

Board Meeting in Public

Tuesday, 22 July 2025

Title of Report	Trust Fund (Charity) Committee Report	Agenda No.	5.2.1
Nature of Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Official	<input type="checkbox"/> Official Sensitive	
Author(s)	Louise Espley, Corporate Governance Manager		
Lead Executive	Carl Vincent, Chief Financial Officer		
Non-Executive Director Sponsor	Caroline Serfass, Trust Fund Committee Chair		
Presenter(s) at Meeting	Caroline Serfass, Trust Fund Committee Chair		
Presented for	<input type="checkbox"/> Approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assurance <input type="checkbox"/> Information <input type="checkbox"/> Update		
Executive Summary (max 300 word count)			
This report is submitted to the Board to draw attention to the main items discussed at Trust Fund (Charity) Committee meeting held on Monday 23 June 2025.			
Previously Considered by			
N/A			
Recommendation	The Board is asked to note the report and support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The change of working name of the NHSBT Trust Fund to 'NHSBT Charity' b) The amendments to Committee Terms of Reference (presented at item 5.1 for approval) The suggestion that a Charity focused patient story be presented to a future Board meeting.		
Risk(s) identified (Link to Board Assurance Framework Risks)			
N/A			
Strategic Objective(s) this paper relates to:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collaborate with partners <input type="checkbox"/> Invest in people and culture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drive innovation <input type="checkbox"/> Modernise our operations <input type="checkbox"/> Grow and diversify our donor base			
Appendices:	None		

1. Introduction

This report is submitted to the Board to draw attention to the main items discussed at the Trust Fund (Charity) Committee meeting held on 23 June 2025.

2. Quarterly Financial Report

The Committee received the quarter four report. During 2024-25, the Charity received £82k of unrestricted donation income, £25k of restricted income and £16k of interest. Cash expenditure for the same period was £90k. At the end of March 2025, the Charity had a balance of £364k.

Registration of the Charity with JustGiving was successfully completed in March 2025, with the first donation of £1,700 received on 31 March 2025. The Charity is also working with HMRC to complete the registration process for Gift Aid. The Charity has also launched MuchLoved, a memorial donation platform, which recently received a £5,000 contribution.

3. Charity Planning Update

The Committee received a report from the Head of Charity outlining the timeline to production of a Charity Strategy. The strategy will serve as a roadmap to embed a culture of giving, increase charitable income, and ensure funding priorities are closely aligned with NHSBT's strategic objectives.

The Committee received a summary of the work of the Head of Charity, covering the first 40 days in post, which included information about planned partnership events, development of a Charity risk register and systems to support evidence-based fundraising, leading to a Charity launch in Autumn 2025.

Committee members supported the use of the name 'charity' in favour of 'Trust Fund' as the working name of the Charity.

4. Research and Development Projects – Annual Progress Report

The Committee received a progress report on the positive impact of the three active Trust Fund supported research and development projects. Members were advised that, moving forward, patient stories would be incorporated to demonstrate the impact of research projects.

5. NHS Charities Together Grant Review – Health Safety and Wellbeing

The Committee received an assurance report on utilisation of the NHS Charities Together grant of £61k to support the Mental and Physical Health and Wellbeing Support project. To date, £24k of the fund had not been utilised. The Committee were assured that this would be allocated by the 31 December 2025 deadline and would support development of a well-being kiosk, a neurodiversity workplace needs trial and an environment, social and governance day pilot.

6. Agreement of Provisional Annual Budget

Committee members approved the provisional budget for 2025/26. The budget would be reviewed later in the year, following approval of the Charity Strategy.

7. Trust Fund Deed Annual Review

Committee members received the Trust Fund Deed and agreed that no amendments were required.

8. Trust Fund Committee Terms of Reference Annual Review

Committee members agreed a number of amendments to the terms of reference, specifically, reference changed to 'the charity' throughout, purpose of the charity expanded to encompass the breadth of NHSBT's work, membership and quorum updated following recent Committee appointments.

The revised terms of reference are to be presented to the Board for approval at this Board meeting (item 5.1).

9. Items for escalation to the Board

The following items were agreed to be presented to the Board at their meeting in July 2025 for approval:

- a) Change of working name of the NHSBT Trust Fund to 'NHSBT Charity',
- b) Amendments to Committee Terms of Reference,
- c) Suggestion of a Charity focused patient story be made to the Board.