Company registered number: 00736150

Charity number: 216779

Regulator of Social Housing registered number H0375

ABBEYFIELD SOUTH DOWNS LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

FRIDAY



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30/09/2022 COMPANIES HOUSE

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THE BOARD, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, ADVISERS

The Board as at the date of

approval of this Annual Report

Mr D Byrne FCII (Chairman) Mr M Paris MBE MCIOB

Miss J Sorenson BA (Hons) PGDipM Chartered Marketer

Mr W Rendall ACII MA Oxon

Note: all Board members are also trustees of the charity

Mr J Timbs FCMI

Mr P Anderson LLB(Hons) MBA

The following was also a Board member during part of the year covered by this Annual Report

Mrs L Phair MA, BSc (Hons) Nursing RMN RGN DPNS (Deputy Chairman)

Resigned 16/7/22

Executive Officers as at the date of approval of this Annual Report

Mr N Taylor (Chief Executive Officer)
Mr I Thomas (Development Director)
Ms N Moss (Operations Manager)

Company secretary

Mr P Anderson LLB(Hons) MBA

Registered office and principal

address

Alfriston House North Road ['] Alfriston

East Sussex BN26 5XB

Registered Office address changed in July 2022 to:

Holdenhurst Mill Road Heathfield

East Sussex TN21 OGG

Independent auditors

Lindeyer Francis Ferguson Limited

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditors North House 198 High Street Tonbridge Kent TN9 1BE

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc 63/67 Terminus Road

Eastbourne

East Sussex BN21 3NE

THE BOARD, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, ADVISERS

Legal status

Registered company limited by

No. 00736150

guarantee

Registered with the Regulator of

No. H0375

Social Housing

Registered with the Charity

No. 216779

Commission

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006) present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of Abbeyfield South Downs Limited for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Objectives and activities

The Charity's principal objective is to continue to provide comfortable housing in a safe environment complemented by good nutrition and companionship for older people. We do this through a dedicated and well-trained workforce complemented by a committed and well-motivated group of volunteers. As at 31 March 2022 we operated in the following areas:

	No of sheltered houses	No of social housing units	No of non-social housing units	Changes since 31 March 2021
Eastbourne	16	1	-	
Brighton & Hove	16	2	-	One unit has been transferred to general needs housing
Heathfield	-	-	-	The house in Heathfield has been demolished and development of a 48 unit social housing Extra Care residence was in progress and completed 06.04.22
Hastings	-	-	-	Closed due to viability and accommodation standards
Tunbridge Wells	14	-	1 -	
Alfriston	9	-	-	

In achieving its objectives, the Charity aims to create a surplus of income over expenditure which is sufficient to maintain the properties and services to a high standard. The Charity's ongoing aim is to ensure that these standards are maintained and improved wherever possible and that the Charity adheres to all current legislation governing the services it offers.

When reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, and planning its activities, the Trustees have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance, including its guidance on fee-charging, and that the Charity complies with all current legislation.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Achievements and performance

The year under review has been dominated by three key influences: the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, the well documented problems of attracting staff in the social care sector and activity to realise the Charity's long held vision of developing affordable 'extra care' facilities that meet the growing needs and expectations of older people under difficult circumstances.

The Covid-19 pandemic

The management team and house staff have continued to monitor, develop and implement procedures to protect residents, visitors and employees from the threat of Coronavirus against a background of everchanging circumstances, advice and regulation. Health and Safety measures and PPE supplies continue to be maintained across the estate, with access to communal areas being restricted as necessary in accordance with government guidelines and meals delivered to residents' rooms where appropriate until late 2021. The Board is grateful for the support of all concerned, including the families and friends of residents, for their cooperation in respecting the physical environment of vulnerable people.

Thanks to the magnificent efforts of everybody at Abbeyfield South Downs the organisation continues to limit the physical and mental effects of the virus. The Charity has avoided the need to place staff on furlough, other than those required to self-isolate in accordance with government guidance. The organisation has followed all the relevant government advice and supported vulnerable individuals.

Abbeyfield South Downs continued to use targeted social media based marketing to invite enquiries and convey a positive message. The effective measures put in place mean that occupancy, and hence the charity's income, has held up well without the need to use reserves to continue operations despite the ongoing increases in costs to protect against the virus.

The Charity relies heavily on its willing staff team to provide the support and efficiencies necessary to ensure our houses provide a happy and well run environment. The Charity values its staff highly and is committed to paying the 'living wage'. The Charity and residents are also indebted to the teams of volunteers at each of the houses, over another difficult year, whose assistance and friendship improves the lives of the residents in their chosen communities.

