THE DORSET AND SOMERSET AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY

England & Wales · Charity number 1078685

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	03893356
Registered	1999-12-20
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Landacre House Castle Road Chelston Business Park Wellington Somerset TA21 9JQ
Phone	01823669604
Email	info@dsairambulance.org.uk
Website	www.dsairambulance.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 3. The objects for which the Charity is established are the relief of sickness and injury and the protection of human life by the provision or support of an air ambulance service, not exclusively but principally by aircraft, for the benefit of the population of the Counties of Dorset and Somerset.

Activities: The relief of sickness and injury and the protection of human life by the provision and support of an air ambulance service for the benefit of the population of Dorset and Somerset.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- **Area of benefit:** DORSET AND SOMERSET
- Bath And North East Somerset
- Bournemouth
- Cornwall
- Devon
- Dorset
- North Somerset
- Poole
- Somerset
- Wiltshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£11,026,492	£10,076,556	£43,721,120	25
2024-03-31	£9,365,075	£9,788,194	£42,583,837	24
2023-03-31	£8,723,978	£8,898,508	£41,159,457	23
2022-03-31	£10,380,476	£7,885,586	£42,846,919	20
2021-03-31	£9,243,996	£6,654,920	£39,757,609	19

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Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Andrew Sheridan		2025-03-11
Heather Morecroft		2025-03-11
Martin John Lyne		2023-03-14
Michael Bradfield		2025-03-11
Richard James Marlow		2023-06-14
SARAH DAY		2021-09-14
SUE HEYES		2021-09-14
Simon Jones		2018-06-13
TRACEY KILLEN		2021-09-14
WENDY GREEN		2021-09-14

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THE DORSET AND SOMERSET AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1078685

Accounts

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity

(A Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Company Number: 03893356
Charity Registered in England and Wales Number: 1078685

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
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The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
Reference and Administrative Details
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Trustee Directors	M Bradfield S Day W Entwisle W Green S Heyes S Jones T Killen (Chair) M Lyne (Vice chair) R Marlow H Morecroft A Sheridan (Treasurer)
Secretary	S Davies
Chief Executive Officer	C Hackett
Deputy Chief Executive	J Plowden
Finance Manager	S Davies
Lottery Manager	C Guy
Income Generation Director	M Dukes
Charity Number	1078685
Company Number	03893356
Principal Address and Registered Office	Landacre House Castle Road Chelston Business Park Wellington Somerset TA21 9JQ
Auditors	Albert Goodman LLP Goodwood House Blackbrook Park Avenue Taunton Somerset TA1 2PX
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc South West RCSC 740 Waterside Drive, Aztec West Almondsbury, BS99 5BD Barclays Bank UK Leicester Leicestershire, LE87 2BB

	Close Brothers Treasury 4th Floor, 10 Crown Place London, EA2A 4FT
	United Trust Bank Limited One RopeMaker Street London, EC2Y 9AW
	United National Bank Limited 2 Brook Street London W1S 1BO
Investment Advisors	Brewin Dolphin Vantage Point Woodwater Park Pynes Hill Exeter, Devon, EX2 5FD
	Rathbones Investment Management The Senate, Southernhay Gardens Exeter, Devon, EX1 1UG
	Evelyn Partners Portwall Place Portwall Lane Bristol, BS1 6NA

The Trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the charity's governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS 102- implemented 1 January 2019).

The full name of the charity is The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity**.** It was incorporated 13 December 1999 as a company limited by guarantee. Its company registration number is 03893356. Its charity registration number is 1078685. The registered office is Landacre House, Castle Road, Chelston Business Park, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 9JQ.

References and Administrative Details

Administrative information is given in a separate section at the front of these accounts.

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the Company are the charity's trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

The Trustees serving during the year and since the year-end are as follows:

- T Killen (Chair)
- Dr G Bryce (outgoing Chair) (Resigned 11 March 2025)
- S Day
- W Entwisle
- S Jones
- R Kennedy (Resigned 10 June 2025)
- W Green
- S Heyes
- A Phillips (Resigned 10 September 2024)
- M Lyne
- R Marlow
- A Sheridan (Appointed 11 March 2025)
- H Morecroft (Appointed 11 March 2025)
- M Bradfield (Appointed 11 March 2025)

None of the Trustees have any beneficial interest in the Company. All of the Trustees are members of the Company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Structure Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity (DSAA) is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by a memorandum and articles of association. It has a dormant subsidiary company, Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance (Trading) Limited (Company registration number 03861464).

The Board

DSAA is led by a Board of Trustees embracing a balanced spectrum of skills and experience including healthcare, aviation, legal, business, finance and HR. The Charity follows a protocol for the recruitment of new Trustees which facilitates both personal referrals and professional recruitment. The protocol enables both Trustees and candidates to make proper assessments before appointment. Trustees are appointed in accordance with the DSAA constitution, in line with a defined procedure and fulfil their responsibilities in accordance with clearly defined and approved Terms of Reference. The Board comprises a Chair and up to eleven other trustees. It has sub committees of trustees with relevant expertise and experience which are responsible for the oversight, risk management and performance management in: Employment and Remuneration, Finance, Aviation, Income Generation and Clinical. The board intends to maintain a balance in county representation.

Trustees serve a term of three years but are eligible for re-appointment twice so that a trustee may serve a total of nine years. The board can, but rarely has, make an exception in the interests of the Charity.

The Board maintains close liaison with the South Western Ambulance Services NHS Foundation Trust (SWASFT or SWAST) on all aspects of medical provision and clinical governance, and with Gama Aviation (Gama) on all aviation matters. These two bodies are directly involved in the operational governance of charitable activities and, through the executive and committees, provide the Board with professional advice on operational matters.

Employees and Volunteers

The Charity is managed by full and part-time staff of 25 (totalling 21.47 FTE) and over 100 volunteers. Operations are delivered by a further 52 DSAA Critical Care Team and Patient & Family Liaison Nurses, employed by the SWAST and NHS Hospital Trusts, and DSAA pilots employed by Gama Aviation (Gama). Seven of the Critical Care Team are paid for by SWASFT, all the rest of the team members are paid for by DSAA irrespective of employer. In total 77 paid individuals on full or part time basis are responsible for the organisation's outputs. The day-to-day management of the charity and its finances is delegated to the key management personnel, who the Trustees consider to be the Chief Executive Officer, the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, the Director of Income Generation, the Finance Manager, the Operations Manager, Medical Director and the Lottery Manager.

Remuneration of Key Personnel

The Employment Remuneration Committee, consisting of the Chair and two Trustees, is responsible to the Board for an annual review of the staffing levels, contracted terms of engagement and remuneration levels of all salaried staff of DSAA. Salary levels for all staff are considered in line with regional and sector norms set against the levels of responsibility expected within a role. The Committee also reviews benefits that affect volunteers, such as mileage allowance. The Committee considers the annual pay review in line with the draft annual budget for the Charity and makes recommendations to the Board.

Working with Volunteers

The Charity is extremely well supported by over 100 volunteers. They perform a wide range of invaluable duties on behalf of the Charity including giving talks, supporting events, servicing collection boxes and running information/merchandise stalls.

Our volunteers have a thorough induction to the charity with one of the Supporter Engagement Officers. The volunteers have access to the Volunteer Handbook which has all the relevant and essential information that they need when volunteering with the charity. The Supporter Engagement Officers are their main point of contact and provide ongoing support, training and regular catch-up meetings.

We believe that our volunteers represent much more than just a "labour source". They are our eyes, ears and voices in the communities we serve. Their interaction with others in their communities helps to raise awareness and boost support for the Charity across Dorset and Somerset. They also provide us with an excellent feedback mechanism, helping us to shape our approach to volunteering, fundraising and general operations. Without our volunteers, the Charity would not be able to raise the funds required to provide the air ambulance service nor engage as effectively with the community we serve.

Strategy

Charitable Purpose

Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance is a registered charity, established to provide relief from sickness and injury for the people of Dorset and Somerset, by the provision of an air ambulance, with an air and road-delivered critical care capability.

Our Mission

To save and enhance lives through the funding and provision of an air ambulance service, with an air and road-delivered critical care capability.

Our Vision

Innovation and collaboration are maximised to continually improve patient outcomes and all who need it receive excellent clinical care.

Our Service

Our cohort of clinicians include a mixture of senior emergency physicians, intensive care consultants and anaesthetists, critical care nurses and specialist practitioners in critical care. 'Critical Care' is the treatment of people who are in a critically ill or unstable condition. These patients might be unable to breathe without support. Critical care is provided in hospital by Intensive Care Units (ICUs) but pre-hospitally by a 'Critical Care Team'.

When responding to incidents by air, we provide a 'Critical Care Team', consisting of at least a doctor, a specialist practitioner and two pilots for each mission. The doctors are predominately drawn from NHS Hospital Trusts across the region and the practitioners are from the South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SWASFT or SWAST). Some clinicians have joined us from further afield, broadening the skills and experience of the team.

Our patient and family liaison nurses provide recovery support to patients who have been treated by our team, and to family members of patients, and can answer questions they might have about their pre-hospital care. They also provide links with patient support services and other charities aligned with the patient's condition, whilst encouraging peer support links with other similarly injured patients.

Our pilots are employed on our behalf by Gama Aviation who operate our aircraft. The pilots come from varying backgrounds, but the aircraft commanders are highly experienced and carefully selected because air ambulance flights are more challenging than regular non-emergency flight services.

We operate 19 hours a day (0700 - 0200hrs) providing a critical care service, using our AgustaWestland 169 (AW169) helicopter and critical care car. We also provide an enhanced care service across Dorset and Somerset using our outreach cars.

Our Model of Patient-Focused Care



DSAA Model for Patient-Focused Care – P Hyde

The DSAA Model of Patient-Focused Care (above) shows how, within the overall context of the clinical governance of SWASFT, DSAA provides clinical governance aspects in the 'blue' layer and these inform much of the work conducted in the 'green layer'. Importantly, patients and families remain at the centre of all thinking and the Charity's values wrap around everything we do.

