

**The Royal Society for the  
Support of Women of Scotland**

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT  
and  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year to  
31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2021**



**THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPORT OF WOMEN OF SCOTLAND**  
**Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

**Chair's Introduction**

On behalf of the General Committee of the Royal Society for the Support of Women of Scotland, I am pleased to present its report together with the financial statement for the year ended 31 March 2021.

What an extraordinary year it has been for us all, and the General Committee is very proud indeed that the Society has been able to continue to play its part in supporting women across Scotland at such a critical time. For that reason I would like to start by paying tribute to the staff team, led by Chief Executive Andrew Tweedy in his first year at the helm, for the way that they have met the multiple challenges that the year has brought head-on. The nature of the Society's work relies to a large extent on the relationships that the team build with new applicants and our beneficiaries. At the start of the pandemic, the Society initially paused new applications (resulting in fewer applications overall last year) while we explored how to maintain these relationships without face-to-face visits. However, we rapidly re-worked our application processes and, like so many other charities, we embraced the world of virtual meetings and telephone support, enabling the work of the Society to continue, and 987 women to receive support and £1,170,778 to be distributed over the year.

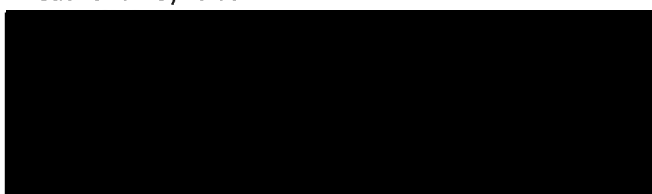
The Society is more fortunate than many charities to have significant investments, built up over many years. This time last year, reporting on the financial year ending in March 2020, just a few short weeks into the pandemic, a very significant drop in the value of our portfolios could be seen. I am pleased to say that the position has recovered such that at the end of this year our portfolios were at a record high valuation. However, dividend income remains relatively low and is likely to be so for some time prompting the Society to undertake a review of our investment strategy which is ongoing.

Another major piece of work that has been carried out this year is a review of the Society's Strategic role. This had started at the end of 2019 and has been further developed this year with a series of facilitated workshops involving all trustees to start with and then a short-term working group taking it forward. Some very exciting and stimulating discussions have taken place at these sessions and I would like to thank all trustees for giving so much extra time to this project. There is a bit more to be done, but we are getting there, and the opportunity to reflect on the work of the Society has been immensely valuable.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to a number of trustees that have retired from the General Committee this year, and to welcome some new faces. We were very sorry to say goodbye to May Storrie, as she left to prepare for her role as the Lord Dean of The Merchants House of Glasgow. Two of our wisest financial heads also retired – Treasurer John Hume and one of our longest-serving trustees Adrian Johnston – and we will very much miss their contributions to the General Committee. Lastly, my particular thanks go to Walter Thomson, both for the key role he played in the modernisation of the Society's Charter, and for his generous and wise counsel in his role as Vice Chairman.

We have been delighted to welcome three new trustees this year - Gill Fairley, Bridget Mustard and Heather Smith - and they have not wasted their time in throwing themselves into the work of the General Committee.

Catriona Reynolds



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**Reference and administration details of the charity, its Trustees and advisors**

The Royal Society for the Support of Women of Scotland, (Scottish Charity Number: SC016095) is represented by all individuals and organisations shown below. The members of the General Committee fulfil the role of charitable trustees.

**General Committee of Management**

**East**

Mr Walter Thomson, WS (Ret. Sept 2020)  
Mr John Hume CA (Ret. Sept 2020)  
Mrs Ailsa Gormly  
Mr Adrian Johnston ACII, AFPS (Ret. Sept 2020)  
Mrs Carol Lawson  
Mrs Margaret Moyes (**Vice-Chair**)  
Mrs Maureen O'Neill OBE  
Mrs Carolina Viola  
Mr Graeme Whyte  
Ms Heather Smith (Appt. Nov 2020)

**West**

Ms Catriona Reynolds (**Chair**)  
Mrs Anna Buchanan (Ret. Aug 2020)  
Mr John MacLeod DL, CA (**Treasurer**)  
Dr Jonathan Cossar  
Mrs May Storrie CBE (Ret. Oct 2020)  
Ms Gill Fairley (Appt. Nov 2020)

**North**

Ms Bridget Mustard (Appt. Nov 2020)

**Grant Policy Sub-Committee:**

Mrs Maureen O'Neill (**Sub-Committee Chair**)  
Mrs Anna Buchanan  
Dr Jonathan Cossar  
Mrs Ailsa Gormly  
Mrs Margaret Moyes  
Mr Graeme Whyte

**Investment Sub-Committee:**

Mrs Carol Lawson (**Sub-Committee Chair**)  
Ms Catriona Reynolds (**Chair**)  
Mr John MacLeod DL, CA (**Treasurer**)  
Mrs Carolina Viola

**Registered Office:**

14 Rutland Square, Edinburgh, EH1 2BD

**Chief Executive:**

Mr Andrew Tweedy

**Casework Team**

Mrs Helen Dalley LLB (Welfare Manager)  
Mrs Lucy McRitchie RGN, BSc  
Ms Sonia Love  
Mrs Pamela Samson

**Administrator:**

Mrs Sharon Moffat

**Auditor:**

Azets Audit Services  
Exchange Place 3, Edinburgh, EH3 8BL

**Bankers:**

Bank of Scotland  
38 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, EH2 2YR

**Solicitors:**

Anderson Strathern LLP  
1 Rutland Court, Edinburgh, EH3 8EY

**Investment Managers and Stockbrokers:**

Brewin Dolphin  
144 Morrison Street, Edinburgh, EH3 8EX

**Information Technology Adviser:**

Mr Graeme Whyte  
J7 (MIS) Ltd.

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## **Governance**

### **History and Charitable Status**

The Society was established in 1847, with a formal Deed of Constitution executed in 1865 and a Royal Charter granted in 1930. It operated under the name of *"The Royal Society for the Relief of Indigent Gentlewomen of Scotland"* but was generally known as the *"Indigent Gentlewomen's Fund"* or simply *"IGF"*.

On 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015, an updated Royal Charter came into effect for the Society. This changed the name to *"The Royal Society for the Support of Women of Scotland"*; revised the Society's objectives; set out aspects of the Society's governance structures including the role of its General Committee; and empowered the General Committee to form Byelaws to further govern the charity's operations.

