Sense International

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2026

Company registration number 3742986, Charity number 1076497

Sense International

Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2026

Contents

Chair’s foreword 3

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2026 5

Strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2026..... 14

Independent auditors' report to the members of Sense International 24

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)
for the year ended 31 March 2026 28

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2026 30

Cash flow statement for the year ended 31 March 2026 31

Accounting policies 32

Notes to the financial statements..... 36

Major supporters …… 50

Charity information 52

Chair's foreword

I am pleased to introduce Sense International's 2025/26 annual report.

It has been another impactful year for Sense International, advancing the rights of people with deafblindness and supporting their rightful access to health, education and employment. This year, over 7000 children were supported in education and 1,273 young adults with deafblindness now have a better chance of earning a living. Together with partners and organisations of people with disabilities, we have raised our voices and advocated national and local governments for meaningful inclusion of people with deafblindness in policies, programmes and services.

This was another exceptionally challenging year, as further reductions in international development funding intensified uncertainty across the sector and threatened to undo years of progress on development and human rights, especially for those furthest behind, including people with deafblindness. Our achievements are even more commendable in this context, underscoring our resilience and enduring commitment to the people we support.

I was pleased to see the local launches of our Global Deafblindness Resource Hub in the summer of 2025, in partnership with the Nelumbo Foundation. The hub is a digital platform offering a 'one stop shop' that guides and navigates people with deafblindness and their support networks to understand and connect more widely. I want to thank Nelumbo Foundation for their support and steer in this innovative venture, which we look forward to strengthening and scaling in the coming years.

It was with a sense of both pride and sadness that we saw Inclusive Futures, the global Disability Inclusive Development programme led by Sightsavers and funded by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) come to an end this year. Over eight years, the programme delivered 32 projects across 11 countries, reaching over 3.75 million people with disabilities. Sense International was proud to contribute to the consortium's work in Bangladesh, Nepal, Kenya and Tanzania, helping to generate evidence on what works and does not work in disability inclusion with a view to scaling up disability-inclusive programming. The programme has been transformative, strengthening the sector's understanding of disability inclusion, improving outcomes in education, health and employment, and tackling the stigma and discrimination faced by people with disabilities. Its legacy will endure through the innovation, partnerships and systems change it has inspired.

Another proud moment for me was the establishment of an association led by youth with deafblindness in Romania, *Beyond Senses*, with the support of Sense International Romania. Some of these youth our team has known since they were children. It's heartening to see them now lead the charge for change and inclusion.

Chair's foreword (continued)

We are grateful to our funders and supporters who continue to support us and stand by us. As ever, I remain grateful to our Patron, HRH The Princess Royal, whose presence at our Gala in March 2026 in particular meant a lot to our organisation and its people. We were sad to see our President, Lord Levy, step down this year, and we thank him for his years of service and contributions to Sense and Sense International. We are indebted to our Honorary President, Sunil Sheth, who continues to champion and promote our work. I would also like to express my sincere thanks to our parent organisation, Sense, for its continued support. I am deeply grateful to our Board in the UK, our national boards around the world, and our volunteers for their commitment and guidance. Our achievements would not be possible without the dedication of our partners, employees and teams across the UK and the countries where we work. Their expertise, passion and unwavering commitment enable us to deliver high-quality, impactful programmes and services, and I extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of them.

I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to our funders and donors (listed on pages 50 and 51), whose continued support enables us to reach people with deafblindness across the world. This includes the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), Comic Relief, the Nelumbo Foundation, corporate partners, trusts and foundations, and our many individual supporters. Together, their partnership, trust and commitment enable us to deliver meaningful and lasting impact.

In 2025, we began developing a new strategy for Sense International, recognising that the international development landscape has undergone profound change in recent years, shaped by funding cuts, changing donor priorities, and an important shift towards localisation that places greater power, resources and decision-making in the hands of local organisations and communities. The context in which we operate continues to evolve rapidly. As a Board, we felt this was the right moment to reflect on what the future should look like for Sense International. We are clear that localisation, and our ambition to become a more locally led organisation, will be central to the new strategy. Set to launch in April 2027, it will redefine Sense International's purpose and direction, providing a roadmap for building a stronger, more resilient and sustainable organisation that is fit for the future and better able to deliver lasting change and meaningful impact for the people we support around the world.



Raaxeet Shah

Chair of Sense International
Date: 30 September 2026

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (including the Directors' report)

The Trustees of Sense International (who are also directors of Sense International for the purposes of company law) have pleasure in presenting their report, together with the audited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice 2019 (FRS102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

Sense International is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee which was incorporated on 29 March 1999. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Vision: Our vision is of a world in which all people with deafblindness are equal and active members of society.

Mission: We work with people with deafblindness and partner organisations, to remove barriers in societies and systems, so that people with deafblindness are fully included and can fulfil their potential.

Values and Principles:

1. **We champion inclusion:** of everyone we work with in decisions affecting them.
2. **We are rights-based:** respecting dignity and diversity, promoting equality and respect for all human rights.
3. **We value individuals:** taking a person-centred approach which recognises the potential of each person, supports their quality of life and keeps them safe from harm.
4. **We work in partnership:** collaborating across the world with people with deafblindness, their representative organisations, families, carers, teachers and other professionals, communities, local organisations and governments, building respectful relationships for lasting change.
5. **We uphold high standards:** of accountability, integrity, quality and sustainability.

Sense International works through local Sense International offices in India, Kenya, Peru, Romania, Tanzania and Uganda and through lead partners in Bangladesh and Nepal.

Volunteers

Sense International's work is supported by trustees, volunteers in the shops that Sense manages for the benefit of Sense International, and other volunteer fundraisers in raising funds for our work. No monetary value has been placed on this support in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

Fundraising and engagement

We would like to thank all our incredible supporters who have helped Sense International in 2025/26. In line with our strategy and in response to the current funding landscape, Sense International is diversifying fundraising and has seen growth in Trusts and Foundations income which has continued through this year. Our focus has also been in building stronger sustainable financial growth across our regional teams and the countries we operate in to support a localised agenda in fundraising. We continue to build long-term relationships with all of our supporters and partners, ensuring we value the contribution every individual, group or organisation makes to Sense International – whether that be their time, their voice or their financial support.

Our commitment to fundraise responsibly

Our fundraising is carried out in line with Sense International's values which means that honesty, transparency and accountability are central to everything we do. Ensuring that our supporters trust us is critical to all our fundraising efforts. We continue to comply with all legislative and regulatory requirements, and ensure that our policies, guidelines and processes are reviewed and updated regularly. We have guidelines in place for fundraising from vulnerable people and never put pressure on anyone to donate.

Sense International is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and works in a way that is compliant with the Code of Fundraising Practice. Suppliers and those fundraising on our behalf are closely monitored through regular meetings, and in the event of contracts not being adhered to they are brought to an end. In 2025/26 we worked with one professional communications agency and two commercial participators to support our events fundraising.

During the year we did not receive any complaints about Sense International's fundraising, nor were any complaints made to the Fundraising Regulator during this period. We respond quickly to requests to change the way in which we contact people and always ensure that we manage our supporters' personal details in a respectful and secure manner. We also review our data management procedures on a regular basis.

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

Our commitment to fundraise responsibly (continued)

From 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026, the team received six requests from Sense International supporters through the Fundraising Preference Service asking us to stop sending fundraising communications to them.