Feedback from residents and relatives continues to show satisfaction. In providing a safe environment particular effort has been made to meet the evolving requirements of health and safety and fire regulations. Support is provided to residents by directing them to services appropriate to their needs. Every effort is made to provide nutritious, home cooked meals for the residents to enjoy and to involve them in most aspects of the day to day management of their homes.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Holdenhurst redevelopment and plans for the future

The Holdenhurst development has been subject to frustrating delays. Castleoak Care Partnerships Ltd, our development partner and main contractor, had had difficulty since the latter part of 2020 to secure adequate labour, sub-contractors and materials. After a very frustrating period of little progress through 2021, this culminated in their liquidation on 28th October 2021. This was not unexpected and preparations were put in place prior to the actual date of liquidation for this eventuality. Considerable extra management time was required to manage the financial and contractual implications. As a result of the early preparations we were quickly able on 22nd November 2021 to appoint J Cheesmur (Lewes) Ltd to complete the project. On the 6th April 2022 we achieved Practical Completion and the first flat was occupied shortly after. The Abbeyfield South Downs team have been working hard to prepare and market Holdenhurst in addition to their other responsibilities. In common with the hospitality sector across the UK our operational team had found it hard to recruit a staff team for Holdenhurst and so, once that team was recruited in spring 2021 they were retained. Additional costs were incurred in their employment until the scheme finally opened in April 2022. The twelve month's delay to the completion of Holdenhurst aligns closely with the period of this report. As a result, the anticipated rental income from Holdenhurst will not be realised until the next financial year.

The Board continued to explore options for the Holdenhurst scheme during the development phase and were delighted that a successful grant application for additional funds to Homes England, supported by The Abbeyfield Society and Charity Bank, enabled the scheme to offer all 48 units on an Affordable Rent basis. This additional grant utilised recycled grant and further similar funding was also sourced with the assistance of Homes England to cushion the impact of Castleoak's liquidation early in 2022. This additional funding was a key building block in recovering from the difficult position after our main contractor's liquidation. Even with the additional grant funding more money had to be injected into the scheme to complete the works and cover our costs linked to the delay in completing. As a result of the Castleoak liquidation the quality of the build suffered in the later stages of their tenure and many defects have had to be put right to make the building suitable for occupation.

The achievement of developing an all Affordable Rent scheme aids the Trustees to fulfil their charitable objects and strengthens their belief that this type of scheme will offer older people much needed, high quality community affordable housing which is in short supply in the South East. The response to the opening of the scheme has been remarkable with occupancy at the end of

August at 79%. The ASD team have developed and apply a comprehensive process to ensure applications are evaluated on a fair and transparent basis in accordance with the Charity's agreed criteria and with a focus on supporting local people.



REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Board remains of the opinion that our "Extra Care" development and the operating model developed is the future in meeting the changing expectations and requirements of an ageing population and consequential policy realignments. We are encouraged by the early success of the Holdenhurst experience and shall explore how this model can be best replicated across our geographical area of operation. It is also considered it may be the way forward for future Abbeyfield developments and we hope will be used as a study to help inform future schemes. Nevertheless, we continue to look to support and invest in our existing sheltered housing services where we feel there is sufficient demand within an identified geographical area. We continue to explore solutions to the paradox of competing Abbeyfield schemes in Tunbridge Wells operated by two different Abbeyfield organisations and the confusion this creates for potential tenants and funders. Most of our properties enjoy relatively high occupancy levels and we can see the benefit provided by well-run supported sheltered schemes which are financially viable and integrate into the local community.

Financial review

These financial statements reflect the development project and we are pleased that all 48 units under construction will be retained in an all affordable rental scheme.

It is also pleasing to record that control of the Charity's *core* provision of housing and the Charity's assets remain well managed, particularly in light of the Covid-19 pandemic and the potential impact on income and inevitable additional costs which the Charity has sought to absorb rather than pass on to the residents.

