SANDBOURNE HOUSING ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 MARCH 2024

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INFORMATION

Registered Numbers

Community Benefit Society 12740R Homes and Communities Agency LH0418 Exempt Charity 403885

Members of the Board

Maria Byrne Chair

Joe Waters Vice-Chair and Chair of Staffing and

Remuneration Committee

Daniel Gatehouse

Steve Hayes

Ashleigh Johnston

Bill Law Chair of Audit, Finance and Risk Committee

Jan Lewis Jez Morris Michael Owen Ann Schofield Yogesh Vadgama

Laurie Wright Chair of Development Committee

Senior Management Team

Fiona Ferenczy MA ACA MCIH Chief Executive Officer and Company

Secretary

David Hall MCIH Head of Housing

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Auditors PKF Francis Clark

Towngate House 2-8 Parkstone Road

Poole BH15 2PW

Solicitors Capsticks Solicitors LLP

Kings Park House 22 Kings Park Road

Southampton SO15 2UF

Humphries Kirk LLP 3 Acorn Business Park

Ling Road Poole BH12 4NZ

Tozers Solicitors LLP Broadwalk House Southernhay East

Exeter EX1 1UA

Bankers and Building Societies Cambridge and Counties Bank Ltd

National Westminster Bank Plc Nationwide Building Society

Triodos Bank UK Ltd

BOARD REPORT

The Board Members present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Members of the Board

The Board members who have served during the year were as follows:

Maria Byrne – Chair

Daniel Gatehouse Co-opted May 2024

Steve Hayes Appointed September 2023 Ashleigh Johnston Appointed September 2023

Bill Law

Elizabeth Lees Resigned September 2023

Jan Lewis

Jez Morris Co-opted January 2024

Michael Owen Ann Schofield Yogesh Vadgama

Joe Waters Laurie Wright

Review of the Operations of the Association

Sandbourne Housing Association (Sandbourne) is a not for profit organisation governed by a voluntary Board. It is a Community Benefit Society, an Exempt Charity and is registered with the Homes and Communities Agency.

The principal activity of Sandbourne is the provision of affordable housing in Poole, Bournemouth, Ringwood and the surrounding area.

During the year £501,431 (2023: £1,327,217) was spent on the purchase and alteration of housing properties for rent.

Rent

Rents are set in accordance with government guidance.

Repairs and Maintenance

All of Sandbourne's properties meet the requirements of the government's Decent Homes Standard. Sandbourne carries out a range of planned and responsive maintenance to enable all its properties to be maintained to a high standard and to continue to meet the Decent Homes Standard as a minimum.

Reserves

Sandbourne maintains two designated reserves. These were set up to cover expenditure on major repairs for all the rented properties and cyclical repairs for shared ownership properties.

All other reserves are classified as free and are used for the general running of the business.

Treasury Matters

The objective of the Board is to ensure that the provision of the financial resources necessary to run Sandbourne's business is adequately maintained. Surplus funds will be invested in interest-bearing cash accounts; loans will be entered into, after due financial appraisal, where additional funds are required for new development and the smooth running of the business.

Value for Money

Strategy

Sandbourne aims to embed value for money in all its thinking. We aim to provide the best possible service to our current and future residents and other stakeholders while still remaining financially viable. This means that we have to ensure that our services are provided in an effective, efficient and economic way.

Our regulator, the Regulator of Social Housing (RSH), assesses all registered providers of social housing on their commitment to providing value for money within their businesses. It specifically states that all registered providers must demonstrate:

- (a) A robust approach to achieving value for money this must include a robust approach to decision making and a rigorous appraisal of potential options for improving performance.
- (b) Regular and appropriate consideration by the board of potential value for money gains – this must include full consideration of costs and benefits of alternative commercial, organisational and delivery structures.
- (c) Consideration of value for money across their whole business and where they invest in non-social housing activity, they should consider whether this generates returns commensurate to the risk involved and justification where this is not the case.
- (d) That they have appropriate targets in place for measuring performance in achieving value for money in delivering strategic objectives, and that they regularly monitor and report their performance against these targets.

Vision

Remaining a small local housing provider delivering high quality homes and providing services that are tailored to the needs of our customers.

Objectives

Sandbourne has a range of objectives as set out in its Business Plan, which was reviewed in May 2023. The objectives and their impact on Value for Money are:

- (a) To be locally based and primarily operating in the BCP Council and Ringwood areas the Board believes that by concentrating the business in a defined local area which it knows well, it can provide the best possible service while containing the cost of that service. Opportunities which arise to provide services outside this area will only be undertaken if a real value for money benefit to both the business and the residents can be shown.
- (b) To provide high quality, affordable homes to enable residents to live independently high quality homes last longer, require less maintenance and are more comfortable to live in. However, expenditure on quality must be tempered against affordability to ensure that our homes are available to those in greater financial and housing need.
- (c) To provide additional homes as the opportunity arises surpluses generated by the business are retained within the business and used to improve existing homes or provide new ones.
- (d) To empower residents to have a direct say in the way that their homes and services are managed and to play an active role in the continuous improvement and development of systems and services Sandbourne is currently working on improving and extending the ways that residents can be involved in the running of the Association and can express opinions on the services provided. Sandbourne currently has two resident Board members who contribute to the strategy and direction of the business. All residents can apply to join the Board when there is a vacancy. Other residents have opportunities to contribute to the business through regular meetings with staff, surveys on general service provision and specific topics and concerns, feedback forms on the website and in each newsletter and directly by phone, letter or email.
- (e) To seek to add social benefit to our residents in all we do. And to explore ways of measuring this investment the best form of social benefit for our residents is the provision of affordable, secure and safe places to live. This also provides a social benefit to society as a whole. Residents who work directly with Sandbourne to review our services gain a range of experience and are offered relevant training to assist them. This can help them in their professional careers and in their social contacts.
- (f) To employ high quality, dedicated staff who can assist residents in benefiting from the quiet enjoyment of their homes and promote all aspects of equality and diversity investing in staff means that they are more likely to stay with Sandbourne, will be more motivated in their work and will, thus, offer a better service to residents.
- (g) To invest in our staff, to ensure that they have the resources and skills to fulfil their role and to develop those skills where appropriate Sandbourne promotes lifelong learning and encourages all staff to undertake training that will help to broaden their life experience and improve their professional skills. Where appropriate, and where finances allow, Sandbourne will also fund this