Fundraising is overseen by the Chief Executive of Sense International, Associate Director of Fundraising and Communications, the Chief Fundraising and Marketing Officer for Sense and the Sense International Fundraising Advisory Committee (a sub-committee of the Board).

Governance

There were eleven Trustees on the Board during the year as detailed below:

Nicholas Corby
Suzi Nandera
Sian Tesni Copeland Roberts
Raaxeet Shah (Chair)
Sunil Shah
Lisa Szucs (resigned 13 April 2025)
Kiran Virdee
Lauren Watters
Vivienne Hoskins (appointed 22 September 2025)
Simon Gallow (appointed 1 October 2025)
Joe Collenette (appointed 1 October 2025)
Dilnaz Khambata (appointed 1 October 2025)

The Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) for a term of three years. The Board may appoint members by co-option who will hold office until the following AGM and shall be eligible for re-election by the Board or election at the AGM. The Board meets four times a year and the Trustees are expected to attend all Board meetings.

The Programme Advisory Committee is appointed by the Board and has six Trustees who meet with the Chief Executive and the Senior Programmes team to discuss strategic and operational programmatic issues as well as Safeguarding. It meets four times a year and reports to the Board.

The Fundraising Advisory Committee also meets quarterly and between Board meetings as needed to discuss progress against the Fundraising Strategy and to support events and approaches to individuals, companies and Trusts / Foundations. It is made up of Trustees and two specialist volunteers.

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

The Finance and Audit Committee has four Trustee members who meet to review the deployment of Sense International's financial resources and the effectiveness of Sense International's internal and external auditing procedures. It meets four times a year and reports to the Board.

Recruitment of new Trustees

Prospective candidates to be Trustees for Sense International are interviewed by at least two members of the Board including the Chair of the Board and the Director following responses to an advert, or through recommendation. The appointment of new Trustees is recommended to the Board of Trustees and on acceptance by the Board they are co-opted, until standing for election at the following AGM.

There is a comprehensive induction for new Trustees. The induction plan involves meetings with senior staff and internal and external training as necessary, along with an information pack, including signing up to adhere to appropriate policies e.g. Conflict of Interest and Safeguarding.

Relationship with related parties

Sense International is an independently registered charity and company, and is a subsidiary of Sense, the National Deafblind and Rubella Association ("Sense"). From 1 April 2025 Sense and Sense International have had separate Chief Executives. The Board of Trustees reports once a year, at the AGM, to Sense, the sole member of Sense International. Sense provides support through sharing common facilities such as office space and IT, accounting and human resources support.

In 2025/26, with the approval of the board, Sense International contracted one of its trustees, Nick Corby to do a learning piece on people with complex disabilities. The total value of the consultancy was £17,875 from 3 July 2025 to 27 February 2026.

Delegated authority

The Board has delegated the day-to-day operational management of the organisation to the Chief Executive. The broad areas of delegation, for which the Chief Executive is accountable, are set out in the Sense governance handbook and are similar for Sense International.

Since 1 April 2025, following the appointment of the Director of Sense International as Chief Executive of Sense International, there has not been a separate post of Director of Sense International. The Chief Executive of Sense International is also a member of the Sense Executive Team which is now the Chief Officers' Group.

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees' (who are also directors of Sense International for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report (including the Strategic Report) and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulation.

Company law requires the Trustees' to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Trustees' have prepared the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). 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 the 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;
- observe the methods and principles in the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2019);
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102, have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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. 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.

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

Statement of trustees' responsibilities (continued)

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

In accordance with Section 418, directors' reports shall include a statement, in the case of each director in office at the date the directors' report is approved, that:

- so far as the Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and
- they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a Trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

Public Benefit

Trustees have referred to the information contained in the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing aims and objectives, and planning future activities to implement the charity's objects.

The information given about our objectives give clear examples of how our work is beneficial and brings public benefit through a wide range of activities and will continue to provide public benefit in line with our objects.

Charity Governance Code

The Board of Sense International believes that the policies and practice of Sense International are in keeping with the principles, rationale and key outcomes of the Charity Governance Code. The code was reviewed by the Board of Sense International in July 2025. In line with the requirements for charities to publish a statement in their annual report explaining the use of the Code, specifically on the four principles (3, 4, 5 and 6), the Trustees state the following:

- Principle 3 recommends that the Board 'understand their safeguarding responsibilities'. Safeguarding is a standing agenda item in all board meetings, and a safeguarding report is produced for the board. The board approved Sense International's refreshed Safeguarding Policy in September 2024 and this was reviewed again and approved by the board in September 2025.

- Principle 4 recommends that the Board 'describe the charity's approach to risk'. An updated version of the Sense International risk register is reviewed at each Board meeting. In addition, each national Board reviews the risk register for that country at each Board meeting.

- Principle 5 recommends that 'The board explains in the governance statement how the charity reviews or evaluates the board.'

- Principle 6 recommends that 'The board publishes an annual description of what it has done to address the diversity of the board and the charity's leadership and its performance against its diversity objectives, with an explanation of where they have not been met.'

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

The Board currently has a good mixture of professional skills. In terms of gender balance there were six male and five female Trustees. Among the trustees we have experience of South Asia, East Africa and Latin America as well as lived experience as a parent of a child with disability. When discussing new recruitment, the Board keeps diversity in mind. Age is an aspect of diversity kept under review by the Board.

Charity Governance Code (continued)

Gender of management roles:

- The CEO of Sense International is female with extensive experience of international development.
- The Associate Director Fundraising for Sense International is female.
- The Head of Impact and Influencing for Sense International is female with extensive disability and international development experience.

Safeguarding

Sense International operates a rights-based, risk-based approach to safeguarding. We have a zero-tolerance approach to abuse of all forms.

In 2024/25 routine review of policies were undertaken in line with Charity Commission guidance. A new refreshed Safeguarding Policy was approved by the board in September 2024 and reviewed annually, in September 2025.

Recruitment across the organisation is carried out in accordance with our Safer Recruitment Policy. All staff complete an online training module during their probation, which serves as an introduction to child and vulnerable adult protection and safeguarding considerations and we continue with periodic refresher training for staff in all our teams

Safeguarding Focal Points lead on safeguarding in each of the country programmes. Following clear terms of reference, these individuals take responsibility for championing good safeguarding practice at local level, meet regularly to share experience and feed into wider organisational work to strengthen systems and procedures.

Our reporting system continues as previously reported. During 2025/26 we received six reports through the safeguarding reporting channels, none of which met the Charity Commission’s definition of a Serious Incident.

For further information on Sense International’s Safeguarding System and related work, please visit our website: Safeguarding Statement (senseinternational.org.uk)

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

Environmental Statement

As Sense International is based within the Sense offices in the UK we are following Sense's environmental and carbon reporting.

As part of their annual obligations Sense has produced their SECR Energy and Carbon report 2025-2026 by following the UK HM Government "Environmental Reporting Guidelines: Including streamlined energy and carbon reporting guidance June 2023". Sense also used the GHG Reporting Protocol Corporate Standard. The abridged SECR report can be found in Sense's annual accounts. Over the past four years a lot of work has been done in relation to the organisation's aims of reducing energy consumption and carbon output. Sense now has a stated vision of being carbon neutral by 2040 and to that end has allocated resources to form a dedicated team, and a budget to carry out carbon and energy reduction projects. Sense's major contributors to carbon output (property, fleet and supply chain) are now under the direct management of the Sense Property team. This has enabled a more co-ordinated approach involving the whole organisation and Sense published a new Environmental Policy in the 2024/5 which makes direct reference to Sense International.

