

Form AR27

Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992

Annual Return for an Employers' Association

Name of Employers' Association:

National Federation Of Retail Newsagents

Year ended:

31st December 2025

List No:

67E

Head or Main Office:

Bede House

Belmont Business Park

Durham

Postcode

DH1 1TW

Website address (if available)

Has the address changed during the year to which the return relates?

Yes

No

X

('X' in appropriate box)

General Secretary:

Hetalkumar Patel

Contact name for queries regarding the completion of this return:

Joanne Elliott

Telephone Number:

0207 017 8880

E-mail:

Finance@nfrn.org.uk

Please follow the guidance notes in the completion of this return

Any difficulties or problems in the completion of this return should be directed to the Certification Office as below or by telephone to: 0330 1093602

You should send the annual return to the following address stating the name of the union in subject:

returns@certoffice.org

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Return of Members

(see note 9)

Number of members at the end of the year				
Great Britain	Northern Ireland	Irish Republic	Elsewhere Abroad (Including Channel Islands)	Totals
7,315	409	166	15	7,905

Change of Officers

Please complete the following to record any changes of officers during the twelve months covered by this return.

Position held	Name of Officer ceasing to hold office	Name of Officer appointed	Date of Change
Secretary	Hetalkumar Patel	Hetalkumar Patel	17 June 2025
National President	Shahid Razzaq	Hetalkumar Patel	17 June 2025
National Vice President	Hetalkumar Patel	Hemanshu Patel	17 June 2025
National Deputy Vice President	Hemanshu Patel	Craig Etchells	17 June 2025

Officers in post

(see note 10)

Please complete list of all officers in post at the end of the year to which this form relates.

Name of Officer	Position held
Hetalkumar Patel	National President
Hemanshu Patel	National Vice President
Craig Etchells	National Deputy Vice President
Hussan Lal	Executive Councillor
Jason Birks	Executive Councillor
Sunilkumar Patel	Executive Councillor
Andrew White	Executive Councillor
Anant Patel	Executive Councillor
Colin Reed	Executive Councillor
Muntazir Dipoti	Executive Councillor
Andrew Taylor	Executive Councillor
Sas Patel	Executive Councillor
Suresh Patel	Executive Councillor
Ketan Lakhani	Executive Councillor
Julia Bywater	Executive Councillor
Vince Malone	Executive Councillor
Devendra Patel	Executive Councillor
Viral joshi	Executive Councillor
Ashish Patel	Executive Councillor
Judith Mercer	Executive Councillor
Martin Mulligan	Executive Councillor
Alpesh Patel	Executive Councillor & National Finance Committee Member
Narinder Randhawa	Executive Councillor & National Finance Committee Member
Mike Mitchelson	Trustee & Chair of National Finance Committee
Nilesh Patel	Trustee & National Finance Committee Member
Ferhan Ashiq	Trustee & National Finance Committee Member

(see notes 11 to 16)

Previous Year			£	£
	Income			
2,463,940	From Members	Subscriptions, levies, etc	2,341,035	2,341,035
	Investment income	Interest and dividends (gross)		
11,333		Bank interest (gross)	6,215	6,215
		Other (specify)		
		Total Investment Income	6,215	6,215
523,573	Other Income	Rents received	508,815	508,815
		Insurance commission		
		Consultancy fees		
		Publications/Seminars		
		Miscellaneous receipts (specify)		
1,063,807		Business Development & Sponsorship	976,593	976,593
50,000		Management Fees	50,000	50,000
-73,924		Less Direct Costs	-69,076	-69,076
		Total of other income		1,466,332
4,038,729		Total income		3,813,582
	Interfund Transfers IN			
	Expenditure			
	Administrative expenses	Remuneration and expenses of staff		
		Occupancy costs		
		Printing, Stationery, Post		
		Telephones		
		Legal and Professional fees		
		Miscellaneous (specify)		
243,188		Council & Committee	242,266	242,266
51,750		Presidents & Trustees	61,281	61,281
83,242		District & Branch	97,092	97,092
847,848		Member's Services	801,435	801,435
926,913		Operational	669,306	669,306
2,152,941		Total of Admin expenses		1,871,380
	Other Charges	Bank charges	10,498	10,498
12,995		Depreciation	63,029	63,029
56,204		Sums written off		
		Affiliation fees		
		Donations		
		Conference and meeting fees		
		Expenses		
		Miscellaneous (specify)		
1,218,613		Finance, Head Office & Communications	1,683,274	1,683,274
55,766		Pension Deficit Reduction Costs	54,589	54,589
		Profit on sale of Fixed Assets	16,436	16,436
500,000		Fair Value Adjustment Investment Property		
1,843,578		Total of other charges		1,827,826
5,893		Taxation	126,682	126,682
4,002,412		Total expenditure		3,825,888
	Interfund Transfers OUT			
36,317		Surplus/Deficit for year		-12,306
808,602		Amount of fund at beginning of year		844,919
844,919		Amount of fund at end of year		832,613

Accounts other than Revenue Account/General Fund

(see notes 17 to 18)

Account 2		Fund Account	
Name of account:	Benefits Fund	£	£
Income			
	From members		
	Investment income	70,199	70,199
	Other Income (specify)		
	Rental Income	4,888	
	Interest Receivable	64,330	
		69,218	69,218
		Total Income	139,417
	Interfund Transfers IN		
Expenditure			
	Administrative expenses	3,310	3,310
	Other expenditure (specify)		
	Claims Paid	37,200	
	Depreciation	180	
	Surplus on sale of Investments	-3,374	
	Fair Value Adjustments	-1,139	
	Taxation		
		32,867	32,867
		Total Expenditure	36,177
	Interfund Transfers OUT		
		Surplus (Deficit) for the year	103,240
		Amount of fund at beginning of year	4,001,282
		Amount of fund at the end of year (as Balance Sheet)	4,104,522

Account 3		Fund Account	
Name of account:	Ratcliffe Benefits Fund	£	£
Income			
	From members		
	Investment income		
	Other income (specify)		
	Donations	550	
	Bank Interest	2,640	
		3,190	3,190
		Total Income	3,190
	Interfund Transfers IN		
Expenditure			
	Administrative expenses		
	Other expenditure (specify)		
	Grants	2,750	
	Bank Charges	171	
		2,921	2,921
		Total Expenditure	2,921
	Interfund Transfers OUT		
		Surplus (Deficit) for the year	269
		Amount of fund at beginning of year	267,526
		Amount of fund at the end of year (as Balance Sheet)	267,795

Accounts other than Revenue Account/General Fund

(see notes 17 to 18)

Account 4		Fund Account	
Name of account: Carl Bridgewater		£	£
Income	From members		
	Investment income		
	Other income (specify)		
	Donations		
	Intercompany/ Bank Interest	4,800	
		4,800	4,800
		Total Income	4,800
	Interfund Transfers IN		
Expenditure	Administrative expenses		
	Other expenditure (specify)		
	Gifts and Donations	850	
	Sundry Expenses	157	
		1,007	1,007
		Total Expenditure	1,007
	Interfund Transfers OUT		
		Surplus (Deficit) for the year	3,793
		Amount of fund at beginning of year	179,410
		Amount of fund at the end of year (as Balance Sheet)	183,203

Account 5		Fund Account	
Name of account:		£	£
Income	From members		
	Investment income		
	Other income (specify)		
		Total Income	
	Interfund Transfers IN		
Expenditure	Administrative expenses		
	Other expenditure (specify)		
		Total Expenditure	
	Interfund Transfers OUT		
		Surplus (Deficit) for the year	
		Amount of fund at beginning of year	
		Amount of fund at the end of year (as Balance Sheet)	

(see notes 17 to 18)