- training. We also encourage staff to apply for new posts within the business as they arise.
- (h) To seek to continually improve our services and adapt them to the needs and requirements of our residents Sandbourne regularly reviews the services that it provides to ensure that they meet the needs and aspirations of each cohort of residents and that they provide value for money to the business as a whole. We have a range of service standards which were introduced following consultation with our residents. These set out what we intend to do and how performance against the standards will be measured. Residents receive regular feedback on that performance and on how we intend to improve it.
- (i) To use local contractors wherever reasonable local contractors know the area in which we are based and we work with them to provide services tailored to our residents and our stock. Sandbourne is also often a significant customer for these contractors, which means that we can benefit from a cost effective, more personalised service from them.
- (j) To strive to embed Value for Money principles in all its activities Sandbourne is constantly seeking to provide the best possible service to all its current and future residents at a price which is affordable and financially viable.
- (k) To actively pursue environmentally friendly options where possible and where affordable for both Sandbourne and our residents the long term future of the planet is important to Sandbourne and we will look to protect that future wherever possible. As technologies develop, it may also be the case that the environmentally friendly option is also the best value for money option.
- (I) To remain 'SMALL' (defined as less than 1,000 homes by the Regulator) the size of the organisation enables us to really know our residents and to react quickly to new opportunities which offer better value for money or to adapt business procedures to counter threats.
- (m) To remain independent the Board believes that independence enables Sandbourne to provide the best service to our residents at the current time. However, the status of the Association is not set in stone and is reviewed regularly.

Value for Money in the year to 31 March 2024

The full version of the Value for Money Assessment for 2023/24 can be found on Sandbourne's website. The following is a summary of that report.

(a) Financial Returns

- All of Sandbourne's loans were on fixed rates of interest in the year ranging from 2.65% to 6.05% with an average rate of interest in the year to 31 March 2024 of 4.81% (2023: 4.54%). One loan is due to come off its fixed rate in June 2024, but the remainder are fixed until at least September 2026.
- Sandbourne currently owns 56 properties which are let on long leases.
 Sandbourne's policy is always to agree to the extension of these leases, but to negotiate terms to get the deal for the business as a whole. There were two lease extensions completed in the year which resulted in income of £20,558.

 At 31 March 2024 Sandbourne had three properties which were let out on market rents. These are properties which were bought on the open market with no social housing grant to offset the cost. They are let at market rent to enable Sandbourne to recoup some of this cost. The income from these properties in the year amounted to £25,669.

(b) Social Returns

- As part of Sandbourne's service standards, at the request of residents, Sandbourne has introduced a programme of regular announced monthly estate inspections for our general needs sites, increasing our visibility and widening the opportunities for residents to engage with us on issues of interest or concern to them. The principle is extended for our 60+ developments with pre-arranged and publicised fortnightly visits by our housing officer giving residents the opportunity to meet with Sandbourne formally or informally as they wish.
- In September 2023 Sandbourne asked all residents to complete a Satisfaction Survey using questions agreed by the RSH. In November 2023 Sandbourne arranged an open meeting in Bournemouth, to which all residents were invited. The aim of the meeting was to share with residents the results of the Satisfaction Survey and to start discussions with those attending on the areas of service provision where Sandbourne had scored lower levels of satisfaction. 22 residents attended the meeting which was well received by them. It is intended to repeat the exercise in 2024.

(c) Environmental Returns

- Electric heating systems were upgraded in 14 properties in the year.
- Four new, more efficient, gas boilers were installed in the year.
- Windows and external doors were upgraded in seven properties in the year.

(d) Asset Management Strategy

- Having undertaken a full round of Fire Risk Assessments (FRAs) on all housing stock in the period 2020 to 2022, the second round of FRAs started in 2022/23 and was completed in 2023/24. There were a significant number of recommendations for each block in the first round, but this has reduced considerably in the last two years. In the year 2023/24 Sandbourne has spent £60,103 (2022/23: £124,045) on fire safety works.
- Sandbourne had a target of ensuring that all properties had an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) by the end of March 2024. This target was met, although some of the EPCs are more than 10 years' old and need to be reviewed. This information will enable us to identify those properties with an EPC of less than level C which, under current government guidance, will not be able to be rented out from 2030. Sandbourne will assess the work required to improve each property to at least a level C by 2030 and prioritise those works over the next five years.

