Company Number: 01829004 HCA Registration: 4688 Registered Charity Number: 515517

## **FOUNDATION**

## **REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

## **COMPANY INFORMATION**

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### **Management Committee**

Chair Claire Vilarrubi

Independent Trustees: Dave Roche

Vijay Assani (appointed 16 December 2022)

Other Trustees Karl Milner -- Inspire North Group Trustee (Vice Chair) (appointed

30 June 2023)

Lisa Bradley – Inspire North Group Trustee (Treasurer)

Philip Turnpenny - Inspire North Group Trustee

Olivia Bradshaw - Inspire North Group Trustee (appointed 29

September 2023)

Duane Samuels - Inspire North Group Trustee (appointed 29

September 2023)

Sinéad Cregan

Donna Gooby

Ed Browne (until June 13 2023)

Adam Miller (from 14 August 2023)

**Executive Officers** 

Chief Executive Ruth Kettle

Director of Group Operations Michelle De Souza (until 08 March 2023)

Kira Moxon-Lumb and Will Goode (Interim) (from 09 March

2023)

Director of Development and

Innovation

nvation

Director of Finance and Corporate Services

Director of People and Culture

Company Secretary & Ruth Kettle

Registered Office 3 Limewood Way

Seacroft Leeds

West Yorkshire LS14 1AB

**Registration Numbers** 

Registered Company No. 01829004 HCA registration number 4688 Registered Charity No. 515517

Auditor RSM UK Audit LLP

**Chartered Accountants** 

Central Square

5<sup>th</sup> Floor

29 Wellington Street

Leeds LS1 4DL

Principal Bankers Santander

**Bridle Road** 

## **COMPANY INFORMATION**

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Bootle Merseyside L30 4GB

Principal Solicitors Wrigley

Wrigleys 19 Cookridge Street

Leeds LS2 3AG

Ward Hadaway 5 Wellington Place

Leeds LS1 4AP

#### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

It has been four full years since the establishment of the Inspire North Group, and as Chair I am delighted to present a review of Foundation for the 2022 to 2023 financial year.

Inspire North is the parent company of registered charities, Foundation and Community Links (Northern) Ltd and their subsidiary companies. The benefits of the group continue to be realised with a focus over the year on the delivery of transformational change projects, continuous improvement in the quality of our services and the standards of our housing, and healthy business growth.

During the period, we have made significant progress in becoming a trauma-informed organisation and our Social Value projects.

The former is our group-wide commitment to be a trauma-informed organisation by 2030. For Inspire North, becoming trauma-informed means recognising the widespread impact of trauma, stress, and adversity and viewing all aspects of our organisation through a trauma-informed lens. We have been laying the groundwork to achieve this over the past year. This has included developing and piloting a self-assessment tool for our services and establishing a working group and champions to spearhead change across the organisation.

In November 2022, we became the first organisation in Yorkshire to achieve the Social Value Quality Mark Level 1, recognising our commitment and progress in measuring our Social Value. Further achievements delivered by our Social Value project include finalising and implementing our Social Value strategy and launching our bespoke Social Value Framework. This vital work is helping the group to better understand, improve and evidence its impact on the communities and places in which we work. As we enter the next phase, data collection begins and over the next year we will develop an evidence base which robustly demonstrates the value of Inspire North.

Inspire North continues to establish itself as a strong supportive core and in response to the ongoing growth of our portfolio of services and diversification of funding, we have continued to make investments in operational delivery, and management as well as central service functions to ensure our services continue to be well-led, safe, and effective. Two new leadership roles were established in our Operations Team during the year, with our long-standing employees Will Goode and Kira Moxon-Lumb being appointed as Assistant Directors of Operations, forming part of the organisation's Senior Leadership Team. Both are currently acting as Directors of Operations on an interim basis. These appointments have helped to ensure continuity and strengthened and diversified our Senior Leadership Team at a crucial time for the group.

Recruitment and retention remain issues for the sector in general and Inspire North have continued to experience some challenges, particularly, considering the cost-of-living crisis. However, investment in dedicated talent acquisition resource, the use of more creative and flexible practices, and an enhanced use of social media have proven beneficial.

Our five-year Inspire North Strategy (2019 to 2024) entered its fourth year of delivery, which provides strategic direction for Foundation and the whole Inspire North group.

Every aspect of Foundation's work is guided by our group-wide values of People, Integrity, Passion and Collaboration. This is demonstrated by some of the Company's key achievements in the period which include:

Following last year's achievement of Foundation securing Investment Partner Status with Homes England, we have continued to make progress in expanding our portfolio of owned properties. We are pleased to have submitted a firm bid to Homes England for funding to transform Armley Lodge into high quality, environmentally friendly homes for our clients, and have been working hard to prepare all our properties to meet upcoming EPC and zero carbon requirements. Our commitment to housing development demonstrates our passion for clients and tenants as we strive to build innovative and sustainable futures for the people we support.

Our quality and excellence have been demonstrated in the year through several awards. Not only has the group retained its status as an Inclusive Top 50 UK Company, but Foundation has also been successful in being awarded Runner Up Organisation of the Year at The Howard League for Penal Reform for their amazing work delivering our services across North Yorkshire.

This commitment has been further demonstrated in the year by the launch of our very first Gender and Ethnicity Pay Gap Reports, and we are proud to have a Senior Leadership Team with at least 60% female representation

#### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

in the period, and a mean gender pay gap of -14.28%. We know that improving inclusion and diversity begins with holding ourselves to account and this report has helped us to do just that.

We have continued to increase our public profile and relaunched our successful #NoExcuseForAbuse campaign ahead of the FIFA World Cup 2022, in response to an expected increase in incidences throughout this period. The campaign aimed to help perpetrators and victims to recognise and act on abuse, seeking help. The combined daily reach of the platforms and publications we were featured in is over two million people and our efforts resulted in a direct increase in referrals for our +Choices perpetrator service.

During the year Foundation encountered financial challenges relating to void numbers, increasing maintenance costs and the external economic environment. To combat this senior leadership implemented a recovery plan and despite recording a deficit in the year it was successful in improving financial performance and ensuring a positive forecast for the coming year.

We are proud to have retained 100% of our services that came out to retender within the period and had the opportunity to expand several our services due to increased investment from our commissioners.

As I reflect on the last 12 months, the challenges we have faced, particularly in Foundation in relation to housing management and soaring costs, I see everything that has been accomplished, I would like to take the opportunity to share my sincere thanks and gratitude to everyone that has worked so hard, during the most challenging of times, to make a positive difference to the lives of our clients, to our Trustees for their commitment and time freely given to help make our group such a success.

I know that it has been another challenging year for all, and I have personally witnessed our values being embedded across every area of the group. Employees have continued to deliver high quality, person-centred support to people across the communities we serve. I am excited to see the group continue to realise its potential and grow and know that all our stakeholders can be relied on to ensure that Inspire North continues to sustainably build brighter futures across the North of England.



C Vilarrubi

29 September 2023

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Management Committee presents its report and the audited financial statements of Foundation ("the Company") for the year ended 31 March 2023.

## **Organisational Overview**

#### **Principal Activities**

Foundation was established as a registered charity limited by guarantee, incorporated on 29 June 1984 and registered as a charity on 4 September 1984. The company became a Registered Social Landlord in January 2012. The Company is governed under its Memorandum and Articles of Association, revised and approved by the Charity Commission and subsequently adopted by the Charity on 17 October 2018. The charitable objects are set out in Article 3 of the Memorandum of Association and following review, remained unchanged throughout the year:

"Educate and train and relieve poverty and sickness amongst persons in conditions of need, hardship and distress, particularly such persons who are in housing need within the Yorkshire and Humberside region and neighbouring districts by such charitable means as the Trustees may from time to time determine."

Foundation provides life-changing housing, support and domestic abuse services across the North of England, working with people who require a helping hand to establish a full and independent life in their local community. Foundation's support is personalised and focused upon the life journey of each client/tenant. It can include help to access and manage a tenancy, look for work, tackle addictions, improve family relationships and access basic services, such as a GP or setting up a bank account. Foundation operates a wide variety of services across Yorkshire and the Northeast working closely with local authorities and other key partners from the statutory and Third Sectors to deliver outstanding services and achieve positive outcomes for our clients.

In discharging its duties, the Board seeks to set a clear strategic framework for achieving these aims and to clarify the long- and short-term objectives of the charity. In particular, the Board considers the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives set.

#### **Trustees**

The Trustees who held office during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were as follows: -

Claire Vilarrubi (Chair)

Dave Roche - Independent Trustee

David Powell – Independent Trustee (retired 23 June 2022)

Vijay Assani – Independent Trustee (appointed 16 December 2022)

Karl Milner – Inspire North Group Trustee (Vice Chair) (appointed 30 June 2023)

Damian Pocknell - Inspire North Group Trustee (Vice Chair) (retired 06 April 2023)

Lisa Bradley – Inspire North Group Trustee (Treasurer)

Philip Turnpenny - Inspire North Group Trustee

Alina Kaur - Inspire North Group Trustee (retired 26 October 2022)

David Strachan - Inspire North Group Trustee (retired 30 March 2023)

Olivia Bradshaw - Inspire North Group Trustee (appointed 29 September 2023)

Duane Samuels - Inspire North Group Trustee (appointed 29 September 2023)

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

## **Organisational Structure**

Foundation sits within the Inspire North Group. Inspire North is Foundation's sole parent company, with Community Links (Northern Ltd) its sister company. Foundation has a trading subsidiary, Foundation Stone Enterprises Limited.

The Inspire North governance structure ensures that there is a quorate of independent Trustees for Foundation (minimum of three) to protect its assets and ensure continued delivery of its charitable objectives and regulatory requirements. Foundation must have a qualified housing expert as a Trustee. Although we are not currently at quorate, plans are in place to resolve this by the end of September 2023. Independent Trustees are still able to identify any conflict of interests should they arise.