Account 6		Fund Account	
Name of account:		£	£
Income			
	From members		
	Investment income		
	Other income (specify)		
	Total Income		
Expenditure			
	Administrative expenses		
	Other expenditure (specify)		
	Total Expenditure		
	Interfund Transfers IN		
	Interfund Transfers OUT		
	Surplus (Deficit) for the year		
	Amount of fund at beginning of year		
	Amount of fund at the end of year (as Balance Sheet)		

Account 7		Fund Account	
Name of account:		£	£
Income			
	From members		
	Investment income		
	Other income (specify)		
	Total Income		
	Interfund Transfers IN		
Expenditure			
	Administrative expenses		
	Other expenditure (specify)		
	Total Expenditure		
	Interfund Transfers OUT		
	Surplus (Deficit) for the year		
	Amount of fund at beginning of year		
	Amount of fund at the end of year (as Balance Sheet)		

Balance Sheet as at [31 December 2025]

(see notes 19 and 20)

Previous Year		£	£
9,414,949	Fixed Assets (as at Page 8)	9,324,354	9,324,354
	Investments (as per analysis on page 9)		
111,046	Quoted (Market value £) as at Page 9		120,559
150,003	Unquoted (Market value £) as at Page 9		150,003
261,049	Total Investments	270,562	270,562
	Other Assets		
2,951,551	Sundry debtors	2,751,138	2,751,138
1,618,919	Cash at bank and in hand	1,864,533	1,864,533
	Stocks of goods		
	Others (specify)		
136,223	Customer Receivables	293,184	
465,850	Prepayments & Accrued Income	266,182	
5,172,543	Total of other assets	5,175,037	5,175,037
	Total Assets		14,769,953
844,919	Revenue Account/ General Fund	832,613	
4,001,282	Benefits Fund	4,104,522	
267,526	Ratcliffe Benefits Fund	267,795	
179,410	Carl Bridgewater	183,203	
5,644,096	Revaluation Reserve	5,644,096	
100,000	Strategic Reserve	100,000	
	Liabilities		
130,190	Corporation Tax	127,942	
179,099	PAYE/NI & VAT	191,557	
1,072,141	Other Creditors	863,138	
361,692	Accruals and Deferred Income	419,200	
18,333	HirePurchase Liabilities		
1,831,260	Provisions - Deferred tax	1,831,260	
218,593	Provisions - Pension Scheme Deficit & Legal Assistance provision	204,626	
3,811,308	Total Liabilities		3,637,723
14,848,541	Total Assets		14,769,953

Fixed Assets account

(see note 21)

	Land and Buildings	Fixtures & Fittings	Motor Vehicles & Equipment	Total £
Cost or Valuation				
At start of period	9,262,651	95,452	56,846	9,414,949
Additions during period				
Less: Disposals	-19,800		-25,990	-45,790
Less: Depreciation	-5,000	-8,951	-30,854	-44,805
Total to end of period	9,237,851	86,501	2	9,324,354
Book Amount at end of period	9,237,851	86,501	2	9,324,354
Freehold	9,235,000			9,235,000
Leasehold (50 or more years unexpired)				
Leasehold (less than 50 years unexpired)	2,851			2,851
Total of Fixed Assets	9,237,851	86,501	2	9,324,354

Analysis of Investments

(see note 22)

Quoted		Other Funds
	British Government & British Government Guaranteed Securities	
	UK Fixed Interest	4,208
	British Municipal and County Securities	
	Other quoted securities (to be specified)	
	Equities	108,774
	Emerging Economies	6,398
	Commercial Property	
	International Property	
	Alternative Assets	
	Cash	1,179
	Total Quoted (as Balance Sheet)	120,559
	Market Value of Quoted Investments	
Unquoted	British Government Securities	
	British Municipal and County Securities	
	Mortgages	
	Other unquoted investments (to be specified)	
	NFRN Holdings Ltd	3
	Newtrade Media Limited	150,000
	Total Unquoted (as Balance Sheet)	150,003
	Market Value of Unquoted Investments	

* Market value of investments to be stated where these are different from the figures quoted in the balance sheet

Analysis of investment income (Controlling interests)

(see note 23)

Does the association, or any constituent part of the association, have a controlling interest in any limited company?

Yes

X

No

If Yes name the relevant companies:

Company name

Company registration number (if not registered in England & Wales, state where registered)

NFRN Holdings Limited

04588787

Newtrade Media Limited

00454555

Newtrade Publishing Limited

09338494

Bede House Limited

13961957

* Indirect Holdings - see below

Incorporated Employers' Associations

Are the shares which are controlled by the association registered in the association's name

Yes

No

X

If NO, please state the names of the persons in whom the shares controlled by the association are registered.

Company name

Names of shareholders

Newtrade Media Limited

NFRN Holdings Limited

Newtrade Publishing Limited

NFRN Holdings Limited

Bede House Limited

NFRN Holdings Limited

Unincorporated Employers' Associations

Are the shares which are controlled by the association registered in the names of the association's trustees?

Yes

No

If NO, state the names of the persons in whom the shares controlled by the association are registered.

Company name

Names of shareholders

Summary Sheet

(see notes 24 to 33)

		All Funds	Total Funds
		£	£
Income			
From Members		2,341,035	2,341,035
From Investments		76,414	76,414
Other Income (including increases by revaluation of assets)		1,543,540	1,543,540
Total Income		3,960,989	3,960,989
Expenditure (including decreases by revaluation of assets)			
Total Expenditure		3,865,993	3,865,993
Funds at beginning of year (including reserves)		11,037,233	11,037,233
Funds at end of year (including reserves)		11,132,229	11,132,229
ASSETS			
	Fixed Assets		9,324,354
	Investment Assets		270,562
	Other Assets		5,175,037
	Total Assets		14,769,953
Liabilities			
	Total Liabilities		3,637,724
Net Assets (Total Assets less Total Liabilities)			11,132,229

Summary Sheet

(see notes 24 to 33)

		All Funds	Total Funds
		£	£
Income			
From Members			
From Investments			
Other Income (including increases by revaluation of assets)			
Total Income			
Expenditure (including decreases by revaluation of assets)			
Total Expenditure			
Funds at beginning of year (including reserves)			
Funds at end of year (including reserves)			
ASSETS			
	Fixed Assets		
	Investment Assets		
	Other Assets		
	Total Assets		
Liabilities	Total Liabilities		
Net Assets (Total Assets less Total Liabilities)			

Notes to the accounts

(see note 34)

All notes to the accounts must be entered on or attached to this part of the return.

Accounting policies

(see notes 35 & 36)

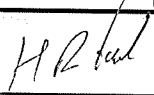
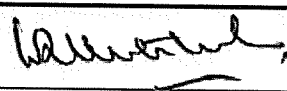
See audited accounts attached

Signatures to the annual return

(see notes 37 and 38)

Including the accounts and balance sheet contained in the return.

Please copy and paste your electronic signature here

Secretary's Signature:		Chairman's Signature:	
			(or other official whose position should be stated)
Name:	Hetalkumar Patel	Name:	Mike Mitchelson
Date:	12th July 2026	Date:	12th July 2026

Checklist

(see note 39)

(please enter 'X' as appropriate)

Is the return of officers attached? (see Page 2)	Yes	X	No	
Has the list of officers been completed? (see Page 2A)	Yes	X	No	
Has the return been signed? (see Note 37)	Yes	X	No	
Has the auditor's report been completed? (see Note 41)	Yes	X	No	
Is the rule book enclosed? (see Note 39)	Yes	X	No	
Has the summary sheet been completed? (see Notes 6 and 24 to 33)	Yes	X	No	

Checklist for auditor's report

(see notes 41 to 44)

The checklist below is for guidance. A report is still required either set out overleaf or by way of an attached auditor's report that covers the 1992 Act requirements.