Financial highlights include:

- Turnover from housing lettings of £860,456 has decreased by 9.5% compared to 2021 (£950,725) reflecting the closure of Ridge House.
- Housing activities have generated an operating deficit after depreciation of £201,728.
- Net cash deficit from operating activities of £66,695 (cash generated of £57,274 in 2021).
- In February 2022, following the liquidation of Castleoak Care Partnerships Limited and the
 resulting costs incurred at Holdenhurst, Homes England confirmed a further transfer of
 recycled grant for £331,375. This brings the total Government Recycled Capital Grant Funds
 and new grant committed to the Holdenhurst development paid and receivable to £5.2M.
 Grant of £330k was received during the year.
- Cash at bank has increased to £1.49M (£1.24M in 2021) as a result of grant funding received.
- The level of reserves has reduced to £8.07M from £8.14M last year.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the Charity that unrestricted cash funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to at least three month's cash operating expenditure (on the basis of anticipated expenditure as Holdenhurst was operational from April 2022,

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

approximately £297,000). The Board considers that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in income, the Charity will be able to continue its current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised or alternative options explored.

In addition to the normal reserves policy the Board have had discussions about setting a sum aside to cover any defects on Holdenhurst. The risk of uncovering future defects is higher when you go through a main contractor liquidation. In completing the works investigation and subsequent remedial work was undertaken. However, going forward, it is proposed that a sum will be set aside to kick start the sinking fund normally established for a new building such as Holdenhurst which would normally be built up over a period of time.

Risk management

The Board operates a dynamic risk management process to ensure that it can identify, control and monitor significant risks in operations and development. The Board has a Risk Committee comprising members from the Board and management and risk management is a standing agenda item for consideration at quarterly Board meetings. A subsidiary risk register for the Heathfield development was maintained by the Development Director and reviewed by the Development Team of directors and management. The impact of increasing energy prices and interest rates are currently under review by the committee.

The key risks to which the Charity is exposed and their mitigations are noted below:

Risk	Mitigation
Strategic	
The Charity operates in a complex, fluid market dependent on numerous external factors, including regulation, competition, customer expectations and requirements and the economic environment.	The Charity adopted a 10 year strategic plan 2016-2026 which was prepared based on sector research, analysis of changes in the Charity's defined area of operation and the relevant experience of the trustees and management team, particularly knowledge of The Abbeyfield Society and its strategic plan. The Charity is currently preparing an update to the Strategic Plan covering 2022-2032 for consideration and adoption by the Board.
,	The Board has approved a joint project,
	proposed by the former Deputy Chairman, with the Association for Dementia Studies

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

<u>.</u>	at the University of Worcester, to develop and publish new models to support independence and combat loneliness and isolation for older people. Research Grant Funding of the two year project of £114,000 has been allocated to this project by the Abbeyfield Research Foundation.
Financial viability	
Operations continue to generate sufficient funds to provide high standard services and maintenance of the houses.	The Board agrees an annual financial budget on a timely basis and receives quarterly reports to monitor progress against expectations. All budget planning and major capital expenditure is subject to approval by the Board. The Senior Management Team receives monthly operations income and expenditure reports for review with the house staff.
	The Charity strives to maintain high residential occupancy levels by sustaining local awareness as to the benefits which the Charity has to offer those in need, in the communities we serve. Occupancy levels have been adopted as the primary KPI and as such are regularly reported to management and the Board.
Adequate funding is available for the Holdenhurst development project.	The Board has a Facility Agreement (FA) with Charity Bank and Big Society Capital to fund the development and provide for residual debt following completion. This was secured following exhaustive modelling to G2060 by the Charity and its advisers, the results of which were made available to the Board. Performance against the covenants within the FA are monitored quarterly internally and externally.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Reputation

The Charity's reputation may be impacted by inadequate safeguarding of residents, a fall in service standards and deteriorating accommodation.

Services are continually reviewed and monitored by the Senior Management Team with support and regular scrutiny by Board members. Operating Policies are developed, logged and implemented as required. Policies for residents, including a clear complaints procedure, are in place for use by residents.

The Board has adopted a clear policy and process to safeguard all residents and staff.

Members of the Board are actively engaged with The Abbeyfield Society, to which Abbeyfield South Downs is affiliated, and contribute to developments at a national level.

The Board commissioned an independent maintenance survey of all houses and has adopted a 10 year planned maintenance programme to ensure compliance with accepted standards. A review/update of the survey is currently under consideration.

People

The success of the Charity is dependent on its staff and volunteers. The welfare of the staff and residents is of central importance to successful operations. The Board support the management team to ensure appropriate policies and procedures are in place to protect the health and safety of staff and residents at all times.

The Charity is committed to being both a Living Wage and equal opportunities employer.

The Board and management team must have an appropriate mix of skills to oversee existing operations and future plans.