The Inspire North Group's Head Office is in Leeds and provides Foundation with Senior Leadership, Operational Management and Professional Services.

Through the adoption of a group structure Foundation can maintain its own identity and continue to deliver its frontline services, whilst the creation of a parent company affords the opportunity to create more comprehensive and efficient infrastructure and support services. This includes increased opportunity to access new markets and fully realise its potential.

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### **Business Review**

Details of the Company's performance for the year and its future plans are set out in the following sections of this report.

In October 2019, our first Inspire North Strategy (group-wide) was launched at our first group-wide Annual Conference.

The five-year Strategy (2019 to 2024) was created following a series of nine roadshows across the North of England which saw the CEO engage with over 250 employees, Trustees and volunteers to gain their views and ideas for the future of the group. Employees also engaged directly with their clients to gather feedback which informed the development of the Strategy.

Alongside the Strategy, a new and co-produced Group Vision, Purpose and Values were created and consistently adopted across the group.

Group Vision - Creating a World Where Everyone Matters

Group Purpose - Building Brighter Futures

#### Values -

- **People** are the heart of everything we do at Inspire North, and we strive every day to build brighter futures for the people who use our services. We engage our colleagues and people who use our services to build a sense of community and shared success. We want everyone to play a part in creating our vision.
- **Integrity** is our cornerstone; we will always do the right thing. We work hard to make sure our services offer the highest quality and professional standards, and that people are treated fairly and honestly.
- Passion is what fuels us. There is no better feeling in the world than making a positive difference, and
  that spurs us on to always go the extra mile for the people who use our services, for each other, and
  for our vision of creating a world where everyone matters. We have the brightest and best innovative
  minds working every day to do more, and to do it better.
- Collaboration is how we came to be Inspire North. We were born out of the idea that working together, we can achieve more. Across our services we work with many partners, bringing together our expertise to meet varied needs in exceptional ways.

Our group-wide approach creates a consistent ethos for our work and employees, which complements the objectives outlined within Foundation's Memorandum of Association. Contributing towards the achievement of our group purpose, Foundation has its own charitable purpose: **to provide life-changing housing, support and domestic abuse services.** 

Annual plans, developed by each service or department within the group, enables the Board to monitor progress against strategic goals, alongside monitoring against the Corporate Performance Framework. Together, Annual Plans and the Corporate Performance Framework provide a robust mechanism for organisational accountability and challenge, whilst placing our values at the heart of our strategic objectives.

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

## **Achievement and performance**

This year (April 2022 to March 2023), Foundation has worked with a total of 2,921 individual clients and tenants to assist them in achieving their goals for a better life.

For each client leaving the service during this period, data has been collected to identify what kinds of support they required from the service and whether a positive outcome was achieved in each area by the end of their time with the service.

## Foundation Performance against targets for 2022/23

Following the launch and roll-out of Inspire North's group-wide strategy, vision, purpose, values and branding in 2019, each year the Chief Executive issues a call to action, with a core aim for the 2022 to 2023 period being for all services and departments to focus on helping the Inspire North group to be a great place to work. Over the last financial year, our operational service teams achieved 71% of activities outlined within their annual plans and Central Service Teams achieved 73% of activities outlined within their annual plans. This is a significant improvement from the previous year and showcases steady performance in what has been another challenging year.

Performance is measured against an Annual Service Plan and Key Performance Indicators, with the overarching aim being to improve the quality and effectiveness of the services we deliver to our clients/tenants, sharing best practice across the group. As detailed below, the Inspire North group continues to succeed in performing well.

#### Sustainability

- Foundation's North Yorkshire Child Therapeutic Service contract was retendered in the period and successfully retained.
- An additional £852,777 of new income has been secured within the period for Foundation, through service expansions, the award of financial uplifts to existing contracts, and by securing new business through bidding activity.

#### Be a Great Place to Work

- Foundation's voluntary turnover is 35% (above the Skills for Care average for the sector of 29%) and has a stability index of 60% for the period.
- The Inspire North Group secured 1-star Best Company status in 2022.
- The Inspire North Group retained its status as a Top 50 UK Inclusive Employer, ranking the second most inclusive charity.
- The Inspire North Group has retained its Safer Leeds Domestic Violence and Abuse quality mark awarded by the Safeguarding and Domestic Violence Team at Leeds City Council, highlighting our continued effort and support for high quality service provision for women, men and children affected by domestic violence in Leeds.

## Create Together

- Our third group-wide conference was held in October 2022. This year hundreds of employees came together to reflect on the past year, plan for the group's future and showcase the hard work that has been taking place across our services.
- The Inspire North group was awarded Customer Service Excellence accreditation, achieving 'Compliance' in all 57 areas, with 'Compliance Plus' awarded to 13 areas. Areas of strength included our innovatively embedded co-production policy, our culture of continuous improvement and our analysis of client experience to drive positive changes.

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

 Foundation's North Yorkshire services won Runner Up Organisation of the Year at The Howard League for Penal Reform.

#### Innovate and Influence

- Our Social Value project has delivered a strategy and comprehensive framework for the group, with all services set to begin social value data collection from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023. The group has also been awarded the Social Value Quality Mark Level 1 by Social Value Business, reflecting our commitment to Social Value.
- Updates have been implemented across our Finance Systems, to enhance and improve our internal
  processes for managing income, payments and financial reporting.
- Group Board meetings continue to run well with separate but common reporting frameworks for each company within the group to enable oversight of individual company performance.

#### **Build Sustainable Futures**

- Inspire North's new Funding Diversification Strategy is in development to outline our organisational
  objectives and plans to secure revenue from new income streams, including Trusts and Foundations
  and event sponsorship. This will include expansion of the Development Team's resources to enable its
  delivery.
- Bid Managers now have a thematic focus and an increased concentration of proactive pipeline development, helping the group to identify and plan for key opportunities in advance.
- A successful bid has been submitted to Homes England for the refurbishment of Armley lodge to develop 3 units of accommodation that meet sustainability standards.

Underpinned by the group's five-year strategy, the CEO has given a new Call to Action for all services and departments within the group to focus their 2023-24 Annual Plans on Innovation and Influence, with the aims of being a catalyst for change, sharing best practice across the group, and developing and delivering high quality services.

#### **Service Contracts**

Throughout 2022 to 2023 we were successful in retaining 100% of our contracts which were re-tendered and awarded during the period. This includes Foundation's North Yorkshire Child Therapeutic Services.

During the year we also saw healthy growth in our portfolio, successfully securing several brand-new services and projects including but not limited to:

- Foundation's new RISE service, commissioned by the local authority through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, replacing our previous Action Towards Inclusion service for North Yorkshire.
- Foundation's pilot to deliver one-to-one behaviour change with perpetrators of domestic abuse, as part
  of the West Yorkshire Liaison and Diversion service, in collaboration with Wakefield Council.

Contract extensions have also been secured for several of our long-standing Inspire North services, including Foundation's Durham Complex Needs service, enabling the group to continue to provide vital support to clients at a time when it was never more needed.

Tendering activity for the Inspire North group overall has remained constant across the period and we are expecting to undergo further retendering exercises in the 2023-24 period.

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### **Employees**

Inspire North's employees are central to everything that we do, and we strive to be a great place to work. During 2022 to 2023, the group's recruitment challenges have continued, with the UK facing a national skills shortage across health services and the voluntary sector. However, new recruitment practices to support a more creative and agile approach are providing advantageous.

Key achievements have been:

- In June 2022, we produced a new recruitment video, highlighting the various rewarding roles a support worker carries out in a day. Coproduction was embedded throughout the process, with the video featuring clients and employees at multiple service sites including Scarborough's Young People's Pathway service. Our patron, Jamie Jones-Buchanan had a starring role in the video, helping to deliver our key message, that 'we are so much more than support workers, we are Inspire North'.
- This year we launched our very first Gender and Ethnicity Pay Gap Report. We are proud to have a Senior Leadership Team with at least 60% female representation and a mean gender pay gap of -14.28%. The median pay for white and ethnic minority colleagues is £15.84. This shows there is no pay gap and we are working to ensure this remains at 0%. We know that improving inclusion and diversity begins with holding ourselves to account and this report has helped us to do just that.
- Inspire North has made a firm pledge to invest the time and resources necessary in becoming more anti-racist and work continues regarding education, increasing diversity and fostering a better sense of inclusion for all, especially those from racialised and marginalised communities. For Black History Month in October, we recorded and shared a podcast episode which was an honest and impactful conversations with black colleagues about what the month means to them and their experiences in and out of the workplace. In March, members of the People of Colour Network hosted an informative Ramadan session at head office about what this holy time means to our employees and advice on how to support fasting colleagues and clients. We also launched a fasting challenge, where employees were invited to participate by fasting throughout the week, for however long suited them. They were supported by daily check-ins with the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator. We continue to progress our Anti-Racist work across the group to hold ourselves to account and help everyone continue their Anti-Racism journey.

We continue to develop our employment practices to support the well-being and recruitment of diverse talent and to this end The Inspire North Group are a Disability Confident Leader, a Mindful Employer and a Living Wage Employer.

Furthermore, we have a comprehensive and well used employee assistance scheme available to all employees, providing advice and support on a wide range of employment, health and legal concerns. This includes the introduction of access to an on-line GP.

#### Health and safety

Foundation has a moral and legal responsibility to ensure that it provides for the health, safety and welfare of its employees, clients/tenants and anyone coming into contact with its business activity who may be affected by the way in which it carries out its work. Foundation attaches the greatest importance to Health and Safety matters which are part of each employee's induction and e-learning and prioritises compliance with current legislation. Inspire North's Estates and Facilities Manager leads on occupational Health and Safety and is supported by our Operational Management Team and a network of team Health and Safety Champions across all Inspire North's offices and services, helping Inspire North to achieve high standards in Health and Safety across the group.