Assessment of success of the clinical strategy is complex and requires careful examination of both empirical data and patient outcomes. There are currently no national criteria of pre-hospital clinical performance against which DSAA can be measured. However, our clinicians are working with the other air ambulances both regionally and nationally to resolve this issue. In the meantime, the level of demand for our clinical service from other health professionals (Ambulance Service Paramedics and NHS Hospital Trust Consultants, et al) is at least an indicator of success since it points to professional trust of the standard of DSAA clinical delivery.

In order to continually improve patient care, DSAA conducts a detailed and comprehensive programme of analysis, audit and research on its clinical practices and outcomes using the PHEMnet clinical database system. PHEMnet is used as NHS systems of reporting alone are not yet able to provide the clear patient outcome data that reflects the care given in the pre-hospital environment. DSAA's team of Patient and Family Liaison Nurses support patients' progress after their treatment by DSAA and feedback into the Charity to enable learning and continuous improvement of care.

The Charity acts as an advocate for patient care in the pre-hospital environment by facilitating greater co-operative working with all agencies involved in patient care across the South West. This includes providing support to road safety, accident prevention and health promotion initiatives in an effort to reduce the number of avoidable calls on the Critical Care Team. DSAA actively includes injury and illness prevention messages into the core of Charity activity and communications, and DSAA has an ongoing collaboration with DocBike, a charity who work to eradicate motorcycle deaths through engagement, injury prevention, education and roadside critical care.

Partnership make the DSAA service possible

DSAA owns its aircraft, G-DSAA or "Peggy" as it is known but works with Gama Aviation (Gama) to maintain, test, pilot, fly and govern that aircraft. Gama provides a full aviation service managed through a contract which encompasses operation and maintenance of DSAA's helicopter and provision of backup aircraft, pilots and engineers to support day to day operations as well as full maintenance and logistic support.

DSAA has a full complement of six pilots and four first officers, and an engineer focused primarily on DSAA's day to day aviation engineering task, employed by Gama, working closely with clinicians and charity staff. The service Gama provides to DSAA includes Continuous Airworthiness Management Organisation (CAMO), Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO), and Air Operator Certificate (AOC).

The South West Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SWASFT or SWAST) is responsible for tasking the helicopter and supporting the provision of medical team. Support to the Charity has been managed through contracts and Service Level Agreements (SLAs). These cover the provision of 18 Paramedics and Nurses and associated equipment, support and maintenance. This forms part of the core capability of the Charity's clinical provision. SWASFT pay for 7 of the paramedics, but all the other costs are funded by the Charity.

A further contract with SWASFT covers the provision of specialist Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) tasking desk to ensure that air ambulances are sent to the most appropriate incidents. The HEMS tasking provision is funded equally by the five air ambulance charities operating in the SWASFT area. The Charity's clinical activities include significant governance supervision, events and training. However, overall clinical governance of the Charity's operations is provided by SWASFT, and consultants working as part of the critical care team are also included through honorary contracts with SWASFT.

Public Benefit

DSAA is free at the point of need and responds only to incidents having been tasked by the HEMS specialist tasking team in the SWASFT Dispatch Centre. This ensures that it attends incidents across Dorset and Somerset and, at times beyond its borders, according to where it can deliver best effect. The Charity delivers its service to patients, regardless of age, according to clinical priority and without discrimination.

The continued development of its clinical provision requires the Charity to consider other players in the emergency support to patients. The crews now run regular cross-training exercises with members of the Maritime Coastguard Agency Search and Rescue teams, the Police and Fire Services, road-based elements of SWASFT and Emergency Departments of our local NHS Hospital Trusts.

In doing so it has demonstrated its patient-focus and benefit to every segment of the population resident in and transiting through both counties and around their borders.

No private benefit use of the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance helicopter is given to anyone at any time. The Trustees run the charity with due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by The Charity Commission and the Charity Act 2011.

Environmental Impact

Our service is dependent on getting our critical care team (a consultant grade doctor and specialist practitioner), with all the necessary equipment that you would normally find in an intensive care unit, to patients as quickly as possible. Having treated the patient at scene, they then need to be transferred rapidly to the right hospital so they can receive the urgent ongoing care they need - this is often a major trauma centre outside of the two counties we serve. The geography and road network of Dorset and Somerset means that rapid deployment of our critical care team to patients must be by air and requires a helicopter.

We are also committed to engaging daily with our emergency service colleagues through our outreach programme and supporting them by providing an enhanced care service using two outreach cars across the region (one in Dorset and one in Somerset). Our outreach and enhanced care service needs to move rapidly around a smaller geographic area and be able to reach almost anyway without pre-planned routes or stops, therefore the cars require to be equipped for blue-light response.

While we would never compromise our life-saving service, we recognise the responsibility to reduce our carbon footprint and environmental impact where we can.

Emergency Vehicles

Our life-saving service requires a helicopter, for which renewable fuel is not currently viable. Similarly, fully electric emergency response cars are not yet viable in our geographic area given the need for continuous availability and driving. We hope that renewable fuel and/or electric vehicles will become viable for emergency response use in future. In the meantime, we will explore the best way to carbon offset this necessary fuel use.

Travel to work

Electricity for charging of personal electric vehicles is available at our operational base. As we plan the base redevelopment, the provision of electric vehicle charging will be increased. The charity uses digital and online meeting tools and encourages their use, enabling our people to join meetings and work collaboratively without the need for travel.

Recycling

Our offices at Wellington and Wimborne and our operational base at Henstridge have recycling areas for office and personal waste - we encourage our people to recycle where possible. Furthermore, the charity works with a textile recycling partner to provide recycling banks across Dorset and Somerset, enabling and encouraging the public to recycle textiles and clothes while supporting the charity.

Merchandise

We have reviewed all our fundraising merchandise and discontinued the sale of plastic and non-renewable items.

Reduce paper and packaging

The charity has moved to storing documents electronically wherever possible and to reducing printing and photocopying. All paper packaging used to mail our Beeline magazine is FSC and PEFC approved, meaning it is only sourced from sustainable paper supplies. It is easily recyclable with ordinary household recycling and requires less CO2 and chemical process to produce than most alternative packaging.

A new base to support our mission, people and the environment

We need and intend to redevelop our operational base in order to accommodate an expansion of our service and meet the needs of patients across in the region. In designing and building the new base, we will ensure that it:

- Creates efficient systems of work to optimise our response to patients in need
- Is designed to best support the physical and mental wellbeing of our crews
- Supports the recovery of patients who have been treated by our Critical Care Team
- Is efficient in energy consumption and incorporates renewable energy generation where possible
- Is more accessible for public transport

Achievements and Performance

The core of DSAA's service is pre-hospital critical care and enhanced care. This is care that the NHS cannot currently provide itself, and it relies on having a helicopter to get our critical care team to the patient and then the patient directly to the right hospital to provide the right urgent care that they need. DSAA's mission and vision mean that the Charity strives to reach all patients that need the critical care or enhanced care that we provide pre-hospital and would otherwise not be available.

In the last year, DSAA has again increased the number of patients it reaches with needed critical and enhanced care. In the twelve months to March 2025, DSAA was tasked to 3,005 incidents, an increase of 1.3%. 1,431 of these missions were activations of the critical care team by helicopter or, occasionally, by car, in comparison to 1,429 in the twelve months to March 2024.

Activity of the outreach cars increased, from 1,534 missions in the twelve months to March 2024 to 1,574 in the year to March 2025. This enables DSAA to provide enhanced care (treatment which is beyond what the ambulance service could otherwise provide) to patients, ensure good close working relationship with colleagues in the ambulance service and other emergency services, and support the helicopter transported critical care team.

The type of incident that DSAA was tasked to was broadly similar to previous years. In the twelve months to March 2025, DSAA missions were 38% medical, 28% trauma, 18% cardiac arrest, 15% Road Traffic Collision (RTC) and 1% urgent inter-hospital transfer; this compares to 31% medical, 28% trauma, 21% cardiac arrest, 19% RTC and 1% transfer in the previous period. 'Medical' incidents are half cardiac arrest and then a range of collapses, fits, poisoning and other.

In the last year, we arrived at 1,749 incidents, attending 1,721 patients and ultimately providing critical or enhanced care to 1,615 patients by our specialist Doctors and / or Practitioners. Of the patients that DSAA treated in the twelve months to March 2025, 240 were children (under 18 years old), with 204 of those being under 16. DSAA provided blood to 63 patients at scene or during transfer to hospital during that period.

Getting the critical care team or enhanced care to a patient quickly is often vital, and therefore the teams continue to keep pressure on the time from activation to take-off. At night, this is slightly longer due to the need for additional flight planning. In the recent period, the mean time to take-off during daylight was 7 minutes, consistent with the previous year and achieving our target; and at night was 10 minutes, also consistent with the previous year and achieving our target. As timeliness can be vital, the teams are sometimes tasked, and therefore activated, when probably needed but then stood down when more details are known about the incident. Stand-downs have remained relatively consistent through recent years at about a third, and DSAA is not striving to reduce this as that would risk activating late, and therefore arriving late, to patients that urgently need critical care.

Helicopter & Critical Care Car (CCC)
Pre-hospital critical care is delivered by a DSAA 'Critical Care Team', consisting of at least a doctor and a specialist practitioner. Getting the critical care team to the patient rapidly, and then getting the patient to the right hospital to deliver the right care, is where the aircraft with pilot and co-pilot come in. If the aircraft is not able to be used, due to weather or maintenance, the critical care team respond by car and onward patient transfer is using a road ambulance.

The geography of Dorset and Somerset means that the aircraft is usually required. The availability of our aircraft in the last twelve months has been 95.5%, requiring the commitment and dedication of the engineering and aviation teams, often working during the night between 0200 and 0700hrs when DSAA does not have an operational shift.

Outreach Response Cars (ORC)
The role of the ORC is to raise awareness of the patient benefit that can be derived from the timely delivery of critical care to other health professionals. This deliberate engagement with the ambulance service and other emergency services directly improves on-scene collaboration, so that DSAA crews can be most effective in the provision of care. The ORCs are also tasked to patients who need an enhanced level of care that a normal road ambulance crew is unable to deliver. On scene, our practitioner will either treat the patient alone or more often work with a road ambulance crew. If he/she assesses that the patient requires critical care, they can advise SWASFT and our Critical Care Team on the helicopter.