1. In the opinion of the auditors or auditor do the accounts they have audited and which are contained in this return give a true and fair view of the matters to which they relate? (See section 36(1) and (2) of the 1992 Act and notes 43 and 44)

Please explain in your report overleaf or attached.

2. Are the auditors or auditor of the opinion that the union has complied with section 28 of the 1992 Act and has:

- a. kept proper accounting records with respect to its transactions and its assets and liabilities; and
- b. established and maintained a satisfactory system of control of its accounting records, its cash holding and all its receipts and remittances.

(See section 36(4) of the 1992 Act set out in note 43)

Please explain in your report overleaf or attached.

3. Your auditors or auditor must include in their report the following wording:

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the matters to which they relate to.
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the sections 28, 32 and 36 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (consolidation) Act 1992.

Auditor's report (continued)

See audited accounts attached

Signature(s) of auditor or auditors:

John Leyden

Name(s):

John Leyden FCA

15th July 2026

Profession(s) or Calling(s):

Chartered Accountant

Address(es)

Carbon Accountancy Ltd, 80-83
Long Lane, London EC1A 9ET

Date:

12th July 2026

Contact name for enquiries and telephone number:

John Leyden Tel. 0207 710 5302

N.B. When notes to the accounts are referred to in the auditor's report a copy of those notes must accompany this return.

Trustees' Report & Financial Statements National Federation of Retail Newsagents

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

Legal and Administrative Information

Trustees

N Patel
M Mitchelson
F Ashiq

Registered office

Bede House
Belmont Business Park
Durham
DH1 1TW

Auditors

Carbon Accountancy Limited
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors
80-83 Long Lane
London
EC1A 9ET

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Trustees' report

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

The Trustees present their report and financial statements of the National Federation of Retail Newsagents for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Results

The surplus/(deficit) of income over expenditure for each of the Federation's Funds for the year after taxation and before transfers to/from reserves, were as follows:

		Before exceptional items (net of current tax) £	Other items including inter-fund transfers £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
General Fund	(Page 10)	(12,306)	-	(12,306)	36,317
Benefits Fund	(Page 12)	108,240	-	108,240	85,908
Ratcliffe Benevolent Fund	(Page 14)	269	-	269	(395)
Carl Bridgewater Fund	(Page 16)	3,793	-	3,793	4,230
		99,996	-	99,996	126,060

The membership of the Federation on 31 December was made up as follows:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Full members	5,618	6,307
Full partner members	103	111
Multiple secondary members	1,720	1,738
Partner members	151	175
Life members	249	283
Affiliate member	64	41
	7,905	8,655

Review of activities

The principal activity of the Federation is to provide various services to its members in accordance with the objectives set out in its rules.

The Trustees acknowledge the strong headwinds that the organisation faces with regard to declining membership with a year-on-year reduction adversely impacting core income, but this must be considered against a background of an ever-shrinking marketplace of independent retailers.

We have nonetheless continued to achieve an operating surplus again this year of £99,996 (2024 – £126,060) which is testament to the continuing focus on improvements in operational efficiency which will ensure our long-term financial future.

Trustees' report (Continued)

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

Trustees

The Trustees of the Federation during the year were:

N Patel

M Mitchelson

S Khunkhun (resigned 17th June 2025)

F Ashiq (appointed 17th June 2025)

None of the Trustees have any beneficial interest in the Federation.

Fixed assets

Movement in fixed assets is detailed in note 6 to the financial statements.

Post balance sheet events

There have been no significant events affecting the National Federation of Retail Newsagents since the year end except as disclosed in Note 22 on page 33.

Disclosure of information to auditor

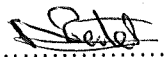
Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as the Trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Federation's auditor is unaware, and
- The Trustees have taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as Trustees in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Federation's auditor is aware of that information.

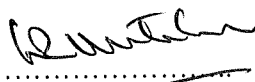
Auditors

Carbon Accountancy Limited have expressed the willingness to continue in office.

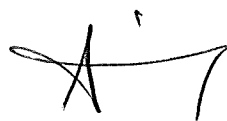
These accounts were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 16 June 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



N Patel
Trustee



M Mitchelson
Trustee



F Ashiq
Trustee

Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

The Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 as amended by the Employment Relations Act 1999 requires the Trustees of the Federation to:

- keep proper records which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Federation and explain its transactions;
- establish and maintain a satisfactory system of control of the accounting records, cash holdings and all receipts and remittances;
- prepare an annual return for the Certification Officer giving a true and fair view of the Income and Expenditure and Balance Sheet;
- and provide members of the Federation with the Income and Expenditure for the year.

The Trustees confirm that:

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

The maintenance and integrity of the National Federation of Retail Newsagents website is the responsibility of the Federation. The work carried out by the auditors does not involve the consideration of these matters, and accordingly, the auditors accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred in the accounts since they were initially presented on the website.

Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of the accounts and the other information included in annual reports may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Independent Auditors' Report to the Trustees of the National Federation of Retail Newsagents

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of National Federation of Retail Newsagents (the 'Federation') for the year ended 31 December 2025 which comprise: The Combined Income and Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet and Cash Flow, The General Fund Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet; the Benefit Fund Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet; the Ratcliffe Benevolent Fund Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet; the Carl Bridgewater Fund Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet; 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 (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Federation's affairs as at 31 December 2025 and of its incoming resources 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 Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

Basis for opinion

We have been appointed as auditor under section 33 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 33 of that Act. 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 Federation 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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you were:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Annual Report, set out on pages 1 to 3 other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in

Independent Auditors' Report to the Trustees of the National Federation of Retail Newsagents (continued)

Other information (cont/d)

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the federation has not kept proper accounting records in accordance with the requirements of section 28 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992; or has not maintained a satisfactory system of control over its transactions and in accordance with the requirements of section 28;
- the financial statements do not agree with the accounting records; or
- we have failed to obtain all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, are necessary for the purposes of an audit.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 3, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which 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 federation'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 federation 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.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

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. Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud was as follows:

Independent Auditors' Report to the Trustees of the National Federation of Retail Newsagents (continued)

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud (cont/d)

- The engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognize non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- We identified the laws and regulations applicable to the entity through discussions with trustees and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the sector in which the entity operates;
- We focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct impact material effect on the financial statements, or the operations of the entity which included the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992, taxation legislation, data protection, employment, environmental and health and safety legislation;
- We assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- Identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to involve the completeness and timing of income recognition and the override of controls by management.

To address the risk of fraud in relation to revenue recognition, we:

- Performed detailed substantive testing to address completeness and accuracy of income;
- Assessed the appropriateness and application of the accounting policy concerning income recognition; and
- Performed detailed cut-off testing either side of the balance sheet date.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- Performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- Tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- Assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias;
- Investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

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: <https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Independent Auditors' Report to the Trustees of the National Federation of Retail Newsagents (continued)

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the federation's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 36 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the federation's trustees 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 federation and its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

John Leyden FCA
Senior Statutory auditor

Carbon Accountancy Limited
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditor
80-83 Long Lane
London EC1A 9ET