In addition to this, as Sense International we continue to monitor our CO2 emissions from air travel on an annual basis through reports from our travel providers.

Reappointment of auditors

A resolution to reappoint HaysMac LLP as auditors to the company will be proposed at the annual general meeting.

By Order of Trustees



Raaxeet Shah

Chair

Date: 30 September 2026

Strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2026

Sense International supports children and adults with deafblindness in Bangladesh, India, Kenya, Nepal, Peru, Romania, Tanzania and Uganda. In the countries we work, people with deafblindness are more likely to live in poverty and be unemployed, with lower educational outcomes than other persons with disabilities. People with deafblindness face multiple barriers, including lack of access to healthcare, education, vocational training and opportunities to participate in their community compounded by lack of accessible information and communication, which makes it extremely difficult for them to voice their issues.

Sense International had three strategic objectives for 2025/26:

- INNOVATE: People with deafblindness are included in national systems.
- INFORM: People with deafblindness, and the people who support them, have more information, skills and knowledge.
- INFLUENCE: People with deafblindness are recognised in laws, policies and budgets.

Overall, we have delivered on our strategic objectives despite a challenging year due to a tough economic and funding landscape exacerbated by the cost of living pressures faced globally. In formulating and reporting on our strategy, we include all members of the Sense International family, including Sense International India. Sense International India is a fully independent charity. Only a small part of its expenditure is funded through Sense International and only this part of its expenditure is included in Sense International's financial statements.

During the year, Sense International also kicked off the process of developing a new strategy which will come into effect from April 2027. The board of Sense International envisages that localisation and becoming more locally led in our approach will be at the heart of the strategy. Consultations with key stakeholders – particularly with the people and communities we support - on Sense International's future direction including on localisation took place in all countries from December 2025 through to May 2026.

Strategic objective 1: People with deafblindness are included in national systems

We innovate and, working in partnership with governments, public structures including schools, hospitals and health facilities, Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs), parents and others, show how people with deafblindness can be included in national systems such as healthcare, education and vocational training.

Strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

Screening and Early Intervention

We take a life cycle approach, identifying children with deafblindness as early as possible and supporting them through their life stages from education through to employment and family and community life. Through our work, we demonstrate to governments, health authorities, families and communities how early screening and intervention can make a huge difference to a child's life.

We screened **20,633 children for deafblindness**.

Sense International Kenya's early intervention and screening programme funded by Else Kröner-Fresenius-Stiftung and Hear the World Foundation reached its halfway mark in the year. At midpoint, the programme has already reached 74% of the 6,700-screening target, and, based on the current pace, is projected to exceed the target by the end of the programme. This strong performance reflects the continued commitment and effective coordination in Kwale and Garissa Counties including with government authorities.

Inclusive Education

Every child has the right to an education. We work with families, schools, colleges, partner organisations, government institutions and Ministries of Education, to enable learners with deafblindness to fulfil their potential, by getting the educational support that they need. This may be home-based, centre-based or in a mainstream school where the child receives support from a learning support assistant. We do what is needed to enable children with deafblindness to learn – from training parents and teachers, to providing specialist technology and adapting school facilities, curricula and learning materials.

Across all countries, we supported **7,026 children with deafblindness** to access education.

The final evaluation of the inclusive education project in Tanzania, part of the Inclusive Futures consortium work funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, found that the project was highly effective in improving school retention and transition rates. Nearly 79% of children with disabilities were retained in target schools, compared to just 21% in control schools. Similarly, transition rates reached 82% in intervention sites while remaining at 18% in control sites. The project also successfully identified and enrolled 43.5% of children who were out of school at the baseline.

Strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

Vocational training and livelihoods

Like any young person, young people with deafblindness want to be as independent as possible, earn a living and contribute to their families and communities. We support young people with deafblindness through the different stages of this process, enabling them to join a vocational training centre, become an apprentice, or plan to start their own business.

1,273 young people were supported with vocational training or opportunities to earn across our eight countries.

The inBusiness Project in Kenya, part of the Inclusive Futures consortium work funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, which concluded in June, demonstrated impact beyond business outcomes. Micro-entrepreneurs (MEs) and their families experienced improved livelihoods and social inclusion, being able to afford medication, provide better meals, and meet basic needs while actively participating in community life. Isolation linked to disability and poverty reduced, with participants reporting enhanced dignity, confidence, and social belonging. Growth kits, self-advocacy training, mentorship, and business exhibitions boosted business confidence, transforming low self-esteem into pride and visibility. This project was one of the winners of the Zero Project Awards last year.

Strategic objective 2: People with deafblindness, and the people who support them, have more information, skills and knowledge

We share information and train people with deafblindness, their families and carers, health-workers, educators and other professionals, communities and decision-makers, so that people with deafblindness get better support.

Across all countries, 17,095 people were trained to support people with deafblindness.

Following the global launch of the Global Deafblindness Resource Hub in February 2025, local launches took place in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Romania, Tanzania and Uganda in June 2025 and in Kenya in September 2025. The Global Deafblindness Resource Hub funded by Nelumbo Foundation, is a platform that brings together, for the first time, access to a range of resources from across the eight countries we work in. It offers a ‘one stop shop’ into information that can guide and navigate people with deafblindness and their support networks to understand and connect more widely with information, local signposted services and networks. We continue to develop the online Global Deafblindness Resource Hub with accessible information and resources for people with deafblindness and those who support them, including parents, caregivers, teachers and NGO workers. We currently have resources in 7 languages on the hub – English, Nepali, Romanian, Spanish, Bangla, Hindi and Swahili.

Strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

In February 2026, Sense International Romania's course on "Early Ante/ pre-school Intervention for Children with Sensory Disabilities and Multisensory impairments" received long awaited accreditation from the Ministry of Education and Research (OMEC no. 3243/24.02.2026). The accreditation is valid for a period of 4 years.

Strategic objective 3: People with deafblindness are recognised in laws, policies and budgets

We raise our voices to ensure the promises and commitments of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and other international human rights legal instruments, are realised for people with deafblindness. Together with our partners and collaborators including organisations of people with deafblindness, we advocate for change in policy, programmes and services so that people with deafblindness are included in every aspect of life.

Global advocacy efforts led by the World Federation of the Deafblind supported by Sense International's global teams led to the United National has officially recognising 27th June – Helen Keller's birthday – as International Day of Deafblindness unanimously voted in by member countries with 100 countries co-sponsoring the resolution. This lays the foundation for concrete actions at national and international levels — including more inclusive policies, increased public awareness, and equitable access to services and supports for persons who are deafblind. A significant moment of recognition and visibility for deafblind communities across the world.
Sense International Romania had a significant influencing win with the formation of a new association of people with deafblindness founded by three young people with deafblindness. Beyond Senses, the new association, was formally established in June 2025. The organisation plans to support deafblind communities and promote the rights of people with deafblindness in Romania and be actively involved in advocacy work.

Following advocacy by Sense International Kenya, the Permanent Secretary for the Kenyan State Department for Basic Education, has approved progressing to drafting Schemes of Service for Learner Support Assistants in line with Public Service Human Resource guidelines. These have been jointly developed in consultation with the State Department for Basic Education, the State Department for Public Service and Sense International Kenya. This is a major step towards formal government recognition and employment of Learner Support Assistants. The guidelines are now with the Public Service Board and, once approved, will allow government recruitment of trained Learner Support Assistants.

Strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

Advancing SDG 4's vision of education for all and leaving no one behind, our partner in Bangladesh, Centre for Disability in Development, participated in an advocacy coordination meeting at the Directorate of Primary Education (DPE) focusing on 'Home based education: A Pathway to Inclusion'. The discussion emphasised the importance of home based education for those children with deafblindness and complex disabilities who cannot access formal schools and advocated for the inclusion of our Home Based Education model in the government's new Primary Education Development Plan (PEDP-5). The Additional Director General confirmed that DPE is reviewing the PEDP-5 framework and intends to formally integrate HBE practices into this national plan. The formal incorporation of Home-Based Education into the Primary Education Development Programme (PEDP-5) by the Directorate of Primary Education represents a major step forward for children with disabilities and learning needs who are unable to access mainstream schooling.

During the UN Committee on Status of Women (CSW70) consultation process, Sense International India consulted and coordinated inputs from girls with deafblindness which were submitted as part of a global pool of 280 reports. The final report that was published included some of the recommendations emerging directly from Sense International India's consultations, ensuring that the voices and lived experiences of women and girls with deafblindness are represented at the global level.

Strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

Objectives for 2026/27

In 2026/27, we will be in the final year of the refreshed 5-year strategy we put in place in 2022/23. We will deliver work on early intervention, inclusive education, and vocational training and livelihoods, alongside advocacy, and training and knowledge sharing, so that people with deafblindness are meaningfully included in systems and societies.

Mission: We work in partnership with people with deafblindness and others, to remove barriers in societies and systems, so that people with deafblindness are fully included and can fulfil their potential.

Strategic Objective 1 (Innovate) **People with deafblindness are included in national systems**: we innovate and show how people with deafblindness can be included in national systems such as healthcare, education and vocational training, working in partnership with governments, Organisations of Persons with Disabilities, parents and others.

Strategic Objective 2 (Inform) **People with deafblindness, and the people who support them, have more information, skills and knowledge**: we share information and train people with deafblindness, their families and carers, health-workers, educators and other professionals, communities and decision-makers, so that people with deafblindness get better support.

Strategic Objective 3 (Influence) **People with deafblindness are recognised in laws, policies and budgets**: we support people with deafblindness to self-advocate, join advocacy efforts by organisations of people with deafblindness and parents' groups, gather rigorous research and evidence, and meet decision-makers.

Strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

Objectives for 2026/27 (continued)

A few of our priorities for 2026/27 include (not an exhaustive list):

- Sense International will continue to develop its new strategy which will include considerations and commitments on how we can become more locally led as an organisation with a view to ensuring that power, agency and ownership of the work we do sits with local partners, people and communities we work with. The new strategy is expected to be approved by the board in September 2026.

- Globally, in all eight countries, we will focus on the close out of the current phase of the Nelumbo Global Inclusive Education programme and look forward to new phase that will see the scale up of the Global Resource Hub.

- In Kenya, we have recently launched an exciting new programme with Grand Challenges Canada (GCC) and Lego Foundation on play-based learning which will be implemented through the year, and we look forward to the learning and impact from this project to help inform and shape our wider programmes.

- In Tanzania, the main focus will be on our five year inclusive education programme called ‘Collective Action on Disability Rights’ funded by the Norwegian government through Atlas Alliance and Signo Foundation. The programme aims to empower persons with disabilities and their representative organisations (OPDs) to claim their rights, improve their lives, and hold governments accountable for implementing inclusive policies in line with the UN CRPD. In Tanzania the programme focuses on improving access to quality inclusive pre-primary, primary and secondary education for girls and boys with disabilities.

- In South Asia, our focus will be on: closing out the John Lewis Foundation grant for vocational training and livelihoods in India; new inclusive education work in Bangladesh partnering with and funded by Sightsavers, looking to build on our effective home-based education model, which has received focus and support from the government and adapt to climate-vulnerable zones; and in Nepal we will be continuing our work with Hollyhock Foundation on inclusive education and also piloting an early intervention programme.

Strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

Internal Financial Control

The systems of internal control are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material financial misstatement or loss. They include:

- An annual budget and operational plan approved by the Trustees. A number of matters are specifically reserved for the Trustees approval. There is a clear organisational structure with appropriate lines for reporting.
- Regular review and consideration by the Trustees of financial results, variances from budgets, reforecasts and non-financial performance indicators.
- Policy documents covering major strategic and operational activities are developed and reviewed with appropriate regularity and consultation.
- Regular monitoring of budgets, operational plan and financial activities by the Director of Sense International with the Management Team.
- Identification and management of risks

The Trustees adopted a risk management policy in December 2018 which was updated on 26th November 2019. Trustees have delegated day-to-day responsibility for the management of risks to the Chief Executive of Sense International. An ongoing risk management process assesses business risks and implements risk management strategies. This involves identifying the types of risks the Charity faces, prioritising them in terms of potential impact and likelihood of occurrence, and regularly updating an action plan to allow satisfactory mitigation and management of likely risks.

This occurs as an intrinsic part of the annual operational planning process and is then reviewed in regular meetings of senior managers, reported to the Trustees each quarter both in the Finance and Audit Committee and the Board Meetings. It is further overseen by the Sense Audit Committee. The Trustees have developed systems to respond quickly to evolving risks arising from factors within the Charity and to changes in the external environment, including procedures for reporting failings immediately to appropriate levels of management, the Trustees, and when required to other external authorities such as the Charity Commission, together with details of corrective action being undertaken.

Strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

Internal Financial Control (continued)

The principal risks are as follows:

Fundraising and funding landscape: Sense International's fundraising team in the UK and the in-country teams fail to reach targets compounded by the cuts in statutory funding for international development globally. This risk is mitigated by the adoption of a realistic fundraising strategy, by a focussed and highly skilled team of fundraisers concentrating on Sense International, and by the close involvement of Trustees in fundraising efforts.

Compliance: In-country partners do not adhere to policies, systems, procedures and donor compliance requirements leading to a financial, reputational, compliance or quality risk. This risk is mitigated through ensuring partners sign Memoranda of Understanding, committing to following Sense International policies in key areas, discussing the policies, systems and procedures at the start of programmes and identifying staff training needs and on-going compliance measures, and through regular and periodic monitoring by SI staff.

Financial management: Sense International global teams do not comply with financial procedures or national financial reporting requirements or do not have the necessary levels of skill and experience to ensure robust, transparent, timely and accurate management of finances. This risk is mitigated through a programme of review of in-country financial procedures, through training and monitoring by UK finance and programme staff.

Currency exchange: As Sense International receives income mainly in Pound Sterling and spends in a variety of currencies, its spending power is reduced if the Pound Sterling falls in value against these operating currencies. The risk is mitigated through spreading exposure to currency fluctuation by holding part of Sense International's cash in various operating currencies and in Euros and US Dollars.

Strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

Financial review for the year ended 31 March 2026

Income for the year was £3.08m (2025: £3.60m). Total expenditure was £3.06m (2025: £3.29m). The proportion of expenditure spent on charitable activities decreased to 85% (2025: 90%).