The Society is a Registered Scottish Charity number SC016095 and has been since 1952.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

#### **General Committee**

The General Committee comprises a Chair and up to 17 voluntary Members who are the Trustees of the Society. As at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 there were 12 Trustees. The General Committee currently meets four times a year to consider new applications for support and other business, policy and finance matters. Meetings normally alternate between Edinburgh and Glasgow but have been held virtually over the past year with the meeting in September also being the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

#### **Membership**

The Society undertakes regular, open recruitment, for new Trustees based partly on a skills audit and the strategic needs of the Committee. The most recent recruitment was in the autumn of 2020 with 3 new trustees being appointed as a result, Ms Gill Fairley, Ms Heather Smith and Ms Bridget Mustard. All new Trustees are supported with a structured induction process.

During the course of the year 4 Trustees retired from the role, Ms Anna Buchanan, Mr John Hume, Mr Adrian Johnston and Mr Walter Thomson.

Under the Society's Byelaws, the three Trustees who are longest serving since their last election are required to retire at the AGM but are eligible for re-election (subject to term limits). At the 2020 AGM, Mr Graeme Whyte, Dr Jon Cossar and Mrs Margaret Moyes stood down but all were duly re-elected.

#### **Sub-Committees**

The General Committee is empowered to appoint Sub-Committees and working groups to address specific matters in detail. Currently the Society has two Sub-Committees:

- The Investment Sub-Committee meets at least twice a year to oversee the performance of the Society's nominated investment managers (to whom discretionary powers of management have been granted) and to review investment policy.
- The Grant Policy Sub-Committee meets periodically to review the Society's application and grant-making processes and consider possible changes, making recommendations to the General Committee as appropriate.

In addition, a working group of 4 Trustees, the Chief Executive and the Welfare Manager was formed during the year to explore the Society's strategic role and bring forward recommendations to the General Committee for further consideration.

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#### Day to Day Management and Operations

Routine management decisions are delegated to the Chief Executive who is supported by the Society's Caseworker team and Administrator. Direct support and regular visits to the Society's beneficiaries are provided by the Casework Team (albeit that this has had to be done over the phone over the past year).

#### **Support Activities**

##### **Objectives**

The object of the Society as stated in our Royal Charter is *"To provide support and aid to women who are resident in Scotland and are of good character and are single and require assistance by reason of financial hardship, age or ill health in the interest of the general public benefit"*.

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*"I have managed to save enough to replace the back door to my property. It was an old wooden door and was really rotten through in parts. My insurance company told me last year if I did not get a new door, and should there be a break in, I would not be covered as they considered the door to be in a dangerous state of repair. The job was done last week and it looks so lovely, what an improvement and something less for me to worry about too. Without your help, I would never have been able to save this amount of money to make my home safe and secure."*

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##### **Criteria for Support**

Under the Byelaws, applications to be admitted to the Roll of Beneficiaries are considered from any single, widowed, divorced or formally separated woman, of 50 years or older, and who has been resident in Scotland for at least two years at the time of application. Additionally, applicants must have income and capital beneath ceilings set from time to time by the General Committee and show that they have lived a decent, responsible and respectable life.

The Society has experienced increasing demand and has adapted its criteria accordingly. In 2017, the Society lowered its income and capital ceilings and adopted a "Transition" policy to phase out support over a period of four years to those beneficiaries who exceed these lower limits. This Transition process ended in March 2021. Additionally, the Society has at times introduced a temporary lower income "filter" for new applications to avoid over-subscription and false expectations while also giving priority to those applicants on the lowest incomes. This filter was lifted in 2020 but the Strategy Review Working Group continues to monitor the Society's criteria and make recommendations for changes.

#### Process for Admission to the Roll of Beneficiaries

New applicants come to the charity through a variety of sources, including referral by professionals, other charities, and direct applications. The Society is listed on Turn2Us and advertises strategically to raise awareness of the support it provides.

All new applications are assessed by the Casework Team and considered by Trustees on a name-blind basis. Admission to the Roll of Beneficiaries (and payment of grants) is made at the discretion of the Trustees but once admitted, beneficiaries normally continue to be supported provided they continue to meet the Society's criteria.

##### **Types of Support Provided**

#### Direct Financial Support

The core of the Society's work is the payment of direct cash grants to beneficiaries including:

- Main grants paid to all beneficiaries at the current rate of £110 per calendar month (although some beneficiaries may not receive the full amount for a number of reasons). These monthly

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grants account for most of the direct financial support the Society provides. In 2020 the Society started a policy of allowing beneficiaries to receive advances of their monthly grant to make our support more flexible and responsive to need.

- Additional or emergency grants paid to relatively few beneficiaries where they are experiencing particularly urgent or exceptional circumstances.
- Supplementary grants targeted at beneficiaries on lower incomes and so only paid to around half of all beneficiaries. These used to be paid on an ad-hoc basis to fully distribute the Society's income but will now be paid more regularly and as a strategic means of disbursing additional support to those beneficiaries in greatest need.
- Historical grants paid to a handful of surviving beneficiaries of historical funds which have since been absorbed into the Society.

#### Other Forms of Support

In addition to direct financial support, the Society's Casework Team maintains regular contact with beneficiaries and aims to visit them every 15-18 months. Whilst part of the purpose of these visits is to assess the beneficiary's continued eligibility for support, the Caseworkers try to ensure they are positive and supportive social occasions which promote a sense of personal engagement with the Society in order to overcome any hesitancy about receipt of charitable support. Beneficiaries consistently report that they look forward to and enjoy these visits and the Society underlines this sense of personal engagement through cards at Christmas and flowers to those beneficiaries reaching milestone ages.

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*"Your case workers were kind and very sympathetic and just to know someone out there cared was very uplifting. I never married and had no children and was embarrassed to discuss with friends."*

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#### **Key Support Activities and Performance in Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

The past year has been one of both significant change in the Society's operation but also one of continuity. The continuity comes from the fact that the Society has been able to maintain all its grant payments without interruption including disbursing a supplementary grant to 495 beneficiaries on lower incomes just before Christmas. While both beneficiary visits and the issuing of new application forms were paused in the first quarter of the year, Caseworkers maintained contact with beneficiaries by phone during this period and normal processes were re-started in June albeit that all "visits" have had to be virtual and new assessments done by phone. For the Society, and in particular the staff team, this has required significant changes to working practices including:

- All staff have had to work from home bar weekly visits to the office (once permitted by the lockdown rules) by the Administrator to deal with correspondence.
- Conducting assessment and reviews by phone including coaching beneficiaries and applicants on how to scan and share copies of documents via email, WhatsApp and similar.
- Adopting a flexible and pragmatic approach to asking for supporting evidence in recognition of the fact that many beneficiaries struggle to provide such evidence remotely.
- Greater reliance on the Society's database to store and share information and to record contacts with beneficiaries.
- All meetings becoming virtual (including both General and Sub-Committee meetings).

