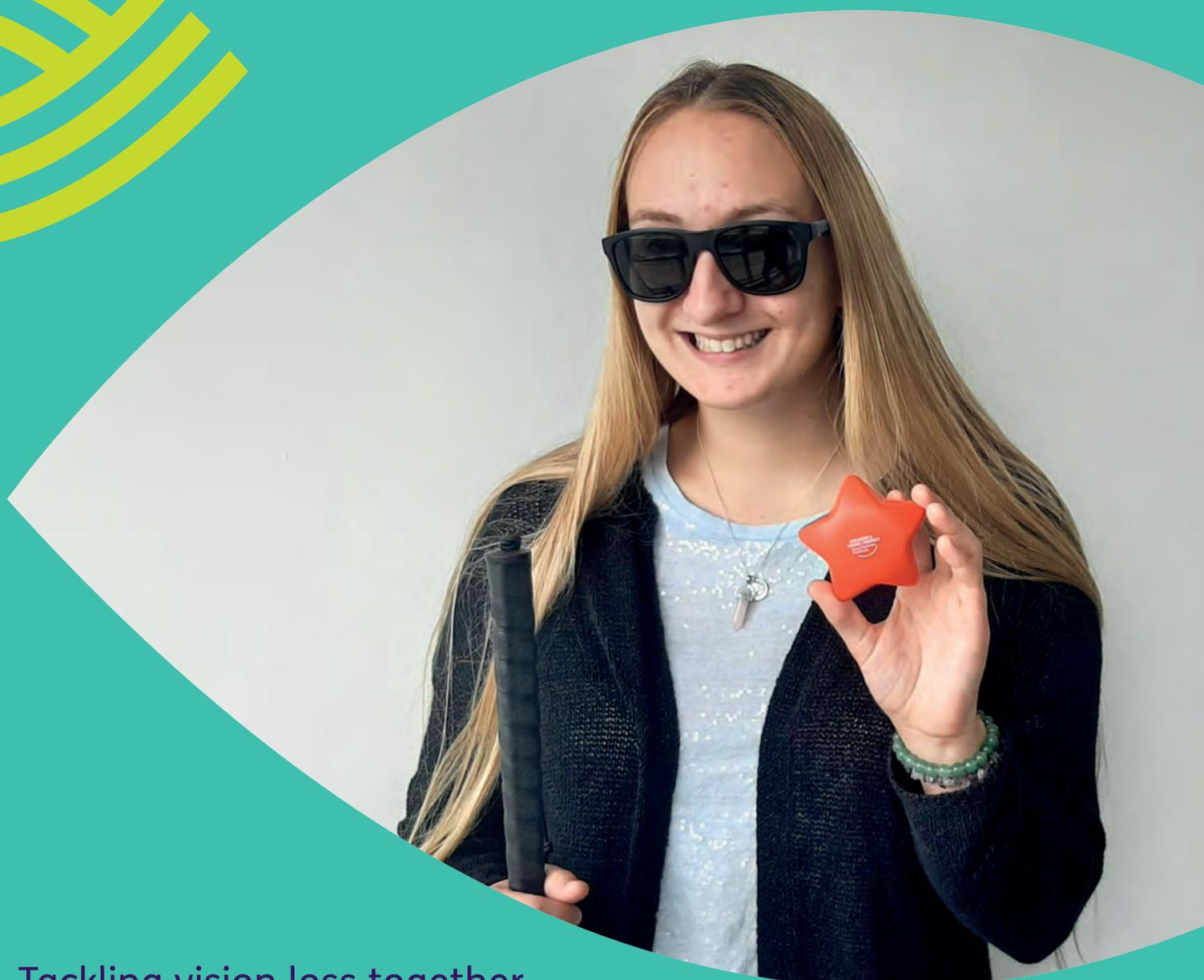




Annual Review 2021-22



Tackling vision loss together

At a glance

Total income:

£12,787,000

Total amount spent on supporting people with sight loss:

£13,908,000

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Who we are

Sight Scotland is a Scottish visual impairment charity, and we believe that everyone with sight loss deserves the opportunity to lead a fulfilling life.

We are determined that no one should face sight loss alone.

There are more than 180,000 people living in Scotland today with significant sight loss. With an ageing population, every hour in Scotland someone will start to lose their sight.

Our mission is to reach everyone in Scotland with sight loss – where and when they need us.

We provide learning, care, accessible formats and support to people with visual impairment in their communities. Our expert team also provides rehabilitation and mobility training to enable people to regain their independence after sight loss.

Working with our sister charity Sight Scotland Veterans, we campaign for equal rights and fund medical research.



We are continually evolving our approach to ensure the best possible care and support for those that need us. None of our work would be possible without the commitment of our donors, our supporters and the strength of our committed staff and volunteers.

Craig Spalding
Chief Executive



Our Patron, President, and Board

Sight Scotland is the operating name of The Royal Blind Asylum and School, Edinburgh, Scottish Charity Number SC017167. Sight Scotland was previously known as Royal Blind and the change of trading name occurred on 8 October 2020.

Patron

His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, K.G., G.C.V.O.

President

His Grace The Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, K.B.E.

Vice President

The Hon. Mrs Janet Buchanan-Smith, C.B.E.