We remain committed to the provision and maintenance of:

- A safe and healthy working environment
- A safe and healthy living environment for clients/tenants and the on-going development of our relationships with partners in relation to safety and service

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

- Safe and healthy workspaces in third party and partner premises
- Supervision, advice and procedures as necessary for the safe performance of its operations
- Instructions, information and procedures, for safe systems of work
- Equipment fit for purpose and bespoke adaptations for employees who need them
- Appropriate training for employees within job requirements
- Environmentally sustainable or energy efficient systems.

Inspire North's Hybrid Working Policy, which sets out our group's approach to Hybrid Working and allows most employees to split their time between attending the workplace and working remotely, is proving successful, with employees thriving in the new working environment.

In the year, we introduced a Damp and Mould Register to centrally record all reported incidences across the group's accommodation provision, and all related reports are flagged as high priority and are managed as such by our Operational Teams. In 2023-24, a new Damp and Mould strategy will be launched across the group, and we will be working with our internal auditors to undergo a full organisation audit of our damp and mould policy and processes to ensure that any improvements in practice are identified and addressed.

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### **Future Plans**

#### **Ambitions for 2023-24**

The Inspire North Strategy (2019 to 24) is an ambitious strategy which sets out how the group, will make a real difference to those it supports, making best use of its assets and the unique specialisms of its daughter companies.

Our four key aims are to:

- Create Together: We know the way to excellence is through sharing expertise. We will create our services with the people who use them to get the best possible outcomes. Our clients are the leading voice in everything we do, as they are experts in what they need.
- Be a Great Place to Work: We bring together a diverse workforce with a wealth of skills and decades of experience. We empower our colleagues to make decisions using their specialist knowledge of the communities they serve, always putting our values front and centre.
- Innovate and Influence: We will drive innovation and influence and be a catalyst for change. We will share best practice with colleagues, trustees, partners and local communities to develop high-quality services that reflect the increasingly varied and complex needs of our clients.
- **Build Sustainable Futures:** We will use an evidence-based approach to inform what we do and develop more effective practices that deliver better outcomes. We will seek out new funding sources and partners. We will lead the way on sustainable approaches to working and providing services.

During 2022-2023 we have continued to embed our 5-year strategy, initiating key activities and monitoring progress at team and organisational levels. Priorities for the next year include:

- Further embedding an inclusive, values-led culture across the group, supported by robust, joined-up governance arrangements.
- Being a safe place to work, reviewing Health and Safety processes and ensuring our organisational approach and expectations are embedded.
- Embedding co-production and compliance with the Social Housing Regulation Act 2003 across the
  groups decision making, systems and processes. Including, fully delivering on and further embedding
  the Tenant Satisfaction Measures (TSM) within Foundation, introduced by the Tenant Satisfaction
  Measures Standard April 2023.
- Promoting the effectiveness of our services by collating our first full year of Social Value data across the group, showcasing our impact.
- Building a sustainable future, finalising, and initiating the implementation of our Funding Diversification Strategy.
- Set out clear plans for the group's long-term sustainability, factoring in social, financial, and environmental considerations, including decarbonisation and reducing our carbon footprint and our longterm commitment to driving and delivering upon Social Value.
- A decision was made to strike off Foundation Stone Enterprise a subsidiary of Foundation. The DS01 was formally submitted to companies house on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2023.

## **Principal Risks and Uncertainties**

The Board assume responsibility for on-going review of the risks facing the Company. In this context, we define risk as the potential to fail to achieve our objectives and for loss, whether financial or reputational, inherent in the environment in which we operate. The system of internal control is designed to manage, rather than

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and to provide reasonable, and not absolute, assurance.

The Board note the following specific areas that give rise to the potential major risk areas for the forthcoming financial year:

- On-going cuts to Local Authority and Health budgets and the cumulative impact of gradual, ongoing cuts to service budgets resulting in service closure or inability to re-tender for services.
- The current economic and political situation within the UK, largely but not exclusively because of the COVID-19 global pandemic, Brexit and the war in the Ukraine, leading to a continued increase in the cost of living and a rise in demand for services coupled with cutbacks in spending and procurement plans from some commissioners.
- The impact of national skills shortages and challenges in recruitment placing a strain on front line services, information governance, tendering and estates.
- The impact of several contracts that are due to be re-tendered, with the potential loss of income should these contracts not be secured.
- The risk of cyber-attacks and fraudulent activity in-line with the National Cyber Security Centre announcement of increased threats in the sector due to the war in the Ukraine.
- The rising costs of managing and maintaining properties and macro-economic challenges impacting on the availability of suitable, affordable properties to lease on behalf of our tenants.
- Safeguarding our clients

All risks are reported on our robust risk register and mitigations reviewed quarterly at both subcommittee and Board meetings to check and challenge our plans.

#### Co-production, Tenant Voice

Across the Inspire North Group we aim to co-produce all aspects of our work. We strive to involve stakeholders from all areas of the group (from clients and tenants to members of the Board). There is currently a good level of co-production activity and several ways in which clients and tenants can be actively involved across the group:

- Local informal feedback from and through front-line employees
- Responding to text-based questions on quality and performance
- Annual satisfaction survey and report
- Client/tenant voice (representatives on our Board)
- Local co-production and activities groups
- Contributing to various working groups on quality, bidding for contracts and communications
- Clients/tenants involvement in recruitment processes
- Clients/tenants attendance at tender interviews so that they can outline their experience of our services to commissioners
- Clients/tenants progressing to volunteer roles, offering peer support (including paid roles) and gaining employment within the group
- Group-wide Internal Grants Scheme, offering clients/tenants the opportunity to develop innovative ideas which could receive funding through donations given to Foundation.

In preparation for the introduction of The Tenant Satisfaction Measures (TSMs) by the Regulator of Social Housing (RSH) on 1 April 2023, in March 2023 we ran a Tenant Perception Survey, completed by 163 of

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Foundation's 346 tenants. The survey showed that 90% of tenants were either very satisfied or fairly satisfied with the service provided by their landlord. Full results are used to inform improvements to Foundation's service to tenants.

Co-production training is mandatory for all employees and volunteers across the group. We have established toolkits for both employees and clients/tenants to support effective co-production across our work. Inspire North believes clients/tenants bring skills, talents and real assets to the company which can be used for the benefit of their own journey, that of others, and for the wider work on the group.

Our group-wide Coproduction Strategy, developed by working with employees and clients/tenants across the group, outlines further steps and innovative approaches that the group will adopt to fully embed co-production within every aspect of our business and supports services and departments to understand the concept of coproduction and the importance of using this approach in the delivery of our services and the ways we work with clients/tenants, both internal and external.

## **Complaints and Feedback**

Foundation has a robust group-wide policy and procedure for the reporting and recording of concerns, complaints and compliments, captured and reported through Datix, ensuring timely and appropriate resolution or response. This policy was updated in the year, informed by feedback from our clients and tenants.

A bi-annual Complaints, Comments and Compliments analysis report outlines outcomes and actions and is reviewed by the Operations and Development Subcommittee. Quarterly reports update service commissioners regarding patterns or trends regarding comments, compliments, or complaints. For the 2022 to 2023 period, Foundation received 24 complaints, 29 compliments and 10 concerns. In line with our policy, 79% of these were acknowledged within 3-days and 63% resolved within 10-days.

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

## Strategic Report

#### **Financial Review and Resources**

## **Going Concern**

Foundation is a member of the Social Housing Pension Scheme (SHPS) which has had a significant impact on Foundation's accounts. In the year there was an actuarial loss which impacted the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Financial Position. Foundation and its sister company Community Links are the only two companies within the group with this liability. Whilst this represents a significant cash outflow for the group there is a scheme-wide plan in place to repay the deficit by March 2028; the directors believe Foundation can meet its obligations moving forwards.

Our services and funding continue to be at risk from ongoing cuts to Local Authority and National Health Service funding (and funding available from other statutory agencies). Whilst the operating environment will remain challenging, the Group Board of Trustees is confident that the reputation and competitiveness of the Company can contribute to modest growth in the next two years. The development of clear sustainability plans for the Group, alongside investment in dedicated resource for fundraising and grant related activity and the launch of new funding-related initiatives should help strengthen the financial position. Due to the extensions of several service contracts by Authorities due to the pandemic period, we are expecting to experience several re-tendering exercises and new tendering opportunities into 2023/2024 to support growth.

The organisation has faced financial challenges in the year resulting in an operating deficit. This was driven by voids, maintenance spend and the current economic climate. During this time, the senior leadership team implemented a plan to ensure sufficient resources were available to fund operations, this included divesting investments and tight cost controls. Our current performance, along with budgets and 5-year financial projections provide assurance that we have sufficient funds to operate for the foreseeable future, being a period of at least 12 months after the date the financial statements are signed.

#### Financial Performance and Position at End of Year

The Company incurred a deficit for the year of £882k (2022: £879k surplus). The difference in the result for the year was due to the movement in actuarial performance in respect of the defined benefit pension scheme, with a loss of £409k being recorded in 2022/23 compared to a gain of £841k in the prior year, as well as an operating deficit of £372k (2022: surplus £90k). The latter was mainly as a result of a reduction in rental income due to higher levels of voids combined with increased costs for maintenance. Our support income also did not increase sufficiently to cover other economic inflationary pressures to our cost base.

Cash flow remains a priority for the company and is monitored routinely to ensure Foundation can meet its liabilities. The current Net liabilities position is due to the pension deficit for which we have an agreed repayment plan and is not fully repayable in FY23/24.

### Reserves

The Trustees regularly review the reserves of the charity, considering the nature of the income and expenditure streams, the need to match variable levels of income with fixed and planned commitments and the make-up of the reserves. Whilst the Trustees and management do not wish to hold reserves unnecessarily, in view of the current high risk of the public sector funding cuts and greater competition for available funding, we believe that a prudent policy is preserving and increasing our unrestricted reserves to a level which provides for a minimum six months of operating costs (including designated funds).