The Trustees would like to reiterate their gratitude to the Staff Team for their flexibility and perseverance in ensuring the work of the Society has continued and the needs of beneficiaries met through all of the challenges of the past year. The Trustees would also like to note their gratitude to the Society's Caretaker who found herself both isolated within and solely in charge of the Society's



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offices in central Edinburgh for prolonged periods during the lockdowns over the year.

**Key information about Applicants and Beneficiaries over the past year**

- The Roll of Beneficiaries as at 31st March

	2021	2020	2019	2018
Roll of Beneficiaries at end of year	812	919	932	876
New admissions during the year	68	101	138	97
Deaths & withdrawals during the year	177	114	82	65
Visits to new applicants	0	107	133	95
Visits to existing beneficiaries	0	653	640	562
Individuals receiving financial assistance	987	1023	1011	924

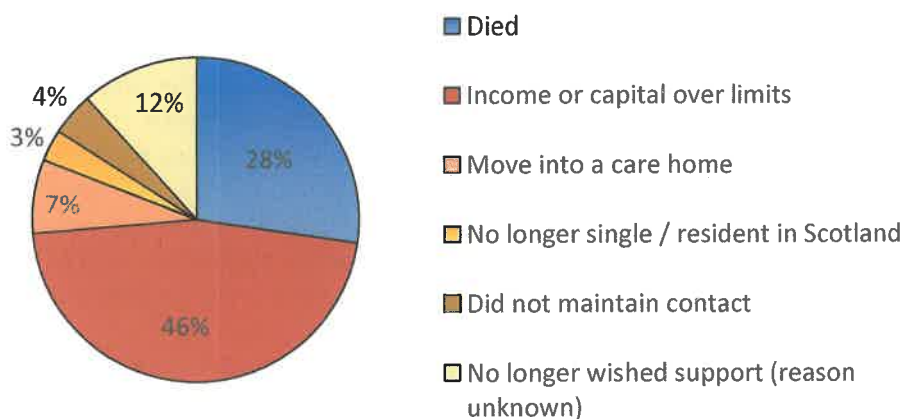
- While the number of beneficiaries on the Roll is now lower than it has been over the past 4 years, this is due largely to the 82 Transition beneficiaries who were withdrawn from the Society’s Roll following receipt of their final payment in March 2021.
- The number of beneficiaries admitted during the year is down largely because of the pause on issuing new applications during the first quarter of the year. The Society also did not advertise or promote itself during the course of the year because of the projected budget deficit and the ongoing Strategic review discussions.

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*“These grants ... have made such a huge difference to my daily living. By saving some of these monthly grants I have been able to buy a good quality second hand leather sofa set with recliners which have made such a difference to my back and leg issues. It has meant that I haven't had to be so frugal when ordering groceries. Just knowing I was getting your support was great and reassuring at a time when things looked so grim.”*

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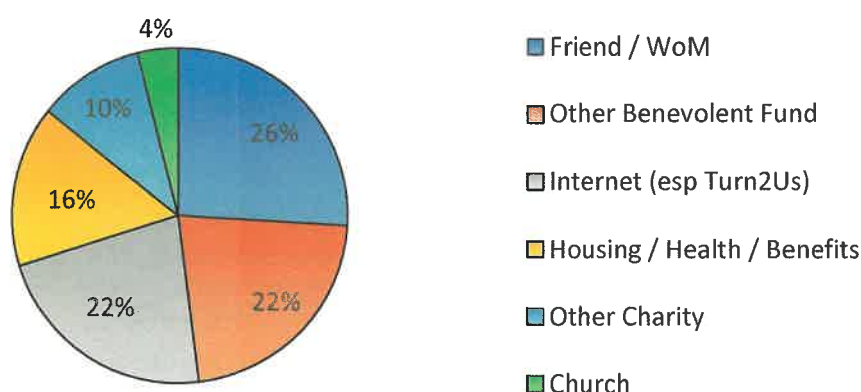
- Over the past year (and excluding the Transition beneficiaries), the most common reason a beneficiary is withdrawn from the Roll is because their income or capital has increased above the Society’s limits:



- Commonly this occurs when a beneficiary is awarded an additional Society Security Benefit, for example Attendance Allowance or their Retirement Pension, and as a result their income increases significantly.

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- The average age of beneficiaries leaving the Roll over the year was just over 76 having received support from the Society for just over 8.5 years on average. However, this average hides a wide range of length of support with 9 beneficiaries having been supported for more than 20 years and 18 beneficiaries having been supported for less than 2 years.
- The people who made an application to the Society during the year found out about the Society from a very wide range of sources:



- As at 31st March 2021 the Society's Roll included beneficiaries living in all 32 Scottish Local Authority areas and during the course of the year we received applications from people living in 22 different Local Authority areas. The Society also has 1 beneficiary living abroad and 8 living in England but no longer accepts new applications from people living outside Scotland under the terms of our revised Royal Charter.

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*"The support I have received from the Society has truly meant I have a life, and not just an existence. I don't have to be afraid of bills etc as with the help I receive from you I can budget for them."*

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### **Other Activities and Achievements in the Year**

There have also been a number of other notable aspects to the Society's work over the past year:

- The new staffing structure has been embedded following the retirement of the Senior Caseworker in May 2020. This involved the appointment of a new Caseworker (West) and the creation of the Welfare Manager post with direct line management responsibility for the Casework Team.
- Starting the review of the Society's operations and Strategic Role with input from the Staff Team and direct involvement of both Trustees and the Chief Executive and Welfare Manager – see below.
- Increasing flexibility in grant provision to make the Society's support more responsive to need by allowing beneficiaries to request advances on their monthly grants should they need a larger sum (subject to certain limits).
- Piloting a debt "scoring" tool to support Trustee decisions on new applications to the Society.

### **Finances**

The Society is fortunate to have significant investments, built up over many years, which provide the vast majority of the Society's operational income. The Society does not actively fundraise (other than through inclusion in charity and legacy directories) but does receive occasional bequests and donations generally from grateful families or former beneficiaries.



