

# DPT CHARITY

Annual Report 2023/24



Supporting you to live well

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# Introduction to the Annual Report from the Charitable Funds Committee

**In the year 2023/24, the charity maintained its commitment to supporting Devon Partnership NHS Trust, thanks to grants from NHS Charities Together and generous donations. These funds have allowed us to invest in various initiatives, such as acquiring beneficial therapies, improving our environments and providing essential support for the health and wellbeing of our staff and people who use our services.**

Some of the key highlights from the past year have been:

- The pilot phase of the Chaplaincy 'community connection' roles commenced within the new Community Mental Health Framework Local Implementation Teams in two localities. The Charity has dedicated £100k to support this initiative.
- £10k was approved to support an allotment project at Moorland View Ward and Meadow View Ward in North Devon. This initiative aims to provide discharged patients, or those at risk of admission, with a space to maintain their engagement with services. Additionally, it seeks to promote physical activity and prevent social isolation among participants.
- This year has been eventful as we have had supporters engaging in a range of activities, including abseiling, the Exeter 5k Inflatable, the Exeter Great West Run, the NHS Big Tea, skydiving and swimming with sharks.
- £10k was allocated to facilitate the hosting of two Administration Conferences for our colleagues across the organisation. These events took place in Buckfastleigh and Tiverton in November and December, to give as many colleagues as possible the opportunity to participate in this voluntary development opportunity.
- Successfully concluding the NHS Charities Together Stage 3 Recovery Grant, which provided us with £77k over 18 months. This funding enabled us to establish the Head of Colleague Wellbeing position and fund the Royal College of Psychiatrists' Enjoying Work collaborative programme in 2022/23. These initiatives are making a real difference in the lives of our staff, improving their wellbeing and ultimately enhancing the care they provide.

- Receiving a grant from NHS Charities Together for development purposes. This support will make a significant difference in 2024/25 as it allows us to enhance our identity and brand, invest in a customer relationship management system and create a website. These improvements will streamline our operations and enhance our outreach efforts, ultimately benefiting the communities we serve in the coming year.
- Agreeing on the new strategy for a sustainable future of the charity to ensure the long-term viability and impact of our initiatives. By diversifying our fundraising efforts, strengthening community engagement, innovating our programmes, and implementing sustainable practices, we aim to optimise our resources, expand our reach, and continue making a significant difference in the lives of those we support.

To sum-up, the tremendous generosity and support from individuals has been crucial to our success. We sincerely appreciate every donation, fundraising effort, and act of kindness that has helped us advance. Yet, our journey is far from over. We need your continued support to maintain our momentum and accomplish even more. Your contributions can significantly affect the lives of those dealing with mental health, learning disabilities and neurodiversity in Devon.

#### **Charitable Funds Committee for 2023/24**

# About our charity

**Our charity elevates, enhances, improves and brings innovation to mental health, learning disability and neurodiversity care in Devon, as well as working tirelessly to educate and raise awareness of these issues within our local area.**

We exist to change lives and make a difference to the people we support by enhancing, improving and bringing innovation to mental wellbeing services.

The DPT Charity works closely with our partners to provide services for children and adults in the South West, creating better outcomes and building a healthier community.

Our aim, first and foremost, is to have a tangible, visible and positive impact on patients, their carers and the staff who support them.

The work we do improves day-to-day experiences for all with clear, long-term benefits. We raise funds, support innovative projects, communicate and constantly seek new ways to add extra value to NHS mental wellbeing services and collaborate with other like-minded organisations. We pride ourselves on tackling the future head-on and making sure that sustainability is at the forefront of all our projects.

We want to break down the barriers around mental health, learning disability and neurodiversity. We want a society where everyone is valued for who they are. By working together, we know the DPT Charity will spread awareness, offer practical help and fresh opportunities so that everyone we work with feels listened to, cared for and able to live their life to the full, today and every day.

## Background

Our charity's focus is to broaden the support available to people receiving care and treatment from Devon Partnership NHS Trust. This has already included improvements to indoor and outdoor spaces, provision of unique therapies and the implementation of critical equipment that supports physical and mental wellbeing of both patients and staff.

Our small but dedicated team is working to broaden our reach and make a meaningful difference in our communities in Devon and beyond, particularly in the development of community collaborations and partnerships, prevention strategies and increasing education and awareness within the public to further expand our impact.

Our objective is to instil hope and offer support to those with mental health and learning disability needs throughout Devon. The funds we raise have a significant impact on the individuals we care for, surpassing what the NHS can provide.

We raise funds to support projects falling under the following categories:

- Supporting people who utilise our services. This includes providing therapies, activities and services not covered by NHS funding.
- Supporting staff. We aim to improve facilities and contribute to the health and wellbeing of DPT staff which will, in turn, improve patient care.
- Providing equipment to enhance services, improve wellbeing or aid recovery.
- Improving the environments of our inpatient wards and outpatient clinic rooms to create a more conducive and uplifting atmosphere.
- Supporting pioneering services. We identify and contribute to innovative, ground-breaking clinical projects that currently lack NHS funding.

By focusing our resources on these key areas, we aim to make a significant and enduring impact on the lives of those we serve. With the ongoing support of compassionate individuals like you, we can achieve our mission of delivering comprehensive care, promoting wellbeing and advancing mental health, learning disability and neurodiversity services in Devon.

# How your donations and fundraising have helped so many people this year

## Chaplaincy

Thanks to the generous funding of the DPT Charity and regional mental health teams, DPT's Chaplaincy team is engaging in an exciting pilot project which will place chaplains at the frontline, providing support to people using our community services as part of the Community Mental Health Framework (CMHF).

The team has successfully appointed Ian Williams to head-up Community Chaplaincy and take referrals in the South. Two further Community Chaplains have been appointed on fixed-term contracts for 24 months (0.5WTE), to work in the East and West.

DPT's Chaplaincy team was established in January 2021, initially working across our 17 inpatient wards. It supports people of all faiths and belief systems, and none, in the provision of pastoral, spiritual, religious, cultural and bereavement care.

Lead Chaplain, Jez Brown, said: "Expanding our service from inpatient wards into the community, as part of the Community Mental Health Framework, is a good fit for us with our years of experience of developing relations with community leaders, charities, different faith groups and community special interest groups. By offering our service to people where they live, we can better embed them into supportive groups within their local communities.