Board of Directors

Elected by Contributors:

- Michael Craig (Chair)
- Graeme Bold
- Professor Mike Donnelly
- Mike Martin (resigned June 2022)
- Jay Hogarty (resigned September 2021)
- David McArthur
- Aidan McCorry
- Michelle McWilliams
- Stephanie Philips
- Elizabeth Porterfield
- Dianne-Dominique Theakstone
- Catherine Topley
- Laraine Aikman (appointed April 2022)
- Sif Rai (appointed April 2022)

Chief Executive and Secretary

Mark O'Donnell – Chief Executive (resigned 6 October 2021)

Theresa Shearer – Interim Chief Executive (20 October 2021 – 19 January 2022)

Craig Spalding – Chief Executive (appointed 24 January 2022)

Principal Office – 2a Robertson Avenue, Edinburgh, EH11 1PZ

Auditor – BDO LLP, Citypoint, 65 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD

Bankers – The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, 26 Home Street, Edinburgh EH3 9LZ

Solicitors - Thorntons, Citypoint, 3rd Floor, 65 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD

Investment advisors - Willis Towers Watson, Watson House, London Road Reigate Surrey RH2 9PQ

Words from our Chair



I am proud to present Sight Scotland's 2021-2022 Annual Review.

In this review, you'll read about how our organisation is delivering on our mission: to reach everyone in Scotland with sight loss, where and when they need us.

The year was, inevitably, dominated by the impact of the Covid pandemic and restrictions. But, in pursuit of our mission, we set out to increase our provision of support in new ways.

We were delighted to successfully win contracts with local authorities in the City of Edinburgh, Midlothian and East Lothian to deliver Rehabilitation and Mobility support services for people with visual impairment. More than 375 people are now receiving personalised support and advice through this expert service.

We want support to be available where and when people need it. Our freephone Support Line started receiving calls in January 2021 and is available from 9am to 5pm, five days

a week. Once Covid restrictions permitted it, our Community Workers began visiting people affected by sight loss in person, at their homes and in their local communities.

Throughout 2021-2022, we've grown this service, increasing staffing numbers and the level of support we can provide people with sight loss. We've been receiving fantastic feedback – you can read about it within this review.

I was pleased to welcome our new Chief Executive, Craig Spalding, to Sight Scotland and Sight Scotland Veterans in January 2022. Craig brings a wealth of experience in leadership from the health sector and we are all enjoying working with him.

Our teams will continue reaching and supporting more and more people with sight loss across Scotland. On behalf of my fellow Directors, I would like to thank everyone who has contributed so much to the mission of Sight Scotland. I hope you will continue to support us in this mission. Together, we can tackle vision loss.

Thank you.

Michael Craig
Chair of the Board
Sight Scotland



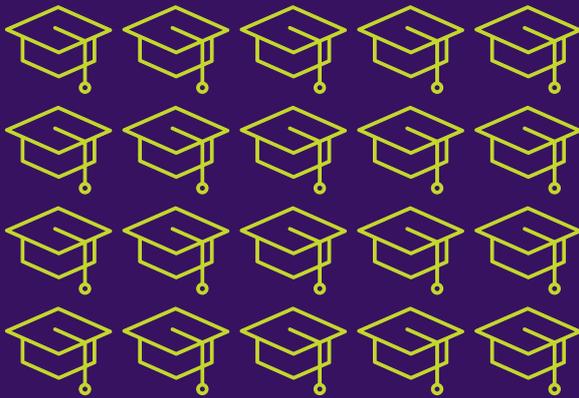
Care and Learning

We provide specialist care and learning to pupils with visual impairment at the Royal Blind School. We also provide educational outreach to mainstream schools in three local authorities.

We enable children and young people to discover and develop their abilities to help them thrive. The learning we provide each pupil is personalised to them and their unique abilities, and delivered at the location that is most appropriate for them.

Children and young people are being supported at the location that is most appropriate for them:

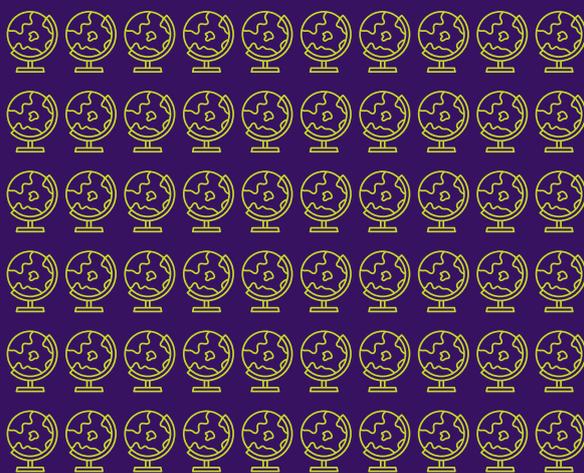
20 Royal Blind School pupils



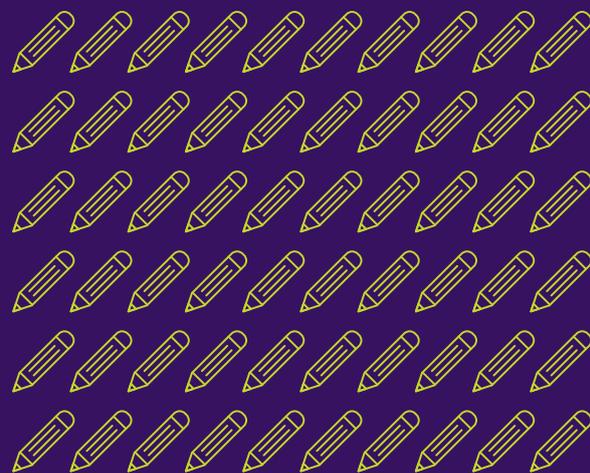
12 pupils at Orkney Island schools



60 pupils at East Lothian schools



60 pupils at Midlothian schools



Royal Blind School

The Royal Blind School in Edinburgh provides specialist education and care to children and young people with visual impairment, including those with additional complex needs.

Through our personalised approach, we deliver a skills-based curriculum alongside formal qualifications. We offer a wide range of placements to suit each pupil's needs. In 2021-22 we had 13 pupils attending on a weekly or flexible placement basis, three in weekly residential and three resided with us for 52 weeks of the year due to their high level of care needs.