The Board regularly assesses its own composition and diversity to ensure an adequate mix of skills. Experience is present to direct the Charity and provide substantive support to the management team.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Value for Money

Value for Money (VFM) is about being effective in how we plan, manage and operate the Charity. It requires making the best use of the resources available to us to provide quality homes to improve the quality of life of our residents, together with high quality services and support.

The Regulator for Social Housing (RSH) issued a new Value for Money Standard in April 2017 and a Technical Notein April 2018. These identified 7 metrics which social housing providers are expected to report their performance against in the annual report. The latter document acknowledges that the metrics will not necessarily be appropriate for all providers and any influencing factors should be explained in the commentary.

Me	etric	2021/22	2020/21
1.	Reinvestment %	10.0%	44.0%
2.	New supply delivered	N/A	N/A
3.	Gearing %	19.69%	16:4%
4.	EBITDA MRI interest cover %	15.0%	221.0%
5.	Headline social cost per unit	£18,352	£14,040
6.	Operating margin %	-23.4%	5.9%
7.	Return on capital employed	-1.12%	0.34%

The basis for the metrics is as follows:

- 1. Reinvestment % the investment in properties (existing stock and new supply) as a percentage of the value of total properties held.
- 2. New supply delivered (social housing units) % the number of new social housing units delivered as a proportion of total social housing units owned.
- 3. Gearing% net debt as a percentage of the value of total properties held.
- 4. EBITDA MRI Interest cover % the level of surplus generated compared to the interest payable.
- 5. Headline social housing cost per unit social housing costs (as defined by the regulator) divided by total units owned and/or managed.
- 6. 6A. Operating margin (social housing lettings only)% operating surplus/(deficit) from social housing lettings divided by turnover from social housing lettings.
 - 6B. Operating margin (overall)% overall operating surplus/(deficit) divided by overall turnover.
- 7. Return on capital employed (ROCE) % compares the overall operating surplus to total assets less current liabilities.
 - A Excludes properties under development.
- B All interest payable relates to housing under development and is being capitalised until the development is open and generating income.
- C This metric does not apply as the Charity had no short or long term borrowings during the year under review.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Scrutiny of VFM is provided by the Board through the receipt of management accounts with KPIs considered appropriate for the management of the Charity and a report from the Management Committee which meets weekly to oversee operations. In particular the Board are aware that the headline social cost per unit metric as reported at 5 above is high for the sector. This is due to the Charity following the Abbeyfield service model which incorporates at its heart the provision of nutritious meals for residents. The cost of preparing and providing food are not factors highlighted by the Regulator for Social Housing in its analysis of additional costs which may influence the calculation of unit cost.

Governance

The Board of Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year are set out on page 1. Each member is recruited for his/her relevant experience and skills to provide substantive support to the management team. The Charity is managed by the directors in accordance with the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 25 July 2016. None of the Board of Trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All members of the Board of Trustees are members of the company.

Appointments to the Board of Trustees are proposed and ratified by the Board at their regular meetings. Co-option is permitted prior to ratification. They are recruited by invitation and by advertisement. Those with regular access to residents are subject to DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks plus two other references. New trustees are given an induction in accordance with the Charity's Trustee Induction Process which not only covers governance and operational issues but also a briefing on the Abbeyfield ethos. Trustees are given access to the comprehensive Directors' Information folder in the Charity's shared cloud storage. Trustee training is available on request and where a subject of mutual interest is identified, for example GDPR, Board training is provided. The Board continues to develop an appropriate method for Appraisal of Board Skills and Diversity.

The Board of Trustees meets quarterly to review performance and ensure that the Charity operations and development are being managed in accordance with established policies. The Board approves any changes in operating policy when deemed necessary and is responsible for approving and monitoring all major expenditure.

It is an objective of the Board that staff should feel valued and be appropriately rewarded. To further this objective the Society has adopted the voluntary 'living wage'. Overall pay awards are approved by the Board as part of the annual budget setting process. The salaries of senior staff are considered by an ad-hoc Remuneration Committee which is chaired by the Chairman. The committee considers:

- The overall performance of the management team and the financial position of the Society
- The bench marking of salaries against similar roles in comparable charities and organisations operating inthe sector and the same geographical area

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

- The salaries paid within the Abbeyfield movement for comparable roles.
- Recommending discretionary bonus awards, although no formal method or basis for performance related pay has been adopted.

The recommendations from the Remuneration Committee are approved by the Board.