"The ethos of the Community Mental Health Framework is very much about caring for the whole person and what matters to them. This aligns neatly with what chaplains are trained to explore and are experienced in delivering – learning about a person's values, aspirations, ideals, concerns and the philosophy by which they live. In the CMHF, mental health care is provided in collaboration with GPs, local authorities, the voluntary sector, housing and employment agencies and local community groups such as faith groups. It is a privilege to be working alongside such a talented and compassionate set of colleagues."

## Members of DPT's Chaplaincy team



## Horse Wisdom for Wellbeing

Animal therapies have a huge impact in boosting recovery for the people who use our services and are highly valued by staff.

Last year, the DPT Charity was delighted to fund 'Horse Wisdom for Wellbeing' sessions for suitable candidates being supported by the Teignbridge Community Mental Health Team. Staff were impressed by the marked changes in many of the participants as the sessions progressed, particularly improvements in mental state, outlook and mood. Through the group work, participants were encouraged to explore new insights into their mental health and increase their knowledge of how to live better with their experiences.

One participant wrote about what the sessions meant to her: "The team at Horsemanship for Health created an environment of warmth, safety and compassion, and with every week I attended, I grew in confidence, and felt supported to come out of my shell and flourish. Everyone participating was listened to and valued. Everyone's voice and experience was met with kindness and acceptance. Everyone was in a place of recovery from our individual struggles, all at different stages of life and healing, but so united in our search for peace of mind. For the first time in a long time, I didn't feel alone with my mental health. I built up such a connection to the animals there, which was a wonderfully therapeutic experience. The horses were gentle and curious, and the goats absolutely loved head scratches, which never failed to put a smile on my face. Having the animals there was the perfect comfort and distraction when confronting difficult emotions. Every week left me with new perspectives on recovery, guiding us to more positive states of mind and ways to face our challenges."

## Transforming the Laurels: A Warm Welcome Thanks to a Newly Decorated Waiting Room

The DPT Charity funded the redecoration of the waiting room at The Laurels, our specialist gender identity clinic in Exeter that provides advice and treatment for gender dysphoria. This transformation has turned the space into a warm and inviting area for patients. The renovation has enhanced the overall ambiance, infusing the room with vibrant colours and a cosy atmosphere. As a result, patients now have a more pleasant and welcoming environment while they wait.

The feedback from both staff and patients has been overwhelmingly positive. Many have expressed their appreciation for the improved aesthetics and the sense of comfort it brings. One patient remarked, “The new look of the waiting room makes a world of difference. It feels so much more comforting and less clinical, which really helps ease the anxiety of waiting.”

The updated waiting room not only benefits patients but also reflects the dedication of the DPT Charity and The Laurels to improving the patient experience. By creating a more hospitable space, they have demonstrated a commitment to care and compassion that extends beyond medical treatment.



**The new look waiting  
room at the Laurels**

## Administration Conference

Thanks to the DPT Charity the Trust was delighted to host two Administration Conferences for colleagues across the organisation. The events were held in different areas (Buckfastleigh and Tiverton) in November and December to enable as many colleagues as possible to take up this voluntary development opportunity.

Director of Corporate Affairs and Executive Lead for the Administration Profession, Laura Hobbs, said: "It's been five years since our administration colleagues have had the chance to come together to network, to learn and share best practice, and to have some time both for reflection on the past few years and what we need as professionals to

grow in the future. We are exceptionally proud of the dedication, patient focus, resilience and drive shown by so many of our administrative colleagues. The creative ideas, proposals for the future of our services and thoughts on how to grow our profession coming from the participants across the two conferences were extremely exciting and we are looking forward to implementing them during the coming years."



## Charitable Support Brings Therapeutic Respite for Patients

Supported by charitable donations, the Royal Albert Memorial Museum in Exeter has led/facilitated activity sessions for older adults on Belvedere and Rougemont wards. These sessions provide patients with a diversion, dedicated time to engage in a variety of creative pursuits, and a change from clinical surroundings.

As patients participate in activities there are smiles and moments of connection. For some, these sessions offer a distraction, a temporary reprieve from the challenges they face.

Reflecting on the impact of these sessions, Harry O’Keefe, an Occupational Therapy Technical Instructor on Belvedere and Rougemont Wards, which support older people with mental health needs, said:

**“ For staff, it’s been a learning opportunity. We’ve explored different ways to deliver care and examined various services outside the hospital to better support patients. ”**

## Enhancing Therapy at Franklyn Hospital: Animal Visits and Drumming Sessions

Using charitable funds, Franklyn Hospital in Exeter, which assists older people with mental health needs, has incorporated animal-assisted therapy and drumming sessions into its occupational therapy programme. Recognising the importance of safe and effective animal therapy, the staff underwent specialised training to ensure the visits benefit both patients and animals.

Animal therapy offers numerous benefits, including promoting social interaction, providing emotional comfort, and reducing loneliness and anxiety. It also has physiological benefits, such as lowering heart rate and blood pressure. The drumming sessions provide a sense of achievement and gentle cardio exercise, while also alleviating pain, anxiety, stress, and depression, reducing blood pressure and boosting the immune system.

By combining animal therapy and drumming, the hospital caters to the diverse interests and needs of its patients, from creating a sense of achievement to offering sensory stimulation. Both staff and patients have expressed positive feedback, appreciating the enriched therapeutic environment these activities provide.

**“ The training has greatly increased  
our confidence in providing  
safe and therapeutic animal  
visits ”**

**Zoe Fischer**  
Occupational Therapy Technical Instructor



## New Leaf Orchard Expansion: A Natural Tribute

Thanks to donations made in memory of a family member, New Leaf, our vocational rehabilitation service in Exminster, expanded their orchard by planting a variety of fruit trees, including greengages, plums, crab apples and pears. The donor family was invited to visit New Leaf to see the newly planted trees and explore the site. They were delighted to see the trees flourishing and remarked on the uplifting impact of the project.

Della Norris, Vocational Services Manager/Occupational Therapist, commented, "This project has not only enhanced the beauty of our orchard but also brought a sense of community and healing. Seeing the family's joy and knowing that these trees will benefit future generations is incredibly rewarding."

The visit underscores the positive impact of donations, fostering a deeper connection between the family and the New Leaf community.



New Leaf orchard

## Enhancing Staff Wellbeing: Achievements through NHS Charities Together Grant

Thanks to an NHS Charities Together recovery grant, a new Head of Staff Health and Wellbeing has been able to make a real difference in supporting staff. This role has developed a Health and Wellbeing Champion network, ensured access to psychological support, and promoted physical activity and healthy lifestyles. Basic needs, like access to drinking water and safe rest spaces, have been prioritised. Staff are encouraged to take breaks and manage their annual leave, while line managers are trained to have supportive wellbeing conversations. Financial wellbeing support and a bystander-at-work programme have been introduced, and support systems for sick leave and return to work have been enhanced. Additionally, a new absence management policy has been developed, Occupational Health services improved and a programme for colleagues affected by domestic abuse has been implemented.