Flexible placements

In 2021-2022, we broadened our provision of learning to pupils with visual impairment. Through our "flexible placement" programme, pupils are able to attend flexible placements at the Royal Blind School. These flexible placement sessions are customised to each pupil's learning needs and supplement the support and learning they receive at their mainstream school. At the Royal Blind School, pupils have access to a holistic support system that includes Qualified Teachers of Children and



Young People with Visual Impairment (QTVIs) who are subject specialists, as well as therapists and habilitation specialists.

After the children and young people learn skills at the Royal Blind School, they will be supported by our Outreach team to use and develop those skills within their local community. These flexible placements enable our specialists to be responsive to pupils' needs, and help them to flourish.

Lucia's story

Lucia has broadened her interests since starting at the Royal Blind School.

Lucia joined the Royal Blind School aged 16, at the start of the 2021-2022 school year. Lucia settled into her new school routine and residential placement at the Royal Blind School with a tailored programme, combining one-to-one sessions, lessons with her classmates, and therapy.

Tracy, Lucia's mum, said: "Lucia has a day that's tailored to her needs and interests and to goals that the school are starting to set for her. She's responded to that really positively. She's spent a good bit of time working on stories and had been out at Hagrid's Hut in the school grounds.

"I'm quite astonished at just how much blended learning there is and support between education and therapy, such as with speech and language therapy, which now seems to be well embedded in the curriculum for Lucia."

Lucia's father, Callum, said: "The transition so far has gone really well and everyone is heartened by just how resilient Lucia is proving to be in adapting to home-away-from-home during the week. She really is blossoming."



Samantha's story

School pupil Samantha Gough said attending the Royal Blind School on a flexible placement was “life changing”.

Samantha, who is from Lasswade in Midlothian, has had a visual impairment since birth. Over time, Samantha's sight deteriorated and she became severely sight impaired.

Samantha said: “My sight started to get worse in 2014. As my sight has deteriorated over time, I've had to relearn how to live. I needed to do mobility training to find my way round the world again.”

Samantha attended a mainstream primary and high school. In the 2021-2022 school year, she split her schooling between her local high school and a flexible placement at the Royal Blind School.

Samantha said: “At the Royal Blind School, I'm learning how to use braille, which I love because I had lost the ability to read and write, as my sight was taken away from me due to my condition.

“Reading and writing in braille has helped me reconnect with that. It feels amazing. I feel like I've found a part of myself again, which I had lost when my sight deteriorated. I'm now working with different technologies, such as a BrailleNote Touch, to be able to type and learn how to use a computer.”

Samantha has also learnt independent living skills.

“It's things like learning cooking skills, and learning how to go to the shops and advocate for myself by saying what support I need. I'm just learning how to use the bus independently, which will hopefully progress to train travel,” Samantha said.



“The Royal Blind School teachers have also been helping me with self-advocacy. Now that I have this support to learn all these independent living skills, as well as specialist teaching in things like braille, I feel like I can be confident. I can be an 18-year-old.”

Samantha said: “There are still struggles and things I'll always need help with, but it's about learning coping strategies and how I can do things on my own. It's about building that up and being prepared for the future.”



Supporting learning in mainstream schools



We are passionate about ensuring pupils with visual impairment have access to specialist education, wherever they attend school. In 2021-2022, our Outreach education team supported more than 130 pupils who attended mainstream schools in the East Lothian, Midlothian and Orkney Island local authority areas. These children and young people were supported by the wide range of experts in our Outreach education team, including Qualified Teachers of Children with Visual Impairment (QTVIs), learning support assistants, and habilitation specialists, who help children develop their personal mobility, navigation and independent living skills.

In 2022, we secured the tender to continue the Outreach service for East Lothian local authority for an additional three years, with an option for extension for a further two years. Going forward, we will also provide Early Years support and habilitation support to children in East Lothian.



Kidscene

Kidscene continued to provide after-school activities during term time to children attending both our own and local primary schools. Specialist, skilled staff support children with a visual impairment and those with additional support needs.

The Kidscene Holiday Club specifically catered for children with a visual impairment or additional support needs, and their siblings. The feedback from parents is overwhelmingly positive and we plan to continue to develop the holiday scheme based on the current model.



Residential Care for Adults

We provide residential care for 18 younger adults with visual impairment and complex needs in our two homes in Edinburgh, Forward Vision and Allermuir. We provide safe and warm surroundings – a place to call home. Our specialist staff support the people we care for to gain skills, to make their own choices, and to build connections.

Throughout the Covid lockdown, we kept families in touch with their loved one through video calls, quizzes on Zoom and virtual parties.

In 2021, after the easing of Covid restrictions on visits to care services, we welcomed family members back to visit their loved ones in person. Families spent time together in our outdoor garden space, catching up and enjoying cosy coffees that we brewed.

We helped ensure the people we care for and their families were kept safe through precautions, such as pre-visit lateral flow tests and use of face coverings. Our care teams worked to encourage as much normality for the people in our care as possible.



Community

Family Wellbeing Service

Our mission is to reach everyone with sight loss in Scotland, where and when they need us. In January 2021 we launched our Family Wellbeing Service, which initially provided telephone and online support across Scotland and then expanded to face to face support once restrictions eased.

Our Family Wellbeing Service is there for everyone. We provide support and information to people with sight loss, as well as their family, carers and friends.

Crucially, we also offer emotional support to people dealing with the impact of a sight loss diagnosis. Many people with visual impairment can lose their self-confidence and their self-esteem. They may struggle with the emotional impact of a loss of independence, particularly early on in their sight loss journey.