(e) Services to residents

- Energy costs rose considerably in 2022/23 and resulted in service charges for many residents, particularly those with communal heating, rising sharply. Service charges for those residents were increased in April 2023 and August 2023 to avoid an even higher rise to cover backdated charges.
- The gas contract was fixed from May 2023 for two years, with estimated costs quadrupling from the 2022/23 level. Fortunately, the winter of 2023/24 was fairly mild and actual costs for the last year were lower than anticipated. This has enabled the gas element of the service charge to be reduced for the year from August 2024.
- The electricity contract was renewed in July 2023 for one year. The costs for the last year have been mainly as expected, so the service charge relating to electricity for the next year remains largely unchanged. The contract from July 2024 was renegotiated in June 2024 and indicates that costs for the next year should fall by up to 20%.
- Sandbourne is working with its residents to explore ways of reducing energy consumption to keep costs as low as possible. This will limit the price that residents pay but will also have an unintended positive environmental impact.

(f) Administrative Improvements

- The transfer from office to remote working has enabled staff to work more flexibly, both in location and in time. This means that staff can provide a better service to residents, have a better work/life balance themselves and reduce the need for overtime working and travel, which saves money.
- From September 2024 Sandbourne will no longer be based at Beech House. We hope to have three smaller offices in Ringwood, Bournemouth and Poole that can be used by all staff members as required and convenient. Staff will also be able to work from home if they choose.

Value for Money Metrics	2024	2023
Metric 1 – Reinvestment %	1.4%	3.73%
Metric 2 – New supply delivered %	0% for social housing units	1.34% for social housing units
	0% for non-social housing units	0% for non-social housing units
Metric 3 – Gearing %	22.1%	23.79%
Metric 4 – Earnings before interest, depreciation, amortisation, major repairs included (EBITDA MRI) Interest Cover %	188.78%	148.73%
Metric 5 – Headline social housing cost per unit	£4,438	£3,920

Metric 6 – Operating Margin % (all lettings)	22.1%	22.2%
Metric 7 – Return on capital employed (ROCE) %	3.06%	2.1%

Sandbourne did not develop any new homes in 2023/24, so the reinvestment is just money spent on existing homes (Metrics 1 and 2).

There was a net repayment of loans in the year reducing the overall gearing figure. However, all loans were on fixed rates in the year, including some contracts entered into before the base rate started rising, so costs were well controlled (Metrics 3 and 4).

The Headline social housing cost has increased due to higher repairs and utilities costs (Metric 5).

The Return on capital employed is higher than the previous year as it includes the surplus on the sale of a housing property (Metric 7).

Compliance with Governance and Financial Viability Standard

The Board confirms that Sandbourne complies with the requirements of the revised Governance and Financial Viability Standard applicable for the year from 1 April 2020.

NHF Code of Governance 2020

The Board adopted the NHF Code of Governance 2020 in 2021 and will seek to follow its guidance in all areas of the management of the business with the exception of the following clauses:

Clause number	Principle	Reason for non-compliance
3.1(2)	The chair of the Board does not chair and is not a member of the committee responsible for audit, nor does the chair of the Board chair the committee responsible for remuneration.	The Chair of the Board is allowed to be on the audit and remuneration committees, but not to chair them. This is so that the best use can be made of the skills of the individual Board members.
3.3(4)	There is a dedicated senior Board member (normally a vice-chair or senior independent director) with duties that include appraisal of the chair and assisting the chair to ensure the effectiveness of the Board.	Sandbourne has a vice Chair who assists the Chair to ensure the effectiveness of the Board. The Board are appraised as a whole and not as individuals, so the vice Chair does not appraise the Chair directly.
3.7(3)	Maximum tenure will normally be up to six consecutive years (typically comprising two terms of	Sandbourne does not currently comply with this requirement. Recommendation that Sandbourne

	office), but where a member has served six years, and the Board agrees that it is in the organisation's best interests, their tenure may be extended up to a maximum of nine years.	retains the 9-year rule as standard for the present. Reasons for this include: • To maintain a good skill level on the Board.
	maximum of fillic years.	Greater role for Board members in a small organisation, so need to ensure a good range of skills at all times.
		May be harder to recruit Board members to smaller organisations, particularly as Sandbourne does not currently pay Board members.
		Recruitment and training of Board members is also time consuming for executive management.
		Smaller local area to draw potential Board members from.
3.7(4)	A member who has left the Board is not re-appointed for at least three years.	Currently members leaving the Board can re-apply for membership after one year. Mostly this does not happen, but Sandbourne would want to keep the one-year time scale for the following reasons:
		In case a new member with a relevant skill cannot be found.
		Recruiting from a small area, so limited availability of a good range of skills and volunteers.
3.10	Member appraisal: a full, rigorous and documented appraisal process for the individual members of the Board and its committees, including the chairs, is carried out at least every two years.	This would be difficult to achieve due to the constraints of time and cost. An appraisal of Board management and effectiveness was carried out in December 2023.

Principal Risks of the Business

The Board of Sandbourne recognises that all business activities carry risk and that these risks need to be managed, mitigated or avoided to safeguard the business and the assets owned by it. Sandbourne has a register of business risks which is reviewed at least twice a year in detail by the Audit, Finance and Risk Committee and

at least annually by the full Board.