## Langdon Wildlife Tracking Project: Dawlish's Wildlife Captured by Langdon Hospital Patients

The hidden wildlife at Langdon Hospital in Dawlish is being captured on camera and shared with patients and the public. Funded by the DPT Charity, two specialist wildlife cameras have been installed on the hospital grounds, where deer and badgers are often seen.

Langdon Hospital supports men from the South West of England who have had contact with the legal system due to their mental health needs and require a safe, secure environment for receiving a wide range of treatments, therapies, and care to aid in their recovery.

Patients have participated in setting up the cameras and are also involved in planting hedgerow trees. These projects foster a connection to nature and enhance biodiversity on the hospital grounds.

Alex Watkins, Technical Instructor, who works with patients on the hedgerow project, said: "We are blessed at Langdon Hospital to have some wonderful outdoor space. The patients have seen many different types of wildlife on the site. This includes deer, badgers and many different types of birds, so we are quietly confident we can expect to capture footage of these over the course of the seasons."

## Children Family and Health Devon spreads Christmas cheer with the Hamper Project

The Christmas Hamper Project has experienced remarkable growth over the years, thanks to its resounding success. Now in its fourth year of fundraising, the project benefits greatly from the support of colleagues in Devon and Torbay's social care departments, as well as the invaluable assistance of the Exeter Food Bank, various charitable organisations and generous individuals who contribute to the cause.

A committed team of volunteers diligently pack and deliver these heart-warming hampers to both young people and adults across Devon.

The significance of this project cannot be overstated, given the presence of over 500 care leavers in Torbay and Devon alone, each facing their unique set of challenges and circumstances. These young adults include parents, individuals in emergency accommodation, unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people, those vulnerable to isolation and young people residing in 16+ accommodation.

Jade Simmons, Clinical Team Manager for Children in Care and Care Experienced Adults, and one of the project's champions, explained: "Back in 2020, in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, our group started a very small project to provide children in our care, aged 16 and over and young adults with experience of care across Devon, with a festive Christmas hamper. In the first year, we gave 100 hampers and this number increased to 250 by the third year... this year, we gave 300!"



## Bristol Dementia Wellbeing Service Vibrant Gardening Club

The Bristol Dementia Wellbeing Service recently launched a gardening club, thanks to generous support from charitable funds. These contributions have enabled the acquisition of essential equipment for the club, significantly improving the management, maintenance, and overall upkeep of the garden. As a result, the garden has become a more vibrant and inviting space for members to enjoy.

“The gardening club has truly transformed our outdoor space,” said Stephen Collings Business Contract Manager, from the Bristol Dementia Wellbeing Service. “It’s wonderful to see our members so engaged and enthusiastic about the garden. The support from charitable donations has been invaluable in making this project a success.”

### Gardening Club members



## Spreading Christmas Joy: Enhancing Patient Wellbeing during the Holidays

In their efforts to uplift spirits during the holiday season, Russell Clinic in Exeter, which supports people in their recovery through a wide range of residential rehabilitation resources, sought funding for Christmas gifts and additional decorations.

Alongside these preparations, they organised a festive Christmas party, featuring delicious food and fun activities for staff, volunteers, and patients to enjoy together. These initiatives foster a sense of community and belonging, providing a comforting atmosphere for all. Residents expressed their gratitude, noting the positive impact of these gestures on their wellbeing during what can often be a challenging time of year.



## DPT Charity Supports Tribute: Bench Marks Peter's 50 Years of NHS Service

To celebrate Peter Bennett's incredible 50 years of service with the NHS, the team at Langdon gathered to dedicate a bench in his honour on the grounds. Pru Worthington, Team Leader, expressed appreciation for the support received from the DPT Charity, which made it possible to acquire the bench and plaque.

Peter's journey began in 1973 when he responded to an advert for a 'Farm Worker' position at Langdon. Although he officially retired in 2011, his love for the job brought him back as a Facilities Assistant at The Dewnans Centre, where he continues to work.

Peter was deeply touched by the gesture, saying, "I was taken by amazement, it's absolutely fantastic, everyone is so kind."

Rafael Verdiguier Sanchez, Facilities Lead, commended Peter's dedication to patients and his positive impact on the team, making his career a true example of public service.



# Fundraising

## Celebrating our fundraisers

**Throughout the year, our incredible fundraisers have achieved remarkable feats, uniting communities and generating vital funds through their passion and dedication. Their efforts, ranging from thrilling adventure challenges to creative community events, have significantly helped our mission. We are profoundly grateful for their unwavering support, which has driven us closer to our goals and allowed us to transform lives and inspire hope for a better future.**

Among the many achievements, supporters participated in the 5K Inflatable Run in Exeter in April, a fun and engaging event that brought together people of all ages. Several brave individuals took on the challenge of a 65-foot abseil tower at Haven Banks Outdoor Education Centre in Exeter, demonstrating their courage and commitment. The Exeter Great West Run saw participants conquer 13.1 miles, showcasing their endurance and raising significant funds for our cause. Erin and Zoe made waves by swimming with sharks at Plymouth Aquarium, a daring and memorable fundraiser.

Additionally, our staff demonstrated their culinary talents in the Ready, Steady...Bake event in October, combining fun with fundraising. These diverse activities highlight the extraordinary efforts of our fundraisers and their vital role in supporting our work.

The community's generosity and enthusiasm for fundraising this year has been outstanding. Their steadfast support allows us to expand our reach and elevate NHS services.



“ Throughout the year, our incredible fundraisers have achieved remarkable feats, uniting communities and generating vital funds through their passion and dedication. Their efforts, ranging from thrilling adventure challenges to creative community events, have significantly helped our mission. ”

# Other sources of fundraising

## Charity Lottery

We work in partnership with **Your Charity Lottery** to give anyone who wishes to enter the chance of winning 82 cash prizes every week, with a jackpot prize of £1k and rollover prize of up to £10k. From just £1 per week, people play responsibly to make a difference to the lives of people who use our mental health and learning disability services.



The Charity Lottery raised £3k in its fourth year and reached a significant milestone in 2023, with a total of £10k raised since it began.