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Free reserves at the year-end were £573k (2022: £735k), which is lower than six months operating costs per the statement of financial activities of £5,650k (2022: £5,700k). Trustees are working to further grow the free reserves by reducing voids, controlling spend, growing income through additional services and driving overhead efficiencies. General and designated reserves for the Company stood at deficit of £505k at the end of the period (2022: £377k surplus). The reason for the swing is the revaluation of the defined pension scheme liability to £1,915k and underlying operational performance. Excluding the pension liability unrestricted funds amount to £1,410k.

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### Investment policies

Inspire North has a policy whereby investments are held in a moderate portfolio managed by professional advisers. The Group Board regularly considers the most appropriate policy for investing the limited funds available within its reserves, informed by regular cash flow forecasts. It was decided due to cashflow issues that the fund would be withdrawn, and cash returned. Currently there are no investments.

#### **Accounting policies**

The Company's principal accounting policies are set out on pages 33 to 38 of the financial statements.

## Capital structure and treasury policy

Foundation does not have any loan facilities; the Company is supported by the current cash in hand of £662k (2022: £540k).

#### **Pensions**

Executive Officers do not have any different pension arrangements to other employees. Those who have joined the Company's pension schemes are members either of the 1/60th Final Salary Social Housing Pension Scheme (SHPS) or if they joined after 1 April 2007, the Career Average Re-valued Earnings scheme also part of SHPS and also using a 1/60th accrual rate. The SHPS defined benefit scheme was closed as at 31 March 2013 and all employees are now eligible to join the defined contribution scheme with SHPS. Auto enrolment was implemented in February 2014.

## **Donations and Sponsorship**

The Company has made no financial donations or sponsorship in the year.

#### Payment of creditors

In line with government guidance, it is the Company's policy to pay purchase invoices within 30 days of receipt, or earlier if agreed with the supplier.

#### **Financial instruments**

The Company's approach to risk management is set out on page 18 of this report.

#### Housing property assets

Details of changes to the Company's housing property assets are shown in Note 11 to the financial statements. Housing properties are carried at historic cost. A review for impairment of the housing property assets has been conducted with no impairment identified.

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### Financial risk management

The Company's operations may expose it to a variety of financial risks, including the effects of changes in interest rates on debt, credit risk and liquidity risk.

The Company does not have material exposures in any of the areas identified above and, consequently, does not use derivative instruments to manage these.

The Company's principal financial instruments comprise sterling cash and bank deposits and obligations under property leases together with trade debtors and trade creditors that arise directly from its operations.

The main risks arising from the Company's financial instruments can be analysed as follows:

#### Price Risk

The Company has no exposure to securities price risk, as it holds no listed equity investment. Most of the Company's income is contracted providing pricing visibility and the fixed nature of many of the related costs mitigates associated risk.

#### Credit Risk

The Company's principal financial assets are bank balances, cash and trade debtors, which represent the Company's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to financial assets.

The Company's credit risk is primarily attributable to its tenant debtors. Credit risk is managed by monitoring the aggregate amounts and duration of exposure to any other tenant depending upon their credit history. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful debts, estimated by the Company's management based on prior experience.

The credit risk on liquid funds is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies. The Company has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of tenants.

## Liquidity Risk

The Company holds its reserve in the form of bank and sterling money market deposits. It is therefore, not exposed to significant liquidity risk.

Interest bearing assets comprise cash and bank deposits, all of which earn interest at variable rates. There are no liabilities for loans or overdrafts.

#### Business Risk Register

The Company has a Business Risk Register identifying major risks and steps taken to mitigate the impact of likelihood of the risk occurring looking at operational, financial, governance and external risks. Risks mitigations are reported on and are reviewed quarterly at board meetings. Each subcommittee also undertakes a "deep dive" of a key risk each quarter. In relation to the key strands of our strategic plan, the key risks are:

- Changes to the wider economy including the cost-of-living crisis
- Loss of income through loss of contracts or funding cuts
- · Inability to recruit suitably qualified or high calibre employees
- Breaches of General Data Protection Regulation
- Cyber attacks
- · Regulatory or legal non-compliance e.g., damp and mould

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

- Ability to forecast and control expenditure whilst ensuring quality of service delivery
- Impact of changes in the valuation of the pension scheme resulting in an increase in contribution levels

#### Value for Money (VFM):

Foundation registered with the Homes and Communities Agency (now Homes England) in January 2012 and a formal VFM strategy and policy was ratified by Trustees in February 2015.

Data for 2022/23 are as follows:

- Standard of Accommodation: -
  - > 72% Standard of Accommodation Excellent (2022 Customer Survey)
- Repairs and maintenance standards:
  - > 84% Repairs concluded on timely basis
  - > 56% Tenants happy with heating and insulation
  - > 84% Tenants feel safe and secure
- Rent collected
  - > 96.0% rent collected
- Void loss
  - > 8.8%
- Bad debts
  - > 178 write offs processed

There is a decrease in rent collected and an increase in voids due to issues with contractors and turnover of properties. Bad debt write off has increased due to the clearance of historical debt now written off.

#### **Value for Money Metrics**

The 2018 Value for Money standard introduced seven metrics to be reported on across the sector. These are as follows:

- 1. Reinvestment (financial investment in acquiring and developing new properties) 3 Armley Lodge.
- 2. New Supply Delivered. This measure is not applicable as Foundation did not acquire properties. The number of properties rented can vary in relation to the contracts being delivered.
- 3. Gearing Foundation does not have any debt.
- 4. Earnings before Interest, Tax, Depreciation, Amortisation, Major Repairs Included. This is an interest cover test that is an indicator for liquidity and investment capacity. As Foundation does not pay tax or interest, this is not a relevant measure.
- **5.** Headline Social Housing Cost per Unit includes both owned and managed properties. The costs for Foundation were;

2023	2022	
£8.544	£7.779	

The increase in costs reflects the unusual nature of the size of hand backs and the associated costs of repairs in 2022/23.

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

6. Operating Margin - this demonstrates the profitability of operating assets before non-recurring expenses are considered.

		2023	2022
>	Social Housing lettings Only	9.2%	5.0%

The spend on repairs was limited to essential only for a number of months. It is expected the margin will decrease again in 2023/24 as planned improvement programmes take place.

7. Return on Capital employed (ROCE) % measures the efficient investment of capital resources.

**2023 2022** -23.71% 3.75%

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### Governance

#### **Trustees and Executive Officers**

The current Trustees and Executive Officers are set out on page 1. Inspire North's Board of Trustees (at 29 September 2023) comprises 6 Trustees (with each of our subsidiary companies having two independent Trustees each (1 post per subsidiary is vacant)) with a range of relevant skills and experience. The group had 2 vacancies at 29 September 2023 which are being actively recruited to. Individually and collectively, they exercise independent and objective judgement.

A sub-committee structure is in place to ensure sufficient time is given to the activities of the group. Each Trustee serves on one of the three main sub-committees, most of which meet quarterly:

- 1) Resources and Risk Assurance (chaired by the Treasurer);
- 2) Operations and Development (chaired by a Trustee); and
- 3) People and Culture; (chaired by a Trustee)
- 4) Nominations (meeting 4-monthly or as required for recruitment of Trustees and succession planning) (chaired by a Trustee)

To support the work of the Senior Leadership Team and adopt best practice, champion roles continue within the Group Board, with new Freedom to Speak Up and Decarbonisation champions introduced in the year:

Champion Areas	Trustee Lead
Clinical Governance	Vacant
Compliance	David Strachan IN (Until 30/3/23)
Co-production & Volunteers	Vacant
Decarbonisation	Vacant
Diversity & Inclusion	Cornelle Parker (CL) (Until 22/9/22)
	Sade Ladejobi (from 30/6/23)
Employee Wellbeing	Sharon Whitehurst (CL)
Freedom to Speak up	Philip Turnpenny (IN)
Housing Governance	Dave Roche (Fn)
Safeguarding	Philip Turnpenny (IN)
Value for Money	Lisa Bradley (IN)

The Group Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for the governance and strategic direction of the Company and Inspire North's constitution empowers the Group Board to take such steps as are necessary to achieve the Company's objectives and make appropriate arrangements for the sound management of its business. When necessary, the Group Board considers the need to take independent professional advice and trustees receive all internal audit reports undertaken through the year.

Day to day management responsibilities are delegated by the Group Board to the Senior Leadership Team under the direction of the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive is appraised annually by the Chair of the Board including 360-degree feedback from all direct reports, Trustees and external stakeholders. Working closely with the Board, the Senior Leadership Team continues to provide leadership and professional support across the group.

We held two Group Board Away Days this year on 11th November 2022 and 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023. These were great opportunities to come together, away from Board meetings, and spend time reflecting on external challenges and how we move forward as a group. The focus of the first away day was upon managing organisational risks, the impact of the Cost-of-Living Crisis upon our organisation, employees and clients, and the continued

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

development of our five-year financial plan. The focus of the second away day was on ensuring organisational sustainability and developing the Board's Annual Plan for 23-24, which informs the development of individual plans by services and departments across the organisation.

We also held a Trustee Meet and Greet session on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022 where employees and trustees had space to directly discuss their experience within services and have open conversations about the strategic direction of the group as well as any ideas for improvements.

Trustee appraisals are being carried out on a 12-month rolling rota basis.

The Charity has made qualifying third-party indemnity provisions for the benefit of its Trustees. These provisions remain in force at the reporting date.

#### Recruitment, Appointment and Training of Trustees

New Trustees are recruited through open advert and interviewed to ensure that collectively the Group Board maintains a broad range of varied backgrounds, skills and experience. We are looking for new ways to attract a more diverse range of trustees. We endeavour to ensure the needs of our beneficiaries are reflected by the diversity of the Group Board in terms of the skills and interests represented.