The Family Wellbeing Service offers:

- A freephone Sight Scotland Support Line, available Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.
- Home visits
- Befriending
- Online support



Support Line

Our Family Wellbeing Service offers assistance through its freephone Support Line, which launched in Edinburgh and the Lothian in January 2021, and then Scotland-wide in September 2021. In the first full year of operation, 819 people received support from our Family Wellbeing Service.

The National Lottery Community Fund pledged £150,000 for our Family Wellbeing Service over three years.



Rehabilitation and mobility support

We were delighted to successfully win contracts to deliver rehabilitation and mobility support for three local authorities – City of Edinburgh, Midlothian and East Lothian. Through these services we support people to learn or re-gain essential living skills following a diagnosis of sight loss.

An estimated 385 people with sight loss received ongoing support from our teams in the 2021-2022 year.

Rehabilitation and Mobility support includes:

- Helping people get around both indoors and outdoors
- Maintaining or improving people's daily living skills such as cooking and personal care
- Providing one-to-one training in useful tech, like magnifiers and screen readers

We provided expert rehabilitation and mobility support to:

275

people living in the City of Edinburgh council area



110

people living in Midlothian and East Lothian council areas

Amanda's story

Sight Scotland Community Worker Debbie McGregor and Amanda Whitfield.

Amanda Whitfield says the support she has received from our Support Line has been an 'absolute godsend'.

Amanda is a young mum from Linlithgow. She was diagnosed with Stargardt disease in 2016, aged 26, when this hereditary condition started affecting her sight.

In 2021, Amanda experienced a drastic deterioration in her sight.

"I was heartbroken," Amanda said.

"I didn't know how I was going to cope with things in the future, with my daughter."

Amanda called our Support Line.

Amanda said: "I got in touch with Sight Scotland because I can describe to others

what my sight loss is like, but they aren't going through it themselves. It was good to speak to someone that knew about Stargardt disease."

Over time, Amanda formed a relationship with Debbie McGregor, our Community Worker. Debbie spoke with Amanda about ways to compensate for her visual impairment in her daily life.

"Debbie has been an absolute godsend," Amanda said.

"She has guided me on a few things that she thinks I could potentially need in the future or need now. It's amazing how just talking to someone can make you feel as if you've got a weight off your shoulders.

"I don't feel as panicked about what the future's going to hold."



Gail and Charlie's story

Gail Burns reached out to our Support Line for information on how to support her dad, Charlie.

Charlie, aged 83, received a diagnosis of age-related macular degeneration in 2020.

Gail said: "When Dad was told he had macular degeneration it was quite a shock – I had never heard of it.

"I was really confused and it was quite scary. It was that realisation that something was seriously wrong."

Gail called our Support Line in 2021. Both she and Charlie received support and advice from Lead Community Worker, Anita O'Reilly.

Gail said: "Anita has been an absolute godsend for me, I've had so many long chats with her on the phone. The emotional support that she's provided has been invaluable."

"It makes a huge difference that Sight Scotland understands completely what Dad's going through," she said.

Charlie said: "Sight Scotland's support has been brilliant. They have given us advice and ideas and things that I wouldn't have thought about."



Scottish Braille Press

The Scottish Braille Press is a leading supplier of braille, large print and audio media to a wide range of customers. Our work ensures that people with sight loss have access to mainstream services such as banking and education.

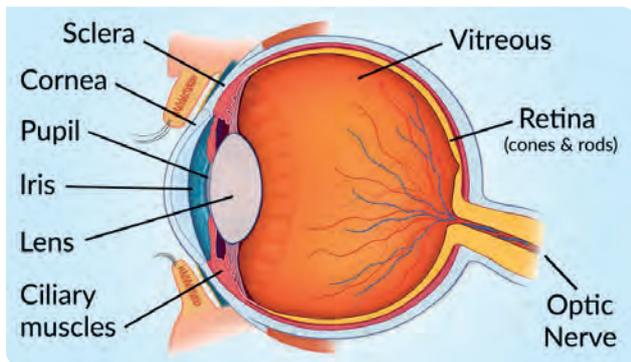
The majority of our operation focuses on producing large print format documents such as financial statements and statutory notices. Our operations continued throughout the Covid pandemic, as providing accessible documents is an essential service.

Business performance held steady although due to the pandemic there was again a slight reduction in discretionary business such as marketing literature from financial services clients. We are seeking to add value to our existing client relationships through innovation and to diversify our client base where possible.



Research

We continued to provide funding for medical research into sight loss, distributed and managed in partnership with the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (RCSEd). We also continued with our commitment to contribute £100,000 over two years, as one of several co-funders, to support the Scottish Collaborative Optometry-Ophthalmology Network e-research (SCONe) Project being delivered by the University of Edinburgh.



The aim is to collect, classify and curate a community-acquired retinal repository in Scotland, to enable early identification of eye disease, improve clinical outcomes and uncover novel biomarkers predictive of ocular and systemic diseases.



Raising profile, funds and engaging externally

Marketing

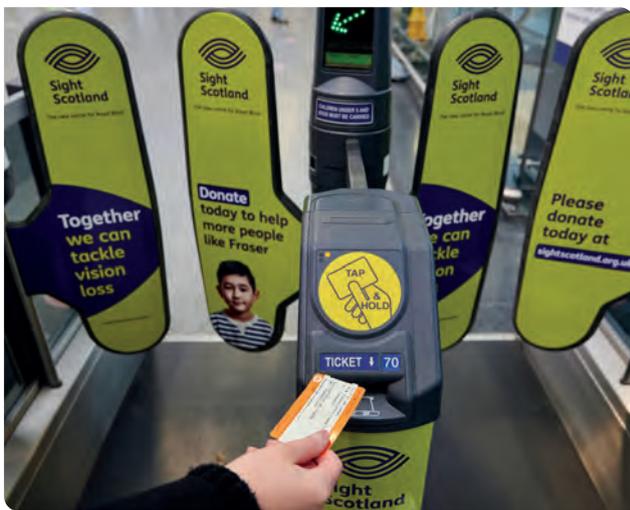
Our priority in marketing has been to further raise awareness of our charity so we can reach all those who need us and to launch the Community Service, attracting new service users through national TV, radio and outdoor advertising campaigns, as well as through press coverage.