Find out how to join here:

[www.dpt.nhs.uk/special-charity/ways-to-support/join-our-lottery](http://www.dpt.nhs.uk/special-charity/ways-to-support/join-our-lottery)

## Legacies

Although we did not receive any personal legacies this year, we remain committed to promoting this meaningful way for individuals to support causes close to their hearts. Legacy giving provides an opportunity for benefactors to contribute to our various services, ensuring sustained support and enhancement of the programmes we offer. By including us in their wills, donors can make a lasting difference in areas they are passionate about, whether it's mental health, rehabilitation, or community outreach. We continue to encourage individuals to consider legacy gifts as a way to leave a profound and enduring legacy, benefiting future generations and helping us to expand and improve our services.

## NHS Charities Together and Grant Income

We are proud to be a member of **NHS Charities Together**, which has continued to provide support to our charity via grants, networking opportunities, training and campaigns. NHS Charities Together funding comes from public fundraising for the NHS.



NHS Charities Together has provided grant funding as follows:

- We received the final installment of the NHS Charities Together Stage 3 Recovery Grant, which provided us with £77k over 18 months. This funding enabled us to establish the Head of Colleague Wellbeing position. This grant played a crucial role in fostering a supportive and fulfilling workplace for all.
- Community grants, totalling £535k, were awarded to support the wider NHS and voluntary sector in their response to the Covid-19 pandemic. This was led by Plymouth Hospital Charities and included the respective charities of the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, Northern Devon Healthcare Trust, and Devon Partnership NHS Trust.
- We received a grant of £30k from NHS Charities Together for development purposes in 2022/23. This support will make a significant difference in 2024/25 as it has allowed our Charity to enhance its identity, invest in a customer relationship management system and create a website. These improvements will streamline our operations and enhance our outreach efforts, ultimately benefiting the communities we serve in the coming year.

## Next steps for the DPT Charity

**In 2023/24, we have undertaken several initiatives to enhance our impact and reach. We have developed a compelling brand identity that reflects our purpose and values, ensuring our mission is clearly communicated to everyone. The new brand will launch Autumn 2024.**

To improve communication and fundraising, we have introduced a customer relationship management system, allowing us to engage more effectively with our supporters. We are also building infrastructure to involve individuals with lived experience of using our services in our decision-making processes, ensuring their insights shape our actions.

Our online presence will be significantly enhanced as we develop and implement social media platforms to facilitate communication with our supporters, NHS staff, and the wider community.

We are conducting stakeholder engagement to identify priority areas for funding and collaboration, setting a clear direction for our future efforts.

Additionally, we are establishing a responsive Small Grants Scheme to provide immediate support to people who use our services, DPT staff and community organisations, addressing urgent or emerging needs.

This year will see the integration of our branding, customer relationship management system, and strategic planning to create a cohesive and effective approach.

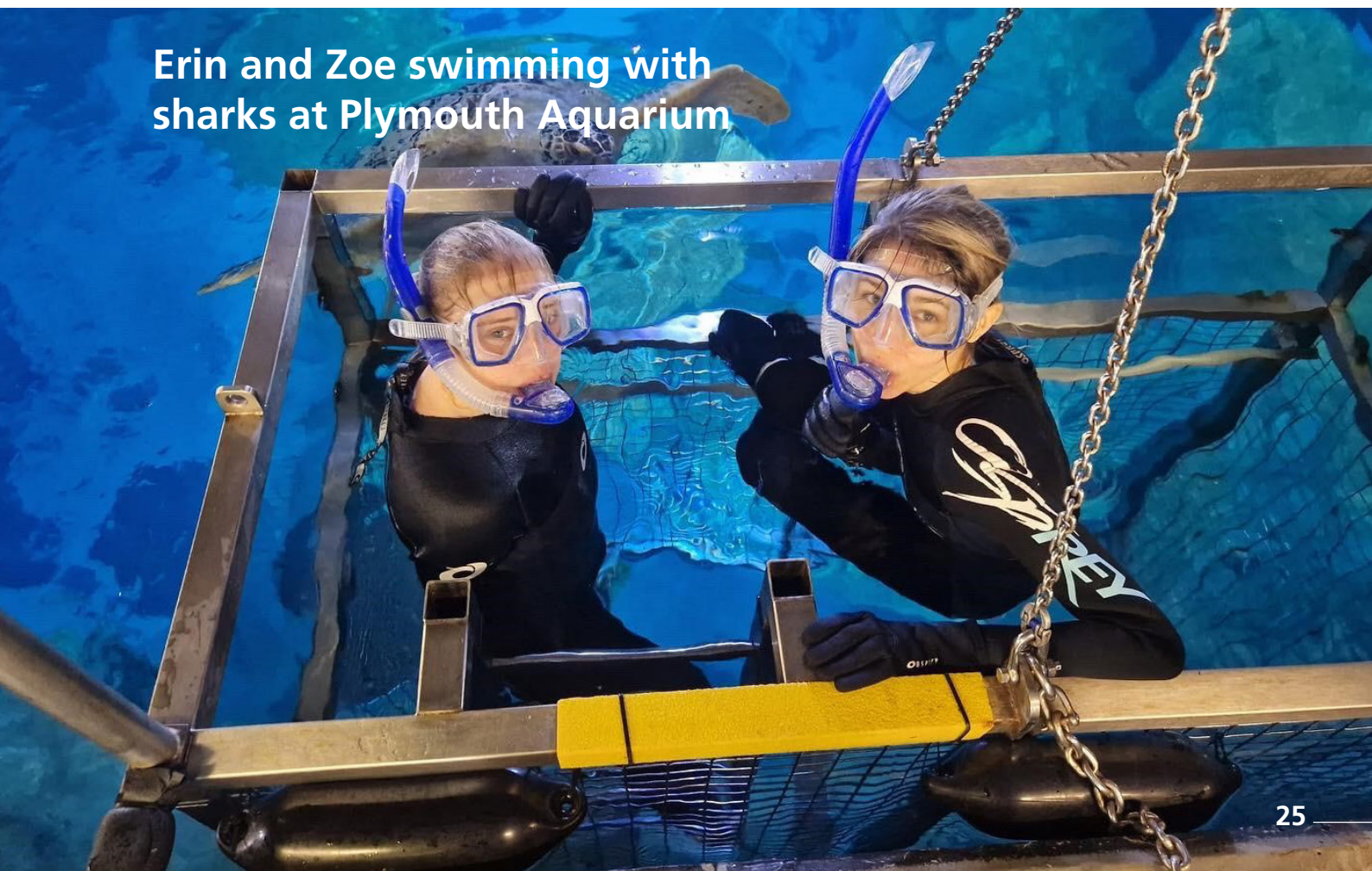
Looking ahead to 2024/25, we plan to seek collaboration opportunities with a diverse range of partners, including corporate, non-profit and community organisations. Our outreach to corporate entities will explore partnership opportunities and support through corporate social responsibility activities, aligning external corporate goals with our aim to drive social impact. We will apply for grants strategically, targeting initiatives that align with our community's needs and aspirations.