Date: _____ 2026

Combined Income and Expenditure Account

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

Income	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Capitation fees		2,341,035	2,463,940
Less: Cost of collection		<u>(69,076)</u>	<u>(73,924)</u>
		2,271,959	2,390,016
Rental income		508,815	524,427
Business development and sponsorship		976,593	1,063,807
Interest received		77,985	81,935
Management fees		50,000	50,000
Dividends received		70,000	70,000
Income from investments		199	1,443
Donations		<u>5,438</u>	<u>845</u>
Total income		<u>3,960,989</u>	<u>4,182,473</u>
Expenditure			
Council and committee costs		242,266	243,188
President's and trustees' expenses		61,281	51,750
District and branch costs		97,092	83,242
Members' services and benefits		801,435	847,848
Operational costs		669,306	926,913
Finance, head office and communications costs		1,686,912	1,220,285
Defined benefit pension deficit reduction costs		54,589	55,766
Claims paid: Death of member and serious illness		37,200	59,500
Gifts and donations		3,600	3,650
Interest payable and foreign exchange losses		10,498	12,995
Depreciation of fixed assets		63,209	59,393
Loss/(profit) on disposal of investments		(3,374)	(11,005)
Fair value deficit/(surplus) on revaluation of investments		(6,139)	(3,005)
Loss/(profit) on disposal of fixed assets		<u>16,436</u>	<u>-</u>
Total expenditure		<u>3,734,311</u>	<u>3,550,520</u>
Surplus before exceptional items		226,678	631,953
Exceptional items:			
Fair value (deficit)/surplus on revaluation of investment properties		<u>-</u>	<u>(500,000)</u>
Surplus/(deficit) before tax and reserve transfers	4	226,678	131,953
Taxation	5	<u>(126,682)</u>	<u>(5,893)</u>
Surplus/(deficit) after taxation and before transfers		99,996	126,060
Net transfers from other reserves	13(b)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Surplus/(deficit) after taxation and reserve transfers		<u>99,996</u>	<u>126,060</u>

The Income and Expenditure account has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

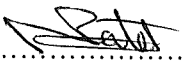
No separate statement of changes in equity has been presented as all material gains and losses have been dealt with in the Income and Expenditure account.

Combined Balance Sheet

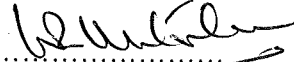
As at 31 December 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	6 (a)	324,354	414,949
Investment property	6 (d)	9,000,000	9,000,000
Listed investments	7	120,559	111,046
Trade investments	8 (a)	<u>150,003</u>	<u>150,003</u>
		9,594,916	9,675,998
Current assets			
Debtors	9	3,310,504	3,533,624
Cash at bank	10	<u>1,864,533</u>	<u>1,618,919</u>
		5,175,037	5,172,543
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(1,601,837)</u>	<u>(1,761,455)</u>
Net current assets		3,573,200	3,411,088
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		-	-
Provisions for liabilities and charges			
Deferred tax	12(a)	(1,831,260)	(1,831,260)
Legal assistance	12(c)	(24,810)	-
Pension scheme deficit reduction	12(b)	<u>(179,816)</u>	<u>(218,593)</u>
		<u>(2,035,886)</u>	<u>(2,049,853)</u>
Net assets		<u>11,132,230</u>	<u>11,037,233</u>
Represented by:			
Property revaluation reserve	13(a)	5,644,096	5,644,096
Capital account	13(b)	5,388,134	5,293,137
Strategic reserve	13(c)	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>
		<u>11,132,230</u>	<u>11,037,233</u>

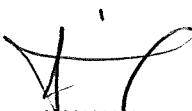
These accounts were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on and signed on 17 June 2026 and signed their behalf by:



 N Patel
 Trustee



 M Mitchelson
 Trustee



 F Ashiq
 Trustee

The notes on pages 19 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

General Fund

Income and Expenditure Account

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Income			
Capitation fees		2,341,035	2,463,940
Less: Cost of collection		<u>(69,076)</u>	<u>(73,924)</u>
		2,271,959	2,390,016
Rental income		508,815	523,573
Interest receivable		6,215	11,333
Business development and sponsorship		976,593	1,063,807
Management fees		<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>
Total income		<u>3,813,582</u>	<u>4,038,729</u>
Expenditure			
Council and committee expenses		242,266	243,188
President's and trustees' expenses		61,281	51,750
District and branch costs		97,092	83,242
Members' services and benefits		801,435	847,848
Operational costs		669,306	926,913
Finance, head office and communications costs		1,683,274	1,218,613
Defined benefit pension deficit reduction costs		54,589	55,766
Depreciation of fixed assets		63,029	56,204
Interest payable and foreign exchange losses		10,498	12,995
Loss on sale of assets		16,436	-
Total expenditure		<u>3,699,206</u>	<u>3,496,519</u>
Surplus/(deficit) before fair value adjustments and taxation		114,376	542,210
Fair value adjustment on investment property	6(d)	<u>-</u>	<u>(500,000)</u>
Surplus/(deficit) before taxation, reserve transfers		114,376	42,210
Taxation	5	<u>(126,682)</u>	<u>(5,893)</u>
(Deficit)/surplus after taxation and before reserve transfers	13(b)	(12,306)	36,317
Net transfers (to)/from Reserves		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
(Deficit)/surplus after taxation and reserve transfers		<u>(12,306)</u>	<u>36,317</u>

The Income and Expenditure account has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations. No separate statement of changes in equity has been presented as all material gains and losses have been dealt with in the Income and Expenditure account.

The notes on pages 19 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

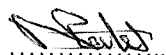
General Fund

Balance sheet

As at 31 December 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	6 (b)	89,353	174,768
Investment property	6 (d)	<u>9,000,000</u>	<u>9,000,000</u>
		<u>9,089,353</u>	<u>9,174,768</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	9	766,782	879,523
Cash at bank	10	<u>1,196,102</u>	<u>1,444,523</u>
		<u>1,962,884</u>	<u>2,324,046</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(2,439,641)</u>	<u>(2,859,946)</u>
Net current (liabilities)/assets		<u>(476,757)</u>	<u>(535,900)</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		-	-
Provisions for liabilities and charges			
Deferred tax	12(a)	(1,831,260)	(1,831,260)
Legal assistance	12(c)	(24,810)	-
Pension scheme deficit	12(b)	<u>(179,816)</u>	<u>(218,593)</u>
		<u>(2,035,886)</u>	<u>(2,049,853)</u>
Net assets		<u>6,576,710</u>	<u>6,589,015</u>
Represented by:			
Investment reserve	13(a)	5,644,096	5,644,096
Capital account	13(b)	832,614	844,919
Strategic reserve	13(c)	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>
		<u>6,576,710</u>	<u>6,589,015</u>

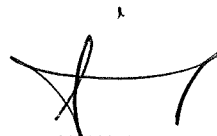
These accounts were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 17 June 2026 and signed on their behalf by:



N Patel
Trustee



M Mitchelson
Trustee



F Ashiq
Trustee

The notes on pages 19 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

Benefits Fund

Income and Expenditure Account

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Income			
Dividends received – NFRN Holdings Limited		70,000	70,000
Donations and other income		4,888	854
Income from listed investments		199	1,443
Interest receivable		<u>64,330</u>	<u>63,720</u>
		139,417	136,017
Expenditure			
Claims paid: Death and serious illness		37,200	59,500
Depreciation of fixed assets		180	3,189
Legal, professional and administration		<u>3,310</u>	<u>1,430</u>
		40,690	64,119
Surplus before investment activity		98,727	71,898
Surplus/(deficit) on disposal of listed investments		3,374	11,005
(Deficit) on disposal of property		-	-
Fair value movement on revaluation of property		-	-
Fair value movement on revaluation of investments		<u>6,139</u>	<u>3,005</u>
		<u>9,513</u>	<u>14,010</u>
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		108,240	85,908
Taxation	5	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Surplus/(deficit) transferred to Reserves	13(b)	<u>108,240</u>	<u>85,908</u>

The Income and Expenditure account has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

Tax status: No tax is payable as s981 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 specifically exempts employers' associations from tax on income (except trading income) and chargeable gains, which are applicable and applied for the purpose of provident benefits.