The latest review in March 2024 identified the following four principal risks of the business:

Risk	Comments and mitigation
Changes in building, health and safety	Ongoing planned maintenance to ensure that properties meet current standards.
and environmental regulations resulting in unexpected expenditure.	New standards can only be considered when and if they are brought into effect. However, the Housing White Paper 2020 includes the likelihood of new minimum standards for social housing lets, which could mean increasing planned maintenance expenditure.
	The Association will take advantage of any relevant funding initiatives.
	 Reviewing and monitoring of fire inspections and regulations following Grenfell. Current indications are that further expenditure will be required, but impossible to quantify that at this stage. There was a high level of expenditure in 2021 and 2022 but more recent FRAs indicate that this has reduced the risk and the level of expenditure in 2023/24 was lower. It is expected that this lower level of expenditure will continue in the 2024/25 year.
	New developments will aim to meet the highest level of government environmental standards that is practical and affordable. No new developments are planned at the moment.
	Current stock will be upgraded to include more environmentally friendly fitments where appropriate, affordable and practical.
	All Sandbourne properties now have an EPC rating. Some are currently out of date and others need reviewing following works. Current indications are that 70 properties will need work to bring them up to a level C by 2030. An assessment of expenditure required to achieve this will be undertaken in 2024/25.
	Electrical safety checks are currently requiring substantial levels of remedial expenditure.
Significant rises in arrears	Use of knowledge of current tenants to chase arrears in a tenant specific way.
	Small staff structure enables early identification to keep a close watch on problematic accounts.
	The Association offers a wide range of payment options.

- The rollout of Universal Credit continues but has not proved to be a significant problem yet.
- The Association continues to engage with residents to inform them of the changes and to look at ways of helping them to manage their finances.
- Significant leaseholder arrears are addressed with solicitor involvement and the threat of forfeiture of the lease.
- Better recording of arrears actions and the production of a trend analysis has been implemented as a result of recommendations from the internal audit in January 2021.

Significant movements in inflation rate – expenditure. Also other factors increasing expenditure.

- The rate of inflation has fallen from a high of 11% and was down to 2.8% in May 2024, which is moving closer to the government target of 2%.
- No contractual obligations to offer salary rises or performance related pay, only to review salaries on an annual basis. Salaries were increased by 6.7% in 2023, which matched the September 2023 rate of CPI inflation. The rate fell to 2.8% in May 2024, so it is unlikely that any salary increase in 2024 will be higher than that. An increase of 3.5% is included in the budget for 2024/25.
- Limited ability to delay (or bring forward) planned and major repairs expenditure.
- Rent rises of CPI plus 1% for five years from 2020 will help to mitigate rising expenditure. The rent rise for 2023 was capped at 7%, while CPI was at 10.5% in December 2022. However, CPI plus 1% has been allowed in 2024, giving a maximum increase of 7.7%, which Sandbourne will apply to most tenancies.
- Rent rise for 2023/24 was capped at 7%, which meant a shortfall of £93k over the expected rise of CPI plus 1%.
- The UK has now left the EU and some disruption is being experienced in the supply chain, particularly with repairs and maintenance supplies, which is driving up repairs and maintenance expenditure. The combined impact of more complicated import rules and fluctuations in the value of Sterling could be significant.
- Energy costs rose considerably in 2021/22 and 2022/23, but now look to be stabilising or even falling. While Sandbourne's direct energy use is fairly low, there is a lag between the energy provided to tenants and the recovery of that expenditure through service charges. This lag has to be covered by Sandbourne at least in the short term. Electricity prices were fixed until July 2024

and a lower price was achieved on renewal of the contract in June 2024. Gas prices were fixed in December 2022 for the period May 2023 to April 2025. They had risen significantly but at least there is now some certainty for two years.

- No further development planned at present.
- Rise in cost of housing insurance in 2024 following two fires in 2023, but the increase was not as large as expected.

Failure of IT systems or loss of IT support, including malicious intrusion.

- Annual review of IT support contracts in place.
- Robust back-up procedures (in the cloud).
- IT system is backed-up automatically and remotely by external contractor on a daily basis.
- Business systems can be remotely accessed by IT providers and have response times built into contracts.
 All staff have the ability to work remotely as required.
- Separate IT systems for business management, housing management and finance. Thus, less likely to lose all of the working systems at the same time.
- IT contractor monitors hardware and recommends upgrades when required. A full review of hardware needs will be undertaken in 2024.
- A review of all software versions will be undertaken in 2024 to ensure that all versions used are well supported.
 All firewalls and cyber protection are updated regularly and automatically applied.
- The CEO is responsible for the internal IT needs of the business and will work with a relevantly skilled Board member to assess and implement these.
- Sandbourne has good outsourced IT support for both hardware and software matters.
- Loss of IT systems would have big impact on Sandbourne's capacity to work from home.
- A review of IT needs is being undertaken in 2024. Initially this will move all systems away from the need for a physical server to enable all staff to work from any location. Existing software will be transferred to the cloud in the short term. A review of upgraded or alternative versions from existing software providers will be considered later in the year or in 2025. An amount of £10k has been provided for this in the 2024/25 budget.

Internal Controls' Assurance

The Board has overall responsibility for establishing and maintaining the whole system of internal control and for reviewing its effectiveness.

The Board recognises that no system of internal control can provide absolute assurance or eliminate all risk. The system of internal controls is designed to manage risk and to provide reasonable assurance that key business objectives and expected outcomes will be achieved. It also exists to give reasonable assurance about the preparation and reliability of financial and operational information and the safeguarding of Sandbourne's assets and interests.

In meeting its responsibilities, the Board has adopted a risk-based approach to internal controls which are embedded within the normal management and governance process. This approach includes the regular evaluation of the nature and extent of risks to which Sandbourne is exposed and is consistent with Turnbull principles as incorporated in the Tenant Services Authority circular 07/07 Internal Controls Assurance.