Additionally, we will actively seek funding opportunities for larger-scale projects in collaboration with multiple partners, including other charities, social enterprises, and local authorities. Community and partner engagement will be a priority, encouraging active involvement in mental health initiatives and fundraising activities to bolster our efforts and expand our reach.

By focusing on these key areas, the DPT Charity aims to grow and make a significant difference in supporting patients.

We recognise the significance of mental health and the need to support wellbeing. The impact of the rising cost of living over the last year has unfortunately affected what our dedicated supporters are able to donate. We understand that our communities face financial constraints due to increased expenses which limit their ability to contribute as generously as before and we continue to monitor this. However, despite these challenges, we remain committed to our mission of supporting people with mental health, learning disability and neurodiversity needs. We have witnessed remarkable success and engagement in recent times, which demonstrates the potential for making a genuine difference in people's lives. Together, we can ensure that mental health and learning disabilities remain a priority and that people receive the care and support they need to thrive.

## Erin and Zoe swimming with sharks at Plymouth Aquarium



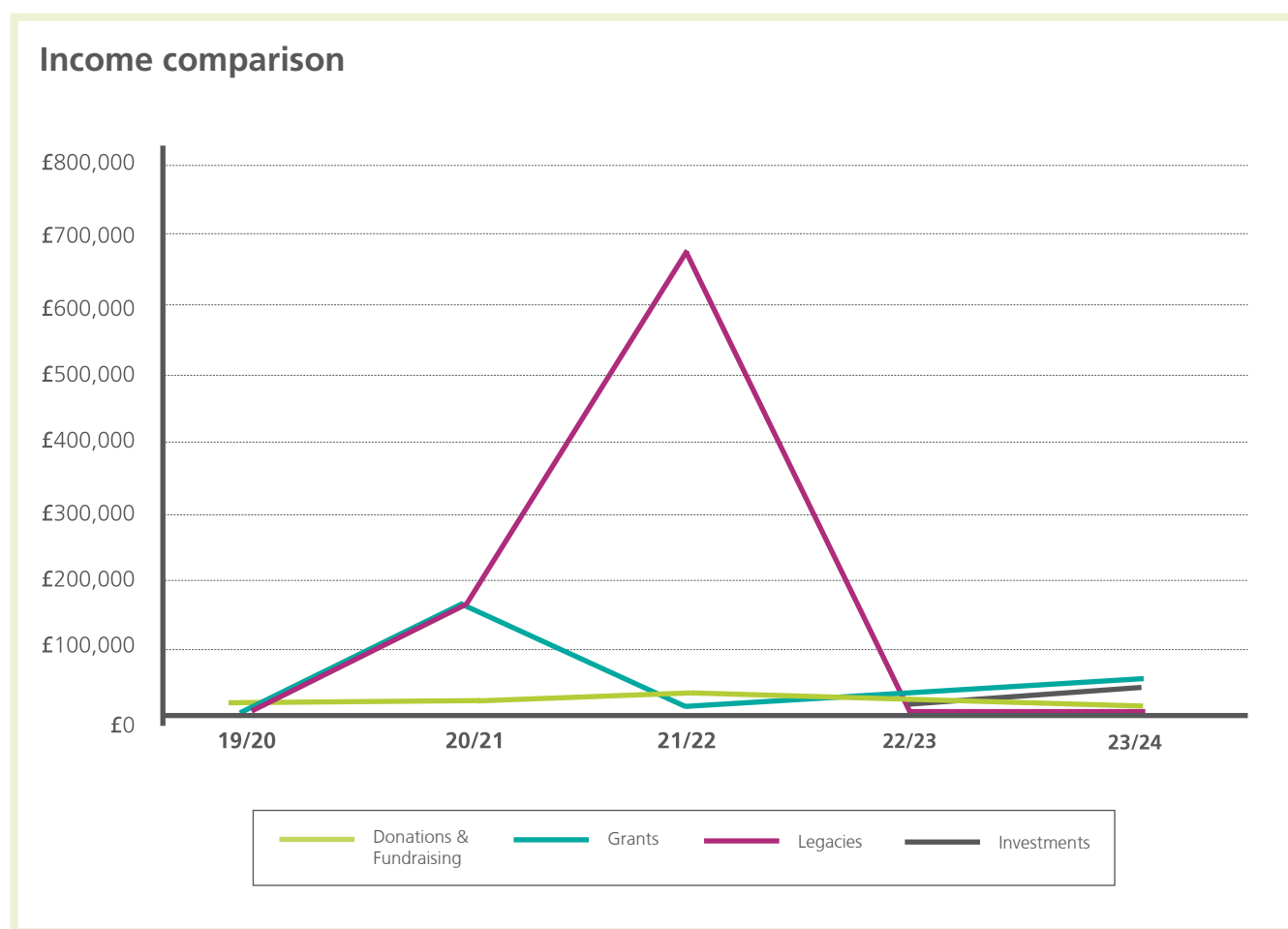
# Finance Report

## Income for the year ended 31 March 2024

In the 2023/24 financial year, the Charity had incoming resources of £116k including:

- £16k Just Giving and Donations
- £45k Investments
- £55k Grants including NHS Charities Together Stage 3 Recovery Grant

The chart below shows a comparison of income for this year against previous years:

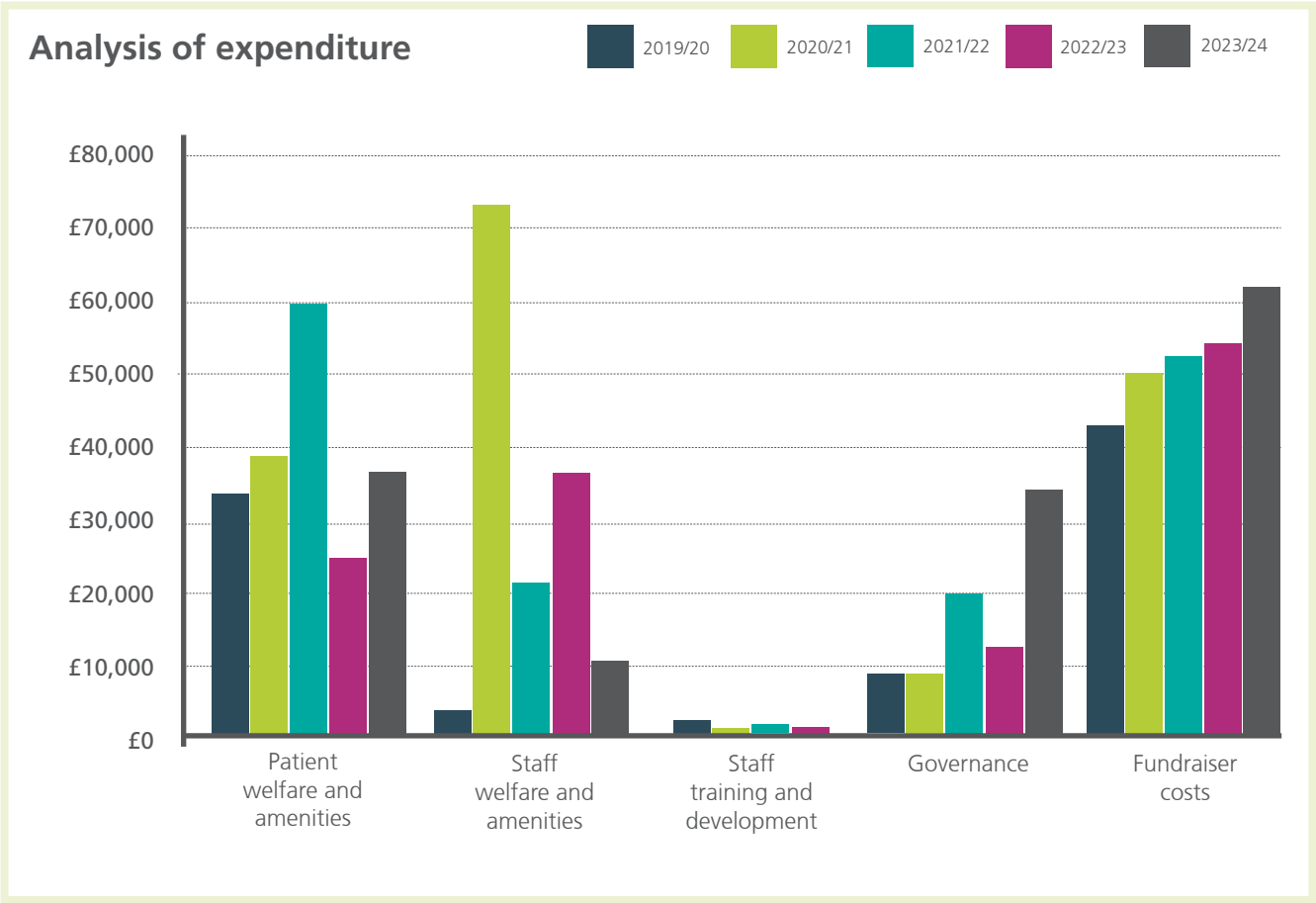


# Expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2024

During 2023/24, the Charity spent £110k on charitable activities supporting patients’ and staff welfare and amenities. Examples of this can be seen within the **‘How your donations and fundraising have helped so many people this year’** section of this report.

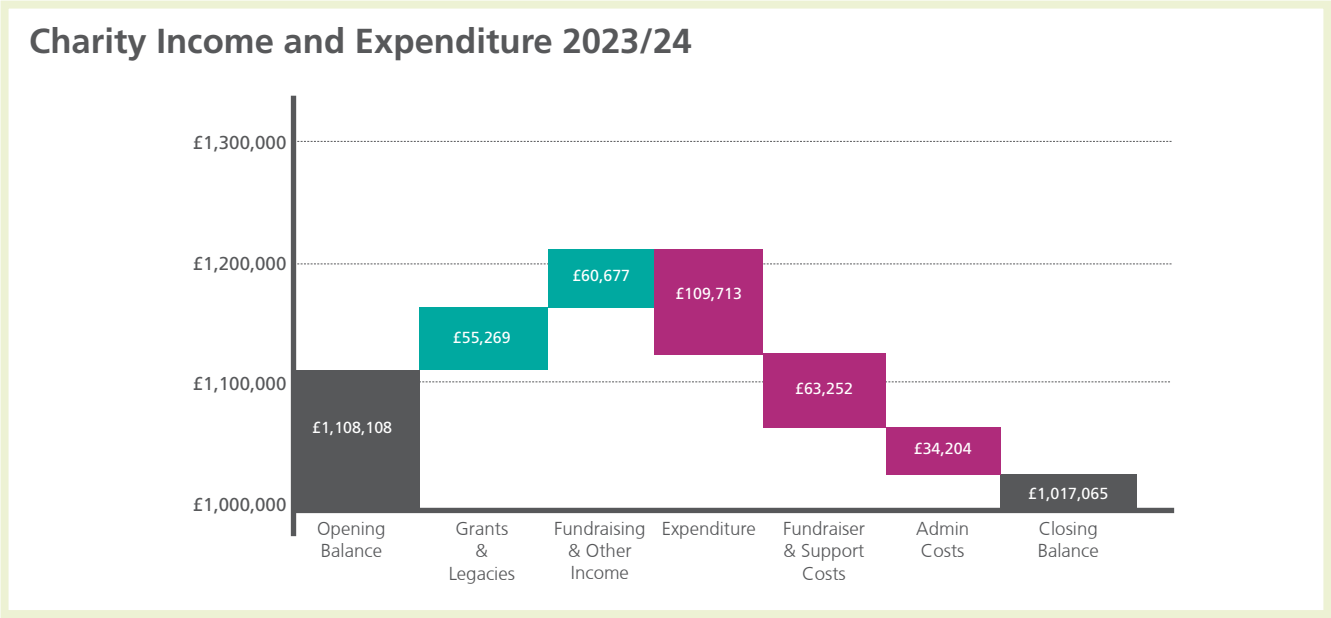
The Charity spent £98k on administration, governance and support costs including the Trust’s administrative charge for services provided, a contribution to the NHS Charities Together membership and audit fees.

The following chart details a comparison of expenditure between 2019/20 and 2023/24 showing an increase in patient welfare and amenities as exposure of the charity continues to grow and a decrease in staff welfare and amenities as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic ending.