Inter-Hospital transfer
In addition to the routine, day to day tasking of HEMS missions, DSAA also carries out inter-hospital transfers of the sickest patients from local hospitals to the regional specialist hospitals. This work includes support for adults and children.

Enhanced Care Responder Scheme
Following suggestion by critical care practitioners working for DSAA, the Charity has introduced a new Enhanced Care Responder Scheme (ECRS) on a two-year trial. Clinicians in this scheme are able, outside of their paid working hours, to voluntarily book on as available to be tasked to incidents which need enhanced care in their area. DSAA is providing the clinicians taking part in this voluntary scheme with all the equipment required to provide enhanced care and the car conversion to respond under blue lights. Clinical governance of their activity is provided by DSAA under SWAST governance, as per all DSAA clinical activity. This voluntary scheme supports the DSAA drive to reach every patient that needs critical or enhanced care. The scheme will be reviewed periodically though the two-year trial.

Operational Support Activity
Our Patient and Family Liaison Nurses (PFLNs) team was expanded in 2022, and since has continued to build relationships with patients, families and with the key elements of the care pathways. They have helped to improve understanding of patients and those closely affected by the care that is delivered. They are also providing high quality feedback to our clinicians on patient progress and professional feedback on the care delivered.

Given the challenging nature of the work of DSAA's clinical and aviation crew, DSAA provides a psychological supervision programme for its own team. This is an ongoing, much-needed layer of support to the well-being of our crews and an excellent complement to the services available to all clinicians through their parent NHS Trusts.

Research

The DSAA Research Team is formally led by a Professor and Lead Research Practitioner. A rounded portfolio of research activity is being developed based on an assessment of the research needs in pre-hospital emergency medicine, which was completed with partners across the country.

DSAA has been part of the SWIFT trial (Study of Whole Blood in Frontline Trauma). This study looks at whether giving 'whole blood,' instead of red blood cells and plasma, to patients with severe bleeding before they get to hospital, will be better at reducing the number of deaths 24 hours after injury and reduce the need for further large blood transfusions.

DSAA and the University of West of England (UWE) are co-funding a PhD study of the tasking of pre-hospital critical care assets. This work started in January 2024, to investigate how Emergency Medical Service specialist critical care resource allocation can be improved and is expected to conclude in 2026.

Income Generation

Fundraising

The Charity's fundraising is in significant part based on voluntary fundraising, concentrating on achieving a high volume of smaller donations rather than a low volume of high value donors. To that end, we support individuals and groups who run events and activities on our behalf. Over the last couple of years, DSAA has also increased the number of events it runs itself, trialling further running, cycling and open garden events as well as the established DSAA Coast to Coast Cycle Challenge.

As the environment for fundraising changes, and as we continue to evolve the DSAA service provision to best serve our community and save lives, the Charity will review its fundraising activities for the future. However, the Charity's commitment to maintaining high standards will absolutely remain.

Donations

Our supporters continue to fundraise for us enthusiastically, and we are incredibly grateful for all their efforts and their activities of all types and sizes. which includes £810,309 from sponsored activities, businesses and group fundraising and £1,035,132 from individual donors. Total donations have increased in the current year to £1,845,441 compared to £1,713,360 in the previous year.

Gifts-in-Wills (Legacies)

Gifts in Will income this year was £3,420,472. This has increased from £1,867,011 in the prior year. DSAA is aware of the ongoing delays and backlog in processing of probate in the UK and is taking steps to increase monitoring of gifts in wills and legacies intended for DSAA.

Committed Giving and Charity Prize Lottery
The Charity's prize lottery represents the single biggest component of our overall income. Over recent years, we have also introduced and are growing a 'committed giving' alternative way for supporters to make a regular monthly donation to DSAA. We manage the lottery and committed giving in-house but outsource the canvassing activity in support of these initiatives to a third-party canvassing provider.

Following the pandemic and in the current national employment situation, recruiting canvassers is currently extremely challenging. Vacancies in the DSAA committed giving and lottery canvasser teams has hampered DSAA maintaining the lottery and committed giving income. However, in the year to March 2025, this impact on the number of lottery players and committed giving participants has been mitigated through successful telephone-based campaigns encouraging existing participants to increase their number of weekly tickets.

The lottery's total gross income for the year ending March 2025 was £3,928,054, a £95,128 decrease on the previous financial year. The two additional seasonal raffles banked £220,822, an increase of £4,651 on the previous year.

Collection boxes
Our collection boxes are distributed across the two counties, collected and maintained by volunteers working under the direction of DSAA staff. Opening, counting and banking of boxes is done only in DSAA offices in a secured & monitored room. We also have QR donation codes on our tins for those that do not carry cash, and we have trialled the use of contactless payment for donations at events.

Investments & Interest
DSAA invests a proportion of its reserves in order to conserve the value of those reserves against inflation and to provide income to contribute to the regular running costs of the service. The Charity received £543,255 from its long-term investments and £372,877 from bank interest in the year to March 2025.

Income Generation Ethical Commitment, Safeguarding and Complaints handling

The Charity is committed to maintaining the highest standards of fundraising behaviour and is registered with the Fundraising Regulator. Our commitment made to donors and the public is to ensure that our fundraising is legal, open, honest and respectful. The standards of fundraising are set out in the Fundraising Code of Practice and DSAA carries out regular internal audits to ensure our fundraising activity adheres to this code. DSAA's Safeguarding policy states that concerns or allegations of abuse or neglect will always be taken seriously and investigated and DSAA seeks to safeguard adults at risk and children by valuing, listening to and respecting them. All Trustees, employees and volunteers have access to, and are familiar with, this policy and will know their responsibilities within it and have access to Safeguarding Procedures including how to report concerns or allegations of abuse. All managers are responsible for promoting awareness of this policy within their teams. All contracts with third parties associated with DSAA fundraising are set in line with the guidelines issued by the Fundraising Regulator.

Our Lottery and Committed Giving Face-to-face Fundraisers are all checked and go through a strict induction process where they will be asked to follow the canvassers charter. This states that they should always act with integrity, honesty, and transparency and in such a manner that supporters are not misled.

Dementia friends training is also undertaken so that DSAA employees and Face-to-face Fundraisers can gain a better understanding of the condition while helping them to learn how to recognise a vulnerable adult and act appropriately. During interactions, Face-to-face Fundraisers are alert to any signs that the individual may not be able to make an informed choice and if the Face-to-face Fundraiser has any grounds for concern, then a commitment should not be taken. Any customer who joins with a Face-to-face Fundraiser will be given a confirmation receipt straight away, with a welcome letter arriving a few days later as a physical sign of what has been arranged. Any concern from a customer or a member of their family that they had not been aware of or understand what they had set up, will result in an immediate cancellation and if required the offer of a refund of any monies already taken. To ensure that we are maintaining the highest standards of fundraising we also make regular compliance calls to new lottery members to check that Face-to-face Fundraisers are all consistent in their behaviour and that the customer is happy with their Face-to-face Fundraiser experience and to able to support the charity in this way.

Any complaints that are received are treated seriously and dealt with promptly, amicably, and efficiently by the lottery or fundraising team. We ensure that complaints are treated in confidence and aim to resolve the complaint within 10 working days. Most complaints are satisfactorily and immediately resolved without the need for any further action. Any complaints regarding Face-to-face Fundraisers that do need to be escalated are passed to the supervisor and then LFS to investigate. Over the last year, despite active monitoring and proactive compliance calls we have only received five reports of negative attitude by Face-to-face Fundraisers. These have been discussed with the supervisor and subsequently with the individuals. No complaints were received regarding fundraising activities outside of lottery and committed giving canvassing.

Future Plans

Increasing Critical Care availability

The number of patients that DSAA reaches has been increasing year-on-year since the Charity first began work. However, the patient reach that the Charity can achieve is currently limited by: the time that our aircraft is off-line for maintenance, repairs and pilot certification; weather restriction on flying, particularly low cloud; and the hours that DSAA does not have a duty shift, i.e. 0200 to 0700.

DSAA's mission and vision entail that the Charity should try to reach all those patients that need its pre-hospital critical care. DSAA critical care availability could be increased by having at least one aircraft available throughout the current 19 hours per day duty shift. Furthermore, the Charity considers that there are patients needing critical care between the hours of 0200 and 0700 in Dorset and Somerset, who would benefit from the provision of its critical care service for 24 hours per day. DSAA is therefore currently assessing the potential to increase its aviation capacity in order to reach more patients during our current 19 shifts and then the potential to increase the hours of the day in which our critical care team is available.

In order to improve availability via aircraft during periods of low cloud, DSAA is working with the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), supported by the Department for Transport, to implement a Global Navigation Satellite System approach to its base at Henstridge Airfield.

Air Base development

As the provision of care and the aviation capability of DSAA has developed, so the needs on the airbase have increased. In order to support the existing and further development of the service, the charity is assessing the more efficient way to redevelop our operational base.

Research

Continuous improvement in prehospital emergency medicine and critical care must be based on good evidence. DSAA will continue to develop the use of clinical data to advocate for improvements in patient care through audit and research, and provide a DSAA Clinical Research Lead. We will take part in clinical studies that address key questions in the provision of prehospital care, such as the SWIfT study and the ongoing PhD study into effective HEMS tasking.

Financial sustainability

Over recent years, DSAA has increased the reach and capability of its critical care and enhanced care to patients, focusing its efforts and spend onto those aspects of its mission and vision, and keeping centred on care for patients and their families. Supporters in Dorset and Somerset have been, and continue to be, generous with their support for our service. As the capability and activity level of the DSAA service has increased to fill patient need, so the costs have inevitably increased and these have been compounded by recent inflation, such that DSAA now spends annually all the charitable funds that it receives. In order to ensure that future costs and development of the clinical service are financially sustainable, DSAA is looking at increasing its fundraising activity, investing modestly to increase its engagement with corporate partners, grant funders, charitable trusts and individual donors.

Financial Review

Transactions and Financial position

The Statement of Financial Activities shows a net movement in funds of £1,137,283 for the year (2024 - £1,424,380) and reserves stand at £43,721,120 of which £43,717,982 is unrestricted and £3,138 is restricted. The cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year stood at £7,431,347 with a further £3,000,000 in cash term deposits.

Tangible Fixed assets for use by the Charity

Details of the movements of fixed assets are set out in note 10 of the Accounts.

