Charity registration number: SC039493

Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

Morris & Young
Chartered Accountants
6 Atholl Crescent
Perth
PH1 5JN

Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Contents

Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees [redacted]

Charity Registration Number SC039493

Principal Office [redacted]

Auditor
Morris & Young
Chartered Accountants
6 Atholl Crescent
Perth
PH1 5JN

Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Trustees' Report

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Objectives and activities

The objectives of the charity as defined in its trust deed are broadly drawn and permit many charitable activities but with an emphasis on the advancement of health, the saving of life and the advancement of education.

The trustees' focus in the reporting period and for the foreseeable future is concentrated on the prevention and repair of obstetric fistula in Africa. Our vision is for women and girls in Africa to have access to quality healthcare during pregnancy and childbirth and eradicate obstetric fistula.

Women's health is fundamental to women's rights and societal roles in Africa and effective medical care to remedy and prevent obstetric fistula is essential to achieving those rights and roles for women.

In order to achieve this, the trustees have agreed the following objectives for the charity:

- to expand or develop fistula repair services across Africa;
- to train local surgeons to repair obstetric fistulas;
- to train local midwives and doctors in the highest standards of maternal healthcare;
- to finance access to healthcare during pregnancy and labour;
- to provide education and empowerment to fistula survivors;
- to partner with other organisations and local facilities to improve fistula and maternity care;
- to provide primary healthcare to children.

The charity's activities are carried out primarily through its support of local operating units in Madagascar, Malawi and Sierra Leone. All services are provided free to patients.

Achievements and performance

The trustees acknowledge and thank Gloag Foundation for its provision of both financial (amounting to £694,397 in the year under review (2023 - £649,829) and logistical support to the charity and for covering the costs of its administrative functions in the UK. The latter includes, but is not limited to, the free provision of services from the individuals listed below as the senior management team. This level of support ensures that the charity can use any funds raised from third parties to support delivery in Africa of its charitable objectives.

Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Trustees' Report

The main activities carried out from the UK are:

- Providing advice, mentoring and building resource in Africa.

The UK team contributes to the delivery of services in Africa primarily through the provision of advice and guidance to local management teams.

- Building awareness and sensitisation

The UK team delivers regular activity updates via social media and newsletters and delivers presentations to a variety of organisations.

- Building partnerships and fundraising

The UK team helps find supporters and funding for the African projects and has built several long term relationships with third party funders that continue.

Freedom From Fistula (FFF) supports projects in Sierra Leone, Malawi and Madagascar and in 2024 helped provide healthcare, education and economic empowerment to more than 37,000 women and children.

In each of the countries where we operate, the projects are considered the Centres of Excellence by the respective governments and their Ministries of Health and our long term commitment to the people of Sierra Leone, Malawi and Madagascar is recognised as a key part of our success.

In 2024, Freedom From Fistula projects achieved the following:

- 2,679 babies safely delivered;
- 1,046 fistula surgeries performed;
- 21,182 primary healthcare consultations provided to children aged 0-15;
- 7,243 immunisations given to protect children aged 0-15;
- 5,383 women and girls provided with family planning counselling;
- 208 sexual violence survivors provided with medical support and counselling;

All services are provided free of charge to patients and participants, with a focus on providing quality care for patients in a loving and safe environment.

Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Trustees' Report

The countries where FFF operates have some of the worst maternal and child mortality rates in the world.

	Sierra Leone	Malawi	Madagascar	*UK*
Population (number)	8.4m	21.1m	31.2m	*68.4m*
Life Expectancy (years)	62.1	67.7	64.0	*81.6*
Maternal Mortality (deaths per 100,000)	443	381	392	*10*
Deaths under age 5 (per 1,000 live births)	100.8	40.1	65.8	*4.1*

Source: The World Bank - Maternal Mortality Ratio

In addition to providing the medical services, FFF is committed to building capacity in the healthcare workforce in each of the countries where we operate.

In 2024, this included providing training (at varying levels) to Fistula Surgeons, Clinical Officers, Nurses, Midwives and Administrative Staff.

FFF continued developing its Ambassador Programme across all three sites in 2024 and successfully added Ambassadors to FFF's existing network thereby expanding our reach to find additional patients in a wider range of regions and geographical areas across the countries.