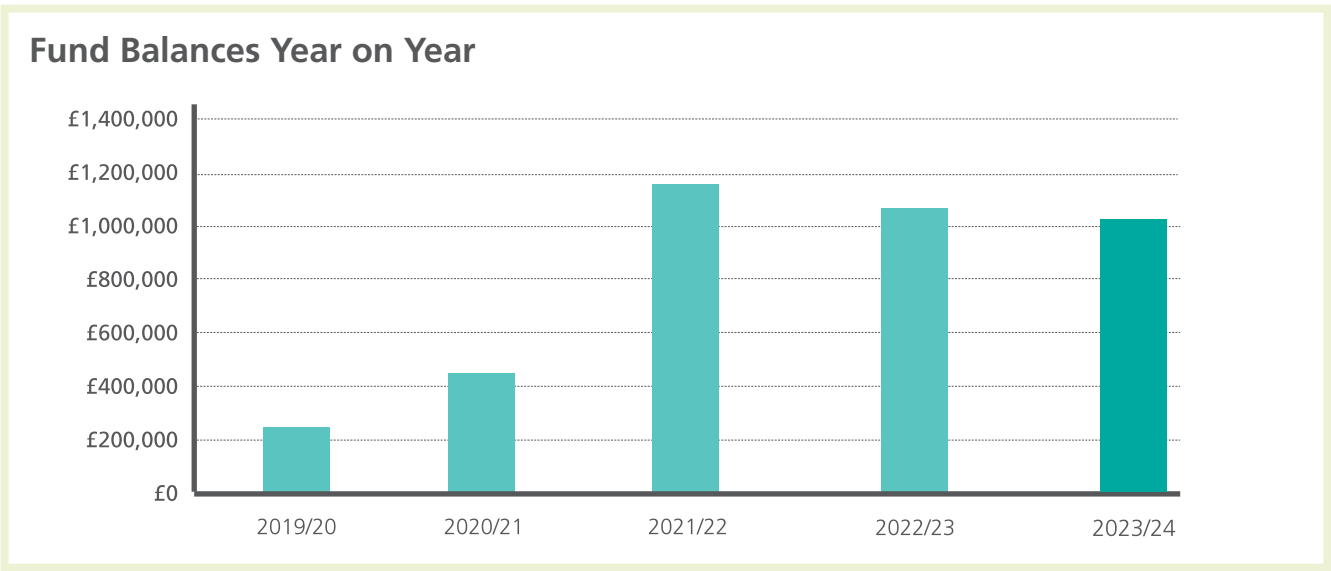
The Charity owed a balance of £204k (£156k in 2022/23) to the Devon Partnership NHS Trust for transactions undertaken through the Trust accounts payable function, including £4k for the statutory audit fee at the end of the financial year.

An overview of the Charity’s income and expenditure for the year is displayed in the graph below:



## Charity Fund balances

The Charity Fund balances at 31 March 2024 were £1,017k a net decrease of £91k from the end of the 2022/23 financial year.



# Structure, Governance and Management of the Charitable Funds

## History and organisation of the DPT Charity

The Charity was created by Trust Deed on the 25 June 1996 when it was named as the Exeter & District Community Health Service Charitable Funds. In February 2009 it was renamed Devon Primary Care Trust Charitable Fund and Other Related Charities. On 8 March 2013, the Charity was transferred to Devon Partnership NHS Trust, who assumed Corporate Trustee status from that date, with the Charity was renamed Devon Partnership NHS Trust Special Charity in April 2013. In April 2020 the decision was made to introduce a working name for the Charity which was introduced via a Covid-19 Appeal in response to the pandemic, this was the DPT Charity.

Within the Charity are a number of earmarked (designated) funds relating to particular wards and departments. The Charity manages spending through Fund Managers for each Directorate to spend in accordance with agreed authorisation limits. Fund Managers for each of the designated funds manage these funds on a day-to-day basis within the standing financial instructions, standing orders and powers of delegated authority set by the Corporate Trustee. The Trustee oversees the management of the funds and has the authority to amend a fund purpose or amalgamate funds under a de-minimise level.

The Corporate Trustee is Devon Partnership NHS Trust. The Executive Directors and Non-Executive Directors of the Trust Board share responsibility to ensure that the NHS body fulfils its duties as Corporate Trustee when it manages the charitable funds. The Chairman and Non-Executive Directors are appointed by NHS England. The Chief Executive and Executive Directors are appointed by the Trust Board.

During the year, the Trust Board of Devon Partnership NHS Trust on behalf of the Corporate Trustee, has delegated responsibility to manage the charitable funds to the Charitable Funds Committee. This Committee has delegated powers to appoint other committees as required and set up a Fundraising Committee.

The Director of Corporate Affairs as nominated Executive Lead for the Charity, is responsible for the day-to-day management and control of the administration of the Charitable Fund. The Director of Corporate Affairs has particular responsibility to ensure that the spending is in accordance with the objectives and priorities agreed by the Charitable Funds Committee and the Board; that the criteria for spending the charitable monies are fully met; that full accounting records are maintained; and that devolved decision making or delegated arrangements are in accordance with the policies and procedures set out by the Trust Board on behalf of the Corporate Trustee.

The Charitable Funds Committee is in place to co-ordinate the provision of assurance to the Trust Board, that the funds are accounted for, deployed and invested in line with legal and statutory requirements. The Committee ensures the stewardship and effective management of funds which have been donated, bequeathed and given to the DPT Charity for charitable purposes. In addition, the Committee reviews the Charity's investment Strategy and ensures the investment of funds is ethical and compatible with the objective of improving health and healthcare, in accordance with its investment policy.

The Committee approves items of expenditure that exceed the delegated limits in accordance with the Terms of Reference.

## Charitable Funds Committee

During the year ended 31 March 2024 the membership of the Charitable Funds Committee (CFC) was made up as follows:

|              |                                    |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Dinah Cox    | Non-Executive Director – CFC Chair |
| Tanya Barron | Non-Executive Director             |
| Ian Turner   | Non-Executive Director             |
| Laura Hobbs  | Director of Corporate Affairs      |

Key attendees also participate in each meeting to provide specialist knowledge, expertise, input and reporting. This includes the Head of Charity Fundraising and the Charity's Financial Accountant.