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### **Investment Policy**

The Society has granted discretionary management over its investments to professional Fund Managers, currently Brewin Dolphin. The Investment Sub-Committee meets with Brewin Dolphin at least six monthly (but did so more frequently to monitor the market disruption following the initial COVID-19 outbreak and lockdown) to review performance, issue directions and conduct periodic formal reviews of investment management options available to the Society.

The Society's investment objective is to achieve a balanced return from a broadly diversified blend of assets, with a moderate risk profile. It currently holds two portfolios with Brewin Dolphin:

- The Main Portfolio is managed on a long-term basis for both income and growth and held in diversified holdings with moderate investment risk (Brewin Dolphin Risk Category 6).
- The Second Portfolio is operated on a lower risk profile (Brewin Dolphin Risk Category 4) in liquid funds with a view to possible medium-term realisation.

In addition, the Society holds a cash reserve in a combination of accounts.

### **Income and Investment Performance in year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

The year started in the shadow of the disruption in global financial markets in March 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic and various national "lockdown" policy responses. Accordingly, in the 2019/20 accounts the Society reported a net investment loss of £5,439,251 and its listed investments were valued at only £38,438,372 at the start of 2020/21.

During the course of the year, the value of the Society's investments rebounded such that they stood at £45,625,449 - their highest ever year end valuation – see Note 9. However, while this rapid recovery in valuations was very welcome, another impact of the pandemic has been significant cuts to dividend payments and reductions to interest rates. As a result, the Society's income from dividends and interest paid on investments reduced by 23% to £1,357,307 (2020 - £1,764,572) with no special dividends received (2020 - £61,525) – see Note 5. Given that investment portfolio income accounts for well over 95% of the Society's income, the Society took the followings steps to ensure financial stability and continuity of support during 2020/21:

- Budgeted for a deficit of £255,000 using cash reserves held in the Undistributed Income Fund.
- Closely monitored the situation with regular reporting from Brewin Dolphin.
- Issued updated directions to Brewin Dolphin removing the formal income target and emphasising the need for longer term management to ensure the portfolios were well placed for recovery.
- Held legacies received as cash to ensure liquidity rather than revert them to the Designated Investment Fund as would normally have been done in line with standing policy.

However, in the end the Society had an operational deficit of "only" £70,095 (2020 – surplus of £90,715) over the course of the year because expenditure was lower than budget projections for a number of reasons including:

- Grants paid to individuals reduced to £1,170,778 (2020 - £1,299,476) because of (a) lower level of supplementary grants paid of £59,225 (2020 - £145,360) – see Note 6, (b) few new beneficiaries admitted in the first quarter of the year – see above, and (c) planned reductions to the level of monthly grant paid to Transition beneficiaries.
- Staffing and staff costs were lower at £196,904 (2020 - £215,775) – see Note 6 – in large part due to there being only £96.35 worth of staff travel costs paid out during the whole year!

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*"Your donation came to me when I really needed it. I was in a really difficult financial situation since I had just stopped working at the beginning of the pandemic."*

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In the medium to longer term, it is unlikely that portfolio income will recover to the investment policy target of £1,600,000 for a number of years. Accordingly, like many other charities, the Society is considering whether to adopt a “Total Return” approach to our investment strategy to maximise returns and allow for a more diverse investment approach.

Other notable features of the Society’s finances over the year include:

- The Society was very grateful to receive of donations totalling £7,516 (2020 - £9,179) and legacies totalling £33,829 (2020 - £26,888) – see Note 4. Legacy receipts are inherently sporadic in nature so normal policy is to treat them as capital and transfer them to the Designated Investment Fund.
- The reported cost of raising funds reduced to £77,762 (2020 - £122,492) – see Note 6. However, the majority of these costs are made up of the management fees paid to the Society’s Stockbrokers. These fees are calculated net of commission charged on trading and there was a much higher level of trading with the Society’s portfolios at the start of the year as the Stockbrokers made adjustments in response to the market disruption cause by the pandemic. This resulted in a much higher level of commission charges which in turn resulted in lower net management fees payable.
- Governance costs reduced to £47,560 (2020 - £75,301). This was due to the 2020 figure being inflated by one-off costs for (a) the recruitment of the new Chief Executive and (b) the Research Project – see Note 6.

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*When I first requested your help my life was in a terrible state. After being made redundant ... I just couldn't get my life back on track. I was in debt and was very nearly losing my home due to missed mortgage payments. ... I worked very very hard at doing retail work and your support helped me pay the bills again and I could see the light at the end of the tunnel.*

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### **Reserves Policy**

All the Society’s assets and reserves are unrestricted. However, a number of designated funds have been created by Trustees for specific purposes:

- The Designated Investment Fund (DIF). The investments held within the DIF provide the core for both current and future income generation and the Trustees are of the view that it is necessary to maintain and, where possible, increase the DIF so that the Society can fulfil its objectives into the future. No withdrawals are expected from the DIF and the Society has long-standing policies of (a) investing any legacies and/or funds transferred from other charities into the DIF; and (b) re-investing the proceeds of any investment sales and the majority of any special dividends received into the DIF.
- The Transition 2017 Fund was used to fund payments of the reducing Main Grant payable Transition beneficiaries from whom support was being progressively withdrawn. This process concluded on 31st March 2021 so the assets in this fund have reverted to the General Fund.
- The Undistributed Income Fund (UIF) represents undistributed surplus income. Its purposes set in 2018 are to (a) provide a cash reserve to meet immediate grant payments in the event of any collapse in regular income from investments (with the first £500,000 of the UIF only to be used as such a reserve); and (b), for any sums in excess of this £500,000, to hold surplus income for future distribution to beneficiaries at the Trustees discretion under the Society’s “full distribution” policy. The importance of such prudent financial management has been underlined by the financial upheavals over the past year.

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- The General Fund provides the day-to-day operating capital of the Society. The size of this Fund will be refined over time against the background of cash flow patterns to ensure smooth financial management without excessive holding of cash.

See Note 13 for details of the makeup of these funds and the Society's reserves.