These Ambassadors - who are either former patients, family members of former patients, community workers or healthcare professionals - voluntarily find and identify fistula patients in their communities, often accompanying them to our centres for treatment. Given the isolation and stigmatisation endured by many women and girls suffering from fistula, the Ambassadors are a vital resource in encouraging patients to seek treatment and trust the teams at our clinics.

In 2024, FCC Madagascar continued to provide training to new and developing fistula surgeons in partnership with FIGO. It is envisioned that this training will continue and the surgeons who have been provided initial training will return in 2025 to further develop their fistula surgery skills.

The provision of economic empowerment opportunities to fistula patients and teenage mothers remains an important element of the work of FFF. In 2024, our projects continued providing training in catering, tailoring, hairdressing, sewing and soap making for income generation. Additionally several groups of patients were trained in and provided equipment for, setting up tea rooms. This has proved very successful and will be continued in 2025.

As expected, the economies in Sierra Leone, Malawi & Madagascar continued to be weak throughout 2024, with fluctuating interest and exchange rates which led to significant knock-on effects on all the populations, but particularly the poorest people in each of the countries.

Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Trustees' Report

Cost of living has been a significant challenge for all the people FFF assist with significant price increases in staple items - maize, grains, cooking oils, bread & rice. This has resulted in many instances where patients have to be placed on feeding programmes in order to build their strength to a sufficient level to undergo surgery.

Cost of supplies continued to increase throughout 2024 and supply chains remained challenging in each country with inconsistent stock levels experienced across all FFF suppliers.

Additionally, the USAID changes created significant impact with a large number of programmes closed down or scaled back as a result of reduced funding from USA. An additional impact was on the level / volume of supplies available from local Government (formerly USAID-funded), and led to an increased number of requests from government ministries to all NGOs asking for help to address reduced supply levels and lack of operational budgets.

Daily life continued to be extremely challenging for our staff, and FFF continued to try and provide staff with additional support, however it was not possible to continue providing maize / rice to all staff on an ongoing or permanent basis.

There are currently no significant signs of economic improvement in Malawi, Sierra Leone or Madagascar. We expect 2025 to remain a challenging year both financially and on a human level.

Financial review

Results for the year ended 31 December 2024 are given in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 15. The assets and liabilities are detailed on the Balance Sheet on page 16.

The Statement of Financial Activities shows a net outflow of funds for the year of £183,583 (2023 - inflow of £98,092). When added to the funds brought forward, this gives a surplus to carry forward of £329,305 (2023 - £512,888). Full details of income and expenditure are set out in the notes 2 to 20 of the accounts.

Reserves policy

At the balance sheet date the charity held reserves of £329,305 (2023 - £512,888) of which £183,290 (2023 - £268,766) are in respect of restricted reserves and £146,015 (2023 - £244,122) are in respect of unrestricted reserves.

Reserves are needed to bridge any gap between spending commitments and receiving of income. To continue its operations at its current level, the charity is dependent on donations from Gloag Foundation and while no formal commitment has been received from that charity, the trustees have no reason to believe that the current level of funding received will be reduced and, accordingly, these accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Given the continued support of Gloag Foundation the trustees believe that the current level of unrestricted reserves are sufficient.

Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Trustees' Report

Risk Management
The trustees consider that the major risks comprise:

Financial risk
The charity is dependent on donations from Gloag Foundation in order to bridge the shortfall between income from third party funding and public donations and the net operating costs of the charity's partner operations in Africa. While the foundation has been successful in building relationships with funding partners, both directly (through this charity) and indirectly (through sponsoring direct relationships between its supported projects in Africa and external funders), if these significant partnerships were to cease, the trustees will be required to approach Gloag Foundation for significant additional funding.

A key element of the management of this risk is the charity's close relationship with Gloag Foundation and the trustees engage in regular discussions with that charity.

Operational Risk
The foundation has very limited exposure to direct operating risks and such risk arises from the capacity of the charity's supported projects in Africa to deliver the goals and objectives to which they commit at the start of each funding year, when budgets are set and agreed.

Under normal circumstances senior management have 2 site visits per annum. A minimum of weekly conference calls with local management are held to provide assistance and guidance and the previous regular visits to the projects ensure the UK management has a deep knowledge of each project.

