Blood and Transplant

Board Meeting in Public
Tuesday, 21 July 2026

Title of Paper	NHSBT Charity Committee Report	**Agenda No.**	5.2.1
Nature of Paper	☒ Official	☐ Official Sensitive	
Author(s)	Omolola Majolagbe, Corporate Governance Officer		
Lead Executive	Carl Vincent, Chief Financial Officer		
Non-Executive Director Sponsor	Caroline Serfass, NHSBT Charity Committee Chair		
Presenter(s) at Meeting	Caroline Serfass, NHSBT Charity Committee Chair		
Presented for	☐ Approval ☒ Assurance	☐ Information ☐ Update	
Is there a plan to communicate this to the organisation?	☐ Yes	☒ No	☐ Yet to be determined

Executive Summary

This report is submitted to the Board to draw attention to the main items discussed at the NHSBT Charity Committee meeting held on Monday 22 June 2026.

Previously Considered by

N/A

Recommendation

The Board is asked to note the report.

Risk(s) identified (Link to Board Assurance Framework Risks)

N/A

Strategic Objective(s) this paper relates to:

☒ Collaborate with partners ☐ Invest in people and culture ☐ Drive innovation
☐ Modernise our operations ☐ 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 NHSBT Charity Committee meeting held on 22 June 2026.

2. Quarterly Finance Report

The Committee reviewed the year-end financial position and noted that, while a small deficit had been budgeted, the final outturn was slightly better than expected. This improvement was driven by lower-than-anticipated expenditure, which offset a marginal shortfall in income, particularly within the “grateful families” category. Overall, variances across income and costs were minor. Members also commended the successful securing of Gift Aid, recognising both the complexity of the process and its positive financial benefit, with around £10,000 expected to be recovered from the previous financial year.
An update on the current financial year indicated that £24,000 had been raised between April and May, representing 17% of the £167,000 annual target, resulting in a modest £3,500 shortfall at this stage. However, the forward fundraising pipeline was reported to be stronger than anticipated, providing confidence for the remainder of the year.

3. Charity Quarterly Performance Report

The Committee considered the report which highlighted strong fundraising performance, including approximately £448k secured in gifts in kind through major partnerships, a prospective £500k high-value pipeline, a £50k restricted donation in progress, and a six-figure legacy subject to probate. PR and community fundraising were particularly effective, driving increased engagement and blood donor registrations, supported by marathon participation and staff-led JustGiving activity. However, only 60% of planned activity had been delivered due to resource constraints and a strategic focus on high-value opportunities, which impacted areas such as regular giving and in-memory fundraising.

The Committee emphasised the importance of aligning organisational capacity with fundraising opportunities, improving probability-weighted pipeline reporting, and addressing operational barriers to maximise income.

4. NHSBT Charity Grants

The Committee received the Charity grant report and noted that primary focus has been directed towards the NHS Charities Together funding, reflecting its scale and strategic importance. The programme remains in an information-gathering phase, with no concerns identified and regular engagement continuing. A further update, including key learnings, will be presented to the Committee in September 2026.

5. NHSBT Charity Deed Annual Review

The Committee received the Charity Deed Annual Review and noted that no amendments are proposed at this time. Minor clarification was discussed regarding the use of the terms “major gifts” and “high value giving,” with agreement that greater consistency in terminology would be beneficial, though no substantive issues were identified.

6. Committee Annual Assurance Report

The Committee received the annual assurance report which summarises the work undertaken over the past year and provides assurance to the Board. Members reviewed the report and were invited to identify any additional items for inclusion. It was confirmed that a gap analysis against the Committee's terms of reference identified no issues, with all delegated responsibilities appropriately discharged, providing positive assurance. The Committee also noted that a change in practice during the year, specifically the inclusion of a regular clinical attendee, will be formally reflected in the updated draft terms of reference.

7. NHSBT Charity Committee Terms of Reference Annual Review

The Committee received the updated Terms of Reference, noting minor amendments to reflect the transition from "Trust Fund Committee" to "Charity Committee" and the inclusion of a regular attendee role. The Committee agreed that the Terms of Reference remain fit for purpose, approved the proposed updates, and recommended their submission to the NHSBT Board for formal approval.

8. An effective Charity Committee and Corporate Trustee Board

The Committee members participated in a training session on **"An Effective Charity Committee and Corporate Trustee Board – Awareness Training"** at the conclusion of the meeting.

9. Items for Escalation to Board

- NHSBT Charity Annual Assurance Report
- NHSBT Charity Committee Terms of Reference