The reduction in income compared with the prior year reflects lower levels of donations and legacies and income from charitable activities, including the impact of a delay in implementing a project in Tanzania. Donations also include contributions from Sense International's parent company, Sense. Sense operates two shops for the benefit of Sense International, and the profit from these shops is donated to the charity and included within donations and legacies. Income from this source reduced year-on-year as five shops contributed profits in the prior year, before three were closed early in the year. Expenditure on raising funds increased to £0.47m (2025: £0.32m), while charitable expenditure reduced to £2.59m (2025: £2.97m) in line with activity levels. Despite these movements, the charity delivered a surplus of £25.8k.

Reserves

The Trustees agreed an aim to hold unrestricted reserves equivalent to four months' annual expenditure from unrestricted funds, including transfers from unrestricted to restricted funds. The Trustees have set this target in order to ensure Sense International has reserves capable of providing sufficient working capital for budgeted operational commitments and funding responsive action in the event of a significant financial downturn.

At 31 March 2026, unrestricted reserves totalled £252,377 which is equivalent to four months' expenditure from unrestricted funds, including transfers from unrestricted to restricted funds. (2025: £275,133 equivalent to four months.) The level of unrestricted reserves is in line with the level targeted by the Trustees.

By Order of Trustees



Raaxeet Shah

Chair

Date: 30 September 2026

Independent auditor's report to the members of Sense International

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Sense International for the period ended 31st March 2026 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the Statement of Cashflows 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31st March 2026 and of the charitable company's net movement in funds, including the 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.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report and the Chairman's 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.

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 Trustees' Report (which includes the strategic report and the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and

- the strategic report and the directors' report included within the Trustees' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the strategic report and the directors' report).

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the charitable company; or

- the charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or

- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or

- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement**,** the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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:

Based on our understanding of the and the environment in which it operates, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to GDPR and employment law, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might 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 and the Charities Act 2011, and consider other factors such as payroll tax.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to fraud in revenue recognition and the risk of management override of controls. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- **Discussions with management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud;**

- **Evaluating management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;**

- **Identifying and testing journals, in particular journal entries posted with unusual account combinations, postings by unusual users or with unusual descriptions; and**

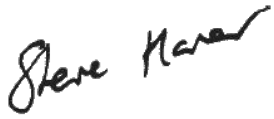
- **Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their critical accounting estimates**

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



Steve Harper (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of HaysMac LLP

30/09/2026

10 Queen Street Place

London

EC4R 1AG

Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 March 2026

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2026	Total 2025
		£	£	£	£
Income from					
Donations and legacies		710,013	1,599,184	**2,309,198**	2,607,972
Charitable activities	2	-	766,316	**766,316**	986,801
Investments		4,134	3,431	**7,565**	10,149
Total		**714,147**	**2,368,931**	**3,083,079**	**3,604,922**
Expenditure on					
Raising funds	4	441,599	24,959	**466,558**	315,114
Charitable activities	4	123,129	2,467,592	**2,590,721**	2,971,250
Total		**564,728**	**2,492,551**	**3,057,279**	**3,286,364**
Net income/(expenditure)		149,420	(123,620)	**25,800**	318,558
Transfers from unrestricted to restricted funds		(172,176)	172,176	**-**	-
Net movement on funds		**(22,756)**	**48,556**	**25,800**	**318,558**
Fund balances brought forward at start of year		275,133	910,477	**1,185,610**	867,052
Fund balances carried forward at end of year		**252,377**	**959,033**	**1,211,410**	**1,185,610**

The accounting policies and notes on pages 32 to 49 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 March 2026

All the results included in the statement of financial activities above relate to continuing activities. The Charity has no recognised gains and losses other than those included in the statement of financial activities above, and therefore no separate statement of other comprehensive income has been presented. There is no difference between the fund balances and the net incoming resources for the years stated above and their historical cost equivalents.

The comparative Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2025 is given in Note 1.

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2026

	Note	2026	2025
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	5	10,503	7,825
Current assets			
Debtors	6	256,141	387,696
Cash at bank and in hand		1,746,226	957,270
Total current assets		2,002,367	1,344,966
Liabilities			
Creditors falling due within one year	7	(793,459)	(151,181)
Net current assets		1,208,908	1,193,785
Total assets less current liabilities		**1,219,410**	**1,201,610**
Creditors falling due after more than one year	8	(8,000)	(16,000)
Total net assets		1,211,410	1,185,610
The funds of the Charity:			
Restricted funds	10,11	959,033	910,477
Unrestricted funds	10,11	252,377	275,133
Total charity funds		1,211,410	1,185,610

The financial statements on pages 28 to 49 were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 30 September 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



Raaxeet Shah
Chair
Company registration number 3742986

Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 March 2026

	Note	2026	2025
		£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	20	789,794	(95,658)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		7,565	10,149
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(8,403)	(4,052)
Net cash (used in) investing activities		(838)	6,097
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		788,956	(89,561)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		957,270	1,046,831
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	**20**	1,746,226	**957,270**

Accounting policies

Statement of Compliance
The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards including:

- Accounting and Reporting for Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP FRS 102);

- the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102"); and

- the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of Preparation
The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of investments at market value and in accordance with applicable UK accounting standards; Accounting and Reporting for Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP FRS 102); the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102"); and the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees have reviewed the Company's forecasts, and made appropriate enquiries of the wider Group's financial position and forecasts, in assessing the adoption of the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements. Trustees have reviewed the forecasts in the light of severe and plausible downsides such as loss of retail income or lower than expected income from fundraising events. The risk presented by operating with a low level of unrestricted reserves is mitigated by the ongoing financial support of the parent company, Sense, The National Deafblind and Rubella Association ("Sense") which was confirmed in a letter of support to the Trustees of Sense International received in September 2026. The Trustees consider the use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate because there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt about the ability of the company to continue as a going concern. On this basis the financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis.

Particulars of the significant accounting policies of the Charity are given below.

Accounting policies (continued)

Income from Charitable Activities
This consists of income from grants and contracts, which is recognised and included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Grants received in advance but with donor imposed conditions that specify the time period in which the expenditure of resources can take place are accounted for as deferred income and recognised as a liability. Income receivable under the terms of a grant at balance sheet date is recognised as accrued income and recognised within debtors.

Donations and Legacies
Legacy income is recognised on a receivable basis when it is probable that legacy income will be received and the value of the incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability. Donations are accounted for when received.

Donations include donations from Sense International's parent company, Sense. Sense operates two shops for the benefit of Sense International and the profit from these shops is donated to Sense International and included in donations and legacies.

Investment Income
Investment income consists of bank interest and is recognised on a receivable basis.

Expenditure
All expenditure, including any irrecoverable VAT, is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. Fundraising for Sense International is carried out by fundraisers employed by the parent charity Sense and all costs charged to Sense International for this work are direct costs. Accordingly, all support costs relate to charitable activities.

Cost incurred by country programmes are included within direct costs. Costs incurred in the UK are allocated to direct or support costs based on an estimate of the split by activity of staff time in each cost centre.

Governance Costs
Governance costs include external audit and Trustees' expenses.

Cash at Bank and in Hand
Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

Accounting policies (continued)

Foreign Currency
i. Functional and presentation currency
The company's functional and presentation currency is the Pound Sterling.

ii. Transactions and balances
Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the spot exchange rates at the dates of the transactions.

At each period end foreign currency monetary items are translated using the closing rate. Non-monetary items measured at historical cost are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction and non-monetary items measured at fair value are measured using the exchange rate when fair value was determined.

Recognition of Liabilities
Liabilities are recognised when an obligation arises to transfer economic benefits as a result of past transactions or events.