Investment Policy

The Charity invests reserves in order to conserve the value of those reserves against inflation and to provide income to contribute to the regular running costs of the service. The Charity appoints professional investment management firms to manage the investment assets on a discretionary basis, in line with the ethical investment policy and to produce the best financial return within an acceptable level of risk. In order to mitigate the risk of investments, the Core Financing Fund investments are managed by three separate investment managers and an active cash management service.

The Charity has adopted an ethical investment policy to ensure that its investments do not conflict with its aims, and our investment managers must demonstrate the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues are core to their 'house' investment policies and reviewed regularly.

Reserves policy

Given the mission life-saving criticality of DSAA service, our reserves policy is to hold sufficient reserves to ensure that our work is protected from the risk of disruption and to enable future major investments required for development of our service in best interests of patients. This means that the charity holds reserves:

- to cover any disruption of income or unforeseen cost without significant reducing clinical service for a period of two years
- to cover all working capital requirements
- to build capital for investment in assets necessary for provision of critical care and helicopter ambulance, such as airbase, future aircraft, and medical equipment
- to provide income into the ongoing regular running cost of the service

DSAA policy is therefore to hold 6-12 months free reserves.

The Charity's mission and vision entail that it provides excellent clinical care, that it strives to reach all patients who need critical care and that it remains financially sustainable in order to do so. Practical limitation is put onto the Charity's operations by the current airbase, which was built in an era of a smaller aircraft and fewer staff, and the inevitable limitations of depending on a single aircraft. In order to reach more patients who need critical care, and to continue excellence in the care delivered, the charity intends to invest reserves in:

- further aircraft which will enable the team to be fully operational and be able to reach patients more of the time
- redevelopment of the operational air base
- improving fund-raising ability in order to sustainably raise sufficient annual income to cover the increasing cost of reaching patients

Reserves held in fixed assets are those assets critical to the life-saving mission and functional working of the Charity and are not financial investments. As such, tangible fixed assets are excluded from consideration of the free reserves to cover disruption and service development.

During an exceptional period of legacy and prize lottery fundraising income, our Trustees made the decision to accumulate reserves for investment into specific purposes that will improve the organisation's service delivery and future sustainability. The Charity has designate free, non-fixed asset reserves as follows:

Free reserves to mitigate short- or medium-term risk of disruption, set at 10 months operational cost	£8,000,000	To be held as cash or accessible financial market investment
New Aircraft Fund	£9,500,000	To be held as cash and converted into aircraft purchase currency prior to commitment into fixed asset
Airbase Redevelopment Fund	£9,500,000	To be held as cash or accessible financial market investment until commitment into fixed asset
Modernisation & Transformation Fund	£3,000,000	To be held as short term investments and cash

The amounts designated from reserves so far are not expected to cover the full cost of new aircraft purchase and fit-out, not full cost of base development, and the board expect that further investment will be required and funds raised.

Increases in operational costs have coincided with legacy, prize lottery, donation and investment income all falling or stagnating. This has placed the charity in an ongoing annual deficit position, requiring it to expand and diversify income streams for it to continue providing essential support to critical care patients.

With the reserves in mind, the Trustees judge the financial position of the Charity to be satisfactory

Risk

As an air ambulance, the activities by DSAA or in its name have inherent levels of risk, which need management with care and expertise. Given the diverse nature of key activity areas of DSAA, risk management is conducted by sub-committees of the board with expertise in those different areas. These committees review key risks and mitigation activities, and escalate to the Board for overall review. Specifically:

- Clinical Committee – reviews risk relating to clinical care and management, and overseeing working with SWAST and hospitals
- Aviation Committee – reviews risk relating to aviation activities and review aviation providers
- Finance Committee – reviews financial risks
- Income Generation Committee – reviews risk relating to income generation activities and regulator/code compliance
- Employment & Remuneration Committee – reviews risks relating to employment and people management

Risks that crossover committee areas of expertise are reviewed in both committees; risks that are not specific to any committee are identified by specific members of management and trustees and reviewed at the Board alongside all escalated risks.

Much of the operational risk is managed in conjunction with Gama Aviation (Gama) and SWASFT. The DSAA Aviation Sub-Committee conducts an annual review of Gama as the provider of aviation services to DSAA and the Trustees are assured that Gama is a competent provider to deliver aviation services to DSAA. Trustees with clinical experience review the workings of DSAA clinical governance activities, which fall under the overall clinical governance within SWASFT.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are directors of The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustee Directors' Report (incorporating the Directors' Report) and the financial statements in accordance with 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).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of 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 Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

- 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 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 the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on 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.

Auditors

The auditors, Albert Goodman LLP, are deemed to be reappointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

By order of the Trustees.

T Killen
Chair
The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity

Date: 9/9/2025

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, 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 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources 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 charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors 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, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter 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 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 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
We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees
As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 16], 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.

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.

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:

The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud
Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, Gambling commission registration, fundraising regulator registration and data protection 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 regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

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; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation, claims and breaches of relevant legislation; and
- reviewing correspondence with the charity commission and other relevant regulators including the company's legal advisors and insurers.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

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 and 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Michelle Ferris BSc (Hons) FCA DChA
Senior Statutory Auditor
for and on behalf of
Albert Goodman LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

Date: 11/09/2025

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £
Income:							
Donations and legacies	2	5,646,135	13,964	5,660,099	3,627,145	362,238	3,989,383
Trading activities	3	4,450,261	-	4,450,261	4,475,001	-	4,475,001
Investment income	4	916,132	-	916,132	900,691	-	900,691
Total income		11,012,528	13,964	11,026,492	9,002,837	362,238	9,365,075
Expenditure:							
Raising funds	5	1,555,157	11,181	1,566,338	1,166,754	-	1,166,754
Charitable activities	6	8,189,284	320,934	8,510,218	8,580,491	40,949	8,621,440
Total expenditure		9,744,441	332,115	10,076,556	9,747,245	40,949	9,788,194
Net income / (expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses		1,268,087	(318,151)	949,936	(744,408)	321,289	(423,119)
Net gain / (loss) on investments	12	187,347	-	187,347	1,847,499	-	1,847,499
Net income before transfers		1,455,434	(318,151)	1,137,283	1,103,091	321,289	1,424,380
Transfers	17	-	-	-	13,156	(13,156)	-
Net movement in funds for the year		1,455,434	(318,151)	1,137,283	1,116,247	308,133	1,424,380
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		42,262,548	321,289	42,583,837	41,146,301	13,156	41,159,457
Total funds carried forward		43,717,982	3,138	43,721,120	42,262,548	321,289	42,583,837

The statement of financial activities has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations. There were no gains or losses arising in the year that are not shown above.

The statement of financial activities incorporates the income and expenditure account

Balance Sheet
As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	10	6,937,687		7,305,115	
Intangible fixed assets	11	74,370		74,370	
Investments	12	24,281,062		23,683,337	
			31,293,119		31,062,822
Current assets					
Stock	14	23,477		21,129	
Debtors	15	3,904,312		1,214,091	
Investments	13	3,000,000		7,700,448	
Cash at bank and in hand		7,142,156		3,709,878	
		14,069,945		12,645,546	
Liabilities:					
Creditors falling due within one year	16	(1,641,944)		(1,124,531)	
Net current assets			12,428,001		11,521,015
Total net assets			43,721,120		42,583,837
The funds of the charity:					
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	17		13,717,982		1,262,548
Designated funds	17		30,000,000		41,000,000
Total unrestricted funds			43,717,982		42,262,548
Restricted funds	17		3,138		321,289
Total charity funds			43,721,120		42,583,837

The financial statements have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Approved by the Board of Trustees for issue on 9/9/2025 and signed on their behalf by:



T Killen
Chair



A Sheridan
Treasurer

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net movements in funds for the year		1,137,283	1,424,380
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		-	1,500
Depreciation and amortisation	10	469,646	489,502
Dividends and interest from investments	4	(916,132)	(900,691)
Investment revaluations	12	(187,347)	(1,847,499)
		503,450	(832,808)
Working capital adjustments			
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	14	(2,348)	(15,644)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	15	(2,690,221)	(431,386)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	16	517,413	205,378
Net cash flow from operations		(1,671,706)	(1,074,460)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends and interest from investments		916,132	900,691
Proceeds on disposal of fixed assets		-	(1,500)
Purchase of tangible and intangible assets	10/11	(102,218)	(209,806)
Acquisition of investments	12/13	(4,572,999)	(3,336,238)
Investment disposals	12/13	8,889,824	2,982,690
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		5,130,739	335,837
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		3,459,033	(738,623)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		3,972,314	4,710,937
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		7,431,347	3,972,314
Cash & Cash equivalents reconciliation:			
Cash at bank		7,142,156	3,709,878
Cash held by investment manager	12	289,191	262,436
Total cash & cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		7,431,347	3,972,314

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of accounting

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in the United Kingdom under the Companies Act. The maximum liability of each member is limited to £1. The address of the registered office is given on page 1. The nature of the charity's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Trustees report on pages 3-19.

The financial statements have been prepared in £ sterling on the historical cost basis and in accordance with accounting and reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts 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)) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The accounts are prepared for the company alone. The company has a dormant subsidiary, and consolidated accounts are not presented as the charity has taken advantage of the exemption provided by S405(2) of the Companies Act 2006 on the grounds of immateriality.

1.2 Income

Income from donations is recognised on a cash basis, in the year in which the income is physically received, except when the donors specify that they must be used in future accounting periods or donors conditions have not been fulfilled, then the income is deferred.

Bequests and legacies are included when entitlement is established, it is probable that the amount will be received, and the amount receivable can be estimated with sufficient accuracy. Where conditions for recognition have not been met, the legacies are disclosed in note 2.

Income from grants is recognised in the year in which they are receivable. Grants without performance conditions are presented within donations and legacies and within charitable activities when performance criteria apply.

Trading activity income from lottery receipts is recognised when the draw for the relevant week is made. Any amounts received prior to the draw being made are deferred.

Income from trading activities, other than lottery income, is included in the period in which the company is entitled to receipt.

Income from investments constitutes dividends and bank interest and is recognised in the year to which it relates.

