,666)
Decrease in debtors	1,076	3,306,135
Increase in creditors	11,828	22,412
Net cash (used in) / generated by operating activities	(90,685)	3,607,940

24 Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 1 April 2022	Cashflow	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	5,034,050	(4,118,706)	915,344
Cash held by investment manager	104,167	218,887	323,054
	5,138,217	(3,899,819)	1,238,398