The Charity is a member of The Abbeyfield Society (TAS). The benefits offered to member societies include providing relevant information on national developments in the charitable housing sector and professional services in support of the affiliates. The Charity pays an annual fee to TAS.

The Charity complies with the Governance and Financial Viability Standard (April 2015) issued by the Regulator for Social Housing and principal recommendations of the 2015 National Housing Federation Code of Governance. The Charity also adheres to the principles of the Code of Governance for Smaller Charities.

Statement of Board 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).

Company law and social housing legislation requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 and the Accounting Direction for registered providers of social housing in England 2019. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Statement of disclosure to auditor

Each of the persons who are trustees at the time when this trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware, and
- the trustees have taken all reasonable steps that ought to have been taken as trustees in order to be aware of any information needed by the company's auditors in connection with preparing their report and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditor

The Trustees resolved to reappoint Lindeyer Francis Ferguson Limited as auditor of the company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

In preparing this report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the small companies' exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on29.11... September 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Mr D Byrne

Chairman of trustees

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ABBEYFIELD SOUTH DOWNS LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Abbeyfield South Downs Limited (the 'company') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in reserves, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows 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, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2022, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 and the Accounting Direction for private registered providers of social housing in England 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ABBEYFIELD SOUTH DOWNS LIMITED

Other information

The board is 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.

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 report of the board of trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the report of the board of trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the report of the board of trustees.

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 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 directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- · we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the board was not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ABBEYFIELD SOUTH DOWNS LIMITED

In addition, we have nothing to report in respect of the following matter where the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

a satisfactory system of control over transactions has not been maintained.

Responsibilities of the board

As explained more fully in the board's responsibilities statement, the board members (who are also the directors of the association 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 board 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 board is 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 board either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined below, 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.

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applying to the Charity, in particular the Companies Act 2006, the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008, and the Accounting Direction for Private Registered Providers of Social Housing 2019, and the procedures that management adopt to ensure compliance, including those relating to the Housing SORP 2018;
- We assigned an engagement team to the audit with particular familiarity in dealing with registered providers of social housing;
- We assessed the susceptibility of the Charity's financial statement to material misstatement, including considering how fraud might occur;
- We obtained the Board of Trustees' assessment of fraud risk and enquired as to any known or suspected instances of fraud;
- We considered whether management have incentives and opportunities to manipulate financial results (including overriding controls) and determined that the key risks related to

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ABBEYFIELD SOUTH **DOWNS LIMITED**

the non compliance with the Housing SORP 2018 in terms of component accounting in previous years, completeness of income, completeness of creditors, non-depreciation of properties in previous years and the risk of management override;

- We obtained an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the charity's internal control;
- We tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions; and
- We designed and performed audit procedures to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations, including enquiry of the Board of Trustees, review of minutes and correspondence, and review of the completeness and accuracy of disclosures made in the financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. 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 and section 137 of the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008. 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.

Jonathan Healey BA FCA (Senior statutory auditor) for and on behalf of

Lucyer Fancis Fegora LTM

Lindeyer Francis Ferguson Limited Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditors North House 198 High Street **Tonbridge**

Kent TN9 1BE

Date: 29 Soplenher 2022

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

		2022	2021
	Notes	£	£
Turnover	2	862,707	969,103
Operating expenditure	2	(1,064,435)	(912,602)
Operating (deficit) / surplus		(201,728)	56,501
Interest receivable		73	773
Other income		1,150	-
Gain on sale of property		133,810	-
(Deficit) / surplus on ordinary activities for the year and total comprehensive income		(66,695)	57,274

The accounts were approved by the Board of Trustees on 2914 Schleuber 2022

Mr D Byrne **Chairman**

Mr P Anderson
Company Secretary

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RESERVES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Income and expenditure reserve £	Endowment reserve £	Total £
Dalamas at 1 April 2020	7,837,833	246,889	8,084,722
Balance at 1 April 2020	7,657,655	240,889	0,004,722
Total comprehensive income for the year	57,274	-	57,274
Transfer from endowment reserves	3,384	(3,384)	-
Balance at 31 March 2021 and 1 April 2021	7,898,491	243,505	8,141,996
Total comprehensive income for the year	(66,695)	-	(66,695)
Transfer from endowment reserves	3,384	(3,384)	-
Balance at 31 March 2022	7,835,180	240,121	8,075,301