The notes on pages 19 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

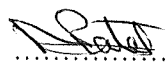
Benefits Fund

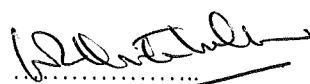
Balance Sheet

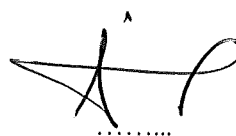
As at 31 December 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	6 (c)	235,001	240,181
Listed investments	7 (a)	120,559	111,046
Trade investments	8 (b)	<u>150,003</u>	<u>150,003</u>
		<u>505,563</u>	<u>501,230</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	9	3,183,902	3,393,533
Cash at bank	10	<u>415,552</u>	<u>106,531</u>
		<u>3,599,454</u>	<u>,500,064</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(495)	(12)
Net current assets/(liabilities)		<u>3,598,959</u>	<u>3,500,052</u>
Net assets		<u>4,104,522</u>	<u>4,001,282</u>
Represented by:			
Property revaluation reserve	13(a)	-	-
Capital account	13(b)	<u>4,104,522</u>	<u>4,001,282</u>
		<u>4,104,522</u>	<u>4,001,282</u>

These accounts were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 17 June 2026 and signed on their behalf by:


.....
N Patel
Trustee


.....
M Mitchelson
Trustee


.....
F Ashiq
Trustee

The notes on pages 19 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

Ratcliffe Benevolent Fund Income and Expenditure Account For the Year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Income			
Donations		550	845
Bank and other interest		<u>2,640</u>	<u>2,082</u>
		<u>3,190</u>	<u>2,927</u>
Expenditure			
Grants		2,750	3,200
Legal, professional and administration		<u>171</u>	<u>122</u>
		<u>2,921</u>	<u>3,322</u>
Surplus/(deficit) before taxation		269	(395)
Taxation		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Surplus/(deficit) for year		269	(395)
Capital account balance brought forward	13(b)	<u>267,526</u>	<u>267,921</u>
Capital account balance carried forward	13(b)	<u>267,795</u>	<u>267,526</u>

The Income and Expenditure account has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations. There are no gains or losses other than those recognised above.

The notes on pages 19 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

Ratcliffe Benevolent Fund

Balance Sheet

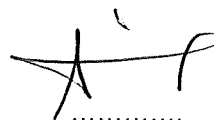
As at 31 December 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Current assets			
Debtors	9	72,566	208,357
Cash at bank	10	<u>234,011</u>	<u>59,419</u>
		306,577	267,776
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(38,782)</u>	<u>(250)</u>
Net assets		<u>267,795</u>	<u>267,526</u>
Represented by:			
Capital account	13(b)	<u>267,795</u>	<u>267,526</u>

These accounts were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 17 June 2026
and signed on their behalf by:


.....
N Patel
Trustee


.....
M Mitchelson
Trustee


.....
F Ashiq
Trustee

The notes on pages 19 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

Carl Bridgewater Fund Income and Expenditure Account For the Year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Income			
Donations		-	-
Intercompany/bank interest		<u>4,800</u>	<u>4,800</u>
		<u>4,800</u>	<u>4,800</u>
Expenditure			
Gifts and donations		850	450
Sundry expenses		<u>157</u>	<u>120-</u>
		<u>1,007</u>	<u>570</u>
Surplus/(deficit) before taxation		3,793	4,230
Taxation		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		3,793	4,230
Capital account balance brought forward	13(b)	<u>179,410</u>	<u>175,180</u>
Capital account balance carried forward	13 (b)	<u>183,203</u>	<u>179,410</u>

The Income and Expenditure account has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

There are no gains or losses other than those recognised above.

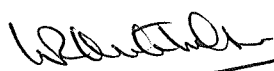
The notes on pages 19 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

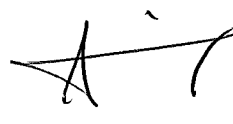
Carl Bridgewater Fund
Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Current assets			
Debtors	9	164,800	171,272
Cash at bank	10	<u>18,868</u>	<u>8,446</u>
		183,668	179,718
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(465)</u>	<u>(308)</u>
Net assets		<u>183,203</u>	<u>179,410</u>
Represented by:			
Capital account	13(b)	<u>183,203</u>	<u>179,410</u>

These accounts were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 17 June 2026
and signed on their behalf by:


N Patel
Trustee


M Mitchelson
Trustee


F Ashiq
Trustee

The notes on pages 19 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

Combined Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Surplus/(deficit) for the financial year		99,996	126,060
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation of tangible assets	6(a)	63,209	59,393
(Profit) on disposal of investments and other assets		(13,062)	(11,005)
Fair value movements		6,139	496,995
Decrease/(increase) in debtors		243,120	138,165
(Decrease)/increase in creditors		(139,037)	(272,590)
Interest received		(77,985)	(81,935)
Taxation paid		(128,988)	(137,048)
Dividends received		(70,000)	(70,000)
Corporation tax expense	5	<u>126,682</u>	<u>5,893</u>
Net cash generated from operating activities		<u>110,074</u>	<u>253,928</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	6(a)(b)	-	(4,839)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		10,831	-
Purchase of listed investments	7	(30,898)	(31,591)
Sale of listed investments		36,453	19,787
Interest received		77,985	81,935
Dividends received		<u>70,000</u>	<u>70,000</u>
Net cash from investing activities		<u>164,371</u>	<u>135,292</u>
Cashflow from financing activities			
Interest paid		(10,498)	(12,995)
Repayment of finance leases		(18,333)	(47,445)
Net cash used in financing activities		<u>(28,831)</u>	<u>(60,440)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		245,614	316,994
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	10	<u>1,618,919</u>	<u>1,301,925</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	10	<u>1,864,533</u>	<u>1,618,919</u>

The notes on pages 19 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

1. General information

The National Federation of Retail Newsagents is an unincorporated Federation. The registered office is Bede House, Belmont Business Park, Durham, DH1 1TW.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland and the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

The preparation of financial statements in compliance with FRS 102 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgement in applying the Federation's accounting policies.

The financial statements are prepared in pound sterling which is the functional currency of the Federation and are rounded to the nearest £.

The following principal accounting policies have been applied:

2.2 Basis of combination

The combined financial statements present the results of the Federation comprising the General Fund, the Benefits Fund, the Ratcliffe Benevolent Fund and the Carl Bridgewater Fund. Interfund transactions and balances between these Funds are therefore eliminated in full.

The combined financial statements do not include the consolidated figures for the subsidiary investments as detailed in note 8 as the Federation is unincorporated.

2.3 Going concern

The Federation has generated a surplus before exceptional costs and the Trustees, on the basis of the latest trading forecasts, have every expectation that the Federation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The financial statements have therefore been prepared on the going concern basis.

2.4 Foreign Exchange Conversion

All foreign exchange balances at the year-end have been converted at the rate ruling at the balance sheet date. Foreign exchange transactions during the year have been converted at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction.

2.5 Current and Deferred Taxation

The tax expense for the year comprises current and deferred tax. The current income tax charge is calculated on the basis of tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date where the Federation generates taxable income.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date.

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

Accounting Policies (cont/d)

2.5 Current and Deferred Taxation (cont/d)

Timing differences arise from the inclusion of income and expenses in tax assessments in periods different from those in which they are recognised in financial statements. Deferred tax is measured using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the year end and that are expected to apply to the reversal of the timing difference.

Unrelieved tax losses and other deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits.

2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or valuation less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold property	
– General Fund – Yeoman House	No depreciation is provided
– Benefits Fund – Durham office	No depreciation is provided
Short leasehold property	
– General Fund – Durham HQ	No depreciation is provided
Fixtures and fittings	20% per annum – straight line
Regalia	No depreciation is provided
Computers	33.33% per annum – straight line
Motor Vehicles	25% per annum – straight line

Freehold and long leasehold property will only be depreciated if, in the opinion of the Trustees, it is considered that the residual value is materially lower than historic cost. The properties are held under the revaluation model.