Under Article 3.5 of the Articles of Association, Trustees are elected to serve for a period of three years, after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting. Trustees may serve for a maximum of three consecutive terms.

Whilst the Group Board may include Trustees who are ex-clients, co-production is ensured at a senior level within the group through client or tenant voice representation at all Trustee Meetings. Client or tenant voice representatives participating in Board level meetings are provided with a thorough induction and have access to support from their Linked Worker (if current client or tenant) and/or Directors of Operations (if ex-client or tenant), as required.

No Trustees had any other beneficial interest in any contract with the Company during the year. A declaration of interest register is kept, and all Trustees are expected to notify the Strategic Governance Lead of any changes as they occur, this expectation is reiterated annually at Board. Our Declaration of Interest Policy and Register of Conflicts are reviewed annually by the Group Board.

Conflict of interests are identified at the start of each Group Board or Sub-committee meeting in relation to specific agenda items.

Clients/tenants invited to attend Group Board meetings or take up other associated duties on behalf of the Company receive a nominal allowance in line with the Memorandum and Articles. Travel and other expenses incurred in the discharge of Trustee duties are reimbursed to all Trustees. No Trustee received any remuneration for services as a member of the Group Board in 2022 to 2023. The group is due to launch a new policy on Trustee Expenses and Payments in 2023-24 due to changes in legislation by the UK Charity Commission.

#### Governance

Inspire North have ensured its Board governance aligns with the best practice set out in the Charity Code of Governance (updated 2020) and the NHF Code of Governance (updated 2020). We have identified areas for improvement and carried out these works, which include implementing a new Trustee Code of Conduct, 3-yearly External Governance Reviews (undertaken 2021, next due 2024) and improving our risk management framework.

## **Executive Remuneration**

Where appliable the Senior Leadership Team have received pay rises in line with NJC pay agreements alongside all relevant employees within Inspire North. Terms and conditions of employment remained unchanged.

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### Internal controls assurance

The Group Board of Trustees acknowledges its overall responsibility for establishing and maintaining the whole system of internal controls and for reviewing its effectiveness. The system of internal control is designed to manage, rather than eliminate, the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and to provide reasonable, not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. Our quarterly internal auditing approach has continued across the year, with the board agreeing reviews of the following areas in 2022-23: Health & Safety Landlord responsibilities, GDPR, Key Financial Controls and Client/Tenant Co-Production. Recommendations from all audits continue to be progressed.

In meeting its responsibilities, the board has adopted a risk-based approach to internal controls, which have been developed and embedded throughout the year through the normal management and governance process.

The Group Board cannot delegate ultimate responsibility for the system of internal control, but it has delegated authority to the Resources & Risk Assurance Committee to regularly review the effectiveness of the system of internal control. The Group Board receives the minutes of all Resources & Risk Assurance Committee meetings.

Inspire North continues to invest in improved technology and additional security measures such as Cyber Essentials Plus and maintaining our ISO27001 accreditation for information security.

The following key procedures are adopted which are designed to achieve effective internal financial control:

## Monitoring and corrective action

Risks are monitored regularly by the senior leadership team and significant increases are reported to Board committees on a quarterly basis. Should any change in risk levels occur, the reasons for the change are established and the necessary action plans are developed and reported to the Board. In addition to a corporate Group risk register, each company in the group has an additional individual risk register in place to track risks which are specific to that company.

## Environment and control procedures

Foundation believes that environmental protection should form an integral part of standard operating procedures. The Company is concerned not only with its direct impact on the environment, but also any indirect effects caused by the Company's activities affecting its neighbours and the local community.

Inspire North maintained ISO 14001 and is developing a full environmental strategy to support the group reaching this accreditation across all our services.

In the year, the new Trustee role of Decarbonisation Champion was created to support the group's environmental objectives. This role is yet to be filled.

Inspire North's current environmental action plan articulates the Company's commitment to sound environmental management.

This action plan will be implemented through the following activity:

- Encouragement of environmental responsibility amongst our stakeholders, including clients/tenants, contractors, suppliers, and colleagues.
- Conducting our Operations in a way that minimises our consumption of natural resources and manages
  waste through responsible disposal and the reuse and recycling of materials, where economically
  feasible.
- Development of a group-wide environmental strategy that incorporates our road to Net Zero and aim of meeting PAS 2060, a specification for reaching carbon neutrality.

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### Information and financial reporting systems

Monthly accounts are prepared by the Inspire North Finance Team and distributed to Executive Officers, Senior Managers and Service or Project Managers, who report monthly on significant variances. Accounts are submitted to the Resources Subcommittee for review each quarter and then on to the main Group Board, also quarterly.

#### **Employees**

#### **Disabled Persons**

We have robust recruitment and selection processes to ensure the recruitment of high calibre employees, conducted in compliance with the Equality Act 2010. Our accreditations across the Group show our commitment to attract, develop and retain a diverse workforce, including Stonewall Diversity Champion, Mindful Employer, Disability Confident Leader, Investors in People, Sunday Times Top 100 Best Companies and Living Wage Employer. Our values-based recruitment and selection procedure (reviewed by an external consultant, which received positive feedback) includes:

- a diverse panel;
- a blind recruitment process, whereby personal demographic information is withheld from the panel so that all candidates are selected for interview based solely on their skills/qualifications/experience;
- a diversity commitment statement on our recruitment page;
- the essential criteria "demonstrate understanding and commitment to equal opportunities and diversity" on all person specifications. Candidates are also asked to demonstrate this at interview;
- launching a new recruitment video that have ensured a diverse representation of employees including people with disabilities;
- making sure that all our services are required to give due consideration to diversity in recruitment as part of Diversity Impact Assessments.

We are a Disability Confident Leader which is the highest level of accreditation. The Disability Confident Leader symbol is displayed on our website and clearly visible on all application packs. An equal opportunities statement is included on all recruitment adverts.

All job opportunities are widely circulated so that they are accessible to everyone.

All recruitment campaigns operate on the principle of anonymity which ensures that individuals are not identified or disadvantaged based on any of the protected characteristics.

The Disability Confident Leader symbol is displayed on our website and clearly visible on all application packs. An equal opportunities statement is included on all recruitment adverts.

We operate a panel interview process, using a diverse range of people, not only to cover the whole equality angle in general but to have people on that panel who have experience of disability/mental health problems. Every interview panel must also include a current client. They assist in assessing a candidate's general attitude towards our clients and disability/mental health.

All the recruitment panel must have completed Recruitment and Section training. The Equality Act 2010 is covered in this training session, along with how this practically relates to the construction of job descriptions, person specifications and adverts. It also covers the application process, interview to the appointment stage.

The Inspire North application form states: -

"We recognise and actively promotes the benefits of a diverse workforce and is committed to treating all employees with dignity and respect regardless of age, race, gender, disability, sexual orientation, religion/belief, or mental health. We therefore welcome applications from all sections of the community. This section of the application will be detached and used for monitoring purposes. We ask you answer the questions below by ticking the appropriate boxes. If you do not wish to complete any part of the monitoring information, you do not have to do so."

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

As an organisation we do not conduct health checks as part of the recruitment process.

We have a robust supervision policy and process in place, which outlines that sessions are run constructively and in a spirit of mutual respect to ensure that all employees are meeting with their line manager on a regular basis.

Within this policy there is guidance on how to best format the meeting and key agenda topic. One topic is 'you'-how are you doing as an employee, very much addressing the 'how are you feeling' and recognising that this is key in delivering the work they are employed to do. This enables disabled employees to discuss any support they may need.

We are committed to providing a work environment of support and inform and encourage colleagues to use "Access to Work" services to ensure that reasonable adjustments can be identified fully, and appropriate support put in place.

We promote colleague health and well-being and actively retain people who have suffered ill health or disability during the course of their employment. We seek to positively address how continued employment may be maintained. We aim to put the responsibility and decision making for adjustments as close as possible to the individual and the work they do, but with support from specialists this has created a situation where managers and colleagues are able to make appropriate decisions on adjustments.

Managers support employees in achieving a satisfactory level of attendance by helping them to remain at work when they experience ill-health or return to work as soon as possible following a period of sickness absence.

We actively support the development and progression of all individuals throughout the organisation including those with a disability.

The process encourages individuals and line managers to discuss potential impacts of a disability during the course of regular performance discussions, focusing on what can be done to support those with a disability and/or long-term health condition, enabling them to overcome any barriers and reach their career goals.

Employee development and progression is on merit and there are no barriers to development and progression. This can be evidenced within the leadership team with at least 20% identifying themselves as disabled.

## **Employee involvement**

The Chief Executive emails a weekly brief of news called "Keeping Connected" to all employees to keep everyone up to date on developments within the organisation and invites anyone with questions, queries or comments to please get in touch with her.

Each service has a Team Voice Representative who meet quarterly with the Chief Executive and Director of People and Culture in an open forum where ideas, suggestions and concerns can be discussed.

Performance Development Reviews (PDRs) take place annually within a 3-month window at the start of each new Business year to ensure all employees objectives are aligned to the years development and strategic plan.

Employees can book, and are encouraged, to attend an SLT meeting.

SLT attend all inductions to welcome new starters to the organisation and hold 1:1 induction meetings with a number of new starters, particularly those in leadership positions.

Every member of SLT mentors at least one employee to support them with their career progression.

We have a group wide SLT "Adopt-a-Service" scheme. This is a way of connecting employees at all levels of the organisation and a great way to ensure SLT stay connected with frontline colleagues to share information and ideas. The SLT member assigned endeavours to attend at least 1 team meeting each year of the services they have adopted in addition to offering support and encouragement.