The process adopted by the Board in reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal controls, together with some of the key elements of the control framework, includes:

- Identification and evaluation of key risks;
- Regular monitoring by the Board and taking corrective action;
- Maintaining a control environment and written procedures; and
- Financial and other information reported to and reviewed by the Board.

The internal control framework and the risk management process are subject to regular review by Internal Auditors who are responsible for providing independent assurance to the Board via its Audit, Finance and Risk Committee. The Audit, Finance and Risk Committee considers internal control and risk at each of its meetings during the year.

The Board has received the Director of Finance's annual report, has conducted its annual review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control and has taken account of any changes needed to maintain the effectiveness of the risk management and control process.

The Board confirms that there is an ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing significant risks faced by the Association. This process has been in place throughout the year under review, up to the date of the annual report, and is regularly reviewed by the Board.

Statement of the Board's Responsibilities

The Co-operative and Community Benefit Society Act 2014 and other registered provider legislation require that the Board prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of Sandbourne and of its income and expenditure for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Board is required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that Sandbourne will continue in business.

The Board is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time Sandbourne's financial position and to enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014, the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 and the Accounting Direction for private registered providers of social housing in England 2022. It also has general responsibility for taking reasonable steps to safeguard Sandbourne's assets and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities. The Board is also responsible for ensuring that this report is prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting by registered social housing providers 2018.

Auditors

The members of the Board confirm that:

- So far as each one is aware, there is no relevant information of which the auditors are unaware; and
- They have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information which could be required by Sandbourne's auditors and to establish that the auditors are made aware of that information.

By order of the Board

Signed by M Byrne

Maria Byrne Chair

Date: 31 July 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SANDBOURNE HOUSING ASSOCIATION

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Sandbourne Housing Association (the Association) for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Changes in Equity and Reserves, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including 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 Association's affairs as at 31 March 2024, and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014, the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 and the Accounting Direction for private registered providers of social housing in England 2022.

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 Association 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 Board's 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 Association'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 Board with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Board report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Board are responsible for the other information contained within the Board report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the Association has not kept proper books of account, and not maintained a satisfactory system of control over its transactions, in accordance with the requirements of the legislation; or
- the revenue account, any other accounts to which our report relates, and the balance sheet are not in agreement with the Association's books of account; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the Board

As explained more fully in the Board's responsibilities statement set out on page 15, the Board is 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 it determines 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 Association'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 Association 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 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:

As part of our audit planning, we obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that is applicable to the Association, which was gained through appropriate audit engagement team selection (ensuring competence and capability to recognise non-compliance) and discussions with management. This covered any knowledge or evidence of actual and potential fraud, litigation and claims, which was followed up with corroborative audit review work. As part of our planning procedures, we assessed the risk of any non-compliance with laws and regulations on the Association's ability to continue trading and the risk of material misstatement to the accounts. Based on our understanding of the Association and industry, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to breaches around social housing regulations. We considered the extent to which noncompliance with these laws and regulations may have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as The Companies Act 2006, the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 and the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008.

We also discussed with management to what extent the Association is exposed to fraud – either inherently because of the nature of operations, assets or because of weaknesses in internal controls. From these discussions we have evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements.

Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify noncompliance with relevant laws and regulations. Our procedures involved the following:

- Enquiries of management regarding their knowledge of any non-compliance with laws and regulations that could affect the financial statements. As part of these enquiries, we also discussed with management whether there have been any known instances of fraud.
- Reviewed legal and professional costs to identify any possible noncompliance.
- We completed a proof in total of rental income for the year and inspected correspondence with tenants, such as rental increase letters.
- Audited the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

 Reviewed estimates and judgements made in the accounts for any indication of bias and challenged assumptions used by management in making the estimates.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of the auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Association's members, as a body, in accordance with section 87 of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Association'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 the Association and the Association's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signed by PKF Francis Clark

PKF Francis Clark Towngate House 2-8 Parkstone Road Poole BH15 2PW

Date:

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Turnover	2	3,292,443	2,832,774
Operating costs	2	(2,565,227)	(2,306,632)
Gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets Operating surplus	3	178,590	102,082
	2	905,806	628,224
Interest receivable and similar income		50,138	33,190
Interest payable and similar charges		(445,647)	(445,598)
Surplus for the period		510,297	215,816

On behalf of the Board

Signed by M Byrne

Maria Byrne (Chair)

Signed by B Law

Bill Law (Chair of Audit, Finance and Risk Committee)

Signed by F Ferenczy

Fiona Ferenczy (Company Secretary)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
Fixed Assets			
Housing properties	8	28,997,476	28,998,801
Other tangible fixed assets	9	35,925	40,786
		29,033,401	29,039,587
Current assets			
Debtors	10	168,972	148,097
Cash at bank and in hand		1,114,455	1,025,141
		1,283,427	1,173,238
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(738,961)	(626,381)
Net current assets		544,466	546,857
Total assets less current liabilities		29,577,867	29,586,444
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than	12	(13,936,766)	(14,455,642)
one year			
Total net assets		15,641,101	15,130,802
Reserves			
Called up share capital	14	22	20
Income and expenditure reserve		14,989,113	14,478,816
Designated reserves		651,966	651,966
Total reserves	į	15,641,101	15,130,802

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on

Signed on behalf of the Board

Signed by M Byrne

Maria Byrne (Chair)

Signed by B Law

Bill Law (Chair of Audit, Finance and Risk Committee)