Investment property

Investment property comprises freehold property rented out to third parties and is carried at market value as determined by the Trustees based on available information and data.

2.7 Leasing and rental transactions

Where assets are financed under leasing and hire purchase agreements that give rights approximating to ownership (i.e., finance leases), the amount representing the outright purchase price of such assets is capitalised under tangible fixed assets for material amounts and the corresponding leasing commitments are shown as obligations to the lessor. The relevant assets are depreciated in accordance with the Federation's depreciation policy. Net finance charges, calculated on a reducing balance basis, are included in interest charges.

Where assets are financed under leasing agreements that do not give rights approximating to ownership (i.e., operating leases), rentals paid in the period are charged to the Income and Expenditure account.

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

Accounting Policies (cont/d)

2.8 Income recognition

Capitation fees represent contributions receivable from members for the year. General Fund capitation fees include Benefit member fees.

Other income and sponsorship is recognised when it is probable that an economic benefit will flow to the entity and the revenue can be reliably measured.

2.9 Valuation of investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at their market value at the balance sheet date net of management charges. The Income and Expenditure account includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals during the year. Trade investments are stated at historic cost.

2.10 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and where the economic benefit flows to the entity.

2.11 Pensions

The Federation participates in a pension scheme providing benefits on final pensionable salaries. The scheme is now closed to new members. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Federation. The Federation recognises the liability to fund any deficit determined by the scheme actuary within provisions for liabilities and charges.

The Federation also operates a stakeholder pension scheme for members of staff. The contributions to this scheme are charged to the income and expenditure account as they are incurred.

3. Judgements in applying key accounting policies

The key estimates used in applying the accounting policies are the investment property and listed investments valuation, plus pension scheme deficit and legal assistance provisions. The investment property valuation is determined by reviewing the market value of the property and the listed investments valuation is determined by obtaining an external valuation which is performed quarterly. The pension scheme deficit provision is determined with reference to the last tri-annual valuation discounted to the appropriate date. The legal assistance provision is based on assessment of historic claim statistics.

4. Surplus for the year before taxation and reserve transfers

	2025 £	2024 £
Surplus for the year is after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:		
Charge for the year	63,209	59,392
Fair value adjustment – investment property	-	500,000
Fair value adjustment – freehold property	5,000	(55,000)

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

5. Taxation

Combined, General and Benefits funds

The National Federation of Retail Newsagents is liable to corporation tax on trading profits, investment income, and gains arising on the disposal of chargeable assets. For this purpose, funds derived from members (contributions, entrance fees, levies, fines etc.) do not rank as taxable income.

	2025 £	2024 £
Current year tax		
U.K. corporation tax (<i>General Fund</i>)	126,682	130,893
Prior years' overprovision written back	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	126,682	130,893
Deferred tax		
Investment property fair value adjustment (<i>General Fund</i>)	<u>-</u>	<u>(125,000)</u>
Total Current and Deferred tax	<u>126,682</u>	<u>5,893</u>

Factors affecting current tax charge

The tax assessed for the year is at the standard rate of corporation tax due in the UK of 25% (2024 – 25%). The differences are explained below:

	2025 £	2024 £
Surplus/(deficit) before taxation, reserve transfers	226,678	131,953
Surplus/(deficit) before taxation and reserve transfers multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 25% (2024 – 25%)	56,670	32,988
Effects of:		
Taxable/(non-taxable) items	70,012	97,905
Adjustment in respect of prior period	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total tax charge for the year	<u>126,682</u>	<u>130,893</u>

Factors affecting future rates of tax

Factors affecting future tax rates and charges include enacted changes in tax rates, the net reversal of deferred tax assets/liabilities, and changes in tax laws. There has been no change to corporation the 25% tax rate for the financial year ended 31 December 2025. Deferred taxes at the balance sheet date have been measured using these enacted tax rates and reflected in these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

6. Tangible fixed assets

(a) Combined

	Freehold property £	Leasehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost						
At 1 January 2025	240,000	22,651	145,521	95,416	219,796	723,384
Add'tn//Disposal	-	(19,800)	-	(2,295)	(23,695)	(45,790)
Fair value adj.	(5,000)	-	-	-	-	(5,000)
At 31 December 2025	<u>235,000</u>	<u>2,851</u>	<u>145,521</u>	<u>93,121</u>	<u>196,101</u>	<u>672,594</u>
Depreciation						
At 1 January 2025	-	-	50,069	87,595	170,771	308,435
Charge for the year	-	-	8,951	7,819	46,439	63,209
On disposals	-	-	-	(2,295)	(21,109)	(23,404)
At 31 December 2025	-	-	<u>59,020</u>	<u>93,119</u>	<u>196,101</u>	<u>348,240</u>
Net book value						
At 31 December 2025	<u>235,000</u>	<u>2,851</u>	<u>86,501</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>324,354</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>240,000</u>	<u>22,651</u>	<u>95,452</u>	<u>7,821</u>	<u>49,025</u>	<u>414,949</u>

Freehold property represents the former NFRN office premises at 108-109 Gilesgate, Durham stated at fair value on the basis of an independent valuation undertaken by John Routledge MRICS, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne property consultants Parker Knights. The comparable amount determined according to historical cost in respect of the property was £331,453 (2024 - £331,453).

Leasehold property represented short leasehold improvements undertaken at the NFRN office premises at Bede House in Durham. No depreciation has been charged on these.

Fixtures and fittings include regalia with historic cost of £55,384 (2024 - £55,384) which is not depreciated.

The net book value of assets held under HP is £Nil (2024 - £49,025). The depreciation charge in respect of these assets is £46,439 (2024 - £46,439).

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

6. Tangible fixed assets (cont/d)

(b) General Fund

	Leasehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 January 2025	22,651	113,639	92,782	219,796	448,868
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	(19,800)	-	(2,295)	(23,695)	(45,790)
At 31 December 2025	<u>2,851</u>	<u>113,639</u>	<u>90,487</u>	<u>196,101</u>	<u>403,078</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 January 2025	-	18,367	84,962	170,771	274,100
Charge for the year	-	8,771	7,819	46,439	63,029
On disposals	-	-	(2,295)	(21,109)	(23,404)
At 31 December 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>27,138</u>	<u>90,486</u>	<u>196,101</u>	<u>313,725</u>
Net book value					
At 31 December 2025	<u>2,851</u>	<u>86,501</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>89,353</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>22,651</u>	<u>95,272</u>	<u>7,820</u>	<u>49,025</u>	<u>174,768</u>

Property at the balance sheet date represents leasehold improvements at the NFRN office premises at Bede House in Durham. No depreciation has been charged in accordance with the accounting policies. Fixtures and fittings include regalia with historic cost of £55,384 (2024 - £55,384) which is not depreciated. The net book value of assets held under HP is £Nil (2024 - £49,025). The depreciation charge in respect of these assets is £46,439 (2024 - £46,349).

(c) Benefits Fund

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 January 2025	240,000	31,882	2,634	274,516
Revaluation	(5,000)	-	-	(5,000)
At 31 December 2025	<u>235,000</u>	<u>31,882</u>	<u>2,634</u>	<u>269,516</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2025	-	31,702	2,633	34,335
Charge for the year	-	180	-	180
At 31 December 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>31,882</u>	<u>2,633</u>	<u>34,515</u>
Net book value				
At 31 December 2025	<u>235,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>235,001</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>240,000</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>240,181</u>

Freehold property represents the former NFRN office premises at 108-109 Gilesgate, Durham stated at fair value on the basis of an independent valuation undertaken by John Routledge MRICS, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne property consultants Parker Knights. The comparable amount determined according to historical cost in respect of the property was £331,453 (2024 - £331,453).