The charity's supported projects in Africa all operate subject to the approval of the health ministry in each of the countries in which they operate. This approval could be withdrawn for reasons that are outside the control of the charity, such as a change in local government policy with regard to delivery of fistula repair and use of local resources.

Future plans
The trustees expect to continue to support the existing projects with no significant change in the number or scope of the various projects.

Structure, governance and management

The charity was established by a charitable trust deed on 30 January 2008 and commenced operations on 8 April 2008.

The trustees who served during the period from 1 January 2024 to the date the financial statements were approved were as follows:

[redacted]

As and when required, new trustees with appropriate skills and experience are appointed by the Executive Trustee.

[redacted]

The Trustees acting as a management committee have all the powers necessary to conduct the business of the charity. The committee is responsible for appointing new trustees and for ensuring that they are fully aware of their responsibilities as trustees.

Pay Policy for Senior Staff

None of the senior staff above are employed by or receive any remuneration from the charity. The services of the senior management team are delivered free of charge under an arrangement with Gloag Foundation, who are their employers. As at 1 June 2025 [redacted] was appointed Chief Executive of Gloag Foundation.

Related parties and co-operation with other charities

As noted above, none of the trustees receive remuneration or other benefits from their work with the charity. [redacted] is a trustee of Gloag Foundation, with whom the charity works in close collaboration. [redacted] is also a director and member of the board of Mercy Ships International which also carries out obstetric fistula repairs as part of its ship based ministry. [redacted]s a trustee of Mercy Ships UK and also a director and member of the Mercy Ships International board and Mercy Ships Operations board.

Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Trustees' Report

Disclosure of information to auditor
Each trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 18/09/2025 and signed on its behalf by:

[redacted]

Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

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

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees 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 period. 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 business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the provisions of the trust deed. The trustees are 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 corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Freedom From Fistula Foundation (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP (FRS 102) and 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (FRS 102) (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of its results for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity 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 going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

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

Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the 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.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (set out on page 9), the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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.

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

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Identifying and assessing potential risks related to irregularities

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- the nature of the regulated sector, control environment and understanding of the entity including, but not restricted to, the understanding that the trustees are not remunerated, and the prevalence of fraud in the sector;
- results of our enquiries of trustees about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the Charity's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
  - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
  - the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- the matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities that may exist within the organisation for fraud and identified the greatest potential for irregularities to occur is in relation to revenue recognition and charitable payments made. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Freedom From Fistula Foundation

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the Charity operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the charity's own Trust Deed and various charity-specific legislation, including The Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

Our procedures to respond to risks identified included the following:

- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- enquiring of Trustees concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- tested a sample of income for understatement and consideration given to revenue recognition accounting policies. Also reviewed the minutes of meetings for completeness of income;
- tested a sample of project expenditure grants for overstatement and considered whether they met the charitable purpose of the charity;
- in addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or noncompliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Due to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations and cannot be expected to detect all fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

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

Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 44 (1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

[redacted]

Morris & Young, Statutory Auditor

6 Atholl Crescent
Perth
PH1 5JN

23 September 2025

Morris & Young is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	833,537	955,551	1,789,088	1,905,381
Other income	3	3,986	-	3,986	-
Total Income		837,523	955,551	1,793,074	1,905,381
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4	(1,430)	-	(1,430)	(1,345)
Charitable activities	5	(934,200)	(1,041,027)	(1,975,227)	(1,805,944)
Total Expenditure		(935,630)	(1,041,027)	(1,976,657)	(1,807,289)
Net movement in funds		(98,107)	(85,476)	(183,583)	98,092
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		244,122	268,766	512,888	414,796
Total funds carried forward	17	146,015	183,290	329,305	512,888

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2023 is shown in note 17.