Signed by F Ferenczy

Fiona Ferenczy (Company Secretary)

The notes on pages 25 to 35 form part of these accounts.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY AND RESERVES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Called up share capital	Income and expenditure reserve	Designated reserves	Total
	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2022	29	14,263,000	651,966	14,914,995
Surplus for the year to 31 March 2023	-	215,816	-	215,816
Share capital (cancelled)	(9)	-	-	(9)
At 1 April 2023	20	14,478,816	651,966	15,130,802
Surplus for the year	-	510,297	-	510,297
Share capital issued/(cancelled)	2	-	-	2
At 31 March 2024	22	14,989,113	651,966	15,641,101

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flow from operating activities	15	1,222,453	929,450
Cash flow from investing activities Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets Proceeds from sale of fixed asset Interest received and similar income Net cash flow from investing activities		(506,166) 197,401 50,138 (258,627)	113,447 33,190
Cash flow from financing activities Repayment of long term loans Repayment of finance lease liabilities Interest paid Share capital issued Net cash flow from financing activities		(428,438) (1,162) (444,914) 2 (874,512)	(1,069) (445,598)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		89,314	(1,040,901)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April 2023 Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2024		1,025,141 1,114,455	2,066,042 1,025,141
Cash and cash equivalents consist of: Cash at bank and in hand Short term deposits Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2024		490,223 624,232	117,497 907,644 1,025,141
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2024	:	1,114,455	1,025,141

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) General information and basis of preparation

Sandbourne Housing Association (Sandbourne) is a not for profit organisation governed by a voluntary Board. The Association is a Community Benefit Society, an Exempt Charity and is registered with the Homes and Communities Agency.

Sandbourne's principal activity is the provision of affordable housing in the Poole/Bournemouth conurbation, the town of Ringwood and the surrounding area.

Sandbourne constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)", the Statement of Recommended Practice for Social Housing Providers 2018 and with the Accounting Direction for private registered providers of social housing in England 2022. The financial statements are also prepared under the requirements of the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 and the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014. The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Association.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

(b) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets (including social housing properties) are stated at cost to the Association less accumulated depreciation. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended, such as expenditure on improvements. Such expenditure will only be capitalised when it results in incremental future benefits such as increasing rental income, reducing maintenance costs or resulting in a significant extension of the useful life of the property.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets (except land) at rates calculated to write off the cost, less any residual value, of each asset on a straight line basis over its expected useful life as follows:

Land	Not depreciated
Housing properties – structure	100 to 125 years
Housing properties – lifts	25 years
Housing properties – kitchens	20 years
Housing properties – bathrooms	30 years
Housing properties – roofs	50 to 60 years
Housing properties – boilers	10 years
Housing properties – other heating	20 to 30 years
Housing properties – windows and doors	30 years
Fixtures and fittings in communal areas	10 years
Office furniture and equipment	5 years
Solar panels	25 years

Housing properties under construction are not depreciated until they are in use.

The useful economic lives of all tangible fixed assets are reviewed annually.

(c) <u>Debtors and creditors receivable/payable within one year</u>

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income in Operating Costs.

(d) Investments

Cash investments are recognised at fair value.

(e) Loans and borrowings

Loans and borrowings are initially recognised at the transaction price including transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, less impairment. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction it is measured at present value.

(f) Impairment

Assets not measured at fair value are reviewed for any indication that the asset may be impaired at each balance sheet date. The level at which an impairment is assessed is either on a block basis (for those properties owned in blocks) or on an individual basis (for those properties owned individually).

The key indicators considered for impairment are frequency of tenancy change and length of void periods for each cash generating unit.

If an indication of impairment is identified the carrying value of the property or group of properties will be reduced to the estimated recoverable amount. The associated impairment write down amount will be recognised in expenditure through the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

(g) <u>Leases</u>

Assets acquired under finance leases are capitalised and depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and the expected useful life of the asset. Minimum lease payments are apportioned between the finance charge and the reduction of the outstanding lease liability using the effective interest rate method. The related obligations, net of future finance charges, are included in creditors.

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

(h) VAT

The Association is not VAT-registered, so all expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

(i) Turnover and other income

Turnover is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable in the period. The policies adopted for the recognition of turnover and other income are as follows:

- Turnover represents rental and service charge income receivable in the year (net of rental and service charge losses from void properties) and any revenue grants received or receivable.
- Other income is made up predominantly of interest received or receivable on cash investments.

(i) Sale of fixed assets

The disposal of any assets held as fixed assets will be accounted for through the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the period in which the disposal takes place. Where the surplus or loss on disposal of such assets is material to the accounts, the net amount will be shown on the face of the Statement of Comprehensive Income, with further details set out in the notes to the financial statements. Otherwise, any surplus or loss will be included in Operating Costs.

Proceeds from the first tranche disposals of shared ownership properties are included in Turnover in the period in which the disposal occurred and the costs of sale are included in Operating Costs. Proceeds from the sale of subsequent tranches are treated as disposals of fixed assets.

(k) Government grants

Government grants have been received from Homes England and from local authorities in respect of many of the Association's housing properties. These grants are recognised at the fair value of the asset received. The assets are accounted for using the cost model and the grant is accounted for using the accruals model. The difference between the fair value of the asset and the consideration is recognised as a liability and amortised over the useful economic life of the asset. This amortisation is recognised within Turnover.

(I) Employee benefits - Pensions

The Association operates a defined contribution pension plan for the benefit of its employees. Contributions are expensed as they become payable.