One year on from the change of name to Sight Scotland and the promotion of our new name, an external brand awareness monitoring report demonstrated that the new name Sight Scotland has already had higher awareness than the previous name Royal Blind. The marketing team also ran a successful recruitment campaign for care workers at a time when these roles were hard to recruit across the sector.



Community Worker Debbie McGregor, Maree Todd MSP and Amanda Whitfield, at the official nationwide launch of the Support Line.





Our advertising spans:



TV



Digital



Social media



Print and direct mail



Radio



Press and publications



Outdoor

Policy

Our policy and public affairs goals are to achieve a more inclusive society for people with sight loss in Scotland and to ensure the voice of our service users is heard by decision makers.

Prior to the Scottish Parliament elections in May 2021 we launched our manifesto “Time to Focus on Sight Loss.” The policy calls highlighted in the manifesto were promoted through a social media campaign, and 80 candidates supported the pledge. The key policy call was for a new national low vision service to be established, and this was endorsed by three political parties. Ahead of the elections, we worked with the Electoral Commission to raise awareness of support and information available for blind and partially sighted voters.



We were delighted that the Minister for Public Health, Maree Todd MSP (pictured right), hosted two events for us – the launch of our community service and a networking event in the Scottish Parliament for stakeholders across the sight loss sector. MSPs from all the main political parties attended.

We also launched #OurFairRailVision campaign, which calls on the Scottish Government to work with local authorities to establish a new national policy for free rail travel across Scotland for those with a National (Scotland) Concessionary Travel for Blind Persons card and their companions.



80

Scottish Parliament election candidates supported our “Time to Focus on Sight Loss” manifesto in May 2021

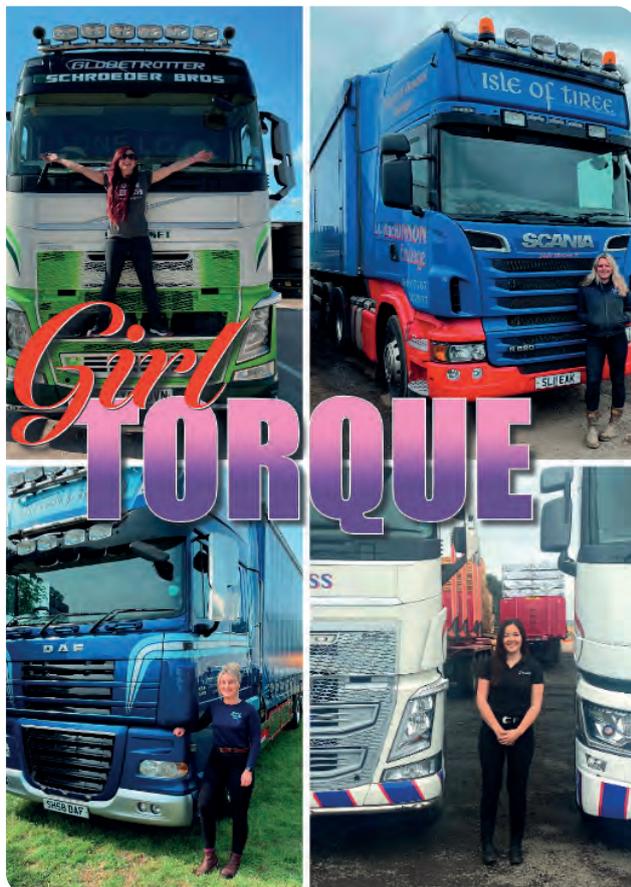
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Political parties endorsed our policy call for a new national low vision service to be established

Fundraising

We have continued to receive great support from trusts and grants during the pandemic. The National Lottery Community Fund's Improving Lives Grant pledged £150,000 over three years towards our Family Wellbeing Service. Further support from trusts came for the school allowing us to purchase an Omni Mobil Magic Table and a sound beam, amongst other items. Thanks to the support from our donors for our Christmas Appeal, we were able to fund sensory equipment for young adults we care for at Forward Vision.

We were delighted to see Community Fundraising activities return with some unique events. One fundraiser raised £4,250 from sales of an all-female truckers' calendar and another fundraiser, who has a visual impairment, took on a "Sight for Sight" Challenge by building the Edinburgh library from Lego and raised over £2,700. We are thankful to all individuals, trusts, corporates and community fundraisers who support Sight Scotland so generously.



Plans for our Future Direction

We want to build on our proud history to reach more people affected by sight loss and ensure that all of our services are designed to have the greatest impact. Our new Chief Executive, Craig Spalding, joined us in January 2022 and is working with our Executive Team to identify what more we can do to support people with sight loss.

It is crucial we listen to people with visual impairment and respond to the needs they have.

Our new Community service ensures we are just a phone call away, so people with sight loss can reach us when they need us. We are working to expand this service, so people can reach us wherever they are, too.

We analysed calls to our Support Line in the 2021-2022 year and found that 12.4 per cent of people calling for assistance lived in the west of Scotland's Central belt – in Glasgow City, and in Renfrewshire, Dunbartonshire, and North Lanarkshire. To support those calling for our help, in 2022-2023 we are establishing a new Community Worker role based in the West. This means we can provide face-to-face visits in those areas, supporting people in their community.

In education, we will continue offering flexible learning opportunities to children and young people with visual impairment. The young people we've supported so far are flourishing, and we will continue to seek new opportunities to offer this support.