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

6. Tangible fixed assets (cont/d)

(d) Investment Property – General Fund and Combined

	2025 £	2024 £
Valuation		
At 1 January 2025 (1 January 2024)	9,000,000	9,500,000
Fair value adjustment	-	(500,000)
At 31 December 2025 (31 December 2024)	<u>9,000,000</u>	<u>9,000,000</u>

Investment property represents the market value of Yeoman House, Sekforde Street, London EC1, as assessed by the Trustees. The comparable amount determined according to historical cost in respect of the investment property was £3,094,443 (2024 - £3,094,443).

7. Listed investments

(a) Combined and Benefits Fund

	£
Valuation	
At 1 January 2025	111,046
Additions	30,898
Disposals	(27,524)
Revaluation	<u>6,139</u>
At 31 December 2025	<u>120,559</u>

Market value broken down as follows:	2025 £	2024 £
UK Fixed Interest	4,208	10,312
UK Equities	44,582	6,558
North American Equities	54,434	61,827
Japanese Equities	3,860	7,644
Far East & Australian Equities	-	4,427
European Equities	5,898	-
Emerging Economies	6,398	5,663
International Property	-	4,853
Alternative Assets	-	9,404
Cash	<u>1,179</u>	<u>358</u>
	<u>120,559</u>	<u>111,046</u>

Historical cost	£
At 1 January 2025	88,681
Additions	30,898
Disposals	<u>(27,591)</u>
At 31 December 2025	<u>91,988</u>

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

8. Trade Investments

(a) Combined

Cost	2025 £	2024 £
At 1 January 2025 (1 January 2024)	150,003	150,003
Amounts written off	-	-
At 31 December 2025 (31 December 2024)	<u>150,003</u>	<u>150,003</u>

(b) Benefits Fund

	2025 £	2024 £
Newtrade Media Limited *	150,000	150,000
NFRN Holdings Limited	3	3
	<u>150,003</u>	<u>150,003</u>

Holdings of more than 20%

The fund holds more than 20% of the share capital of the following companies and the aggregate amount of capital and reserves and the results of these undertakings for the last relevant financial year were as follows:

Company	Country of registration/ incorporation	Principal activity	Class	% Capital and reserves	Shares held	
					£	Profit and (loss) for the year £
Subsidiary undertakings						
NFRN Holdings Limited	UK	Holding	Ordinary	100	3	70,000
Newtrade Media Ltd *	UK	Publishing	Ordinary	100	1,118,671	(109,608)
Bede House Limited *	UK	Property investment	Ordinary	100	97,809	171,728
Newtrade Publishing Ltd**	UK	Dormant	Ordinary	100	1	-

* Shares held via NFRN Holdings Limited

** Shares held via Newtrade Media Limited

The summary financial statements of Newtrade Media Limited at 31 December 2025 are shown below:

	2025 £	2024 £
Profit and loss reserve		
At 1 January 2025 (1 January 2024)	1,142,279	1,284,809
Loss for the year	(109,608)	(72,530)
Dividends paid	<u>(70,000)</u>	<u>(70,000)</u>
At 31 December 2025 (31 December 2024)	<u>962,671</u>	<u>1,142,279</u>

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

8. Trade Investments (cont/d)

Balance sheet

Called up share capital	150,000	150,000
Share premium account	6,000	6,000
Profit and loss account	962,671	1,142,279
Shareholders' funds	<u>1,118,671</u>	<u>1,298,279</u>

The summary financial statements of Bede House Limited at 31 December are shown below:

	2025 £	2024 £
Profit and loss reserve		
At 1 January 2025 (1 January 2024)	(73,920)	(258,995)
Profit (loss) for the year	171,728	185,075
Dividends paid	-	-
At 31 December 2025 (31 December 2024)	<u>97,808</u>	<u>(73,920)</u>
Balance sheet		
Called up share capital	1	1
Profit and loss account	97,808	(73,920)
Shareholders' funds	<u>97,809</u>	<u>(73,919)</u>

9. Debtors

	General Fund	Benefits Fund	Ratcliffe Benevolent Fund	Carl Bridge-water Fund	Combined 2025	Combined 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Customer receivables	287,993	-	5,191	-	293,184	136,223
Inter-fund balances	38,821	838,725	-	-	-	-
Other debtors	173,826	2,345,137	67,375	164,800	2,751,138	2,951,551
Prepayments and accrued inc.	266,142	40	-	-	266,182	465,850
	<u>766,782</u>	<u>3,183,902</u>	<u>72,566</u>	<u>164,800</u>	<u>3,310,504</u>	<u>3,533,624</u>

Other debtors include £2,499,000 (2024 - £2,499,000) which, whilst repayable on demand, is expected to be repaid after more than one year.

10. Cash and cash equivalents

	General Fund	Benefits Fund	Ratcliffe Benevolent Fund	Carl Bridge-water Fund	Combined 2025	Combined 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sterling and foreign currency	960,909	415,552	234,011	18,868	1,629,340	1,421,014
Earmarked deposits	49,178	-	-	-	49,178	12,551
Tenant deposit	186,001	-	-	-	186,001	185,340
Petty cash	14	-	-	-	14	14
	<u>1,196,102</u>	<u>415,552</u>	<u>234,011</u>	<u>18,868</u>	<u>1,864,533</u>	<u>1,618,919</u>

Earmarked deposits represent the NFRN Voluntary and Covid-19 Hardship funds. The General Fund also holds a tenant deposit under the terms of a deposit deed dated 12th August 2021.

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

11. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	General Fund	Benefits Fund	Ratcliffe Benevolent Fund	Carl Bridge -water Fund	Combined 2025	Combined 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Corporation tax	127,942	-	-	-	127,942	130,190
Other tax and social security	191,131	-	238	188	191,557	179,099
Inter-fund balances	838,725	-	38,544	277	-	-
Supplier and other creditors	862,643	495	-	-	863,138	1,072,141
Accruals and deferred income	419,200	-	-	-	419,200	361,692
Amounts due – hire purchase	-	-	-	-	-	18,333
	2,439,641	495	38,782	465	1,601,837	1,761,455

12. Provisions for Liabilities and Charges

Combined and General Fund

(a) Deferred tax	2025 £	2024 £
At beginning of the year	1,831,260	2,956,260
(Credited)/charged to income and expenditure account	-	(125,000)
Charged to investment property reserve	-	-
At end of year	<u>1,831,260</u>	<u>1,831,260</u>

The liability arises on the fair value gain on investment property.

(b) Defined benefit pension scheme deficit reduction	2025 £
At beginning of the year	218,593
(Credited)/charged to income and expenditure account	<u>(38,777)</u>
At end of year	<u>179,816</u>

See Note 15.

(c) Legal assistance provision	2025 £
At the beginning of the year	-
Charged to income and expenditure account	<u>24,810</u>
At end of year	<u>24,810</u>

The provision arises from NFRN assuming any liability for claims since 1st October 2025.

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

13. Reserves

(a) Property revaluation reserve

	General Fund	Benefits Fund	Ratcliffe Benev't Fund	Carl Bridge-water Fund	Combined 2025	Combined 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 January 2025	5,644,096	-	-	-	5,644,096	5,644,096
Transfer between reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2025	5,644,096	-	-	-	5,644,096	5,644,096

This reserve represents fair value movements on revaluation of Yeoman House prior to its reclassification as an investment property.

(b) Capital reserve

	General Fund	Benefits Fund	Ratcliffe Benev't Fund	Carl Bridge-water Fund	Combined 2025	Combined 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
On 1 January 2025	844,920	4,001,282	267,526	179,410	5,293,138	5,112,078
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(12,306)	108,240	269	3,793	99,996	126,060
Surplus (deficit) on revaluation of freehold property	-	(5,000)	-	-	(5,000)	55,000
Transfer from other reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2025	832,614	4,102,522	267,795	183,203	5,388,134	5,293,138

This reserve represents un-restricted funds retained to provide the working capital to enable the Federation to carry out its activities.