1.3 **Expenditure**

Resources expended are recognised on the accruals basis to match the period in which the expenditure was incurred, inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered. These include both costs associated with both charitable activity and those which relate to governance arrangements and the general running of the charity.

1.4 **Donated services**

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the unpaid volunteer time is not recognised in the financial statements. Refer to the Trustee Directors' Report for more information about their contribution.

1.5 **Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Short leasehold improvements	10 years straight line
Freehold land and buildings	50 years straight line
Medical equipment	4 – 5 years straight line
Fixtures & fittings	10 years straight line
Computer equipment	3 years straight line
Motor vehicles	7 years straight line
Aircraft	10 years straight line

Fixed assets costing less than £5,000 are not capitalised.

1.6 **Intangible fixed assets and amortisation**

Intangible fixed assets are stated at cost less amortisation. Amortisation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation over its expected useful life, once operational.

1.7 **Investments**

Fixed asset investments comprise investment portfolios maintained by investment managers. These are recognised initially at fair value which is normally the transaction price (but excludes any transaction costs.) Subsequently, investments are held at market value, with all realised and unrealised gains passing through the SOFA.

Non-current asset investments are cash deposits with a maturity date of more than one year from the balance sheet date. These are recognised at the deposit amount plus any interest, with any interest gains passing through the SOFA when falling due.

Current asset investments are cash deposits with a maturity date of less than one year from the balance sheet date. These are recognised at the deposit amount plus any interest, with any interest gains passing through the SOFA when falling due.

1.8 **Stock**

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making allowances for obsolete and slow moving stock.

1.9 **Debtors**

Accrued income is recognised at the settlement amount due and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

1.10 **Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand comprise cash on hand and call deposits with a maturity of less than three months, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

1.11 **Creditors**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at their settlement amount.

1.12 **Pensions**

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable by the charity during the year in accordance with FRS 17.

1.13 **Operating lease rentals**

Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred over the term of the lease. The charity has operating leases for the premises in which they operate, as well as motor, office equipment leases. The title of the leased premises and equipment remains with the lessor.

1.14 **Foreign currencies**

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recorded in the charity's functional currency by applying the spot exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. All differences are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities and presented within charitable activities expenditure.

1.15 **Taxation**

As a registered charity, the company is not liable to corporation tax to the extent that income and gains are applied to charitable activities.

1.16 **Financial Instruments**

The charity only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and liabilities of the charity and their measurements are as follows:

Financial assets – trade, other debtors and loans (programme related investment) are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 19. Investment portfolios are basic financial instruments measured at fair value through the income and expenditure account. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Cash at bank and deposit accounts– is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 19. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.17 **Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement**

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The charity makes estimates and assumptions concerning the depreciation on the aircraft held within fixed assets, as discussed below:

The charity's most important capital asset is its aircraft, the AW169 G-DSAA also known as 'Peggy'. Depreciation of this aircraft is estimated based on assumption that at the end of 10 years after purchase of G-DSAA by DSAA the aircraft will have a value of 50% of the price at which DSAA purchased it. The period of 10 years and the residual value percentage assumed take into account that G-DSAA was bought some 5 years after it initially entered service (i.e. not new) and that 10 years from purchase would not take the aircraft to its full level of depreciation and final value.
Various different methods are used to estimate the value of an aircraft for the purpose of valuing depreciation, and the method used by DSAA results in a monthly depreciation amount comparable to that estimated by other AW169 owners.

2. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £
Donations	1,831,477	13,964	1,845,441	1,682,378	42,238	1,713,360
Gifts in wills	3,420,472	-	3,420,472	1,547,011	320,000	1,867,011
Grants	62,313	-	62,313	85,054	-	85,054
Collecting boxes	142,598	-	142,598	164,916	-	164,916
Gift aid	189,275	-	189,275	159,042	-	159,042
	5,646,135	13,964	5,660,099	3,638,401	362,238	3,989,383

As at the year end, the charity had been notified of material gifts in wills which have not been included in the Statement of Financial Activities due to the conditions for recognition not being met. These consist of 16 gifts in wills totalling approximately £2,048,000 (2024: 2 gifts in wills totalling approximately £120,000).

3. Trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £
Lottery	3,928,054	-	3,928,054	4,023,182	-	4,023,182
Special draws	415,551	-	415,551	301,246	-	301,246
Other fundraising & sponsorship	8,851	-	8,851	34,193	-	34,193
Sale of merchandise	8,071	-	8,071	8,023	-	8,023
Events income	89,734	-	89,734	108,357	-	108,357
	4,450,261	-	4,450,261	4,475,001	-	4,475,001

Income received for the lottery totalling £505,520 (2024: £475,769) has been deferred and is recognised at the date the relevant draw takes place.

4. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £
Dividends receivable	543,255	-	543,255	527,960	-	527,960
Interest receivable from banks/deposits	372,877	-	372,877	372,731	-	372,731
	916,132	-	916,132	900,691	-	900,691

5. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £
Lottery prizes	92,070	-	92,070	92,070	-	92,070
Staff salaries	467,586	-	467,586	416,134	-	416,134
Commission	619,727	-	619,727	353,182	-	353,182
Rental of computer system	8,022	-	8,022	6,240	-	6,240
Lottery office costs	32,980	-	32,980	25,747	-	25,747
Beeline	69,913	-	69,913	66,777	-	66,777
Bank charges	38,344	-	38,344	35,046	-	35,046
Income generation costs	56,250	-	56,250	-	-	-
Event costs	9,693	-	9,693	21,913	-	21,913
Collection tins	2,541	-	2,541	789	-	789
General costs	8,602	11,181	19,783	7,270	-	7,270
Goods purchased for resale	4,318	-	4,318	6,693	-	6,693
Investment management costs	145,111	-	145,111	134,893	-	134,893
	1,555,157	11,181	1,566,338	1,166,754	-	1,166,754

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £
Aviation, airbase and clinical costs						
Aircraft costs	4,107,117	320,000	4,427,117	4,451,679	-	4,451,679
Critical care team	2,337,544	-	2,337,544	2,269,313	-	2,269,313
Medical equipment	166,195	934	167,129	195,545	10,167	205,712
Airbase costs	56,555	-	56,555	46,588	30,782	77,370
Paramedic training	145,175	-	145,175	165,972	-	165,972
Foreign currency gain	-	-	-	-	-	-
VAT reclaimed	(180,467)	-	(180,467)	(116,602)	-	(116,602)
	6,632,119	320,934	6,953,053	7,012,495	40,949	7,053,444
Support & governance costs						
Wages and salaries	606,547	-	606,547	589,749	-	589,749
Premises costs	26,513	-	26,513	24,628	-	24,628
Print and stationery	2,630	-	2,630	3,932	-	3,932
Postage	6,844	-	6,844	8,017	-	8,017
Telephone	9,097	-	9,097	11,264	-	11,264
Vehicle insurance	1,396	-	1,396	871	-	871
Office equipment and maintenance	19,960	-	19,960	19,872	-	19,872
Publicity	37,492	-	37,492	49,935	-	49,935
Beeline	69,913	-	69,913	66,777	-	66,777
Insurance	24,654	-	24,654	21,488	-	21,488
Legal and professional	107,245	-	107,245	129,752	-	129,752
Training costs	7,051	-	7,051	9,302	-	9,302
Recruitment	18,173	-	18,173	1,917	-	1,917
Bank charges	21,813	-	21,813	21,993	-	21,993
Subscriptions	10,028	-	10,028	9,368	-	9,368
Health and safety	3,313	-	3,313	2,484	-	2,484
Travel & subsistence	29,952	-	29,952	32,369	-	32,369
Van hire	4,229	-	4,229	4,958	-	4,958
Depreciation	469,646	-	469,646	489,502	-	489,502
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	-	-	1,500	-	1,500
IT costs and website	69,149	-	69,149	57,218	-	57,218
Audit and accountancy	11,520	-	11,520	11,100	-	11,100
	1,557,165	-	1,557,165	1,567,996	-	1,567,996
	8,189,284	320,934	8,510,218	8,580,491	40,949	8,621,440

7. Net incoming resources/operating surplus

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation of owned assets	469,646	489,502
(Profit)/loss on sale of fixed assets	-	1,500
Auditors' remuneration for:		
Audit services	9,000	8,700
Accountancy services	2,520	2,400

8. Trustee directors

None of the Trustee Directors (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the current or prior year. None of the Trustee Directors were reimbursed expenses during the year (2024: £71 reimbursed to one Trustee Director for travelling expenses).

9. Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly head count was 25 staff (2024: 24 staff) and the average number of full-time equivalent employees (including casual and part-time staff) during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
Chief Executive	1	1
Lottery staff	3	3
Fundraising staff	9	8
Operations staff	3	2
Management and admin staff	6	6
	22	20

Employment costs	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	913,072	853,901
Social security costs	92,294	86,131
Other pension costs	68,767	65,851
	1,074,133	1,005,883

The number of employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more (excluding employer national insurance and employer pension costs) were:

	2025 number	2024 number
£60,000 - £70,000	1	1
£70,000 - £80,000	1	1
£100,000 - £110,000	1	1

These employees are a member of the defined contribution pension scheme, into which contributions of £19,410 (2024: £18,486) were made. The employees included in the above noted bands are not all included in the definition of key management personnel.

The key management personnel of the charity are considered to be the Chief Executive Officer and The Deputy Chief Executive, the Finance Manager, Operations Manager, Income Generation Director and the Lottery Manager. The total costs to the charity of employee benefits (including employer national insurance and employer pension costs) for the key management personnel were £424,656 (2024: £407,747).

Defined contribution pension scheme

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the scheme and amounted to £68,767 (2024: £65,851).