## **Related parties**

No Trustee had any beneficial interest in any contract with the Company in 2022 – 2023. Tenants are also on normal commercial terms.

## REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRATEGIC REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Foundation is part of the Inspire North group, daughter charity of Inspire North and sister charity to Community Links (Northern) Ltd.

#### Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

## **Annual general meeting**

The annual general meeting will be held on 29th September 2023.

## Statement as to disclosure of information to the auditor

The Management Committee, who were in office on the date of approval of these financial statements have confirmed, as far as they are aware, that there is no relevant information of which the auditor is not aware. The Management Committee have confirmed that they have taken all the steps they ought to have taken as Trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that it has been communicated to the auditor.

## **External auditor**

The auditor, RSM UK Audit LLP has indicated their willingness to continue in office.

This report including Strategic report was approved by the Board on and signed on its behalf by:

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Chair: Claire Vilarrubi

Date: 29 September 2023

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FOUNDATION (CONTINUED)

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Foundation for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Changes in Reserves and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including FRS 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 company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of the income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice:
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 and the Accounting Direction for Private Registered Providers of Social Housing 2019.

## **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 the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other 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 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 company'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 other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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.

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FOUNDATION (CONTINUED)

## Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Strategic Report and the Management Committee's Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements;
   and
- the Strategic Report and the Management Committee's Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Strategic Report and the Management Committee's Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
   or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

#### Respective responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on pages 23, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) 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 company'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 company 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 auditors under the Companies Act 2006 and section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with those Acts.

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 the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

## The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The objectives of our audit are to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, to perform audit procedures to help identify instances of non-compliance with other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements, and to respond appropriately to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified during the audit.

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud, to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud through designing and implementing appropriate responses and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit.

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FOUNDATION (CONTINUED)

However, it is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the audit engagement team:

- obtained an understanding of the nature of the sector, including the legal and regulatory frameworks that the company operates in and how the company are complying with the legal and regulatory frameworks;
- inquired of management, and those charged with governance, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including any known actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud:
- discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and where the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud.

As a result of these procedures we consider the most significant laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements are FRS 102, the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008, the Accounting Direction for Private Registered Providers of Social Housing 2019 and tax compliance regulations. We performed audit procedures to detect non-compliances which may have a material impact on the financial statements which included reviewing financial statement disclosures, inspecting correspondence with local tax authorities and evaluating advice received from external tax advisors.

The most significant laws and regulations that have an indirect impact on the financial statements are Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and Regulator of Social Housing Regulatory Standards (both Economic and Consumer standards) and the Care Quality Commission Standards. We performed audit procedures to inquire of management and those charged with governance whether the company is in compliance with these law and regulations and inspected correspondence with licensing or regulatory authorities.

The audit engagement team identified the risk of management override of controls and income recognition (completeness, existence and cut-off) as the areas where the financial statements were most susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud. Audit procedures performed included but were not limited to testing manual journal entries and other adjustments, evaluating the business rationale in relation to significant, unusual transactions and transactions entered into outside the normal course of business, challenging judgments and estimates and undertaking substantive tests of detail to ensure that revenue was appropriately recognised in the year.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is provided on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <a href="https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities">https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities</a>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members 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 company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Lucy Robson

LUCY ROBSON (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of RSM UK Audit LLP, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
Central Square, Fifth Floor
29 Wellington Street
Leeds
LS1 4DL

Date 29/09/23

# STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Turnover	3	10,927	11,514
Operating costs	3	(11,299)	(11,424)
Operating (Loss)/Surplus		(372)	90
Interest receivable and other income	5	10	7
Interest payable and similar charges	6	(64)	(78)
Movement in fair value of financial Instruments		(47)	19
(Loss)/Surplus on ordinary activities before taxation		(473)	38
Tax on surplus on ordinary activities		-	-
(Loss)/Surplus for the financial year		(473)	38
Actuarial (Loss)/Gain in respect of defined benefit pension scheme	22	(409)	841
Total Comprehensive Income (loss)/Surplus for the year		(882)	879

The notes on pages 33 to 55 form part of these financial statements.

The turnover and operating result for the year arises from continuing operations.

The financial statements on pages 30 to 55 were approved by the Board and authorised for issue on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023 and are signed on its behalf by:

& LBally

Chair: Claire Vilarrubi Treasurer: Lisa Bradley

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Company number: 01829004

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

		2023		2022	
	Note	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets					
Intangible Assets Housing properties Other tangible fixed assets Investment	10 11 12 13	943 24 1	-	962 32 671	
Total fixed assets			968		1,665
Current assets					
Debtors Cash and cash equivalents	14	1,439 662	_	1,841 540	
		2,101		2,381	
<b>Creditors</b> : Amounts falling due within one year	15	(1,528)	_	(1,646)	
Net current assets			573	_	735
Total assets less current liabilities			1,541	_	2,400
<b>Creditors</b> : Amounts falling due After more than one year	17	(131)		(134)	
Provisions for liabilities Defined benefit pension scheme liability	22	(1,915)		(1,889)	
		(2,046)	-	(2,023)	
Net (liabilities)/assets		( )	(505)	-	377
Capital and reserves					
Reserves	19		(505)	_	377
			(505)	_	377

The financial statements on pages 30 to 55 were approved by the Board and authorised for issue on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023 and are signed on its behalf by:

Louly

Chair: Claire Vilarrubi Treasurer: Lisa Bradley

# **STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RESERVES**

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	General reserve £'000	Total £'000
Balance at 1 April 2022 (Loss)/Surplus for the year Actuarial (loss)/gain	377 (473) (409)	(502) 38 841
Balance as at 31 March 2023	(505)	377

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### 1 Accounting policies

The Company is registered under the Companies Act 2006 and is registered with Homes England (previously the Homes and Communities Agency) as a social landlord. The Company is limited by guarantee and is a registered charity. The address of the Company's registered office and principal place of business is 3 Limewood Way, Seacroft, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS14 1AB. The Company's principal activities are provided on page 5.

## **Basis of Preparation**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (UK GAAP) including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102"), the Housing SORP 2018 "Statement of Recommended Practice for Registered Housing Providers" and they comply with the Accounting Direction for Private Registered Providers of Social Housing 2019, and under the historical cost convention.

Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest whole £1,000, except where otherwise indicated.

#### Reduced disclosure

The company is a qualifying entity for the purposes of FRS 102, being a member of a group where the parent of that group prepares publicly available consolidated financial statements, including this company, which are intended to give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the group. The company has therefore taken advantage of exemptions from the following disclosure requirements:

 Section 7 'Statement of Cash Flows' – presentation of a statements of cash flow and related notes and disclosures;

The financial statements of the company are consolidated in the financial statements of Inspire North, a charitable company limited by guarantee (company number 11568263) and also a charity registered in England and Wales (charity number 1180693). These consolidated financial statements are available from its registered office, 3 Limewood Way, Leeds, United Kingdom, LS14 1AB.

#### Basis of consolidation

The company has taken advantage of the exemption in section 400 of the Companies Act 2006 from the requirement to prepare consolidated financial statements. Consequently, these financial statements present the financial position and financial performance of the company as a single entity.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

## 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### **Going Concern**

The Trustees have prepared these financial statements on the going concern basis. The Trustees have prepared detailed budgets and a 5 year financial projection based on current working assumptions, this along with current performance after a challenging 2022-23 provide reassurance that the Charity will be able to meet its liabilities as they fall due for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements.

The improved operational performance along with the implemented plan to reduce the pension liability provide a way forward to eliminate the negative reserves.

Our services and funding continue to be at risk from cuts to Local Authority funding and Trustees recognise that this risk has increased given the current economic climate and the potential for major local authority spending cuts.

#### **Turnover**

Turnover comprises rental and service charge income receivable in the period, other services provided at the invoice value (excluding VAT) and revenue grants receivable in the period. Grants and other income are recognised in the year in which entitlement exists and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty and measurability. Income such as donations and gifts are accounted for as received by the company at the fair value at the time of receipt.

All other turnover is recognised as the service is provided.

#### **Service Charges**

The Company reviews the costs of delivering its services to its clients/tenants on an annual basis and sets the charges based on these costs.

#### **Taxation**

As a charity the Company is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Chapter 3 Part II Corporation Tax Act 2010 or s256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the Charity.

The company's trading subsidiary is liable to corporation tax on its taxable profits.

#### Value Added Tax

Although Foundation is partially exempt from VAT, the amount of taxable income is so small relative to overall turnover, VAT is only recovered at 1% of VAT incurred and therefore VAT effectively represents a 19% additional cost to the Company where charged.

#### **Interest Payable**

Interest payable is charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the period it falls due.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### 1 Accounting Policies (continued)

#### **Pensions**

The Charity began to participate in the Social Housing Pension Scheme (SHPS) from 1 January 1999. For the SHPS, it was previously not possible to identify the share of underlying assets and liabilities belonging to individual participating employers.

The Charity continues to operate a money purchase pension Scheme for employees who were in the existing Scheme as at 1 January 1999 and did not wish to enter the SHPS. The assets of the Scheme are invested and managed independently of the finances of the Company. The pension cost charged to the statement of financial activities represents contributions payable in the year.

The Charity also operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company. The annual contributions payable are charged to the profit and loss account.

#### **Social Housing and Other Grants**

Rental income is recognised from the point when properties under development reach practical completion or otherwise become available for letting, net of any voids.

Grants in respect of revenue expenditure are credited to the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the same period as the expenditure to which they relate. Grants in respect of capital expenditure are credited to liabilities and released over the life of the associated asset.

Grants received from non-government sources are recognised using the performance model. Grants are recognised as income when the associated performance conditions are met.

#### **Contract Income**

Charges for support services are recognised as they fall due under the contractual arrangements with Administering Authorities.