### **Risk Management**

The General Committee formally reviews its Risk Management Register in March each year. Of the potential areas of risk considered by the Committee, the most significant are:

- Dependency on / collapse of income streams. As noted above, the Society relies almost exclusively on dividend income to fund its charitable activities and operating costs and the disruption of the past year has underlined these risks. However, Trustees consider that the Society is as well placed as it could be to anticipate this as:
  - The investment portfolios are well diversified across asset classes and sectors
  - The Society holds significant reserves within the UIF in adequately liquid form
  - The Society has the option in the longer term of reducing costs through, amongst other options, reducing the overall expenditure limit for grant distribution (and consequently beneficiary numbers).
- Lone Working. A significant part of the Society's normal activities involves Caseworkers lone working visiting new applicants and existing beneficiaries in their homes, with considerable time travelling in between. However, the Society does not operate in a particularly high-risk environment and a comprehensive Lone Worker policy is in place.
- Disaster Recovery / Loss of Key Personnel. The Society has in place structured back up procedures for all critical data with copies held both on and off-site. The robustness of off-site working has been demonstrated by the rapid adoption of homeworking for all staff required by the COVID-19 lockdowns.

### **Strategic Review and Plans for Future**

Last year's report noted the intention to take forward a review of the Society's operations and future strategic role informed by the research commissioned by the Society in 2019. This review commenced towards the end of 2020 with the support of Animate Consulting and is ongoing. The key areas of focus include:

- Exploring ways to target the Society's support differently for women below retirement age.
- Exploring new ways to operationalise the Society's "good character" cause in our Royal Charter.
- Exploring ways to target support towards women with fewer resources.
- Exploring ways to streamline decision making within the Society.

### **General Committee's Responsibilities**

Legislation applicable to charities in Scotland requires the General Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society and of the relative balance of income and expenditure for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the General Committee is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Society will continue its activities.

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The General Committee is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Society and to enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable accounting standards and relevant legislation.

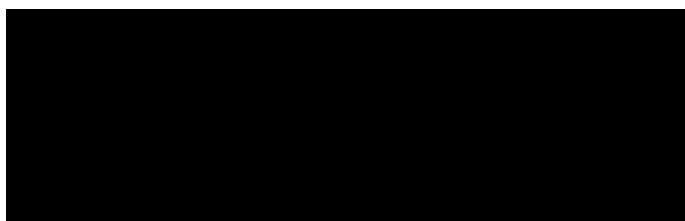
The Committee has general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Society and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

**Statement as to disclosure of information to the auditor**

To the best of the knowledge and belief of each of the individuals, who are General Committee members, at the time the report is approved:

- so far as the General Committee member is aware, there is no relevant information of which the Society's auditor is unaware; and
- he or she has taken all steps that ought to have been taken, as a General Committee member, in order to become aware of any relevant audit information and to confirm that the Society's auditor is aware of that information.

Approved by the General Committee on 26th November 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Catriona Reynolds  
Chair

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**Independent Auditors Report to the Trustees for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

## **Independent Auditors Report**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of The Royal Society for the Support of Women of Scotland (the Society) for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account); the Balance Sheet; the Statement of Cash Flows; and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### **Other information**

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.



**THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPORT OF WOMEN OF SCOTLAND**  
**Independent Auditors Report to the Trustees for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' Report; or
- proper accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

**Responsibilities of the trustees**

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 10, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act and report in accordance with the Acts and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPORT OF WOMEN OF SCOTLAND**  
**Independent Auditors Report to the Trustees for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

**Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud**

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees, as a body, those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Azets Audit Services*

**Azets Audit Services**

**Statutory Auditor**

Eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Exchange Place 3, Semple Street, Edinburgh, EH3 8BL

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021

**THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPORT OF WOMEN OF SCOTLAND**  
**Financial Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

	Notes	2021 £	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £
<b>Income and Endowments from</b>			
Donations and Legacies	4	41,345	36,067
Investments	5	1,379,908	1,789,381
Other Income		1,191	0
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>1,422,444</b>	<b>1,825,448</b>
Expenditure on			
Raising Funds	6	77,762	122,492
Charitable Activities	6	1,414,777	1,612,241
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>1,492,539</b>	<b>1,734,733</b>
Net (Expenditure) / Income before Gain / (Losses) on Investments		(70,095)	90,715
Net Gain / (Losses) on Investments	7	7,963,001	(5,439,251)
<b>Net Income / Expenditure</b>		<b>7,892,906</b>	<b>(5,348,536)</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>7,892,906</b>	<b>(5,348,536)</b>
Reconciliation			
Total Funds brought forward		39,219,717	44,568,253
<b>Total Funds carried forward</b>		<b>47,112,623</b>	<b>39,219,717</b>

All results relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 18 to 28 also form part of these financial statements.

**THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPORT OF WOMEN OF SCOTLAND**  
**Financial Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

	Notes	2021 £	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Assets	8	1,050,000	492,825
Investments	9	46,306,738	38,921,248
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>		<b>47,356,738</b>	<b>39,414,073</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	10	247,943	333,743
Cash @ bank and in hand		607,104	626,364
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>855,047</b>	<b>960,107</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors falling due in 1 year	11	1,099,162	1,154,463
<b>Total of Assets Less Liabilities</b>		<b>47,112,623</b>	<b>39,219,717</b>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	13	<b>47,112,623</b>	<b>39,219,717</b>

The notes on pages 18 to 28 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the Society's Trustees on 26th November 2021 and signed on their behalf by



**THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPORT OF WOMEN OF SCOTLAND**  
**Financial Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Cash flows from operating activities:			
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	<b>1(a)</b>	<b>(1,410,219)</b>	<b>(1,454,546)</b>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Investment income		1,379,908	1,789,381
Proceeds from sale of investments		5,935,391	2,602,414
Proceeds from sale of asset		6,070	0
Purchase of investments		(5,881,997)	(2,939,967)
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</b>		<b>1,439,372</b>	<b>1,451,828</b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>		<b>29,153</b>	<b>(2,718)</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>		<b>759,240</b>	<b>761,958</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>	<b>1(b)</b>	<b>788,393</b>	<b>759,240</b>
<b>Note 1(a)</b>			
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		7,892,906	(5,348,536)
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation charges		9,744	14,332
(Gains)/losses on investments		(7,963,001)	5,439,251
Investment income		(1,379,908)	(1,789,381)
Gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets		(459)	0
Decrease in debtors		85,800	282,040
Decrease in creditors		(55,301)	(52,252)
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>		<b>(1,410,219)</b>	<b>(1,454,546)</b>
<b>Note 1(b)</b>			
Cash in hand		607,104	626,364
Cash held with investment managers		181,289	132,876
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>788,393</b>	<b>759,240</b>

The notes on pages 18 to 28 form part of these financial statements.



**THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPORT OF WOMEN OF SCOTLAND**  
**Financial Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

**1. General Information**

These financial statements are presented in pounds sterling (GBP) as that is the currency in which the charity's transactions are denominated. They comprise the financial statements of The Royal Society for the Support of Women of Scotland.

The Society's objective is *"to provide support and aid to women who are resident in Scotland and are of good character and are single and require assistance by reason of financial hardship, age or ill health in the interest of the general public benefit"*.

The Society is an unincorporated charity, recognised as a charity for tax purposes by HMRC and registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) under charity number SC016095. Details of the principal address can be found on page 2 of this Annual report and Financial Statements.

**2. Accounting policies**

*(a) Basis of accounting*

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention unless otherwise specified within these accounting policies and in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial reporting standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland' (FRS102) (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland' (FRS102), Update Bulletin 1 to the SORP published in February 2016, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

The Society meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires Trustees to exercise their judgement in the process of applying the accounting policies. Use of available information and application of judgement are inherent in the formation of estimates. Actual outcomes in the future could differ from such estimates. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed in Note 3.

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are noted below. These policies have been applied consistently to all the years presented in dealing with items which are considered material to the Society's financial statements unless otherwise stated.

*(b) Going concern*

The Trustees are of the opinion that the charity can continue to meet its obligations as they fall due for the foreseeable future. The Society has significant cash reserves, a substantial investment portfolio generating regular income and is able to restrict further admissions to the Roll of Beneficiaries. The impact of Covid-19 is referred to in the Trustees Annual Report. As a consequence, the Trustees have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis.

*(c) Recognition and allocation of income*

Income is recognised when the Society becomes entitled to the income, receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably. Since 2018-19, account is now taken of dividends declared before the end of the financial year but not received by the Society's investment managers.

**THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPORT OF WOMEN OF SCOTLAND**  
**Financial Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

Donation and legacy income:

Donation and legacy income is recognised when the charity becomes entitled to the income, it is probable that it will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Entitlement to a legacy exists when the charity has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to the charity and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. A receipt is normally probable when there has been a grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient net assets in the estate, and any conditions are within the control of the charity or have been met.

Where a legacy is subject to the interest of a life tenant, the legacy is not recognised until the death of the life tenant. Legacy income is measured at fair value (generally the cash amount receivable) and is discounted if deferred for more than 12 months. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as interest receivable.

Investment Income:

Interest is recognised using the effective interest rate applicable to the asset. Dividend income is recognised when the right to receipt is established and is measured at fair value.

*(d) Recognition and allocation of expenditure*

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis when the Society has entered into a legal or constructive obligation. Where possible, expenditure is allocated directly to the function to which it relates.

Grants payable:

Principal Grants and other grants awarded for specific needs are made at the discretion of the Society and recognised in the financial statements when paid. Current practice is that once admitted to the Roll, Beneficiaries receive Principal Grants subject to continuing review of both their own circumstances and the Society's criteria for eligibility. Although Trustees do not have a legal obligation to make future grant payments, they accept a constructive obligation to do so based on an established pattern of practice. In recognition of the approach likely to be adopted by Trustees in the event of awards being withdrawn, provision for future payment is made based on the current level of Principal Grant continuing to be paid for a period of 12 months to the number of Beneficiaries supported by the Society at 31 March.

Other resources expended:

Costs of raising funds represents the costs of promoting the Society and of managing its investments. Support costs represent the costs of the Society's caseworkers and 75% of the costs of administrative and management staff as this supports grant-making and casework. 25% of the costs of administrative and management staff are allocated to governance costs as these support the management of the Society's assets, organisational administration, and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

*(e) Taxation*

The Society is recognised by HM Revenue and Customs as a charity for the purposes of Section 478 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 2010 and is entitled under Section 7 of the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 to describe itself as a Scottish charity. As a result, the Society is exempt from taxation on its charitable activities. As the Society is not registered for Value Added Tax, the V.A.T. element is included with the related expense.

*(f) Funds*

Unrestricted funds are income sources which are receivable for the objects of the charity without further specified purposes and are available as general funds.

**THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPORT OF WOMEN OF SCOTLAND**  
**Financial Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

All the Society's funds are unrestricted. Trustees consider the aggregate of the Society's main investment portfolio (including the cash held by the stockbroker within that portfolio for reinvestment) and the value of the Heritable Property should be highlighted in a Designated Investment Fund. The liability for future Principal Grant payments falls upon this Fund, but otherwise these funds are not normally available for distribution.

The General Committee may, from time to time, designate further funds which have been earmarked for a specific future purpose.

*(g) Fixed assets and depreciation*

The Heritable property was revalued at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 and is stated as such. Depreciation is charged on heritable property used by the Society at 2% per annum reducing balance.

Other fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Depreciation was charged on the motor car so as to write off the anticipated reduction in value over the expected three-year period of ownership, but this was disposed of during the year.

Most equipment is included within resources expended in the year of acquisition.

*(h) Impairment of fixed assets*

At each reporting date, the Society reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets, to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised as an expense immediately, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease. Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised as income immediately, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the reversal of the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation increase.

*(i) Investments*

Investments include the Society's investment portfolios, cash held by the stockbroker within these portfolios and the portion of Heritable property held and let as investment property. The investments portfolios are included in the financial statements at fair value based on quoted market values at the reporting date. Gains and losses on investment assets are included either as unrealised or realised gains and losses for the period in which they arise.

The investment property is held at its fair value at the reporting date based on the last external independent valuation being carried out at 31 March 2021.

*(j) Debtors*

Debtors are amounts identified as due to the Society including prepayments, legacies and donations notified but not yet received, and as dividend income due but not yet received at year end. Debtors are recognised at the undiscounted amount of cash receivable, less any allowances for doubtful debts.

**THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPORT OF WOMEN OF SCOTLAND**  
**Financial Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

*(k) Creditors*

Sundry creditors include outstanding amounts due to suppliers and provision for grants payable to beneficiaries in the following twelve months.

*(l) Cash and cash equivalents*

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and balances with banks and are measured at fair value.

*(m) Financial assets and financial liabilities*

Financial instruments are recognised in the statements of financial activities when the Society becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Financial instruments are initially measured at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction which includes transaction costs for financial instruments not subsequently measured at fair value. Subsequent to initial recognition, they are accounted for as set out below. A financing transaction is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at the market rate of interest for similar debt instrument.