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

			2022		2021
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	7	_	17,202,160		15,894,077
			17,202,160	·	15,894,077
Current assets					
Debtors	8	13,467		14,813	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,490,997	_	1,242,811	
		1,504,464	_	1,257,624	
Creditors: amounts falling due					
within one year	9	(773,238)		(313,713)	
Net current assets			731,226		943,911
Total assets less current liabilities			17,933,386	•	16,837,988
Creditors: amounts falling due					
after one year	11	_	(9,858,085)	_	(8,695,992)
Net assets		_	8,075,301	•	8,141,996
Reserves					
Income and expenditure reserve			7,835,180		7,898,491
Endowment reserves	15		240,121		243,505
•		_	8,075,301	-	8,141,996

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The accounts were approved by the Board of Trustees on ... 2944.... September 2022

Mr D Byrne

Chairman

Mr P Anderson

Company Secretary

Company registration number: 00736150

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Net cash generated / (absorbed) from operating activities A	376,178	(145,556)
Cash flow from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(1,874,377)	(7,053,993)
Proceeds from sales of properties	608,377	-
Interest received	73	773
Net cash used in investing activities	(1,265,927)	(7,053,220)
Cash flow from investing activities		
Grants received	226,721	2,317,267
Loans received	911,214	3,794,662
Net cash provided by investing activities	1,137,935	6,111,929
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents and change in net funds	248,186	(1,086,847)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	1,242,811	2,329,658
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	1,490,997	1,242,811
Cash and cash equivalents consists of:		
Cash at bank and in hand	1,490,997 	1,242,811
A. Reconciliation of net cash generated from operating activities		
	£	£
Cash flow from operating activities		
(Deficit) / surplus for the year	(66,695)	57,274
Adjustments for non cash items:		
Depreciation	91,727	89,943
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	1,346	(3,404)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	483,683	(288,596)
Adjustments for investing or financing activities:		
Gain on sale of property	(133,810)	·
Interest receivable	(73)	<u>(773)</u>
Cash generated / (absorbed) from operating activities	376,178	(145,556)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Legal status

Abbeyfield South Downs Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales and is a registered housing provider. The registered office is Abbeyfield House, North Road, Alfriston, East Sussex, BN26 5XB.

1.2 Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the charity are prepared in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (UK GAAP) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) and the Housing SORP 2018: Statement of Recommended Practice for Registered Social Housing Providers and comply with the Accounting Direction for private registered providers of social housing in England 2019. The charity is a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The accounts have been prepared on the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value.

The financial statements are presented in pounds sterling and rounded to the nearest pound.

The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.3 Income

Income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable net of VAT.

Turnover represents rental income receivable in the year net of losses from voids. Rental income is recognised in the period the rents fall due.

Income from government grants is recognised as turnover when the charity is entitled to the funds, the receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably. This is usually when a formal offer is made in writing.

1.4 Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under the headings that classify all costs related to the category. Expenditure is inclusive of VAT.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.5 Charitable funds

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Society and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Endowment reserves are those reserves which are only expendable in accordance with the wishes of the funder or regulatory body. Revenue and expenditure cannot be directly set against endowment reserves but is taken through the Statement of Comprehensive Income and then a transfer to endowment reserves is made as appropriate.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Housing Properties

Housing properties are held for the provision of social housing or to otherwise provide social benefit. Housing properties are principally properties available for rent and are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Costs include the cost of acquiring land and buildings, development costs, and interest charges incurred during the development period.

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.

Depreciation is provided on housing properties, excluding land, so as to write off the net cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its remaining estimated useful life. Major components are treated as separable assets and depreciated over their expected useful economic lives or the lives of the structure to which they relate, if shorter, as follows:

Freehold buildings - 50 years straight line
Roofs - 40 years straight line
Windows - 25 years straight line
Kitchens - 10 years straight line
Lifts - 15 years straight line

Freehold land and assets in the course of construction are not depreciated.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of qualifying assets, which are assets that necessarily take a substantial period of time to get ready for their intended use, are added to the cost of those assets, until such time as the assets are substantially ready for their intended use.

Other fixed assets

Depreciation is provided on other fixed assets, so as to write off the net cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its remaining estimated useful life as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment

10 years straight line

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

Assets not measured at fair value are reviewed for any indication that the asset may be impaired at each balance sheet date. Where indicators are identified an assessment for impairment is undertaken comparing the carrying amount to its recoverable amount. Where the carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised in expenditure through the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

1.9 Financial instruments

The charity only has financial instruments which are classified as basic financial instruments.