(m) Reserves

The Association has three reserves – an Income and Expenditure Reserve, a Major Repairs Reserve and a Cyclical Repairs Reserve. The Cyclical Repairs Reserve is restricted to funding cyclical repairs for the leasehold properties which contribute to it. Neither of the other two reserves is restricted.

(n) Merger and Acquisitions

Where Sandbourne joins with another entity of similar size and nature on a voluntary basis, the amalgamation will be accounted for as a merger. The financial statements will be presented as if the two entities had always been one.

Where Sandbourne joins with another entity that is significantly smaller or different in nature, the amalgamation will be accounted for as an acquisition. The assets, liabilities and reserves of the acquired entity will be brought into the Sandbourne financial statements at their fair value on the date of the acquisition. If the amount paid to acquire the entity is greater than the fair value of the net assets and liabilities, the excess will be treated as goodwill and written off over its expected useful life. If the amount paid to acquire the entity is less than the fair value of the net assets and liabilities, the difference will be treated as income in the year of acquisition and accounted for through the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

(o) <u>Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty</u>

The following judgements have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies that have had a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements:

• The carrying value of all Sandbourne's housing properties is reviewed for potential impairment on an annual basis. The Board have taken the view that each individual property is a cash generating unit in its own right and that any adjustment for impairment of valuation should be made accordingly. The value of each property to Sandbourne is primarily based on its ability to generate rental income. Thus, the impairment review focuses on void times and void losses for each property over the previous

year. In the judgement of the Board, there has been no impairment of the value of Sandbourne's housing properties in the year to 31 March 2024 or in the period up to the signing of these accounts.

• Each of the material leases entered into by Sandbourne were assessed and categorised as either finance or operating leases. In the judgement of the Board, the terms of one lease had transferred most of the risks and rewards of ownership to Sandbourne, making it a finance lease. In this case the asset leased has been included in the balance sheet as a fixed asset and a corresponding loan has been included in creditors. In all other cases the Board considered that most of the risks and rewards of ownership had not been transferred to Sandbourne and only the annual cost of leasing those assets has been included in these accounts.

The following key sources of estimation have been applied to these financial statements:

- The carrying value of all fixed assets except for land (net of their estimated residual values) are depreciated over their estimated useful lives. These estimated useful lives and the estimated residual values of assets are reviewed regularly based on internal information and sector averages.
- The financial statements contain reserves for major and cyclical repairs.
 These are regularly reviewed for their completeness based on known levels of replacements and renewals of such assets.
- The carrying value of rental debts is reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that all debts are collectable. These accounts include an estimated provision against those rental debts which are deemed to be doubtful.

2. Social housing turnover and costs

•	2024	2023
	£	£
Rent receivable	2,454,108	2,290,959
Service charges receivable	759,597	480,832
Support income	36,959	36,269
Less: Void losses	(32,134)	(30,579)
	3,218,530	2,777,481
Add: Amortised government grants	53,355	55,293
Income from lease extensions	20,558	-
Net income from social housing activity	3,292,443	2,832,774
Less: Social housing activity expenditure	(2,565,227)	(2,306,632)
Add: Gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets	178,590	102,082
Operating surplus from social housing activities	905,806	628,224

3. Gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets

	2024 £	2023 £
Proceeds from the disposal of housing properties	199,850	115,000
Less: Carrying value of the housing properties	(18,811)	(11,365)
	181,039	103,635
Less: Other disposal costs	(2,449)	(1,553)
Surplus on disposal	178,590	102,082
- an prime and another and		,,,,,,

4. Accommodation owned and managed

	Number of units at 31 March 2024	Number of units at 1 April 2023
Completed units:		·
General needs housing	163	163
Housing for older people	266	266
Low cost home ownership	18	19
Leasehold property	38	37
	485	485

5. Surplus on ordinary activities is stated after charging:

2024	2023
£	£
13,443	12,276
50,061	50,060

6. Board and key management personnel remuneration

No Board member received any remuneration in the year (2023: £nil). Expenses totalling £192 (2023: £103) were paid to Board members in the year.

The total remuneration for key management personnel in the year amounted to £141,861 (2023: £140,310).

The highest paid member of the management team received remuneration of £91,068 (2023: £89,807) excluding pension contributions.

The Association makes pension contributions on behalf of the Chief Executive into a defined contribution personal pension scheme. The Chief Executive is an ordinary member of this scheme and no special or enhanced terms apply. During the year to 31 March 2024 Sandbourne made contributions of £6,127 (2023: £5,795) into the scheme.

7. Staff costs

The average number of employees, including members of the executive team, calculated on a full time equivalent of 35 hours per week, was 9 employees (2023: 9 employees).

The number of employees who received more than £60,000 as their employee package (excluding pension costs) are as follows:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
£80,001 to £90,000	1	1

8. Tangible fixed assets – housing properties

	60+ Properties	18+ Properties	Shared Ownership	Under Construction	Total
	£	£	Properties £	£	£
COST	٨	۷	٧	٧	2
At 1 Apr 2023	20,461,013	14,467,153	612,251	1,080	35,541,497
Additions	260,626	240,805	-	-	501,431
Disposals	(70,216)	(63,203)	-	-	(133,419)
At 31 Mar 2024	20,651,423	14,644,755	612,251	1,080	35,909,509
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 Apr 2023	4,311,075	2,120,735	110,886	-	6,542,696
Charge for year	306,861	169,411	3,870	-	480,142
Disposals	(69,756)	(41,049)	-	-	(110,805)
At 31 Mar 2024	4,548,180	2,249,097	114,756	-	6,912,033
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 Mar 2024	16,103,243	12,395,658	497,495	1,080	28,997,476
At 31 Mar 2023	16,149,938	12,346,418	501,365	1,080	28,998,801

The income, costs and surplus relating to the shared ownership and leasehold properties amount to £133,237 (2023: £127,998), £79,843 (2023: £84,703) and £53,394 (2023: £43,295) respectively.