Fixed Assets and Depreciation
Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of tangible assets over their estimated useful economic lives in equal annual instalments over 4 years.

Purchases of fixed assets valued at £500 and above are capitalised, otherwise they are expensed in the year the cost is incurred.

Pension Costs
The charity operates defined contribution schemes for staff. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they are payable.

Taxation
The company is recognised as a charity by His Majesty's Revenue and Customs for the purposes of Section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 and is exempt from Corporation Tax.

Accounting policies (continued)

Fund Accounting
Unrestricted funds, which have not been designated for other purposes, are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity.

Restricted funds are those which are to be used in accordance with specific instructions imposed by the donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

Restricted fund expenditure is accounted for when the funds are expended. All expenditure made in the countries we work in outside the UK is accounted for as restricted fund expenditure and a transfer is made from unrestricted funds at the end of the year to cover any expenditure not covered by restricted income.

Investment income and gains are allocated to the appropriate fund.

Principal Accounting Estimates and Judgements
In the application of Sense International's accounting policies, management is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. These estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. These estimates together with their underlying assumptions are continually reviewed. Actual results may differ from those estimates. The matter below is considered to be the most important in understanding the judgements that are involved in preparing the financial statements and the uncertainties that could impact the amounts reported:

Legacy income is recognised as detailed under income recognition above. In calculating the level of accrued legacy income, management is required to exercise estimation and judgement, particularly in determining the value and probability of receipt.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026

1 Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025
	£	£	**£**
Income from			
Donations and legacies	1,003,360	1,604,612	**2,607,972**
Charitable activities	24,667	962,134	**986,801**
Investments	6,183	3,966	**10,149**
Total	**1,034,210**	**2,570,712**	**3,604,922**
Expenditure on			
Raising funds	315,114	-	**315,114**
Charitable activities	222,924	2,748,326	**2,971,250**
Total	**538,038**	**2,748,326**	**3,286,364**
Net income/(expenditure)	496,172	(177,614)	**318,558**
Transfers from unrestricted to restricted funds	(244,180)	244,180	**-**
Net movement on funds	**251,992**	**66,566**	**318,558**
Fund balances brought forward at start of year	23,141	843,911	**867,052**
Fund balances carried forward at end of year	**275,133**	**910,477**	**1,185,610**

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

2 Income from charitable activities

Income from Charitable Activities	2026 £	2025 £
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) Disability Inclusive Development (DID) Programme 'Inclusive Futures' consortium	**727,421**	866,252
Guernsey Overseas Aid and Development Commission Education, learning and skills for people with deafblindness in Bangladesh	**29,163**	52,460
Faroe Islands Ministry of Justice Empowering Youth with Disabilities: Market-Driven Vocational Training for Sutainable Livelihoods in Singida, Tanzania	**9,732**	43,422
Unrestricted Income	**-**	24,667
Total Income from Charitable Activities	**766,316**	**986,801**

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

3 Income from donations and legacies

During the year, a donation of £250,000 (2025: £300,000) was received from the parent company, Sense.

In addition, in the year ended 31 March 2026, Sense donated £116,275 (2025: £124,075) representing the net profit on two shops run by Sense that are designated as Sense International shops.

Income from legacies for the year was £2,651 (2025: £98,599), the remainder of the income was from donations.

4 Expenditure

	Direct Costs	Support Costs	Total 2026
	£	£	**£**
Raising funds	466,558	-	**466,558**
Charitable activities	2,459,600	131,121	**2,590,721**
	2,926,158	**131,121**	**3,057,279**

Support Costs	Management	Governance	Total 2026
	£	£	**£**
Charitable activities	123,158	7,963	**131,121**
	123,158	**7,963**	**131,121**

Governance costs included £7,000 (2025: £7,000) of external audit fees. No payments were made to Sense International's auditors in respect of non-audit services.

The corresponding amounts for the previous year were as follows:

	Direct Costs	Support Costs	Total 2025
	£	£	**£**
Raising funds	315,114	-	**315,114**
Charitable activities	2,874,446	96,804	**2,971,250**
	3,189,560	**96,804**	**3,286,364**

Support Costs			
	Direct Costs	Support Costs	Total 2025
Charitable activities	£	£	**£**
	89,804	**7,000**	**96,804**

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

5 Tangible assets

	Computers	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures & Fittings	Total
	£	£	£	**£**
Cost				
At 31 March 2025	10,421	69,002	4,650	**84,073**
Additions	6,530	-	1,873	**8,403**
Disposals	-	-	-	**-**
31 March 2026	**16,951**	**69,002**	**6,523**	**92,476**
Accumulated Depreciation				
At 31 March 2025	7,166	67,040	2,043	**76,248**
Charge for the year	2,363	1,962	1,401	**5,726**
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	**-**
At 31 March 2026	**9,529**	**69,002**	**3,444**	**81,974**
Net Book Value				
At 31 March 2026	**7,422**	**-**	**3,079**	**10,502**
At 31 March 2025	3,256	1,962	2,607	**7,825**

All tangible fixed assets are used for charitable purposes. There were no capital commitments at the balance sheet date (2025: £nil).

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

6 Debtors

	2026	2025
	£	£
Other debtors	**61,230**	109,764
Accrued income	**182,315**	264,438
Prepayments	**12,594**	13,494
	256,139	**387,696**

7 Creditors falling due within one year

	2026	2025
	£	£
Trade creditors	**12,793**	592
Amounts owed to Group undertakings	**503,709**	69,298
Deferred income	**113,091**	14,482
Other creditors and accruals	**163,866**	66,809
	793,459	**151,181**

Amounts due to group undertakings are unsecured, interest free, have no fixed date of repayment and are repayable on demand.

Deferred income is restricted income received prior to the year end subject to a condition that it may not be spent until after the year end. All deferred income was utlised in the year following receipt.

8 Creditors falling due after more than one year

The amount due after more than one year is in respect of a loan of £40,000 that is unsecured, interest free, and repayable in five equal annual instalments from March 2023. The amount falling due after more than one year is £8,000 (2025: £16,000). The loan is from a related party as disclosed in note 15.

9 Capital

Sense International is registered in England (Company registration number 3742986) as a company limited by guarantee having no share capital. The liability of the member is limited by guarantee. The member has undertaken to contribute an amount not exceeding one pound as may be required in the event of the charity being wound up.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