Short-term debtors and creditors are measured at the settlement value. Any losses from impairment are recognised in income and expenditure.

Loans and borrowings are initially recorded at the transaction price including transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

1.10 Retirement benefits

The Charity operated a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the accounts as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the Scheme.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.11 Government grants

Government grants include grants receivable from Homes England (HE), local authorities, and other government organisations. Government grants received for housing properties are recognised in income over the useful life of the housing property structure and, where applicable, its individual components (excluding land) under the accruals model.

2 Turnover and costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Rent receivable		
Social housing	1,014,035	1,076,114
General housing	23,036	23,568
Void losses		
Social housing	(177,015)	(149,357)
Amortised government grants	400	400
Turnover from housing lettings	860,456	950,725
Income from other activities		
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grants	1,719	11,178
Sundry	532	7,200
Total	862,707	969,103
Operating costs from social housing activities:		
Management expenses	693,059	586,250
Property maintenance and refurbishment costs	90,076	70,854
Depreciation of housing properties	56,289	56,289
Other costs	225,011	199,209
Total	1,064,435	912,602
Net deficit from housing activities	(201,728)	56,501
	- 	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

3	(Deficit) / surplus on ordinary activities	2022	2021
		£	£
	This is stated after charging:		
	Depreciation of housing properties	56,289	56,289
	Depreciation of other tangible assets	35,438	33,654
	Auditors' remuneration for audit	7,800	7,800
	Auditors' remuneration for non-audit services	5,486	. 7,030
4	Staff costs and key management personnel		
	, ,	2022	2021
		£	£
	Wages and salaries	442,435	401,462
	Social security costs	34,339	30,340
	Other pension costs	15,619 	9,595
		492,393	441,397
	The average number of employees for the year based on monthly headed	ount is as follows:	
		2022	2021
		Number	Number
	Housekeeping	30	27
	Administration		4
		33	31

The average number of employees for the year based on full time equivalent was 18 (2021: 17).

5 Board and key management personnel remuneration

None (2021: none) of the trustees were reimbursed for any expenses.

The total remuneration, including social security and pension costs, for key management personnel amounted to £123,386 (2021: £114,936).

The Chief Executive is a member of the company's defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable for the year were £9,011 (2021: £2,980).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

5 Board and key management personnel remuneration (continued)

The number of employees whose total employee benefits including pension contributions earning over £60,000, classified within bands of £10,000 is as follows:

	2022	2021
£60,000–£69,999	1	1
£70,000–£79,999	1	
	2	1

6 Taxation

The Society, having exempt charitable status, is not liable to taxation.

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Housing Properties	Housing Properties under development	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 April 2021	3,620,747	12,687,703	406,186	16,714,636
Additions	-	1,856,928	17,449	1,874,377
Disposals	(510,000)	-	(50,840)	(560,840)
At 31 March 2022	3,110,747	14,544,631	372,795	18,028,173
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2021	632,337	-	188,222	820,559
Charge for the year	56,289	-	35,438	91,727
Depreciation eliminated on disposal	(68,559)	-	(17,714)	(86,273)
At 31 March 2022	620,067	-	205,946	826,013
Net book value				
At 31 March 2022	2,490,680	14,544,631	166,849	17,202,160
At 31 March 2021	2,988,410	12,687,703	217,964	15,894,077

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

7 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

At 31 March 2022

Housing properties under development include the sites at Holdenhurst and Heathfield, which are being developed into new housing. An impairment review was carried out and no change to the carrying value was required.

8	Debtors: amounts falling due within one year		
		2022	2021
		£	£
	Rent and service charges receivable	4,859	11,866
	Prepayments and accrued income	8,608	2,947
		13,467	14,813
9	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
	·	2022	2021
		£	£
	Government grants	115,322	11,068
	Trade creditors	131,603	237,848
	Rent and service charges received in advance	28,756	27,465
	Accruals and deferred income	234,044	12,504
	Bank loans	261,362	24,828
	Other creditors -	2,151	-
		773,238	313,713
10	Deferred grant income		
		2022	2021
		£	£
	At 1 April 2021	4,912,398	2,595,531
	Grants received	331,375	2,317,267
	Released to income in the year	(400)	(400)

