

Board Meeting in Public Tuesday, 29 September 2026

Title of Paper	NHSBT Charity Committee Report		Agenda No.	5.2.3
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	Carl Vincent, Chief Financial Officer and Committee Executive Lead			
Presented for	☐ Approval ☐ Information ☒ Assurance ☐ 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 Thursday, 10 September 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. Background

This report is submitted to the Board to draw attention to the main items discussed at the NHSBT Charity Committee meeting held on 10 September 2026.

2. Strategy and Performance

Quarterly Finance Report

The Committee received the Quarterly Finance Report and noted that, for the first time, the Charity had recognised Gifts in Kind within its financial statements with £464k recorded year to date. Excluding Gifts in Kind, income and expenditure remained in line with budget, with management and administration costs representing 11% of total expenditure. The Committee noted a small overall underspend, primarily due to no new grants being awarded during the reporting period. Members also noted improvements in donation income processes through the successful linkage of the Charity's Gift Aid registration to JustGiving, enabling the recovery of Gift Aid on eligible donations, and the planned enhancement of reporting capabilities through an upgraded JustGiving subscription. The Committee noted that the Charity's financial position remained stable and broadly in line with budget.

Year End Financial Position and Timeline for Annual Report and Accounts

The Committee reviewed an update on the Charity's 2025/26 financial position and the proposed timetable for the 2025/26 Annual Report and Accounts. Members noted a final year-end deficit of £65k, which was £4k better than budget, with lower-than-budget income offset by underspends in administration costs. The Committee also noted the arrangements for the Annual Report and Accounts, including the opportunity to review the draft document and the proposal to continue with an Independent Examination, in line with Charity Commission requirements and previous practice.

Charity Strategy Annual Update

The Committee considered the Charity Strategy Annual Update and received assurance that the strategy remains fit for purpose, providing clear direction and ambition, and that delivery remains on track with appropriate management of risks and challenges. Members discussed the need to align the Charity's long-term ambitions with NHSBT priorities, strengthen fundraising through major donors, trusts and strategic partnerships, and ensure appropriate resourcing to support future growth. The Committee requested a revised operational plan for consideration in December 2026 to inform future priorities and budget planning.

Charity Quarterly Performance Report

The Committee received an update on progress against the Charity's high-value fundraising strategy, including ongoing engagement with major donors, charitable foundations and strategic partners to support the Tomorrow's Blood programme. Members supported the continued development of strategic partnerships and agreed to receive further updates on progress. The Committee also considered a proposal to amend the NHSBT Charity Deed to permit future trading activity but did not approve the recommendation at this time, noting that it will be revisited in the future.

3. For assurance

NHSBT Charity Grants

The Committee reviewed the NHSBT Charity Grant Report and noted the status of grants approved in 2025/26, comprising one NHS Charities Together-funded grant (£105,000), one grant to Royal Devon Hospitals Charity (£61,806) and 50 small grants under £10,000 with a combined value of £53,447. The Committee welcomed the introduction of a new grant reporting template designed to strengthen oversight of grant expenditure, impact reporting and risk identification, and supported its use for future reporting.

4. For Approval

The following revised documents were approved by the NHSBT Charity Committee:

- Charity Procedures and Guidance Annual Review
- Charity Scheme of Delegations Annual Review

5. Item for escalation to the Board

- NHSBT Charity Seminar in November 2026