10 Movement in funds

Fund	Balance at 31 March 2025	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£	£
Nelumbo Stiftung Education Phase 2	335,270	467,322	525,752	-	276,840
Romania – In-country Income	141,997	39,212	46,161	-	135,048
John Lewis Foundation	4,146	105,182	92,360	-	16,968
Nelumbo Stiftung Early Intervention (Uganda) Phase 2	77,020	168,418	161,866	-	83,572
Karlson Javita Charitable Foundation (Peru)	77,677	76,123	65,354	-	88,446
Hollyhock Foundation	14,145	-	14,145	-	-
IHelp Uganda	29,788	12,278	42,066	-	-
Commonwealth Foundation (Kenya)	12,736	-	12,736	-	-
CareTech Foundation Tanzania	-	63,534	38,621	-	24,913
MTN Telecoms (Uganda)	23,078	-	23,078	-	-
Kilimanjaro Blind Trust Africa Uganda	17,666	28,193	34,376	-	11,483
Halcrow Foundation	585	10,598	11,183	-	-
Medicor	-	27,972	4,542	-	23,430
Priory Foundation	3,268	-	3,268	-	-
Lavelle Peru	5,062	41,375	37,747	-	8,689
James Tudor Foundation (Nepal)	3,000	-	-	-	3,000
Else Krone Frosenius Stiftung	24,906	85,435	89,137	-	21,204
Peru Holding Fund	-	39	39,710	39,671	-
Uganda Holding Fund	-	(7,076)	19,560	26,636	-
Kenya Holding Fund	-	1,226	82,301	81,075	-
Tanzania Holding Fund	-	16	28,429	28,413	-
Romania Holding Fund	-	3,618	-	(3,618)	-
Hear the World Foundation	-	85,976	85,976	-	-
Comic Relief Uganda	30,206	127,965	99,792	-	58,379
Hollyhock Foundation (Nepal)	20,402	130,844	46,740	-	104,506
Faroe Islands	19,830	15,830	35,174	-	486
Guernsey Overseas Aid Education 3 (Bangladesh)	8,209	29,163	37,372	-	-
Allan and Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust	25,000	-	20,977	-	4,023
Grande Challenge Canada	-	50,259	4,797	-	45,461
Romania OMV Petrom	-	14,538	8,396	-	6,142
SIGNO 2025-2029	-	60,414	54,499	-	5,914
Disability Inclusive Development Programme	-	710,524	710,509	-	15
Other	36,486	19,956	15,928	-	40,514
Total restricted	**910,477**	**2,368,931**	**2,492,551**	**172,176**	**959,033**
Unrestricted	275,133	714,147	564,728	(172,176)	252,376
Total	**1,185,610**	**3,083,079**	**3,057,279**	**-**	**1,211,410**

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

10 Movement in funds (continued)

The corresponding amounts for the previous year were as follows:

Fund	Balance at 31 March 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Nelumbo Stiftung Education Phase 2	261,879	549,347	475,956	-	335,270
Romania – In-country Income	120,244	73,801	52,048	-	141,997
John Lewis Foundation	99,545	(9,399)	86,000	-	4,146
Nelumbo Stiftung Early Intervention (Uganda) Phase 2	99,505	117,697	140,182	-	77,020
Karlson Javita Charitable Foundation (Peru)	59,616	68,720	50,659	-	77,677
Deaf Child Worldwide (Kenya)	32,128	28,633	60,761	-	-
Hollyhock Foundation	25,050	23,366	34,271	-	14,145
IHelp Uganda	20,301	30,187	20,710	-	29,788
Commonwealth Foundation (Kenya)	17,366	4,981	9,610	-	12,736
Active Citizens Romania	14,986	(2,764)	12,222	-	-
CareTech Foundation Tanzania	13,917	45,216	59,133	-	-
MTN Telecoms (Uganda)	13,078	179,820	169,820	-	23,078
Kilimanjaro Blind Trust Africa Uganda	9,643	24,798	16,775	-	17,666
Synevo (Romania)	8,014	-	8,014	-	-
Halcrow Foundation	7,421	4,122	10,958	-	585
Medicor	6,470	-	6,470	-	-
Priory Foundation	3,923	-	655	-	3,268
Hugh Symons (Bangladesh)	3,491	(297)	3,194	-	-
Lavelle Peru	3,474	42,724	41,136	-	5,062
James Tudor Foundation (Nepal)	3,000	-	-	-	3,000
Romania Orange E-Sense	2,712	-	2,712	-	-
Guernsey Overseas Aid Education 2 (Bangladesh)	678	21,699	22,377	-	-
FCDO Disability Inclusive Development	-	866,252	866,252	-	-
Else Krone Frosenius Stiftung	-	80,150	55,244	-	24,906
Peru Holding Fund	-	15,502	47,040	31,538	-
Uganda Holding Fund	-	5,561	88,788	83,227	-
Kenya Holding Fund	-	2,637	64,612	61,975	-
Tanzania Holding Fund	-	1,166	51,865	50,699	-
Bangladesh Holding Fund	-	-	16,730	16,730	-
Hear the World Foundation	-	78,092	78,092	-	-
Comic Relief Uganda	-	70,308	40,101	-	30,206
Hollyhock Foundation (Nepal)	-	51,856	31,454	-	20,402
Faroe Islands	-	43,422	23,592	-	19,830
Guernsey Overseas Aid Education 3 (Bangladesh)	-	29,060	20,851	-	8,209
Allan and Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust	-	25,000	-	-	25,000
Subtotal carried forward to next page	**826,441**	**2,496,587**	**2,651,554**	**244,180**	**893,736**

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

10 Movement in funds (continued)

Fund	Balance at 31 March 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2025
Subtotal brought forward from previous page	**826,441**	**2,496,587**	**2,651,554**	**244,180**	**893,736**
Other	17,470	99,055	80,042	-	36,484
Total restricted	**843,911**	**2,570,712**	**2,748,326**	**244,140**	**910,477**
Unrestricted	23,141	1,034,210	538,038	(244,180)	275,133
Total	**867,052**	**3,604,922**	**3,286,364**	**-**	**1,185,610**

Restricted funds are funds held by the Charity for particular applications, specified by the donor and within the Charity's objectives, and can only be applied to those particular purposes. The restrictions may apply to income or capital or both. Many of the restricted funds are generated through targeted project appeals.

Expenditure incurred outside the UK that is not eligible to be charged against a specific restricted fund is charged to a restricted fund set up for the relevant country. Where we receive income that is restricted to be spent in a particular country, but not otherwise restricted, it is credited to the restricted fund for that country. At the end of each year, if expenditure from the restricted fund for a country exceeds income to the fund, then a transfer is made from unrestricted funds to restricted funds to bring the fund balance to zero

The following restricted funds had material balances at the year end. These balances reflect funding received for multi-year programmes where expenditure will be incurred in future reporting periods in accordance with the terms of the respective funding agreements.

Nelumbo Stiftung Education Phase II

This fund supports the All Together in Education: Breaking Barriers for Children with Deafblindness (Phase II) programme across eight implementation countries and the UK. The balance at the year-end relates to activities continuing until July 2026, with expenditure to be incurred over the remaining project period.

Romania – In Country Income

This balance comprises income raised in Romania that is restricted for expenditure by Sense International Romania on its charitable programmes. The remaining balance will be applied to future programme activities.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

10 Movement in funds (continued)

Nelumbo Stiftung Early Intervention (Uganda) Phase II

This fund supports the Sensory Screening and Early Intervention project in Southern Uganda. The year-end balance reflects funding for activities continuing until July 2026, including community screening and early intervention services for children with multi-sensory impairments.

Karlson Javita Charitable Foundation

This fund supports the Transforming Inclusive Education programme in Peru and Ecuador. The balance at the year-end relates to activities continuing until January 2027, including teacher training, early intervention and advocacy for people with deaf blindness.

Hollyhock Foundation

This fund supports health and education programmes for children and young people with deaf blindness in Nepal. The balance at the year-end reflects funding for activities continuing until July 2027, including inclusive education and neonatal screening initiatives.