4,912,398

5,243,373

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

10	Deferred grant income (continued)		
	The movements on recycled capital grant is as follows:		
		2022	2021
		£	£
	At 1 April 2021	4,152,267	1,835,000
	Grants received	331,375	2,317,267
	At 31 March 2022	4,483,642	4,152,267
11			
11	Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	2022	2021
		2022 £	£
	Bank loans	4,705,876	3,794,662
	Government grants	5,128,051	4,901,330
	Other creditors	24,158	-
	At 31 March 2022	9,858,085	8,695,992
	Grants due in more than one year relate to housing properties unde £4.48m of Recycled Capital Grant Funds and £749,063 grant income reconstruction to the development.	•	
	The Charity holds two long term loans, with a maximum facility of £5m. this facility had been utilised.	At the year end	£4,967,238 of
12	Housing stock		
		2022	2021
		£	£

The number of units in management at the end of the year were:

General housing - social rent

Supported housing

3

62

65

3

55

58

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

13 Capital commitments and post balance sheet events

At 31 March 2022 the charity had capital commitments as follows:

2022 2021 £ £ - 999,187

Contracted for but not provided for in the financial statements

On 26 July 2019, the charity's Board approved and signed a JCT Design and Build Contract with Castleoak Care Partnerships Limited for £11,764,547. The contract was subsequently passed to J. Cheesmur & Sons (Lewes) Limited. During the year the development continued, with all agreed work being completed by the year end, and included in the accounts.

Work on the new development has continued into the next financial year, in order to carry out rectifications on some of the earlier work completed. The Charity entered into a performance bond alongside the construction contract. An application has been submitted to realise a claim against the bond for these works. The current provisional claim totals £1,577,418. The outcome of this application is not yet confirmed.

14 Financial commitments

Social Housing Grant was received in prior years totalling £40,129 in connection with work on improving one of the houses. This would be repayable if the relevant property is sold.

Further Social Housing funding was received for work on the new development, totalling £4.48m. This would be repayable if the relevant property is sold.

There is a fixed and floating charge on the properties and all assets held by Abbeyfield South Downs Limited, in relation to a long term third party loan. The amount owed under this guarantee at 31 March 2022 amounted to £4,967,238 (2021: £3,753,129).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

15

Endowment reserves					
Current year	Balance at 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Permanent endowment					
Angus Lodge endowment fund	243,505	-	-	(3,384)	240,121
Prior year	Balance at 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Permanent endowment					
Angus Lodge endowment fund	246,889	-	=	(3,384)	243,505

The permanent endowment fund represents the funds of Angus Lodge Trust, a linked charity of the Abbeyfield South Downs Limited, that were applied in purchasing 28.2% of the freehold land and buildings at 3, 5 and 7 Cadogan Gardens Tunbridge Wells (Abbeyfield House). A transfer is made to income and expenditure reserve, in respect of depreciation on the property.

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	2022	2022	2021	2021
	£	£	£	£
Turnover				
Social housing lettings		837,020		926,757
General needs rent		23,036		23,568
Amortised government grants		400		400
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grants		1,719		11,178
Sundry		532		7,200
		862,707		969,103
Administrative expenses - management				
House staff costs	363,204		316,887	
Staff training	2,373		2,609	
Food and other household costs	94,731		102,015	
Water rates	10,181		11,901	
Council tax	13,429		12,749	
Electricity	25,162		24,436	
Gas	44,670		20,292	
Insurance	24,407		9,605	
Cleaning	7,924		5,084	
Advertising	25,336		14,914	
Lifeline	26,614		15,777	
Telephone	18,768		15,334	
Television licence	822		993	
Depreciation of fixtures and fittings	35,438	_	33,654	
		(693,059)		(586,250)
Administrative expenses - other				
Administrative staff costs	153,152		138,190	
Printing, postage and stationery	23,803		8,955	
Travelling expenses	4,041		1,639	
Legal and professional fees	4,574		4,074	
Auditors' non-audit fees	5,486		7,030	
Audit fees	7,800		7,800	
Affiliation fees	16,162		17,804	
Bank charges and interest paid	157		100	
Bad debts	2,178		_	
Sundry expenses	7,658		13,617	
Pongirs and maintenance		(225,011)		(199,209)
Repairs and maintenance Routine maintenance	00.076		70,854	
	90,076			
Depreciation of housing properties	56,289	(146,365)	56,289	- (127,143)
		(140,303)	-	(127,143)
Interest receivable	73		773	
Gain on disposal of property	133,810		-	
Other income	1,150 ————		-	
		135,033		773
(Deficit) / surplus for the year		(66,695)	•	57,274