We will continue to amplify the voices of people with sight loss here in Scotland. We want to ensure that people with decision-making power have a greater understanding of the needs of people with visual impairment. We will strengthen our focus

on policy and research to influence policymakers at local and national levels.

No other sight loss charity in Scotland funds medical research and we have the opportunity to achieve something special in that space, which could have long-term benefits for people affected by visual impairment. For example, we will continue funding the ground-breaking SCONE research project. This work gathers and analyses data which could help us predict the early stages of eye disease and support early intervention which can make such a difference in the treatment and support people receive.

To help fund our charity's aspirations in supporting more people with sight loss, we will continue building our fundraising capabilities. The appointment of specialist roles in 2021-2022 put our fundraising department in an excellent position to capitalise on the resumption of fundraising events after the lifting of Covid restrictions in 2022-2023. Our team is developing new fundraising products to inspire people to help us make a difference for people with sight loss.

We will continue with our mission to reach everyone with sight loss in Sight Scotland – when and where they need us.



Financial Review

The total income for Sight Scotland for the 2021-2022 year was £12.8 million. This was a decrease from our 2020-2021 income of £20 million, which included income from the £6 million sale of our retired Craigmillar Park Campus and income from our two care homes, which have since been closed.

Our total expenditure before investment gains and losses was £13.9 million.

We are pleased that our Community Services have hit the ground running. The first full year of our contracted rehabilitation and mobility services brought in a total income of £267,000 and in addition, we received £50,000 from the National Lottery Community Fund for the Family Wellbeing Service. Total expenditure for the year across both these community services was £534,000. As we further develop this service, we will continue to increase our fundraising activities to fund the service and seek further contracts for services with local councils.

The Scottish Braille Press continued to operate throughout the pandemic, as it was deemed to be an essential business. The net operating surplus was £190,000 (2021, £56,000). We retained our major customers during the year and had a similar turnover to 2021 but managed to cut our costs from £2,656,000 to £2,630,000.

Last year our investments encountered an unrealised gain of £3.4 million as the markets recovered following a big fall in early 2020 due to the Covid pandemic. In 2022 we encountered more modest gains of £1.5 million. However, markets remain volatile and it remains to be seen whether these gains can be sustained.

Overall, the charity has coped well during the pandemic and is moving forward now that the restrictions imposed during the pandemic are lifted. The charity incurred a small surplus of £333,000 after investment gains. We made a one-off contribution to our Defined Benefit Pension Scheme of nearly £5 million and this resulted in an overall net loss of £4.6 million.

Our full financial accounting statements can be read in our Audited Accounts which can be found at sightscotland.org.uk



Reserves

A key duty of the Directors is to ensure that users of Sight Scotland's services are cared for and protected. Due to the complex nature of the services we provide, namely our residential services and expert schooling, it is important that we hold enough reserves to ensure that the essential continuity of care needed is not disrupted.

The Directors consider it appropriate to hold free reserves equivalent to a minimum of twelve months' operating costs (equivalent to £18 million in 2021/22) for such purposes. These reserves must be held in a realisable form that can be accessed in a timely manner. Sight Scotland's current level of free reserves is £26.5 million (2021, £24 million). This equates to our unrestricted reserves excluding fixed assets, and ensures that there are sufficient funds set aside to operate our charitable activities for 18 months. The Directors believe this level gives adequate time to respond to any adverse changes or opportunities as they present

themselves but are closely monitoring the level of reserves.

The importance of having an adequate level of reserves was evident during the Covid pandemic. Due to our ability to call upon Sight Scotland's free reserves we were able to ensure continuity of service.

The Directors are committed to continuing the investment in fundraising and other sources of unrestricted income in order to maintain and grow the provision of high-quality care and support for our service users and to underpin the charity's strategic ambition to reach more of the 180,000 individuals in Scotland who have sight loss. The Directors have agreed to deploy proceeds from the charity's reserves while sources of income are diversified and aim to increase investment in line with the charity's new strategic plans.

The Directors regularly review Sight Scotland's reserve levels as part of their reserves policy review cycle.



How we achieved our income

Donations and Legacies

Leaving a gift in your will is a powerful way to support and give hope to people with sight loss for future generations. We are hugely grateful to all those who remember us with a gift in their will. Donations from our wonderful individual supporters, corporates, trusts and foundations, as well as all those who tirelessly raise money for us, help make sure we can provide the best care to those with sight loss. Our events and campaigns are also key to raising awareness about different sight loss conditions and the support that is available.

Learning services

The Royal Blind School is a grant-aided special school, receiving core funds from the Scottish Government. Our learning outreach services are delivered through contracts with local authorities.

Kidscene

Income from our afterschool and holiday care service, Kidscene, comes from charges made for the service. Additional income comes from fundraising for care-enhancing equipment. We also received financial support during the financial year from Government Grants to help with the effects of Covid.

Residential care for adults

Our adult residential services, Allermuir and Forward Vision, receive income from local authority fees. Additional income is received from fundraising and trusts which help to fund care-enhancing experiences and equipment.

Older People's Services

Following the closure of our care homes for older people in early 2020, our Older People's services received a small amount of residual income following an adjustment of invoices.

Community services

Income for our Community Services comes from fundraising activities and donations from trusts and foundations. We also have contracts with local authorities to deliver services.