Contributions totalling £853 (2024: £nil) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

10. Tangible fixed assets

Cost	Short leasehold improvements £	Freehold Land & Buildings £	Medical Equipment £	Fixtures & Fittings £	Computer Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Aircraft £	Total £
At 1 April 2024	338,602	597,805	504,512	35,763	58,228	82,466	7,302,743	8,920,119
Additions	42,563	-	34,924	-	-	24,731	-	102,218
Disposals	-	-		-	(40,569)	-	-	(40,569)
At 31 March 2025	381,165	597,805	539,436	35,763	17,659	107,197	7,302,743	8,981,768
Depreciation								
At 1 April 2024	192,970	66,754	404,669	34,987	46,455	32,397	836,772	1,615,004
Charge for the year	33,733	11,956	39,688	583	5,886	12,663	365,137	469,646
Disposals	-	-		-	(40,569)	-	-	(40,569)
At 31 March 2025	226,703	78,710	444,357	35,570	11,772	45,060	1,201,909	2,044,081
Net book value								
At 31 March 2025	154,462	519,095	95,079	193	5,887	62,137	6,100,834	6,937,687
At 31 March 2024	145,632	531,051	99,843	776	11,773	50,069	6,465,971	7,305,115

11. Intangible assets

Cost	PiNS software £	Total £
At 1 April 2024	74,370	74,370
At 31 March 2025	74,370	74,370
Net book value		
At 31 March 2025	74,370	74,370
At 31 March 2024	74,370	74,370

12. Investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Listed shares	23,991,870	23,420,900
Cash held by investment manager	289,191	262,436
Shares in subsidiary undertaking	1	1
	24,281,062	23,683,337

Listed shares	2025 £	2024 £
Market value		
At 1 April 2024	23,420,900	21,109,818
Additions	4,572,999	3,336,238
Disposals	(4,189,376)	(2,872,655)
Revaluation	187,347	1,847,499
At 31 March 2025	23,991,870	23,420,900

	2025 £	2024 £
Historical cost		
At 1 April 2024	20,291,570	19,067,914
Additions	4,572,999	3,336,238
Disposals	(5,106,620)	(2,112,582)
Other movements	-	-
At 31 March 2025	19,757,949	20,291,570

Shares in subsidiary undertaking

Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance (Trading) Limited was incorporated on 19 October 1999 as a wholly owned trading subsidiary of The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity. The parent charity holds 100% of the issued share capital and 100% of the voting rights of the subsidiary trading company. The company became dormant on 31 March 2013.

The profit for the year was £nil (2024: £nil) and the balance sheet total was £1 (2024: £1).

13. Investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed rate cash held on deposit	3,000,000	7,700,448
Split as:		
Non-current asset investment (due > 1 year)	-	-
Current asset investment (due < 1 year)	3,000,000	7,700,448
	3,000,000	7,700,448

Investments are split in the statutory accounts based on maturity date.

14. Stocks

	2025 £	2024 £
Goods for resale	4,123	3,311
Medical consumables	19,354	17,818
	23,477	21,129

15. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other debtors	156,543	250,304
Prepayments and accrued income	3,747,769	963,787
	3,904,312	1,214,091

Included within prepayments is an amount totalling £2,306,895 (2024: £nil) in relation to a second aircraft.

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income: lottery receipts	505,520	475,769
Other creditors	172,878	136,461
Accruals	939,408	488,544
Amounts owed to group undertakings	1	1
Taxation and social security	24,137	23,756
	1,641,944	1,124,531

Reconcilation of deferred income : Lottery receipts

Opening balance	475,769	416,176
Received during the year	3,957,805	4,082,775
Released during the year	(3,928,054)	(4,023,182)
Closing balance	505,520	475,769

17. Summary of movement in funds - 2025

	Opening balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gain/(loss) on investments & transfers £	Closing balance £
Unrestricted funds					
General	1,262,548	11,012,528	(9,744,441)	11,187,347	13,717,982
	1,262,548	11,012,528	(9,744,441)	11,187,347	13,717,982
Designated funds					
Disruption reserve	8,000,000	-	-	-	8,000,000
New aircraft fund	11,000,000	-	-	(1,500,000)	9,500,000
Airbase redevelopment	5,000,000	-	-	4,500,000	9,500,000
Staff responding scheme	-	-	-		-
Core financing fund	17,000,000	-	-	(17,000,000)	-
Modernisation and transformation fund	-	-	-	3,000,000	3,000,000
	41,000,000	-	-	(11,000,000)	30,000,000
Total unrestricted funds	42,262,548	11,012,528	(9,744,441)	187,347	43,717,982
Restricted funds					
AED/Defibrilator	-	12,480	(10,560)	-	1,920
Gift - B Dicks	320,000	-	(320,000)	-	-
CPR Project	1,289	550	(621)	-	1,218
Medical equipment	-	934	(934)	-	-
	321,289	13,964	(332,115)	-	3,138
Total funds	42,583,837	11,026,492	(10,076,556)	187,347	43,721,120

The designated funds shown above reflect decisions taken by the Trustees prior to the year end. Please see the Trustees Report for details.

Summary of movement in funds - 2024

	Opening balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gain/(loss) on investments & transfers £	Closing balance £
Unrestricted funds					
General	5,072,392	9,002,837	(9,747,245)	(3,065,436)	1,262,548
Fair value reserve	33,909	-	-	(33,909)	-
	5,106,301	9,002,837	(9,747,245)	(3,099,345)	1,262,548
Designated funds					
Disruption reserve	20,000,000	-	-	(12,000,000)	8,000,000
New aircraft fund	11,000,000	-	-	-	11,000,000
Airbase redevelopment	5,000,000	-	-	-	5,000,000
Staff responding scheme	40,000	-	-	(40,000)	-
Core financing fund	-	-	-	17,000,000	17,000,000
	36,040,000	-	-	4,960,000	41,000,000
Total unrestricted funds	41,146,301	9,002,837	(9,747,245)	1,860,655	42,262,548
Restricted funds					
County Air Ambulance Trust- HELP Appeal	13,156	-	-	(13,156)	-
Gift - B Dicks	-	320,000	-	-	320,000
CPR Project	-	11,456	(10,167)	-	1,289
HELP Appeal - lights at Dorchester helipad	-	30,782	(30,782)	-	-
	13,156	362,238	(40,949)	(13,156)	321,289
Total funds	41,159,457	9,365,075	(9,788,194)	1,847,499	42,583,837

Summary of movement in funds

- Designated funds – Disruption reserves – free reserves to mitigate short- to medium-term risk of disruption, set at 2 years running costs.
- Designated funds – New Aircraft fund – towards purchase of a second aircraft which will enable the team to be fully operational and be able to reach patients more of the time.
- Designated funds – Airbase Redevelopment fund – towards redeveloping the operational airbase
- Designated funds – Staff Responding Scheme – reserves in order to conserve the value of the reserves against inflation and to provide income to contribute to the regular running costs of the service.
- Designated funds – Core Finance Fund – a long term investment with a target to cover up to 5% annual expenditure and would be available to draw down if charity experiences an exceptional drop in income, or in order to enable key strategic capital investment in operations infrastructure or equipment.

- Designated funds – Modernisation and transformation fund – Resources used to fund efficiencies in income generation
- CPR Project – The Grace Trust, The Hobson Charity, and Trust Dental supported DSAA with grants totalling £11,456 to equip and run a project in which DSAA volunteers demonstrate to the public how to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and use a defibrillator.
- B Dicks gift – a gift-in-will was received from a B Dicks to use on medical equipment. This generous legacy is being used for the new medical interior of the helicopter
- AED/Defibrillator – various donors contributed to this fund which has so far paid for AED's.
- Medical equipment – Ladies of Bourne Lodge contributed to the purchase of a CVC Insertion Simulator.

Where transfers have been made out of funds, they relate to the purchase of fixed assets, which is taken to discharge the restriction.

18. Analysis of assets between funds

	Fixed assets (tangible and intangible) £	Long term invest-ments £	Cash at bank and in hand (including short term investments) £	Other net current assets £	Current liabilities £	2025 Total £
Unrestricted funds	7,012,057	-	4,420,080	3,927,789	(1,641,944)	13,717,982
Designated funds	-	24,281,062	5,718,938	-	-	30,000,000
Restricted funds	-	-	3,138	-	-	3,138
	7,012,057	24,281,062	10,142,156	3,927,789	(1,641,944)	43,721,120

Analysis of assets between funds – prior year

	Fixed assets (tangible and intangible) £	Long term invest-ments £	Cash at bank and in hand (including short term investments) £	Other net current assets £	Current liabilities £	2024 Total £
Unrestricted funds	7,379,485	-	(6,227,626)	1,235,220	(1,124,531)	1,262,548
Designated funds	-	23,683,337	17,316,663	-	-	41,000,000
Restricted funds	-	-	321,289	-	-	321,289
	7,379,485	23,683,337	11,410,326	1,235,220	(1,124,531)	42,583,837

19. Financial instruments

Categorisation of financial instruments

	2025 £	2024 £
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account	24,280,062	23,775,749
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	9,473,018	12,245,617
	33,753,080	36,021,366
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	1,112,286	625,006

Item of income, expenditure, gain or losses

2025	Income £	Expense £	Net gains £	Net losses £
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account	543,255	145,111	187,347	-
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	372,877	-	-	-
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	-	-	-	-
	916,132	145,111	187,347	-

2024	Income £	Expense £	Net gains £	Net losses £
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account	527,960	134,893	1,847,499	-
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	372,731	-	-	-
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	-	-	-	-
	900,691	134,893	1,847,499	-

20. Financial commitments

At 31 March 2025 the charity was committed to making the following payments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	2025	2024
Other	**£**	**£**
Expiry date:		
Within one year	3,026,248	3,025,554
Between two and five years	9,830,402	12,853,691
	12,856,650	15,879,245

21. Related parties

There were no related party transactions during the year (2024: none).

THE DORSET AND SOMERSET AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1078685

Accounts

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity

(A Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Company Number: 03893356
Charity Registered in England and Wales Number: 1078685

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
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For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
Reference and Administrative Details
For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Trustee Directors	Dr G Bryce (Chair) S Day W Entwisle W Green S Heyes S Jones R Kennedy (Vice Chair) T Killen M Lyne R Marlow A Phillips
Secretary	S Davies
Chief Executive Officer	C Hackett
Deputy Chief Executive	J Plowden
Finance Manager	S Davies
Lottery Manager	C Guy
Charity Number	1078685
Company Number	03893356
Principal Address and Registered Office	Landacre House Castle Road Chelston Business Park Wellington Somerset TA21 9JQ
Auditors	Albert Goodman LLP Goodwood House Blackbrook Park Avenue Taunton Somerset TA1 2PX
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc South West RCSC 740 Waterside Drive, Aztec West Almondsbury, BS99 5BD Barclays Bank UK Leicester Leicestershire, LE87 2BB

	Aldermore 6th Floor, The Monument Building 11 Monument Street London, EX3R 8AF
	Cambridge & Countries Bank Charnwood Court 5B New Walk Leicester, LE1 6TE
	Close Brothers Treasury 4th Floor, 10 Crown Place London, EA2A 4FT
	Hampshire Trust Bank Savings PO Box 74003 London, EC2P 2QR
	United Trust Bank Limited One RopeMaker Street London, EC2Y 9AW
	United National Bank Limited 2 Brook Street London W1S 1BO
Investment Advisors	Brewin Dolphin Vantage Point Woodwater Park Pynes Hill Exeter, Devon, EX2 5FD
	Rathbones Investment Management The Senate, Southernhay Gardens Exeter, Devon, EX1 1UG
	Evelyn Partners Portwall Place Portwall Lane Bristol, BS1 6NA

The Trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the charity's governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS 102- implemented 1 January 2019).