Freedom From Fistula Foundation

(Registration number: 39493)
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	15,605	9,490
Current assets			
Stocks	13	33,302	38,202
Debtors	14	127,201	118,701
Cash at bank and in hand	15	207,256	707,311
		367,759	864,214
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	16	(54,059)	(360,816)
Net current assets		313,700	503,398
Net assets		329,305	512,888
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted		183,290	268,766
Unrestricted		146,015	244,122
Total funds	17	329,305	512,888

The financial statements on pages 15 to 32 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 18/09/2025... and signed on their behalf by:

[redacted]

Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash expenditure		(183,583)	98,092
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation	12	12,721	40,976
		(170,862)	139,068
Working capital adjustments			
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	13	4,900	(5,391)
(Increase) in debtors	14	(8,500)	(15,077)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	16	7,643	(10,737)
(Decrease) in deferred income		(314,400)	(107,959)
Net cash flows from operating activities		(481,219)	(96)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	12	(18,836)	(9,142)
Net cash flows from investing activities		(18,836)	(9,142)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		(500,055)	(9,238)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		707,311	716,549
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December		207,256	707,311

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Basis of preparation

Freedom From Fistula Foundation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements are presented in sterling (£), which is the functional currency of the charity and are rounded to the nearest £1.

Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for at least the next 12 months. The trustees have not identified any material uncertainties with respect to the charity's financial position and ability to continue as a going concern. While no formal commitment has been received from Gloag Foundation, it has expressed its willingness to provide financial support to the charity sufficient to cover the charity annual running cost of the principal office, thus maximising the funds available for partner charities. Taking these factors together, the trustees therefore continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimated and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

The trustees consider there to be no critical accounting estimates and judgements.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Deferred income

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Donated services and facilities

Where services or facilities are provided to the charity as a donation that would normally be purchased from our suppliers, this benefit is included in the financial statements at it's fair value unless it's fair value cannot be realiably measured, then at the cost to the donor or the resale value of goods that are to be sold.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	33% straight line
Motor vehicles	33% straight line

Stock

Stocks, which comprise drugs and medical supplies are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is based on the suppliers invoice price. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured the lower of replacement cost and cost.

Net realisable value is based on cost less all costs incurred in disposal or distribution.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Foreign exchange

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at that date.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that would qualify as basic financial instruments which are recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Donations and legacies;				
Donations from individuals	808,093	955,551	1,763,644	1,869,462
Legacies	12,755	-	12,755	15,000
Donated services and facilities	12,689	-	12,689	20,919
	833,537	955,551	1,789,088	1,905,381

3 Other income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Other income	3,986	3,986	-

4 Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of generating donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Other fundraising costs	1,430	1,430	1,345

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Grant funding of activities	7	193,149	1,028,607	1,221,756	1,101,337
Staff costs	9	65,442	-	65,442	54,481
Other project costs		591,647	-	591,647	503,672
Medical supplies		9,708	-	9,708	52,883
Depreciation and impairment		301	12,420	12,721	40,976
Allocated support costs	6	68,643	-	68,643	47,434
Governance costs	6	5,310	-	5,310	5,161
		934,200	1,041,027	1,975,227	1,805,944

Analysis by country	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
UK	73,478	-	73,478	48,835
Malawi	180,729	286,759	467,488	473,277
Sierra Leone	486,156	449,997	936,153	862,645
Madagascar	182,969	304,271	487,240	408,090
USA	10,868	-	10,868	13,097
	934,200	1,041,027	1,975,227	1,805,944

6 Analysis of governance and support costs

Charitable activities expenditure

	Basis of allocation	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Office expenses	actual cost	1,080	1,080	551
Bank charges	actual cost	7,207	7,207	6,483
Consultancy fees	actual cost	59,736	59,736	36,551
Exchange rate variance	actual cost	620	620	3,849
		68,643	68,643	47,434

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Audit fees	5,310	5,310	5,161

7 Grant making

Analysis of grants

	Grants to institutions	
	2024	2023
	£	£
Analysis		
Project related grants - Malawi	371,664	377,564
Project related grants - Sierra Leone	585,751	520,724
Project related grants - Madagascar	264,341	200,997
Project related grants - USA	-	2,052
	1,221,756	1,101,337

The charity operates in Madagascar directly as a registered medical charity and these operations form part of the report.

8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	65,442	54,481

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Medical staff	29	28

All employees are based in Africa and are remunerated at above the local minimum wage.