Total accumulated impairments of £0 are recognised in the opening position.

Social housing properties with a net book value of £19,503,650 (2023: £19,625,772) have been pledged as security for liabilities of the Association. These assets have restricted title.

9. Tangible fixed assets – other

	Office furniture and equipment £	Equipment in communal lounges £	Total £
COST At 1 Apr 2023 Additions Disposals	139,498 462 (219)	136,041 4,273	275,539 4,735 (219)
At 31 Mar 2024	139,741	140,314	280,055
DEPRECIATION At 1 Apr 2023 Charge for year Eliminated on disposals	112,838 6,746 (219)	121,915 2,850 -	234,753 9,596 (219)
At 31 Mar 2024	119,365	124,765	244,130
NET BOOK VALUE At 31 Mar 2024 At 31 Mar 2023	20,376 26,660	15,549 14,126	35,925 40,786
711 01 WIGH 2020	20,000	17,120	40,700

Included in the above assets is one hire purchase asset. The net book value of this asset is as follows:

Cost Accumulated depreciation Net book value of hire purchase asset at 31 March 2024	5,087 (2,035) 3,052
Net book value of hire purchase asset at 31 March 2023	4,070

10. Debtors

Deplois		
	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors (gross social housing rent arrears)	60,082	51,130
Less: Provision for doubtful debts	(7,920)	(7,920)
	52,162	43,210
Other debtors	38,634	33.144
Prepayments and accrued income	78,176	71,743
	168,972	148,097
·		

Gross social housing rent arrears includes £0 (2023: £0) to reflect the net present value element adjustment where a repayment schedule is in place.

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	76,554	1,999
Rents paid in advance	32,578	35,324
Housing loans	457,134	420,463
Social Housing Grant	58,637	58,746
Other tax and social security	10,112	9,556
Finance leases	1,256	1,162
Other creditors	1,659	1,334
Accruals and deferred income	101,031	97,797
	738,961	626,381

Details of leasing arrangements are provided in note 13.

12. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank loans	8,589,367	9,054,476
Social Housing Grant	5,317,438	5,384,316
Recycled Capital Grant Fund	27,540	13,173
Finance leases	2,421	3,677
	13,936,766	14,455,642

Bank loans from lending institutions are secured by specific charges on the Association's housing properties and are repayable at rates of interest between 2.65% and 6.05% over terms of between 25 and 30 years.

Details of leasing arrangements are provided in note 13.

13. Leases (Lessee)

The Association has taken out one finance lease for the acquisition of a photocopier. Total future minimum finance lease payments are as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Not later than one year	1,478	1,478
Later than one year and not later than five years	2,588	4,066
	4,066	5,544
Less finance charges	(389)	(705)
	3,677	4,839
Less: Included in current liabilities	(1,256)	(1,162)
	2,421	3,677

In 2014 the Association took out a 10-year lease on its offices in Poole. The lease expires in September 2024. The amount payable up to the end of the lease is £11,226. In 2020 the Association took out a lease to provide laundry

equipment in some of its development. The lease expires in November 2027. The amount payable up to the end of the lease is £99,484.

14. Share capital

	2024	2023
	£	£
At 1 April 2023	20	29
Issued during the year	2	-
Cancelled during the year	-	(9)
At 31 March 2024	22	20

The shares have no rights to any interest or share of surpluses. If the Association is dissolved, then the assets can be distributed as decided by a Special General Meeting, but the shareholders are not entitled to anything other than the return of the £1 face value of the share.

15. Reconciliation of operating surplus to cash flow from operating activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Surplus for the year	510,297	215,818
Interest payable	445,647	445,598
Interest received	(50,138)	(33,190)
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	489,738	461,316
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	3,803	7,385
Release of Social Housing Grant	(53,355)	(55,293)
Gain on disposal of fixed asset	(178,590)	(102,082)
(Increase) in debtors	(20,875)	(12,123)
(Decrease) in bad debt provision	-	(1,412)
Increase in creditors	75,924	3,444
Share capital issued/(written off)	2	(9)
Net cash flow from operating activities	1,222,453	929,450

16. Pensions

The Association operates a defined contribution pension plan for its employees. The amount recognised as an expense in the period was £21,328 (2023: £23,939).

17. Related Party Transactions

Ann Schofield is a tenant of Sandbourne and served as a Board member throughout the year. Her tenancy is on normal commercial terms similar to all other tenants and she cannot use her position to her advantage.

Daniel Gatehouse is a tenant of Sandbourne and was co-opted to the Board in May 2024. His tenancy is on normal commercial terms similar to all other tenants and he cannot not use his position to his advantage.

Michael Owen is a Sandbourne Board member and is a Partner with Capsticks Solicitors LLP. Sandbourne use Capsticks for legal advice in relation to housing management issues and paid them £618 in the year

(2023: £3,161) for those services. All services were provided on an armslength basis and Michael Owen played no part in them.

18. Capital Commitments

As at 31 March 2024 Sandbourne had no capital commitments (2023: £Nil).