Financial instruments are classified as either 'basic' or 'other' in accordance with Chapter 11 of FRS102.

At the end of each reporting period, basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost using the effective rate method. All financial instruments not classified as basic are measured at fair value at the end of the reporting period with the resulting changes recognised in income or expenditure. Where the fair value cannot be reliably measured, they are recognised at cost less impairment.

Financial assets are derecognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire, or when the Society has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership. Financial liabilities are derecognised only once the liability has been extinguished through discharge, cancellation or expiry.

*(n) Pensions*

The Society does not administer a pension plan but instead contributes to money purchase pension plans on behalf of all employees

**3. Critical judgements and estimates**

In preparing the financial statements Trustees make estimates and assumptions which affect reported results, financial position and disclosure of contingencies. Use of available information and application of judgement are inherent in the formation of the estimates, together with past experience and expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results in the future could differ from such estimates.

The estimates and assumptions with a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are:

Legacy income is measured at fair value, but where part of a legacy left to the charity includes property or shares to be sold, judgement is used to estimate the amount receivable.

The Society's provisions for future grants to beneficiaries, relies on the Roll at the end of the current year. The actual level will depend on the number of deaths and withdrawals and the number of new admissions. New admissions are under the control of trustees, and the Society now operates a cap on the number of beneficiaries it will support.

**THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPORT OF WOMEN OF SCOTLAND**  
**Financial Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

**4. Donations and legacies**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Donations	7,516	9,179
Legacies	33,829	26,888
	<u>41,345</u>	<u>36,067</u>

**5. Investment Income**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Fixed interest & convertible stocks	234,220	296,706
Equities	1,123,087	1,467,866
	<u>1,357,307</u>	<u>1,764,572</u>
Bank interest & rental income	22,601	24,809
	<u>1,379,908</u>	<u>1,789,381</u>

**6. Expenditure**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Raising Funds</b>		
Advertising	1,294	1,182
Investment Manager fees	76,468	121,310
	<u>77,762</u>	<u>122,492</u>

Arrangements with the investment manager provide for portfolio management fees based on an agreed percentage of the funds under discretionary management, which is reduced by commission payable on investment purchase and sale transactions. The net fee payable (including VAT) was £76,468 (2020: £121,310), as a result of charges having been offset by commission totalling £66,458 (2020: £30,805).

<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Grants paid to individuals		
Principal Grants	1,107,165	1,145,870
Extra Grants	200	330
Supplementary Grants (variable)	59,225	145,360
Other Grants (variable)	4,188	7,916
	<u>1,170,778</u>	<u>1,299,476</u>
Adjustment to provision for future grants	(49,170)	(53,790)
	<u>1,121,608</u>	<u>1,245,686</u>



**THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPORT OF WOMEN OF SCOTLAND**  
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	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Charitable Activities (continued)</b>		
Support Costs		
Salaries, travel & pension costs of Casework Team	116,634	147,573
Part salaries, travel & pension costs of Office Staff	57,224	63,759
Property & computer maintenance costs	48,264	48,928
Postage, stationery, phones, etc	13,439	14,168
Depreciation of property	9,744	14,332
Other Costs	304	2,494
	<u>245,609</u>	<u>291,254</u>
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Governance Costs		
Part salaries, travel & pension costs of Office Staff	19,075	21,252
Legal & professional fees	11,340	2,985
Audit fee	10,800	10,080
Trustee indemnity insurance costs	525	732
Committee & Trustee expenses	5,820	2,452
Staff recruitment	-	9,000
Commissioned research project	-	28,800
	<u>47,560</u>	<u>75,301</u>
<b>Total Expenditure on Charitable Activities</b>	<b><u>1,414,777</u></b>	<b><u>1,612,241</u></b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b><u>1,492,539</u></b>	<b><u>1,734,733</u></b>
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Staffing Costs</b>		
Salaries	171,996	177,701
Employers NI contributions	12,358	15,746
Employers pension contributions	12,550	13,328
Recruitment Costs	-	9,000
	<u>196,904</u>	<u>215,775</u>

Average number of staff employed: 7 part-time (2020 - 1 full-time, 6 part-time).

The Society considers its key management personnel during 2020-2021 to comprise the Trustees, the Chief Executive and the retiring Chief Executive. The total employment benefits including employer pension contributions and Employer National Insurance contributions of the key management personnel were £48,077 (2020 - £59,514). No employee received remuneration of more than £60,000 (2020 - None).

Members of the General Committee are not remunerated but expenses are reimbursed. As all Committee meetings were held virtually, no Trustees received travelling expenses, (2020 – 4 Trustees totalling £130.30) but token gifts were presented to 3 Trustees on their retirement (totalling £176) and training arranged for 3 Trustees (totalling £143). In addition, Trustee indemnity insurance of £525 (2020- £732) was paid in the year.

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	2021	2020
	£	£
<b>Auditor Costs</b>		
Audit fee	10,800	10,080
Payroll & bookkeeping set up advice	180	-
Taxation advice	-	960
	<u>10,980</u>	<u>11,040</u>

**7. Gains / (losses) on investment assets**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Realised Investment Gains	218,775	409,590
Realised Investment Losses	(123,772)	(120,567)
Net unrealised (loss) / gain on revaluation	7,145,468	(5,728,274)
Unrealised gain on revaluation of property	722,530	-
	<u>7,963,001</u>	<u>(5,439,251)</u>

**8. Tangible Fixed Assets**

	Heritable Property (at valuation)	Motor Car (at cost)	Total
	£	£	£
<b>Cost or valuation</b>			
At 1 April 2020	550,000	23,167	573,167
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	(23,167)	(23,167)
Revaluations	500,000	-	500,000
At 31 March 2021	<u>1,050,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,050,000</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 April 2020	62,786	17,556	80,342
Charge for Year	9,744	-	9,744
Released on disposal	-	(17,556)	(17,556)
Released on revaluation	(72,530)	-	(72,530)
At 31 March 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Value at 31 March 2021</b>	<u>1,050,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,050,000</u>
<b>Value at 31 March 2020</b>	<u>487,214</u>	<u>5,611</u>	<u>492,825</u>

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**9. Fixed asset investment**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Investment Property at start of year	350,000	350,000
Change in value on revaluation at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	150,000	-
Investment Property at 31 <sup>st</sup> March	<u>500,000</u>	<u>350,000</u>
Listed Investments	45,625,449	38,438,372
Cash Held By Stockbroker	181,289	132,876
	<u>46,306,738</u>	<u>38,921,248</u>

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Listed Investments</b>		
Market Value at start of year	38,438,372	43,540,070
Additions	5,881,997	2,939,967
Disposals	(5,840,388)	(2,313,391)
Net unrealised gains / (losses) on revaluation	7,145,468	(5,728,274)
<b>Market Value at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021</b>	<u>45,625,449</u>	<u>38,438,372</u>
<b>Historical Cost at 31<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<u>30,829,304</u>	<u>32,446,431</u>

The Government Securities, Fixed Interest and Convertible Stocks have been valued including accrued interest.