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are held for the general purposes of the Charity. Because they can be deployed flexibly, unrestricted funds allow the Charity to fund core organisational costs necessary for delivery of projects partially funded with restricted funds. Unrestricted funds also allows the Charity, through co-funding, to leverage restricted funding from Governmental and State agencies that will usually only commit to fund part of the costs of major projects. Hence, unrestricted funds are vitally important for the day to day operation of the Charity and the support we provide to people with deafblindness and multi-sensory impairments.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

11 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2026
	£	£	**£**
Fixed assets	10,502	0	**10,502**
Net current assets	249,875	959,035	**1,208,908**
Creditors falling due after more than one year	(8,000)	0	**(8,000)**
	252,377	**959,035**	**1,211,410**

The corresponding amounts for the previous year were as follows:

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025
	£	£	**£**
Fixed assets	7,825	-	**7,825**
Net current assets	283,308	910,477	**1,193,785**
Creditors falling due after more than one year	(16,000)	-	**(16,000)**
	275,133	**910,477**	**1,185,610**

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

12 Employees' remuneration

	2026	2025
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	**1,221,693**	1,016,690
Social Security costs	**86,043**	61,353
Other pension costs	**61,977**	55,203
	1,369,713	**1,133,246**

The average monthly number of persons employed by the Charity was 53 (2025: 57).

No employees earned £60,000 to £70,000 (2025: 0), one employee earned between £70,000 and £80,000 (2025: 1), no employees earned between £80,000 and £90,000 (2025: 1) and one employee earned between £90,000 and £100,000 (2025: 0).

The Trustees of Sense International received no remuneration (2025: £nil) and received £169 reimbursements of expenses (2025: £162).

13 Pensions

Sense International contributes to defined contribution pension schemes in the countries in which it operates. The pension charge for the year was £61,977 (2025: £55,203).

14 Capital commitments

Capital expenditure authorised and contracted for but not provided for at 31 March 2026 amounted to £nil (2025: £nil).

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

15 Related Parties

In the year ending 31 March 2020, Sense International entered into a loan with Dandylion Consulting Limited, a company of which trustee Sunil Shah was also a Director in the year. The loan was unsecured, interest free, and repayable in five equal annual instalments from March 2023. During the prior year, Dandylion Consulting Limited agreed to a deferment of repayments by one year to begin from March 2024. The amount of the loan outstanding at the balance sheet date is £16,000. In 2025-26 Dandylion Consulting Limited requested that Sense International utilise the £8,000 repayment due for 25-26 as a donation to support the early identification and intervention programme in Tanzania. The £8,000 has been reflected in the accounts as a reduction in the loan value and a donation from Dandylion Consulting Limited. See also note 8.

During the year, Sense International engaged one of its trustees, Nick Corby, to provide consultancy services for a total fee of £17,875 for the period from July 2025 to February 2026.

See Note 3 for donations from Sense International's parent charity Sense and Note 17 for disclosure of remuneration for key management personnel.

16 Parent undertaking and ultimate controlling party

The charity's parent undertaking and ultimate controlling party is considered by the Trustees to be Sense, The National Deafblind and Rubella Association, a charity and company, registered in England. The registered address of Sense from which copies of this company's financial statements are available is:

101 Pentonville Road
London
N1 9LG

17 Key Management Personnel

The Trustees delegated day to day responsibility to the Chief Executive, Kavita Prasad.

The aggregate remuneration of the one key management personnel remunerated by Sense International (2025: 1), was £107,262 (2025: £89,183) before pension contributions of £4,696 (2025: £4,459).

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

18 Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities

	2026 £	2025 £
Net Income/(expenditure)	**25,800**	318,558
Adjustments for:		
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	**-**	958
Investment income received	**(7,565)**	(10,149)
Depreciation	**5,726**	14,487
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	**131,557**	(143,399)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	**634,278**	(276,113)
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	**789,796**	**(95,658)**

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 (continued)

19 Net debt

	At 1 April 2025	Cashflows	Other non-cash movements	At 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£
Cash	957,270	788,956	-	**1,746,226**
Loans falling due within one year	(8,000)	8,000	(8,000)	**(8,000)**
Loans falling due after more than one year	(16,000)	-	8,000	**(8,000)**
Total	**933,270**	**796,956**	**-**	**1,730,226**

20 Analysis of changes in net cash

	At 1 April 2025 £	Cash flows £	Non-cash changes £	At 31 March 2026 £
Cash at bank and in hand	957,270	788,956	-	**1,746,226**
Net cash	**957,270**	**788,956**	-	**1,746,226**

The corresponding amounts for the previous year were as follows:

	At 1 April 2024 £	Cash flows £	Non-cash changes £	At 31 March 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	1,046,831	(89,561)	-	**957,270**
Net cash	**1,046,831**	**(89,561)**	**-**	**957,270**

Major Supporters

The Trustees are indebted to all of our donors for their support, both financial and otherwise. Without their support it would not have been possible for the Charity to operate. We are particularly grateful to those who have made unrestricted donations in the year. With special thanks to:

Acuity Analytics

Beatrice Laing Charitable Trust

Bhim Ruia Foundation

CareTech Foundation

Coles-Medlock Foundation

Comic Relief – Sense International Uganda

Dorothea Haus Ross Foundation – Sense International Peru

Else Kröner-Fresenius-Stiftung

UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)

Foundation OMV Petrom – Sense International Romania

Guernsey Overseas Aid & Development Commission

Government of the Faroe Islands

Government of Norway (Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Norad) through SIGNO and the Atlas Alliance – Sense International Tanzania

Halcrow Foundation

Hear the World Foundation – Sense International Kenya

Homes for Students

Jaspar Foundation

John & Sarah Rockliff (Friends of the Reed Foundation)

John Lewis Partnership Foundation

Kilimanjaro Blind Trust Africa - Sense International Uganda

Lavelle Fund for the Blind, Inc. - Sense International Peru

LEGO through Grand Challenges Canada (GCC) – Sense International Kenya

MJB Charitable Trust

MTN Uganda Foundation – Sense International Uganda

Nelumbo Foundation

Pradip Dhamecha

Souter Charitable Trust

Sunil Shah

Sunil Sheth

Terry Williams

The Global Partnership for Education Knowledge and Innovation Exchange (KIX) and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) Canada – Sense International Uganda partner with Kyambogo University.

The Haramead Trust

The Hollyhock Charitable Foundation

The Karlsson Játiva Charitable Foundation’s LACT programme

The Princess Anne’s Charities Trust

The Rainford Trust

The Tony and Audrey Watson Charitable Trust

Sense International
Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026

Charity Information

Charity name	Sense International
Governing instrument	Memorandum and Articles of Association
Registered charity number	1076497
Company registration number	3742986
Trustees	
	Nicholas Corby
	Suzi Nandera
	Sian Tesni Copeland Roberts
	Raaxeet Shah (Chair)
	Sunil Shah
	Lisa Szucs (resigned 13 April 2025)
	Kiran Virdee
	Lauren Watters
	Vivienne Hoskins (appointed 22 September 2025)
	Simon Gallow (appointed 1 October 2025)
	Joe Collenette (appointed 1 October 2025)
	Dilnaz Khambata (appointed 1 October 2025)
Company secretary	Kavita Prasad (from 31 March 2025)
Key management personnel	
Chief executive	Kavita Prasad (from 1 April 2025)
Registered office	101 Pentonville Road London N1 9LG

Bankers	National Westminster Bank PLC Tavistock House, Tavistock Square London, WC1H 9JA
Solicitors	Wilsons Solicitors LLP Alexandra House St John Street Salisbury SP1 2SB Trowers & Hamlins LLP 3 Bunhill Row London EC1Y 8YZ
Independent Auditors	HaysMac LLP 10 Queen Street Place, London EC4R 1AG