Scottish Braille Press

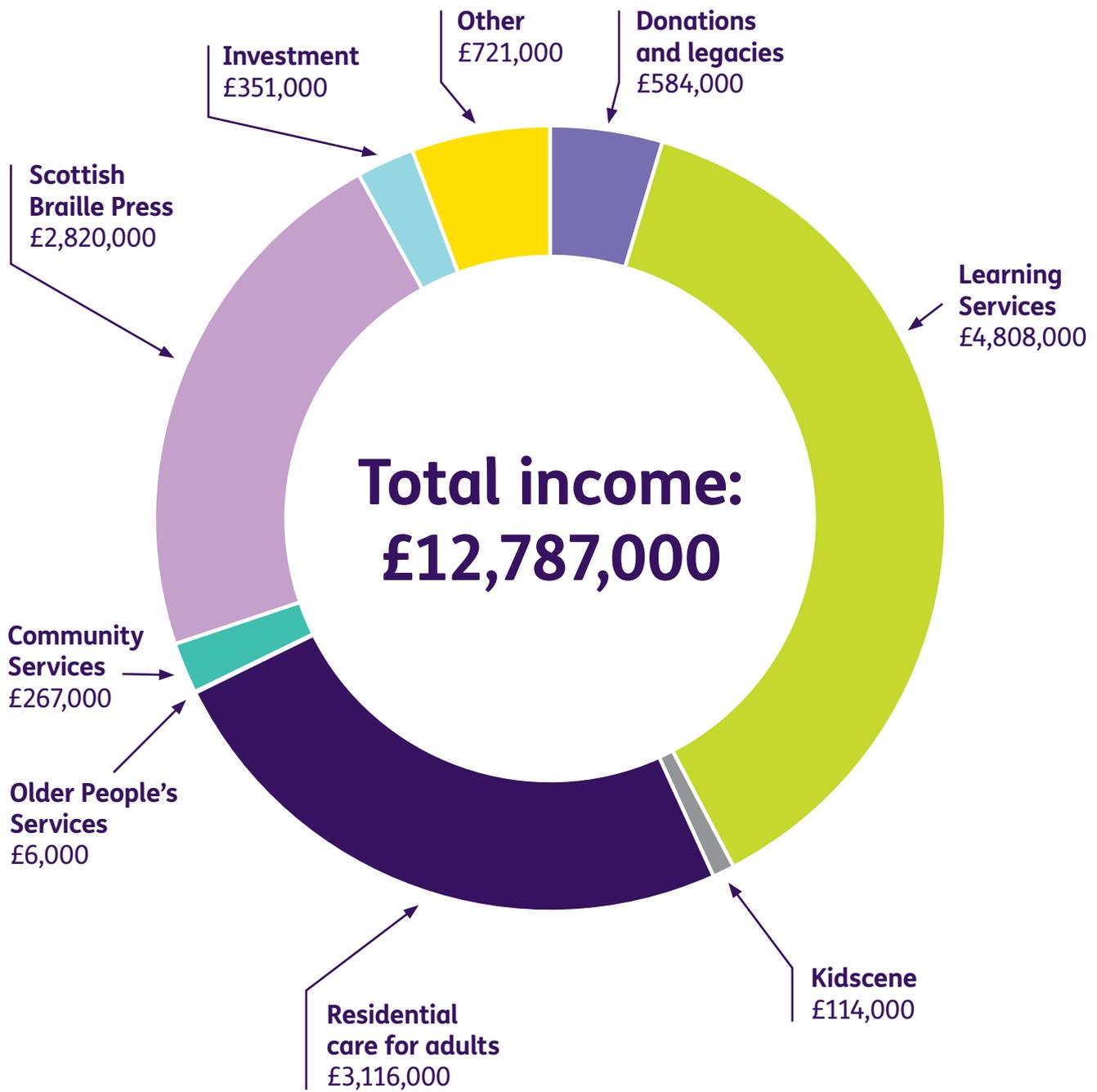
The Scottish Braille Press provides a chargeable transcription service to banks, exam boards, the public sector and many more organisations so that they can provide people with sight loss with formats that enable equal access to the written word. The profit generated by the Scottish Braille Press is reinvested to help fund Sight Scotland's support for people adapting to sight loss.

Investments

Careful stewarding of our investments helped increase our income during the year to allow us to further support people with visual impairment.

Other

This category covers the corporate services we provided to our sister charity Sight Scotland Veterans.



How we spent our funds

Supporting children and young people with sight loss

A total of 295 children and young people were supported through the Royal Blind School, and our outreach education programmes, assisting pupils at their local mainstream schools.

Residential care for adults

Our Forward Vision and Allermuir care services for adults with visual impairment and complex needs continued largely as normal, except that we didn't admit any short-term respite residents due to the pandemic. We adjusted our staffing levels, and the service made a small surplus.

Scottish Braille Press

The Scottish Braille Press continued to operate throughout the pandemic, as it was deemed to be an essential business.

Service development

These are costs associated with developing new ways of supporting people with visual impairment, as we aim to improve the support people with visual impairment receive.

Marketing and Policy influence work

Expenditure on fundraising and marketing our services was reduced and our marketing costs were also reduced as we had incurred additional costs in 2020 with our re-branding exercise. We continue to invest in our fundraising activities to ensure we maximise our income raised to meet our mission of helping as many people with sight loss in Scotland – when and where they need us.

Community Services

In the first full year of operating our Community Services, we incurred a deficit as anticipated. As we further develop this service, we continue to seek sources of funding and contracts for services with local councils.

Other

This category refers to the cost of corporate services that we provided to our sister charity Sight Scotland Veterans.

Older People's Services

Our residential care homes at Jenny's Well and Braeside House were sold through a bidding process to the highest bidder in 2020/21. Following the disposal of the two care homes, we incurred additional costs of £277,000 and following the impairment recorded in 2021, we incurred a further loss on the disposal of assets totalling £121,000.