The full name of the charity is The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity. It was incorporated 13 December 1999 as a company limited by guarantee. Its company registration number is 03893356. Its charity registration number is 1078685. The registered office is Landacre House, Castle Road, Chelston Business Park, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 9JQ.

References and Administrative Details

Administrative information is given in a separate section at the front of these accounts.

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the Company are the charity's trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

The Trustees serving during the year and since the year-end are as follows:

- Dr G Bryce (Chair)
- S Day
- W Entwisle
- W Green
- S Heyes
- S Jones
- R Kennedy
- T Killen
- M Lyne
- R Marlow (appointed 13 June 2023)
- A Phillips

None of the Trustees have any beneficial interest in the Company. All of the Trustees are members of the Company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Structure Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity (DSAA) is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by a memorandum and articles of association. It has a dormant subsidiary company, Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance (Trading) Limited (Company registration number 03861464).

The Board

DSAA is led by a Board of Trustees embracing a balanced spectrum of skills and experience including healthcare, aviation, legal, business, finance and HR. The charity follows a protocol for the recruitment of new Trustees which facilitates both personal referrals and professional recruitment. The protocol enables both Trustees and candidates to make proper assessments before appointment. Trustees are appointed in accordance with the DSAA constitution, in line with a defined procedure and fulfil their responsibilities in accordance with clearly defined and approved Terms of Reference. The Board comprises a Chair and up to twelve other trustees. It has four sub committees responsible for the oversights of: Employment and Remuneration, Finance, Aviation and Risk. The board intends to maintain a balance in county representation.

Trustees serve a term of three years but are eligible for re-appointment twice so that a trustee may serve a total of nine years. The board can, but rarely has, make an exception in the interests of the charity. The current chair has been extended a year beyond the 9 years to provide support and continuity during the early tenure of the new CEO in 2023 and key stages of major strategic capital projects including aircraft purchase and base redevelopment.

The Board maintains close liaison with the South Western Ambulance Services NHS Foundation Trust (SWASFT or SWAST) on all aspects of medical provision and clinical governance, and with Gama Aviation (Gama) on all aviation matters. These two bodies are directly involved in the operational governance of charitable activities and, through the executive and committees, provide the Board with professional advice on all operational matters.

Employees and Volunteers

The charity is managed by full and part-time staff of 24 (totalling 21.09 FTE) and over 100 volunteers. Operations are delivered by a further 52 team members – including our DSAA Critical Care Team and Patient & Family Liaison Nurses, employed by the SWAST and NHS Hospital Trusts, and DSAA pilots employed by Gama Aviation (Gama). Seven of the Critical Care Team are paid for by SWASFT, all the rest of the team members are paid for by DSAA irrespective of employer. In total 76 paid individuals on full or part time basis are responsible for the organisation's outputs. The day-to-day management of the charity and its finances is delegated to the key management personnel, who the Trustees consider to be the Chief Executive Officer, the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, the Finance Manager and the Lottery Manager.

Remuneration of Key Personnel

The Employment Remuneration Committee, consisting of the Chair and two Trustees, is responsible to the Board for an annual review of the staffing levels, contracted terms of engagement and remuneration levels of all salaried staff of DSAA. Salary levels for all staff are considered in line with regional and sector norms set against the levels of responsibility expected within a role. The Committee also reviews benefits that affect volunteers, such as mileage allowance. The Committee considers the annual pay review in line with the draft annual budget for the charity and makes recommendations to the Board.

Working with Volunteers

The charity is extremely well supported by over 100 volunteers. They perform a wide range of invaluable duties on behalf of the charity including giving talks, supporting events, servicing collection boxes and running information/merchandise stalls.

Our volunteers have a thorough induction to the charity with one of the Supporter Engagement Officers. The volunteers have access to the charity Handbook which has all the relevant and essential information that they need when volunteering with the charity. The Supporter Engagement Officers are their main point of contact and provide ongoing support, training and regular catch-up meetings.

We believe that our volunteers represent much more than just a "labour source". They are our eyes, ears and voices in the communities we serve. Their interaction with others in their communities helps to raise awareness and boost support for the charity across Dorset and Somerset. They also provide us with an excellent feedback mechanism, helping us to shape our approach to volunteering, fundraising and general operations. Without our volunteers, the charity would not be able to raise the funds required to provide the air ambulance service nor engage as effectively with the community we serve.

Strategy

Charitable Purpose

Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance is a registered charity, established to provide relief from sickness and injury for the people of Dorset and Somerset, by the provision of an air ambulance, with an air and road-delivered critical care capability.

Our Mission

To save and enhance lives through the funding and provision of an air ambulance service, with an air and road-delivered critical care capability.

Our Vision

Innovation and collaboration are maximised to continually improve patient outcomes and all who need it receive excellent clinical care.

Our Service

Our cohort of clinicians include a mixture of senior emergency physicians, intensive care consultants and anaesthetists, critical care nurses and specialist practitioners in critical care. 'Critical Care' is the treatment of people who are in a critically ill or unstable condition. These patients might be unable to breathe without support. Critical care is provided in hospital by Intensive Care Units (ICUs) but pre-hospitally by a 'Critical Care Team'.

When responding to incidents by air, we provide a 'Critical Care Team', consisting of at least a doctor, a specialist practitioner and a pilot for each mission. The doctors are predominately drawn from NHS Hospital Trusts across the region and the practitioners are from the South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SWASFT or SWAST). Some clinicians have joined us from further afield, broadening the skills and experience of the team.

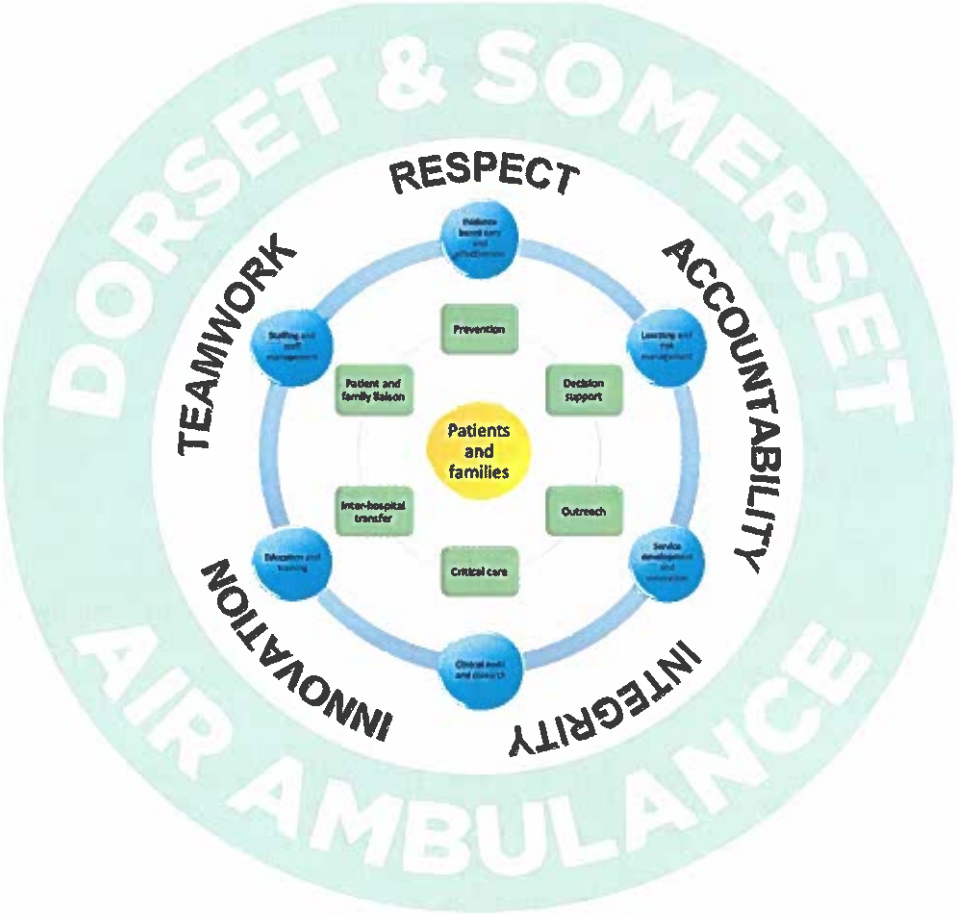
Our patient and family liaison nurses provide recovery support to patients who have been treated by our team, and to family members of patients, and can answer questions they might have about their pre-hospital care. They also provide links with patient support services and other charities aligned with the patient's condition, whilst encouraging peer support links with other similarly injured patients.

Our pilots are employed on our behalf by Gama Aviation who operate our aircraft. The pilots come from varying backgrounds, but the aircraft commanders are highly experienced and carefully selected because air ambulance flights are more challenging than regular non-emergency flight services.

We operate 19 hours a day (0700 - 0200hrs) providing a critical care service, using our AgustaWestland 169 (AW169) helicopter and critical care car. We also provide an enhanced care service across Dorset and Somerset using our outreach cars.

Our Model of Patient-Focused Care

DSAA Model for Patient-Focused Care – P Hyde



The DSAA Model of Patient-Focused Care (above) shows how, within the overall context of the clinical governance of SWASFT, DSAA provides clinical governance aspects in the 'blue' layer and these inform much of the work conducted in the 'green layer'. Importantly, patients and families remain at the centre of all thinking and the charity's values wrap around everything we do.

