

CHA Treasurer report for CHA AGM January 2026

2024-2025

The **financial year 2024-2025** which ended on 31 March 2025 saw a final financial result for the CHA at close to break-even.... which we regard as broadly satisfactory.

For the first time since the Covid pandemic the CHA held a National Conference in October 2024 which makes that financial year's result significantly different from previous years.

The **Conference cost** the CHA some £29,646 to run, and **Conference Income (bookings and sponsorship)** was £18,555, and we were grateful to the **Health Foundation Grant** for a grant that allowed us to subsidise the conference by this £11,000 difference (*and helpfully to have been able to offer a number of reduced rate bookings*). Because the full grant was £18,000, with the agreement of the Health Foundation, we have been able to carry forward some £7000 of the grant into 2025-2026 and this is a significant benefit to ongoing CHA activity.

Some of this carry forward is designated for operating the **CHA Special Interest Group (SIG)** during 2025-2026; some is being used as “seed-corn funding” for the **2026 National Conference**, and some has been transferred to the **CHA operational account** to keep the CHA running during the current financial year (2025-2026).

It is worth noting that so far, some £3,500 has already been expended on planning & admin for the next National Conference planned for early May 2026. Bookings opened for this conference in late 2025 and so far, £1500 income has been received, which is encouraging.

Forward Financial View

Recently, the CHA has been primarily dependent for income on Health Foundation grants received during both 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. The Health Foundation situation is now changing substantially, and we believe that further grants are unlikely. The CHA receives no other state or national support. We hope that the National Conference in May 2026 will generate sufficient profit to fund the CHA operation through the financial year 2026-2027, but this is by no means assured.

Paid membership continues to remain challenging, with a handful of Friends organisations prepared to contribute £100 each, but obtaining any membership payment from NHS Hospital Trusts is a “*financial system challenge*”. Budgets are no longer authorised at community hospital level, purchase orders have to be obtained centrally for any purchase however small, and finance departments are further remote in Shared Business Services.

Progressing ongoing funding continues to be a high priority for the committee, and every possible avenue is being explored. *For example:* Individual membership is free, and there is no wish to change this because, post pandemic, it has been supremely successful in building a wide membership base across the UK with **600 individual members**. But one possibility that could be considered is asking this membership base for a **voluntary donation** each year of (say) £10. This could help put the CHA on a more sustainable financial footing.

Feedback from members on this, and any other potential sources of income, would be welcome and extremely helpful as the committee develop a funding plan for 2026-2027.

Richard Hallett MBE
CHA Treasurer
January 2026