Kidscene afterschool care

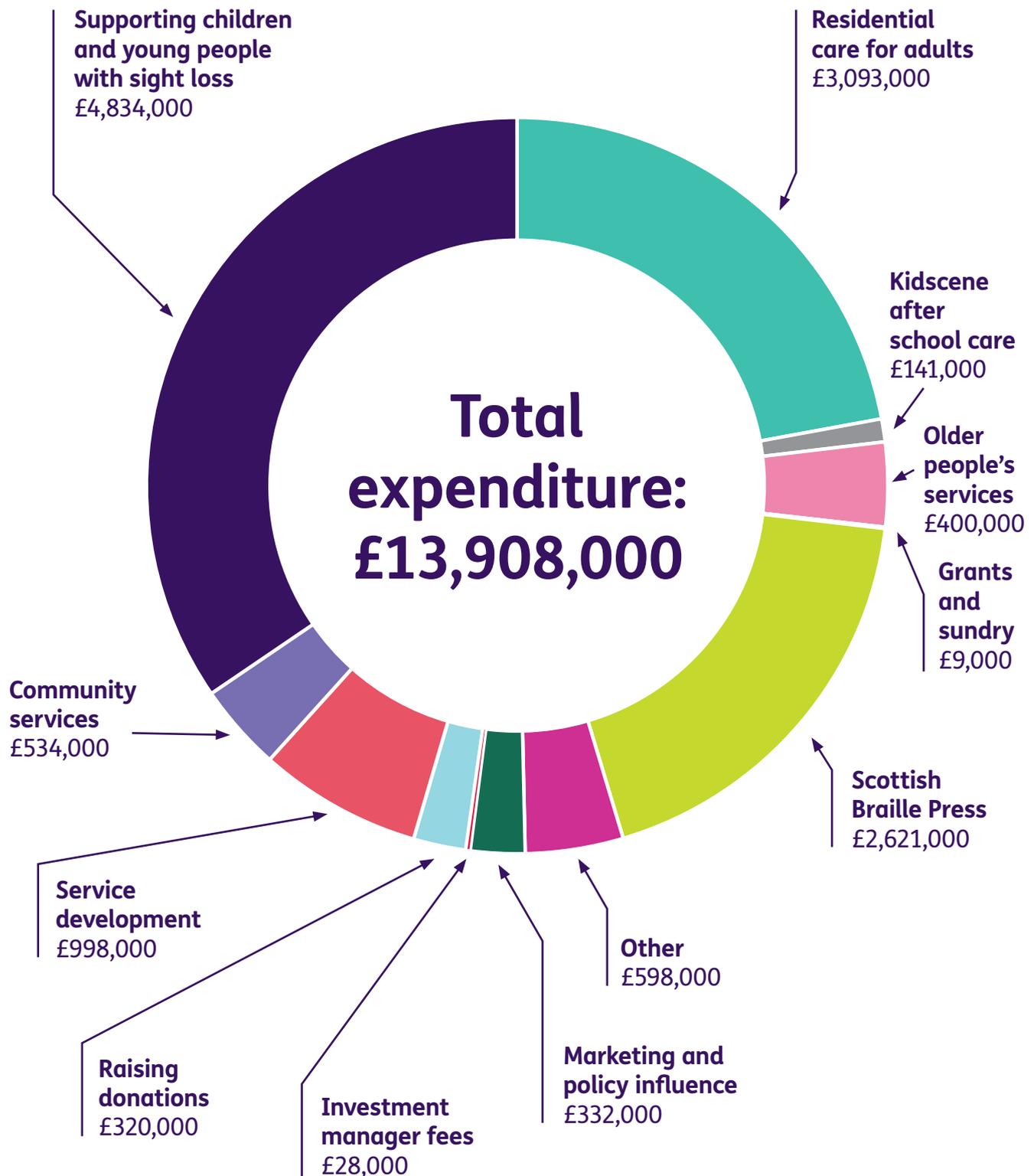
Kidscene continued to provide afterschool activities during term time to children attending both our own and local primary schools.

Grants and sundry

This category covers sundry expenditure in our charitable activities, which are not attributed to a specific service.

Investment manager fees

Professional investment managers handle our investment capital and seek to provide a commercial return through income or capital appreciation.



Thank you for your support this year

Thank you to everyone who gave so generously towards our work. We are so grateful to all our supporters who gave individual donations and fundraised tirelessly on our behalf, and especially to those who so kindly left a gift in their will.

The following charitable trusts, foundations and companies (in alphabetical order) contributed greatly to the services and projects we run.

- Amazon Smile
- Buccleuch Charitable Foundation
- Cash For Kids
- D M Charitable Trust
- Davis Rubens Charitable Trust
- Film Finance Inc
- Glebefoot Charitable Trust
- Hillhouse Group
- J Smart & Co Plc
- JP Morgan Chase & Co
- Madras Lodge Trustees
- Miss E C Hendry Charitable Trust
- National Lottery Community Fund
- P F Charitable Trust
- Penpont Charitable Trust
- Scottish Government - Childcare Sector Omicron Impact Fund
- Scottish Government - Temporary Restrictions Fund
- Templeton Goodwill Trust
- Tesco Bags of Help
- The Arnold Clark Community Fund
- The Batchworth Trust
- The Donald Fund
- The James Inglis Testamentary Trust
- The JTH Charitable Trust
- The Kilpatrick Fraser Charitable Trust
- The Lady Marian Gibson Trust
- The M E B Charitable Trust
- The Meikle Foundation
- The Nimar Charitable Trust
- The Row Fogo Charitable Trust
- The William H Fernie Charitable Trust
- Viridor Waste Management Ltd
- W Scott Charitable Trust
- William Dawson Trust
- Yorkshire Building Society Charitable





**Sight
Scotland**

The new name
for Royal Blind.

Address: Sight Scotland
2A Robertson Avenue
Edinburgh
EH11 1PZ

Phone: 0131 229 1456

Email: hello@sightscotland.org.uk

Web: sightscotland.org.uk

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