## Corporate Trustee

The Corporate Trustee for our DPT Charity is Devon Partnership NHS Trust. The Non-Executive and Executive Directors who served Devon Partnership NHS Trust during the financial year ended 31 March 2024 are as follows:

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Andy Willis</b>           | Chair Non-Executive Director                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Melanie Walker</b>        | Chief Executive                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Chris Burford</b>         | Director of Nursing and Professions (title amended to Chief Nurse) and appointed Interim Chief Operating Officer from 10/10/2022 to 04/09/2023                               |
| <b>Phill Mantay</b>          | Deputy Chief Executive Officer and Director of Finance (title amended to Chief Finance Officer). Acting Chief Executive role commenced 01/11/2023                            |
| <b>Liz Perry</b>             | Chief People Officer                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Dr Jason Fee</b>          | Medical Director for South West Provider Collaborative                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Dr Colm Owens</b>         | Medical Director for Devon Mental Health, Learning Disability and Neurodiversity Provider Collaborative                                                                      |
| <b>Dr Fintan Larkin</b>      | Chief Medical Officer                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Laura Hobbs</b>           | Director of Corporate Affairs                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Dr Sonja Manton</b>       | Director of Strategy and Partnerships                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Taps Mutakati</b>         | Chief Operating Officer, appointed 04/09/2023                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Aideen Tucker</b>         | Director of Operational Finance. Acting Chief Finance Officer commenced 06/11/2023 to assist with interim Chief Executive arrangements                                       |
| <b>Anne Forbes</b>           | Programme Director for South West Provider Collaborative                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Jacquie Mowbray-Gould</b> | Director for Mental Health, Learning Disability and Neurodiversity (MHLDN) Provider Collaborative for South West Provider Collaborative                                      |
| <b>Tanya Barron</b>          | Non-Executive Director Second term                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Ian Turner</b>            | Non-Executive Director                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Martin Beaman</b>         | Non-Executive Director Final term extended to June 2024 (Stepped down as NED 30/06/2023, became an Associate NED 01/07/2023 to 30/06/2024 and left the Trust following this. |
| <b>Dinah Cox</b>             | Non-Executive Director, appointed 01/10/2022, resigned 06/05/2024                                                                                                            |
| <b>Simon Hamilton</b>        | Non-Executive Director                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Miriam Maddison</b>       | Non-Executive Director                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Venura Perera</b>         | Honorary Non-Executive Director 21/11/2023. To note - Appointed as Associate Non-Executive Director on 01/07/2024                                                            |

## Relationships with Related Parties/External Bodies

The DPT Charity maintains close links with staff and patients across the Trust in order to support them and supplement staff training and development.

The Corporate Trustee is a member of the Health Financial Management Association (HFMA) and receives regular updates and bulletins on matters affecting NHS Charity funds from the HFMA Charitable Funds Special Interest Group.

The Charitable Funds Committee and Corporate Trustee are made up of Trust Board members of Devon Partnership NHS Trust. The business of the Charity is dealt with separately from that associated with exchequer funds, for which Trust Board members are also responsible.

Declarations of personal interest are made at the start of each Committee meeting and at each Trust Board meeting; these are available for public inspection by application through Devon Partnership NHS Trust or via the Trust's website – **[www.dpt.nhs.uk](http://www.dpt.nhs.uk)**.

The Charity did not pay any expenses during the year to any member of the Devon Partnership NHS Trust nor to any member of the Charitable Funds Committee and members did not receive any honoraria or emoluments from charitable funds in the year.

## Trustee Induction and Training

All Charitable Funds Committee members can access external training, are guided by the Healthcare Financial Management Association charitable funds literature, receive updates on charitable funds and fundraising policy through Committee meetings and can access professional advice if considered appropriate.

Training material is available for new Executive and Non-Executive Directors on their responsibilities as Board members of the Corporate Trustee of DPT Charity. This will include an introduction to the objectives, scope and policies of the Charitable Funds and training more generally regarding NHS Charitable Funds.

## Investment Policy and Performance

The Charity's investment powers are broad but subject to a restriction that no speculative or hazardous investments, specifically futures or traded options, are allowed.

The Charity reviews its investment decisions annually. Currently the approach is risk averse and includes placing monies on deposit for one year.

## Risk Management Policy

The Corporate Trustee Risk Management Policy is detailed in its R03 Risk Management Framework. This Framework details the process to be used in identifying risks and controls, assessing risks and evaluating the actions required. This information is consolidated onto a Risk Register.

The major risks to which the Charity is exposed have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. The Charitable Funds Committee on behalf of the Trustee has established review processes to review, monitor and mitigate these risks.

## Grant Making Policy

The Charity has issued restricted grants previously. Where relevant these are disclosed under 'Relationships with Related Parties/External Bodies' section. The Charity has not paid any grants during 2023/24.

## Reserves Policy

The Corporate Trustee calculates the reserves as part of the Charity's unrestricted income funds that are freely available after taking account of designated funds that have been earmarked for specific projects.

|                                                           |                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Unrestricted reserves at 31 March 2024 currently stand at | £935,000        |
| Less designated funds                                     | (£204,000)      |
| <b>Total free reserves</b>                                | <b>£731,000</b> |

The Corporate Trustee regularly review balances held in designated funds. Where it is decided that the designation is no longer necessary or the fund has been inactive for a significant period of time, the funds are closed and transferred to reserves.

The trustees have no material recurring commitments for which it would be prudent to hold reserves against uncertainties.

**Charity name:**

DPT Charity

**Address:** Wonford House  
Dryden Road  
Exeter  
EX2 5AF**Email:** [dpt.charity@nhs.net](mailto:dpt.charity@nhs.net)**Registration number:** 1056669**Finance Team**Nicola Blacker - Head of Financial Services  
Amanda Woodward – Charitable Funds Accountant  
Melinda Moore – Assistant Accountant**Fundraising Team**

Daniel Robson – Head of Fundraising

**Bankers**Barclays Bank PLC  
3 Bedford Street  
Exeter  
EX4 3LL**Independent examiners**Bishop Fleming LLP  
Stratus House  
Emperor Way  
Exeter Business Park  
Exeter  
EX1 3QS**[www.dpt.nhs.uk/charity](http://www.dpt.nhs.uk/charity)**

You can view a copy of our Special Charity Annual Report 2023/24 at **[www.dpt.nhs.uk](http://www.dpt.nhs.uk)**

If you would like a hard copy, please call  
**01626 884544.**

If you require this report in a different format or language please ask a member of our staff.

If you would like to provide feedback about our service please contact:

**Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)**Devon Partnership NHS Trust  
Wonford House  
Dryden Road  
Exeter, EX2 5AF**t:** 01392 675 686**e:** [dpt.pals@nhs.net](mailto:dpt.pals@nhs.net)