#### **Employee Benefits**

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense. The holiday year ends at the reporting date and employees are entitled to carry forward up to five days of unused leave at that date. The cost of any unused entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

The best estimate of the expenditure required to settle an obligation for the termination of benefits is recognised immediately as an expense when Foundation is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 1 Accounting Policies (continued)

#### **Housing Properties**

Housing properties which are carried on the statement of financial position at cost.

The estimated useful lives applied to the components of these, which are detailed below.

Building	100 years
Roof Tile	50 years
Windows and doors	30 years
Boiler and fire	15 years
Kitchen	20 years
Bathroom	30 years
Radiators	30 years
Wiring	30 years
Grant	25 years

Management have considered the impairment review rules and concluded that there are no indicators of impairment at this time.

Housing properties are properties held for the provision of social housing or to otherwise provide social benefit.

Completed housing properties are principally properties available for rent and are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Cost includes the cost of acquiring land and buildings and development costs.

Works to existing properties, which replace a component that has been treated separately for depreciation purposes, along with those works that result in an increase in net rental income over the lives of the properties, thereby enhancing the economic benefits of the assets, are capitalised as improvements.

#### Investments

Investments in subsidiaries are recorded at cost less any provision for impairment losses.

Investments in quoted investments are carried at valuation based on the market price at the year-end date.

### Management of liquid resources

Liquid resources are cash at bank and in hand. In the event that the Company has money market deposits held for more than 24 hours, they can be withdrawn without penalty on maturity or by giving notice of more than one working day.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 1 Accounting Policies (continued)

#### **Intangible Fixed Assets**

Intangible assets purchased other than in a business combination are recognised when future economic benefits are probable, and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Intangible assets are amortised to profit or loss on a straight-line basis over their useful lives, as follows: -

Purchased computer software

3 years

Amortisation is revised prospectively for any significant change in useful life or residual value.

On disposal, the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the intangible asset is recognised in profit or loss.

#### **Tangible Fixed Assets**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis, at rates considered appropriate to write off the assets over their effective working lives as follows:

Freehold Properties over 25 years

Fixtures, fittings and equipment over 10 years or over life of the lease

Other tangible fixed assets over 3 years

### **Operating Leases**

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

#### **Financial instruments**

The Company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102, in full, to all of its financial instruments.

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument and are offset only when the Company currently has a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### 1 Accounting Policies (continued)

#### Financial assets

Debtors which are receivable within one year and which do not constitute a financing transaction are initially measured at the transaction price. Trade debtors are subsequently measured at amortised cost, being the transaction price less any amounts settled and any impairment losses.

Where the arrangement with a trade debtor constitutes a financing transaction, the debtor is initially and subsequently measured at the present value of future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial assets, including investments, are initially measured at fair value, which is normally the transaction price. Such assets are subsequently carried at fair value and the changes in fair value are recognised in profit or loss.

#### Financial liabilities

Trade creditors payable within one year that do not constitute a financing transaction are initially measured at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost, being the transaction price less any amounts settled.

Where the arrangement with a trade creditor constitutes a financing transaction, the creditor is initially and subsequently measured at the present value of future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar instrument.

### Derecognition of financial assets and liabilities

A financial asset is derecognised only when the contractual rights to cash flows expire or are settled, or substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are transferred to another party, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party. A financial liability (or part thereof) is derecognised when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

### 2 Critical accounting judgements and estimation uncertainty

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The following key judgements and estimates were made in preparing the financial statements:

#### **Critical judgements**

The following judgements (apart from those involving estimates) have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

### Useful economic lives of tangible assets

The annual depreciation charge for tangible fixed assets is sensitive to the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are reassessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See notes 12 and 13 for the carrying amount of tangible fixed assets and note 1 for the useful economic lives of each class of assets.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### 2 Critical accounting judgements and estimation uncertainty (continued)

#### **Financial instruments**

The Company enters into basic financial instrument transactions that meet the criteria of a basic financial instrument as defined in FRS102 Section 11, and that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities such as trade and other debtors and trade and other creditors. Where cash levels permit, the company invests in short term quoted investments. These instruments are initially recorded at the transaction price less any transaction cost (historical cost). FRS 102 requires that basic financial instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost, however, the Company has calculated that the difference between the historical cost and amortised cost is not material and therefore these financial instruments are stated on the statement of financial position at historical cost.

#### Provision for bad and doubtful debts

The provision is calculated to cover the likelihood of rental income due from tenants not being received. The provision takes into account the age of the outstanding balance and whether it is payable through Housing Benefit or client contributions. Details of the provision are disclosed at note 15.

### Pension liability discount rate

The rate of discount detailed in Note 22 is that provided by TPT Retirement Solutions who administer the SHPS Pension Scheme which is based on the market yields on AA corporate bonds at the reporting date.

### Defined benefit pension scheme

The present value of the Social Housing Pension Scheme (SHPS) defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 22, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

# 3 Turnover, cost of sales, operating costs and operating Surplus/(Deficit)

## **Continuing activities**

		2023			2022	
		Operating	Operating		Operating	Operating
	Turnover	Costs	Surplus/(Deficit)	Turnover	Costs	Surplus/(Deficit)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Social housing activities						
Income and expenditure from lettings	4,961	(4,507)	454	5,149	(4,871)	278
Other social housing activities						
Supporting people contract income	5,638	(6,477)	(839)	6,099	(6,340)	(241)
Other social housing income and expenditure	20	(22)	(2)	21	(17)	4
Non-social housing activities	308	(293)	15	245	(196)	49
	-					
Total	10,927	(11,299)	(372)	11,514	(11,424)	90

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

## 3 Turnover, cost of sales, operating costs and operating surplus/(deficit) (continued)

## Particulars of income and expenditure from social housing lettings

	2023 Supported Housing £'000	2022 Supported Housing £'000
Turnover from social housing lettings		
Rent receivable Void Costs Service Charges Receivable Debts written off	3,513 (464) 2,108 (196)	3,656 (392) 1,955 (70)
Net rental income	4,961	5,149
Other revenue grants		
Turnover from social housing lettings	4,961	5,149
Expenditure on social housing lettings		
Rent Costs relating to tenants Light and heat Routine maintenance Planned maintenance Staff costs Other Costs Bad Debts Provision	(2,547) (11) (107) (223) (959) (589) (42) (29)	(2,725) (52) (83) (239) (781) (853) (43) (95)
Operating Costs on social housing Lettings	(4,507)	(4,871)
Operating Surplus on social housing lettings	454	278

### 4 Accommodation in management and development

At the end of the year, accommodation in management was as follows:

	2023 Units	Units
Supported housing - owned	11	9
Supported housing - managed	497	557
General Needs – owned	5	7
General Needs – managed	11	41
Total units	524	614

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

5	Interest receivable and other income		
		2023 £'000	2022 £'000
	Bank interest	10	7
		10	7
6	Interest payable and similar charges		
		2023 £'000	2022 £'000
	Pension scheme – net finance charge	64	78
		64	78
7	Operating Surplus		
	This is arrived at after charging/(crediting):	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
	Release of capital grant Depreciation of tangible fixed assets Amortisation of Intangible fixed assets	(3) 33 -	(3) 42 -
	Operating lease rentals	219 -	217 1
	- external audit services - accountancy and taxation services	19 	16 1

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 8 Employees

The average monthly number of persons employed during the year was:

2023	2022
Average	Average
Number	Number
Charitable work 162	176

All staff employed in Foundation are considered front line workers delivering its charitable objectives, none front line workers are charged via Inspire North recharge.

The average monthly number of people employed during the year expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	2023 Average FTEs	2022 Average FTEs
Charitable work	130	144
	130	144
Employee costs:	2222	0000
	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Wages and salaries	3,781	3,846
Social security costs	323	305
Other pension costs	129	127
	4,233	4,278

The Company's employees were eligible to be members of the Social Housing Pension Scheme. Further information on the scheme is given at note 22.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### 9 Executive Officers' and senior staff emoluments

No employees received emoluments of more than £60,000 in the current and previous year.

Executive Officers' and senior staff emoluments are borne by the parent undertaking, Inspire North, as the employer of these individuals. Disclosure of their key management personnel is included within the parent entity financial statements. Executive officers are entitled to the same company pension contributions into a defined contribution scheme as all other employees.

The Memorandum and Articles of the Charity allow the payment of reasonable reimbursed expenses to Board Trustees and a nominal allowance to Board Trustees drawn from our customer base for the undertaking of additional tasks to inform the internal systems of the Charity. The expenditure for the year is made up of:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Number of Trustees who were paid expenses	-	-

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

10	Intangible fixed assets	Purchased computer software £'000
	Cost At 1 April 2021 & 31 March 2023	169
	Amortisation	
	At 1 April 2022 & 31 March 2023	169
	Net book value	
	At 31 March 2023	-
	At 31 March 2022	-
11	Tangible fixed assets – housing properties	
		Social housing properties held for letting £'000
	Cost	
	At 1 April 2022 Additions Disposals	1,330 - -
	At 31 March 2023	1,330
	Depreciation	
	At 1 April 2022 Charge for year On disposals	368 19 
	At 31 March 2023	387
	Net book value	
	At 31 March 2023	943
	At 31 March 2022	962
	to the first three three in a constant in Oracle and with a most backer of 0400 047.	2000 0400 700)

Included in the above is a property in Scarborough with a net book value of £120,647 (2022: £122,733). There is a 30-year charge on the property that is being used to house vulnerable people from 2015 to 2045.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

# 12 Other tangible fixed assets – Other

	Office/Leasehold Fixtures £'000	Furniture Equipment £'000	Computer & Accessories £'000	Total £'000
Cost At 1 April 2022 Additions	196 6	37 -	29 -	262 6
At 31 March 2023	202	37	29	268
<b>Depreciation</b> At 1 April 2022 Depreciation charge for the year	171 10	32 3	27 1	230 14
At 31 March 2023	181	35	28	244
Net book value At 31 March 2023	21	2	1	24
At 31 March 2022	25	5	2	32

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Deferred government grant (note 18)

	Quoted investments £'000 Valuation	Investment in subsidiary £ Cost
1 April 2022	671	1
Fees and Charges	(4)	-
Income received	10	_
Withdrawal	(630)	
Market movement	(47)	<del>-</del>
At 31 March 2023		1_

The investment in subsidiary represents the 100% holding of the issued share capital of Foundation Stone Enterprises Limited, registered office 3 Limewood Way, Seacroft, Leeds, LS14 1AB. The Company is winding down its activities and is currently a non-going concern. Quoted investments includes investment loss and income received of £47k and £10k respectively and charges incurred of £4k. They consist of a portfolio of low risk equity and debt holdings managed by Charles Stanley. This investment has now been withdrawn.