(c) Strategic reserve

	General Fund	Benefits Fund	Ratcliffe Benev't Fund	Carl Bridge-water Fund	Combined 2025	Combined 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 January 2025	100,000	-	-	-	100,000	100,000
Transfer (to)/from income and expenditure account	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2025	100,000	-	-	-	100,000	100,000

This reserve represents funds set aside to meet the Federation's strategic and contingency needs.

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

14. Employee Costs – Combined and General Fund

Staff costs, including temporary staff, were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	1,628,951	1,645,962
Social security costs	212,129	182,474
Benefits-in-kind	13,655	15,255
Staff training and welfare	20,476	21,260
Defined contribution pension costs	54,030	55,098
Defined benefit deficit reduction costs	54,589	55,766
	<u>1,938,830</u>	<u>1,975,815</u>

The average monthly number of employees, including full and part time staff, during the year was made up as follows:

	2025 No	2024 No
Administration	13	13
Sales and members services	<u>27</u>	<u>30</u>
	<u>40</u>	<u>43</u>

15. Pension Costs

Defined Benefit

The Federation operates a pension scheme for staff of the Federation and of subsidiary companies, which provides benefits based on final pensionable salaries.

The Scheme was closed to new entrants with effect from 31 March 2002 and effectively made paid-up (closed to the future accrual of benefits for its active members) with effect from 6 August 2020 when the last active member left the Scheme. There are, therefore, no active members of the Scheme at the most recent review date.

The contributions are determined by a qualified actuary on the basis of triennial valuations using the Attained Age Method.

The most recently published scheme valuation was undertaken as of 31st March 2022 and disclosed pension scheme assets of £8,590,000 and pension scheme liabilities of £9,072,000.

At the review date the market value of the Scheme's assets was exceeded by the present value of the Technical Provisions calculated on the scheme-specific valuation basis adopted. The deficit disclosed by the scheme-specific actuarial valuation as at 31 March 2022 amounted to £482,000. On that basis the Statutory Funding Objective was only 94.7% met on the review date.

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

15. Pension Costs (cont./d)

On the scheme-specific valuation basis adopted, the financial position of the Scheme had deteriorated with a past service funding level of 94.7% compared to 101.6% at 31 March 2019, the date of the previous tri-annual scheme valuation. There was therefore a past service deficit of £482,000 at the 31 March 2022 review date compared to a surplus of £131,000 as at 31 March 2019.

To eliminate the funding shortfall of £482,000 as at 31 March 2022, the Trustees and the Pension Scheme Administrator agreed that an annual contribution of £75,000 would be paid to the Scheme annually in arrears for a period of 7 years from the valuation date with the first contribution of £75,000 paid before 31 March 2023.

On the basis that the membership profile was broadly in the ratio of 69:31 between the Federation (NFRN) and subsidiary Newtrade Media Limited, the deficit provision of £179,816 (2024 - £218,593) continues to be recognised in the NFRN financial statements representing the present value of its share of the deficit at the balance sheet date. As the March 2025 tri-annual valuation has yet to be finalised, whilst there is expectation that the funding position has not deteriorated, the trustees have nonetheless resolved to maintain the existing provision until the report is formally adopted with any financial impact reflected in the year to 31st December 2026.

Defined Contribution

The Federation also operates a money purchase stakeholder scheme for members of staff which was introduced on 1 April 2002. In addition, an auto enrolment scheme was also introduced on 1 October 2014.

Contributions payable by the Federation for the year amounted to £54,030 (2024 - £55,098).

16. Leasing commitments – Combined and General Fund

	Land and Buildings 2025 £	Other 2025 £	Land and Buildings 2024 £	Other 2024 £
Within 1 year	46,800	-	42,927	-
In 2 to 5 years	175,532	-	171,708	-
Greater than 5 years	-	-	42,927	-
	<u>222,332</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>257,562</u>	<u>-</u>

Rents payable under operating leases during the period amounted to £44,037 (2024 - £43,927).

17. Control

Control of the Federation is vested in the individual members. No one member has overall control.

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

18. Related Party Transactions

(a) General Fund

During the year, the General Fund undertook the following transactions with related undertakings.

	2025 £	2024 £
Net recharge to/(from):		
Newtrade Media Limited	<u>150,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>

Newtrade Media Limited transactions related to management fees, sponsorship and other costs charged both to and from the company.

The balances outstanding from/ (to) related undertakings at the year-end are as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Bede House Limited	(228,897)	(202,429)
Newtrade Publishing Limited	(730)	(730)
Newtrade Media Limited	<u>(280,000)</u>	<u>(350,000)</u>

The amount due to Newtrade Media Limited includes an unsecured interest-bearing loan facility of £280,000 (2024 - £350,000). The interest rate is 2.25% per annum and interest charged in the period amounted to £8,607 (2024 - £10,354). The loan from Bede House Limited is interest free.

Trustees re-imbursed expenses amounted to £3,462 (2024 - £3,099) during the period.

(b) Benefits Fund

The Benefits Fund received dividends of £70,000 (2024 - £70,000) from NFRN Holdings Limited.

The Benefits Fund has also made loans amounting to £2,274,000 (2024 - £2,274,000) to subsidiary Bede House Limited on the following terms:

- An interest-bearing loan of £2,124,000 (2024 - £2,124,000) with an applicable annual rate of 3%. The balance at the year-end was £2,187,720 (2024 - £2,269,808) including accrued interest of £63,720 (2024 - £145,808).
- An interest free loan of £150,000 (2024 - £150,000).

The capital elements of the loans, whilst repayable on demand, are nonetheless expected to be repaid after more than one year.

(c) Ratcliffe Benevolent Fund

The Ratcliffe Benevolent Fund has made an interest-bearing loan of £65,000 (2024 - £65,000) to associated undertaking Bede House Limited in order to finance the acquisition of its investment property. The applicable interest rate was 3% and the balance at the year-end was £66,950 (2024 - £69,589) including accrued interest of £1,950 (2024 - £4,589). The capital element of the loan, whilst repayable on demand, is nonetheless expected to be repaid after more than one year.

Notes to the financial statements

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

19. Related Party Transactions (cont/d)

(d) Carl Bridgewater Fund

The Carl Bridgewater Fund has made an interest-bearing loan of £160,000 (2024 - £160,000) to associated undertaking Bede House Limited in order to finance the acquisition of its investment property. The applicable interest rate was 3% and the balance at the year-end was £164,800 (2024 - £171,272) including accrued interest of £4,800 (2024 - £11,272). The capital element of the loan, whilst repayable on demand, is nonetheless expected to be repaid after more than one year.

20. Financial instruments

Combined	2025	2024
	£	£
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at fair value through profit and loss	<u>120,559</u>	<u>111,046</u>
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	<u>5,325,040</u>	<u>5,322,546</u>
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	<u>1,282,338</u>	<u>1,433,833</u>

Financial assets measured at fair value through profit and loss comprise investments in listed companies. Financial assets measured at amortised cost comprises investments in subsidiaries, amounts owed by group, debtors and cash. Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost comprises trade creditors, other creditors and accruals.

21. Financial commitments

There were no contractual commitments entered into at the balance sheet date which warrant disclosure.

22. Events after the Balance Sheet Date

On 6th February 2026, the tenants of investment property Yeoman House exercised their contractual break clause with the lease now scheduled to terminate on 12th August 2026. The property is currently being marketed for re-letting though should a new tenant not be secured by 12th August 2026, the federation faces a temporary reduction in rental income. The trustees are actively seeking a replacement tenant to mitigate this risk.