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

10 Auditors' remuneration

	2024 £	2023 £
Audit of the financial statements	5,310	5,161

11 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 January 2024	240,058	78,631	318,689
Additions	18,836	-	18,836
At 31 December 2024	258,894	78,631	337,525
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2024	230,568	78,631	309,199
Charge for the year	12,721	-	12,721
At 31 December 2024	243,289	78,631	321,920
Net book value			
At 31 December 2024	15,605	-	15,605
At 31 December 2023	9,490	-	9,490

13 Stocks

	2024 £	2023 £
Drugs and medical supplies	33,302	38,202

14 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments	1,496	7,593
Other debtors	125,705	111,108
	127,201	118,701

15 Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash on hand	135	595
Cash at bank	207,121	706,716
	207,256	707,311

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other creditors	11,596	4,100
Accruals	5,310	5,163
Deferred income	37,153	351,553
	54,059	360,816

	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income at 1 January 2024	351,553	459,512
Resources deferred in the period	37,153	351,553
Amounts released from previous periods	(351,553)	(459,512)
Deferred income at 31 December 2024	37,153	351,553

Deferred income represents grants received in the current year for which entitlement of the income arises in a future accounting period.

17 Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
General				
Unrestricted	244,122	837,523	(935,630)	146,015
Restricted funds				
Sierra Leone Restricted	72,222	313,993	(354,961)	31,254
Good Gifts Fistula Operations	49	-	-	49
Aminata Maternal Foundation	21,518	74,713	(93,920)	2,311
Mercy Ships International	160,925	12,431	(25,181)	148,175
Targeted Donations	1	-	-	1
Fistula Foundation	14,051	554,414	(566,965)	1,500
Total restricted funds	268,766	955,551	(1,041,027)	183,290
Total funds	512,888	1,793,074	(1,976,657)	329,305

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General				
Unrestricted	160,022	971,389	(887,289)	244,122
Restricted funds				
Sierra Leone Restricted	39,925	288,993	(256,696)	72,222
Good Gifts Fistula Operations	49	-	-	49
Maitri Trust	6,537	-	(6,537)	-
Aminata Maternal Foundation	5,743	69,473	(53,698)	21,518
Rotary Global - AWC	-	34,819	(34,819)	-
Mercy Ships International	202,519	-	(41,594)	160,925
Targeted Donations	1	-	-	1
Fistula Foundation	-	540,707	(526,656)	14,051
Total restricted funds	254,774	933,992	(920,000)	268,766
Total funds	414,796	1,905,381	(1,807,289)	512,888

Freedom From Fistula Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Sierra Leone Restricted is an anonymous donation providing fistula treatment, prevention programs and vehicles in Sierra Leone.

The Good Gifts Fistula Operations donation was received as funding towards the purchase of maternity kits, surgical gloves and safe delivery access to midwives in developing countries.

Maitri Trust funding was received towards the cost of providing training for midwives in obstetric fistula repair and emergency obstetrics in Malawi.

The Aminata Maternal Foundation donation was received towards the Dream Team teenage programme and for training of midwives in Sierra Leone.

Rotary Global - AWC donation supports fistula, maternal and child healthcare services in Sierra Leone.

Mercy Ships International donations are for expanding the capacity in Madagascar and for equipment in Madagascar and Sierra Leone.

Targeted donations are a collection of smaller restricted donations that have been received and spent in line with the restrictions attached to them.

The Fistula Foundation donation was received towards the cost of providing obstetric fistula treatment and training a clinical officer.

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 December 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	60	15,545	15,605
Current assets	162,861	204,898	367,759
Current liabilities	(16,906)	(37,153)	(54,059)
Total net assets	146,015	183,290	329,305

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 December 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	361	9,129	9,490
Current assets	253,023	611,191	864,214
Current liabilities	(9,262)	(351,554)	(360,816)
Total net assets	244,122	268,766	512,888

19 Analysis of net funds

The charity has no debt during the year.

20 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

Gloag Foundation
[redacted] is also a trustee of Gloag Foundation)
During the year grants of £694,397 (2023 - £649,829) were made from Gloag Foundation. An intercompany account was also operated between Gloag Foundation and Freedom From Fistula Foundation. At the balance sheet date the amount due to Gloag Foundation was £7,326 (2023 - £172 due from Gloag Foundation).

Kenya Children's Homes (UK)
[redacted] is also a trustee of Kenya Children's Homes (UK))
During the year an intercompany account was operated between Freedom from Fistula Foundation and Kenya Children's Homes (UK). At the balance sheet date the amount due from Kenya Children's Homes (UK) was £120 (2023 - £60).

Mercy Ships International
[redacted] s a director and member of the board of Mercyships International)
During the year donations of £12,431 were received from Mercy Ships International..