### 14 Debtors

15

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Rent and service charges receivable	751	712
Less: provision for bad and doubtful debts	(297)	(268)
	454	444
Amounts due from group undertakings	60	396
Other debtors	588	708
Prepayments and accrued income	337	293
	1,439	1,841
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Trade creditors	261	305
Other taxes and social security	73	72
Amounts owed to group undertakings Other creditors	48 147	140
Accruals	347	465
Deferred income	649	661
Deferred moonie	043	001

1,646

3

3

1,528

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

At 31 March 2023

16	<b>Deferred income</b> Contractual income is deferred when income is associated service. Movements in deferred unre			
			2023 £'000	2022 £'000
	Brought forward (Note 15) Released during the year Deferred during the year		(661) 3,436 (3,424)	(541) 2,390 (2,510)
	Carried forward (Note 15)		(649)	(661)
17	Creditors: amounts falling due after more th	an one year	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
	Deferred government grant (note 18)		131	134
18	Deferred government grant			
			2023 £'000	2022 £'000
	Balance at 1 April Additions		137	140
	Released during the year		(3)	(3)
	Balance at 31 March		134	137
19	Reserves			
		Undesignated Reserve £'000	Designated Reserve £'000	General Reserve £'000
	At 1 April 2022 (Loss)/Surplus for the year Actuarial Loss	(49) (466) (409)	426 (7)	377 (473) (409)

(924)

419

(505)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 19 Reserves (continued)

Designated Reserves	1 April 2022 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Transfers £'000	31 March 2023 £'000
St Peter's Building Scarborough Property Fund	303 123	- -	(5) (2)	- -	298 121
Total designated reserves	426	-	(7)	-	419

While the amounts included in Designated reserves are not contractually committed at the year end, the Trustees have earmarked the funds for the purposes listed below:

The **St Peters Building Fund** has been designated by the Trustees in respect of the five properties gifted by St Peter's Christian Project.

The **Scarborough Property Fund** is a property comprising three flats which was donated to Foundation.

### 20 Other commitments

At 31 March 2023 the Company had total future minimum payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	Land and Buildings		Other	
	2023 £'000	2022 £'000	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Expiry Date:				
Within one year	185	220	-	-
Between two and five years	105	193	-	-
	290	413	-	-

The notice period required for termination of agreement on tenant accommodation, rented by the charity, is less than one year with the majority requiring one month. Therefore, the rental cost of tenant accommodation is not included in the operating lease commitments.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 21 Contingent liabilities

The company had no contingent liabilities at the balance sheet date.

### 22 Pension Obligations

#### **Social Housing Pension Scheme (SHPS)**

The company participates in the Social Housing Pension Scheme (the Scheme), a Multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 500 non-associated employers. The Scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK.

The Scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The last triennial valuation of the scheme for funding purposes was carried out as at 30 September 2020. This valuation revealed a deficit of £1,560m. A Recovery Plan has been put in place with the aim of removing this deficit by 30 March 2028.

The Scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore, the company is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the Scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the Scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the Scheme.

For accounting purposes, a valuation of the scheme was carried out with an effective date of 30 September 2019. The liability figures from this valuation were rolled forward for accounting year-ends from 31 March 2020 to 29 February 2021 inclusive. The liabilities are compared, at the relevant accounting date, with the company's fair share of the Scheme's total assets to calculate the company's net deficit or surplus.

Similarly, an actuarial valuation of the scheme was carried out as at 30 September 2021 to inform the liabilities for accounting year ends from 31 March 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 inclusive.

	31 March	31 March	31 March
	2023	2022	2021
	£ '000	£'000	£ '000
Present value of provision	1,915	1,889	3,063

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 22 Pension Obligations (continued)

Reconciliation of opening and closing provisions

	Period Ending 31 March 2023 £'000	Period Ending 31 March 2022 £'000	Period Ending 31 March 2021 £'000
Provision at start of year	1,889	3,063	1,480
Interest Expense	47	63	31
Expenses	15	15	15
Deficit contribution paid	(445)	(411)	(403)
Remeasurements	409	(841)	1,940
Provision at end of year	1,915	1,889	3,063
Income and expenditure impact			
·	Period	Period	Period
	Ending	Ending	Ending
	31 March	31 March	31 March
	2023 £'000	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Interest expense	47	63	31
Expenses	15	15	15
Costs recognised in income and			_
expenditure account	62	78	46
ASSUMPTIONS			
	31 March 2023	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	% per annum	% per annum	% per annum
Rate of discount	4.87	2.79	2.18

The discount rates shown above are the equivalent single discount rates which, when used to discount the future recovery plan contributions due, would give the same results as using a full AA corporate bond yield curve to discount the same recovery plan contributions.

The liabilities set out in this note have been calculated by an independent actuary based on the most recent full actuarial valuation. The results of the calculations and the assumptions that have been adopted are shown below.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

22	Pension Obligations (continued)	
	Key assumptions	2023 %
	Discount rate Inflation (RPI) Inflation (CPI) Salary growth	4.87 3.19 2.75 3.75
	Mortality assumptions Assumed life expectations on retirement at age 65:	2023 Years
	Retiring today Male Female	21.0 23.4
	Retiring in 20 years Male Female	22.2 24.9
	Amounts recognised in the income statement:	
	Expenses Net interest on defined benefit liability	2023 £'000 15 47
		62
	Amounts taken to other comprehensive income	
		2023 £'000
	Experience gain on plan assets Experience gain on plan liabilities Effect of changes in demographic assumptions Effect of changes in the financial assumptions	(4,867) (72) 24 4,506
	Total actuarial loss	(409)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

## 22 Pension Obligations (continued)

The amounts included in the statement of financial position arising from the group's obligations in respect of defined benefit plans are as follows:

Present value of defined benefit obligation Fair value of plan assets	<b>2023</b> <b>£'000</b> 10,641 8,726
Deficit in scheme	(1,915)
Movements in the present value of defined benefit obligations:	
	2023 £'000
Liabilities at 1 April 2022 Expenses Interest cost Actuarial gain due to scheme experience Actuarial losses due to changes in demographic assumptions Actuarial losses due to changes in financial assumptions Benefits paid	14,996 15 414 72 (24) (4,506) (326)
At 31 March 2023	10,641
Movements in the fair value of plan assets:	
	2023 £'000
Fair value of assets at 1 April 2022 Interest income Experience on plan assets Contributions by the employer Benefits paid	13,107 367 (4,867) 445 (326)
At 31 March 2023	8,726

The actual return on plan assets was (£4,500,000)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

## 22 Pension Obligations (continued)

The analysis of the scheme assets at the reporting date were as follows:

The dialysis of the solicine assets at the reporting date were as follows.	2023 £'000
Global equity	163
Absolute return	94
Distressed opportunities	264
Credit relative value	329
Alternative risk premia	16
Emerging markets debt	47
Risk sharing	642
Insurance-linked securities	220
Property	376
Infrastructure	997
Private debt	388
Opportunistic Liquid Credit	373
High Yield	31
Opportunistic Credit	1
Cash	63
Corporate bond fund	-
Long lease property	263
Secured income	401
Liability driven investment	4,019
Currency hedging	17
Net current assets	22
	<u> </u>

8,726

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 23 Results of the subsidiary company

The wholly owned trading subsidiary, Foundation Stone Enterprises Limited (company number 08895921) is incorporated in England and Wales and has a registered office of 3 Limewood Way, Seacroft, Leeds, LS14 1AB.

The summary financial performance of the subsidiary is as follows:

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Income Expenditure	1 (2)	21 (26)
(Loss)/surplus for the period	(1)	(5)
	==	

The net liabilities of Foundation Stone Enterprises Limited at 31 March 2023 were £46k (2022: £46k).

At the year-end there was an amount of £59,964 due to Foundation, (2022: £53,771 due to Foundation and £25,571 due to Inspire North).

### 24 Related parties

Details of the executive officer's remuneration, who are considered to be key management personnel, are disclosed in Note 9.

During the period costs amounting to £1,577,853 (2021/22 £1,528,748) were recharged from Inspire North to Foundation. At the year-end there was an amount of £8,898 due to Inspire North, (2021/22 £239,947 owing by Inspire North to Foundation).

During the period costs amounting to £36,300 were recharged from Foundation to Community Links (Northern) Limited, a fellow group subsidiary. At the year-end there was an amount of £39,547 due to Community links from Foundation, (2022: £102,653 owing by Community Links (Northern) Limited to Foundation).

### 25 Parent Company and Controlling Party

Inspire North, a company registered in England and Wales, is the immediate and ultimate parent company. This is the parent of the smallest and largest group for which consolidated accounts including Foundation are prepared. In the opinion of the directors, there is no single ultimate controlling party. The consolidated accounts of Inspire North can be obtained from the charity's registered office: 3 Limewood Way, Seacroft, Leeds, LS14 1AB.

#### 26 Post Balance Sheet Events

An application to strike off the subsidiary entity, Foundation Stone Enterprises Limited was made on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2023