**10. Debtors**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Tax Recoverable	93	64
Notified Legacies	5,000	65,000
Accrued Dividends	238,594	258,049
Other Debtors	4,256	10,630
	<u>247,943</u>	<u>333,743</u>

**11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Provision to pay grants	1,069,200	1,118,370
Sundry Creditors and Accruals	27,341	33,276
Pension Contributions	2,621	2,817
	<u>1,099,162</u>	<u>1,154,463</u>

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**12. Financial assets and liabilities**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Financial Assets at Amortised Cost	1,031,987	1,084,670
Financial Assets at Fair Value through SOFA	45,625,449	38,438,372
Financial Liabilities at Amortised Cost	<u>(1,099,162)</u>	<u>(1,154,463)</u>
	<u>45,558,274</u>	<u>38,368,579</u>

**13. Unrestricted funds**

All the Society's funds are unrestricted. The following Funds are designated for the purposes indicated, and their composition at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 is shown in the table below.

The Designated Investment Fund (DIF) comprises the aggregate of the Society's investment portfolio, the value of the Heritable Property and cash held by the stockbroker for reinvestment. These funds are not available for distribution, but the General Committee considers that the liability for future grants should fall upon this Fund as it is the source from which incomes derives to meet this obligation.

The Undistributed Income Fund (UIF) was created in March 2018 by transfer of cash from the General Fund. It represents historically undistributed surplus income, now identified as available for future distribution to beneficiaries at a time of the General Committee's choosing, as described in the charity's Reserves Policy (see above).

The Transition 2017 Fund (Tran.) was created in July 2017 to make payments of grants to beneficiaries from whom support by the charity was being phased out over the period to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. This transition process having been completed the remain funds revert to the General Fund

The General Fund (Gen.) comprises the charity's working funds.

	<u>Designated Funds</u>				<b>Total</b>
	<b>DIF</b>	<b>UIF</b>	<b>Tran.</b>	<b>Gen.</b>	
	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	37,904,492	944,586	72,146	298,493	39,219,717
Net incoming resources	(22,383)	-	(30,112)	(17,600)	(70,095)
Gains / (losses) on investments	7,163,878	76,593	-	-	7,240,471
Gain / (loss) on property value	722,530	-	-	-	722,530
Transfers	-	-	(42,034)	42,034	-
<b>Net Funds at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021</b>	<b><u>45,768,517</u></b>	<b><u>1,021,179</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>322,927</u></b>	<b><u>47,112,623</u></b>

Transfers effect the allocation to the appropriate designated funds of legacy and special dividend income, (in each case received or accrued), and changes to the liability for 12-month grant provision.

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Previous Year	Designated Funds				
	DIF	UIF	Tran.	Gen.	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2019	43,198,108	988,286	100,774	281,085	44,568,253
Net incoming resources	79,813	-	(28,628)	39,530	90,715
Gains / (losses) on investment	(5,395,543)	(43,708)	-	-	(5,439,251)
Transfers	22,114	8	-	(22,122)	-
<b>Net Funds at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020</b>	<b>37,904,492</b>	<b>944,586</b>	<b>72,146</b>	<b>298,493</b>	<b>39,219,717</b>

These Funds, at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, are represented by the following assets and liabilities:

	Designated Funds				
	DIF	UIF	Tran.	Gen.	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Assets</b>					
Investment portfolios	44,952,566	672,883	-	-	45,625,449
Investment manager cash	173,697	7,592	-	-	181,289
Property	1,550,000	-	-	-	1,550,000
Cash at bank & in hand	156,454	337,997	-	112,653	607,105
Debtors	5,000	2,707	-	240,236	247,943
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>46,837,717</b>	<b>1,021,179</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>352,889</b>	<b>48,211,785</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Provision for future grants	(1,069,200)	-	-	-	(1,069,200)
All other creditors	-	-	-	(29,962)	(29,962)
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>(1,069,200)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(29,962)</b>	<b>(1,099,162)</b>
<b>Net Funds at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021</b>	<b>45,768,517</b>	<b>1,201,179</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>322,927</b>	<b>47,112,623</b>

Previous Year	Designated Funds				
	DIF	UIF	Tran.	Gen.	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Total Assets	38,993,492	944,586	101,517	334,586	40,374,181
Total Liabilities	(1,089,000)	-	(29,370)	(36,093)	(1,154,463)
<b>Net Funds at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020</b>	<b>37,904,492</b>	<b>944,586</b>	<b>72,147</b>	<b>298,493</b>	<b>39,219,718</b>

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**14. Related party transactions**

The Society has historically rented the Meeting Room in The Merchants House, Glasgow where Trustee Mr John MacLeod is a Director. However, no such rentals (and consequently no payments) were made in the year in question as all meetings were held virtually (2020 - £1,997 for 3 meetings).

A formal remuneration agreement is in place under the terms of the S67 of the Charities and Investments (Scotland) Act 2005, with Mr. Graeme A. Whyte, a Trustee of the Society and a Director of J7 (MIS) Ltd. who acts as IT consultant to the Society. Fees of £14,250 were paid in respect of his services (2020 - £13,150). In addition, a further £3,405 of equipment and supplies were purchased through his company (2020 - £4,948).

The sister of a Trustee was admitted to the Roll of Beneficiaries in November 2015. The application was considered in the same way as all other applications, on a name-blind basis, and the related Trustee took no part in consideration of this applicant.

**15. Contingent assets and liabilities**

The Society will ultimately benefit from 2 estates which are subject of life-rent to a third party. The first of these may not be received for some time but was valued in April 2021 at just over **£2 million**. The second may be received sooner but the size of this estate is not known but is not understood to be large.

END.