Assessment of success of the clinical strategy is complex and requires careful examination of both empirical data and patient outcomes. There are currently no national criteria of pre-hospital clinical performance against which DSAA can be measured. However, our clinicians are working with the other air ambulances both regionally and nationally to resolve this issue. In the meantime, the level of demand for our clinical service from other health professionals (Ambulance Service Paramedics and NHS Hospital Trust Consultants, et al) is at least an indicator of success since it points to professional trust of the standard of DSAA clinical delivery.

In order to continually improve patient care, DSAA conducts a detailed and comprehensive programme of analysis, audit and research on its clinical practices and outcomes using the PHEMnet clinical database system. PHEMnet is used as NHS systems of reporting alone are not yet able to provide the clear patient outcome data that reflects the care given in the pre-hospital environment. DSAA's team of Patient and Family Liaison Nurses support patients' progress after their treatment by DSAA and feedback into the charity to enable learning and continuous improvement of care.

The charity acts as an advocate for patient care in the pre-hospital environment by facilitating greater co-operative working with all agencies involved in patient care across the South West. This includes providing support to road safety, accident prevention and health promotion initiatives in an effort to reduce the number of avoidable calls on the Critical Care Team. DSAA actively includes injury and illness prevention messages into the core of charity activity and communications, and DSAA has an ongoing collaboration with DocBike, a charity who work to eradicate motorcycle deaths through engagement, injury prevention, education and roadside critical care.

Partnership make the DSAA service possible

DSAA owns its aircraft, G-DSAA or "Peggy" as it is known but works with Gama Aviation (Gama) to maintain, test, pilot, fly and govern that aircraft. Gama provides a full aviation service managed through a contract which encompasses operation and maintenance of DSAA's helicopter and provision of backup aircraft, pilots and engineers to support day to day operations as well as full maintenance and logistic support.

DSAA has a full complement of five pilots and five first officers, and an engineer focused primarily on DSAA's day to day aviation engineering task, employed by Gama, working closely with clinicians and charity staff. The service Gama provides to DSAA includes Continuous Airworthiness Management Organisation (CAMO), Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO), and Air Operator Certificate (AOC).

The South West Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SWASFT or SWAST) is responsible for tasking the helicopter and supporting the provision of medical team. Support to the charity has been managed through contracts and Service Level Agreements (SLAs). These cover the provision of 18 Paramedics and Nurses and associated equipment, support and maintenance. This forms part of the core capability of the charity's clinical provision. SWASFT pay for 7 of the paramedics, but all the other costs are funded by the charity.

A further contract with SWASFT covers the provision of specialist Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) tasking desk to ensure that air ambulances are sent to the most appropriate incidents. The HEMS tasking provision is funded equally by the five air ambulance charities operating in the SWASFT area. The charity's clinical activities include significant governance supervision, events and training. However, overall clinical governance of the charity's operations is provided by SWASFT, and consultants working as part of the critical care team are also included through honorary contracts with SWASFT.

Public Benefit

DSAA is free at the point of need and responds only to incidents having been tasked by the HEMS specialist tasking team in the SWASFT Dispatch Centre. This ensures that it attends incidents across Dorset and Somerset and, at times beyond its borders, according to where it can deliver best effect. The charity delivers its service to patients, regardless of age, according to clinical priority and without discrimination.

The continued development of its clinical provision requires the charity to consider other players in the emergency support to patients. The crews now run regular cross-training exercises with members of the Maritime Coastguard Agency Search and Rescue teams, the Police and Fire Services, road-based elements of SWASFT and Emergency Departments of our local NHS Hospital Trusts.

In doing so it has demonstrated its patient-focus and benefit to every segment of the population resident in and transiting through both counties and around their borders.

No private benefit use of the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance helicopter is given to anyone at any time. The Trustees run the charity with due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by The charity commission and the Charities Act 2011.

Environmental Impact

Our service is dependent on getting our critical care team (a consultant grade doctor and specialist practitioner), with all the necessary equipment that you would normally find in an intensive care unit, to patients as quickly as possible. Having treated the patient at scene, they then need to be transferred rapidly to the right hospital so they can receive the urgent ongoing care they need - this is often a major trauma centre outside of the two counties we serve. The geography and road network of Dorset and Somerset means that rapid deployment of our critical care team to patients must be by air and requires a helicopter.

We are also committed to engaging daily with our emergency service colleagues through our outreach programme and supporting them by providing an enhanced care service using two outreach cars across the region (one in Dorset and one in Somerset). Our outreach and enhanced care service needs to move rapidly around a smaller geographic area and be able to reach almost anyway without pre-planned routes or stops, therefore the cars require to be equipped for blue-light response.

While we would never compromise our life-saving service, we recognise the responsibility to reduce our carbon footprint and environmental impact where we can.

Emergency Vehicles
Our life-saving service requires a helicopter, for which renewable fuel is not currently viable. Similarly, fully electric emergency response cars are not yet viable in our geographic area given the need for continuous availability and driving. We hope that renewable fuel and/or electric vehicles will become viable for emergency response use in future. In the meantime, we will explore the best way to carbon offset this necessary fuel use.

Travel to work
Electricity for charging of personal electric vehicles is available at our operational base. As we plan the base redevelopment, the provision of electric vehicle charging will be increased. The charity uses digital and online meeting tools and encourages their use, enabling our people to join meetings and work collaboratively without the need for travel.

Recycling
Our offices at Wellington and Wimborne and our operational base at Henstridge have recycling areas for office and personal waste - we encourage our people to recycle where possible. Furthermore, the charity works with a textile recycling partner to provide recycling banks across Dorset and Somerset, enabling and encouraging the public to recycle textiles and clothes while supporting the charity.

Merchandise
We have reviewed all our fundraising merchandise and discontinued the sale of plastic and non-renewable items.

Reduce paper and packaging
The charity has moved to storing documents electronically wherever possible and to reducing printing and photocopying. All paper packaging used to mail our Beeline magazine is FSC and PEFC approved, meaning it is only sourced from sustainable paper supplies. It is easily recyclable with ordinary household recycling and requires less CO2 and chemical process to produce than most alternative packaging.

A new base to support our mission, people and the environment
We need and intend to redevelop our operational base in order to accommodate an expansion of our service and meet the needs of patients across in the region. In designing and building the new base, we will ensure that it:

- Creates efficient systems of work to optimise our response to patients in need
- Is designed to best support the physical and mental wellbeing of our crews
- Supports the recovery of patients who have been treated by our Critical Care Team
- Is efficient in energy consumption and incorporates renewable energy generation where possible
- Continues to use the groundwater of the marsh and rain to provide for aviation safety

Achievements and Performance

The core of DSAA's service is pre-hospital critical care and enhanced care. This is care that the NHS cannot currently provide itself, and it relies on having a helicopter to get our critical care team to the patient and then the patient directly to the right hospital to provide the right urgent care that they need. DSAA's mission and vision mean that the charity strives to reach all patients that need the critical care or enhanced care that we provide pre-hospital and would otherwise not be available.

In the last year, DSAA has again increased the number of patients it reaches with needed critical and enhanced care. In the twelve months to March 2024, DSAA was tasked to 2909 incidents, an increase of nearly 500 from 2424 the previous year. 1397 of these missions were activations of the critical care team by helicopter or, occasionally, by car, in comparison to 1213 in the twelve months to March 2023.

Activity of the outreach cars increased, from 1210 missions in the twelve months to March 2023 to 1512 in the year to March 2024. This enables DSAA to provide enhanced care (treatment which is beyond what the ambulance service could otherwise provide) to patients, ensure good close working relationship with colleagues in the ambulance service and other emergency services, and support the helicopter transported critical care team.

The type of incident that DSAA was tasked to was broadly similar to previous years. In the twelve months to March 2024, DSAA missions were 47% trauma, 21% cardiac, 31% medical and 1% urgent inter-hospital transfer; this compares to 47% trauma, 24% cardiac, 26% medical and 1% transfer in the previous period (2% other). A little under a half of the trauma incidents to which DSAA are tasked are road traffic incidents; with falls and then a wide range of different sources of trauma making up the rest. 'Medical' incidents are half cardiac arrest and then a range of collapses, fits, poisoning and other.

In the last year, we arrived at 1891 incidents, attending 1721 patients and ultimately providing critical or enhanced care to 1473 patients by our specialist Doctors and / or Practitioners. Of the patients that DSAA treated in the twelve months to March 2024, 178 were children (under 18 years old), with 154 of those being under 16. DSAA provided blood to 60 patients at scene or during transfer to hospital during that period.

Getting the critical care team or enhanced care to a patient quickly is often vital, and therefore the teams continue to keep pressure on the time from activation to take-off. At night, this is slightly longer due to the need for additional flight planning. In the recent period, the mean time to take-off during daylight was 7 minutes, consistent with the previous year and achieving our target; and at night was 10 minutes, an improvement on 11.5 minutes in the year to March 2023. As timeliness can be vital, the teams are sometimes tasked, and therefore activated, when probably needed but then stood down when more details are known about the incident. Stand-downs have remained relatively consistent through recent years at about a third, and DSAA is not striving to reduce this as that would risk activating late, and therefore arriving late, to patients that urgently need critical care.

Helicopter & Critical Care Car (CCC)
Pre-hospital critical care is delivered by a DSAA 'Critical Care Team', consisting of at least a doctor and a specialist practitioner. Getting the critical care team to the patient rapidly, and then getting the patient to the right hospital to deliver the right care, is where the aircraft with pilot and co-pilot come in. If the aircraft is not able to be used, due to weather or maintenance, the critical care team respond by car and onward patient transfer is using a road ambulance.

The geography of Dorset and Somerset means that the aircraft is usually required. The availability of our aircraft in the last twelve months has been 95.2%, requiring the commitment and dedication of the engineering and aviation teams, often working during the night between 0200 and 0700hrs when DSAA does not have an operational shift.

Outreach Response Cars (ORC)
The role of the ORC is to raise awareness of the patient benefit that can be derived from the timely delivery of critical care to other health professionals. This deliberate engagement with the ambulance service and other emergency services directly improves on-scene collaboration, so that DSAA crews can be most effective in the provision of care. The ORCs are also tasked to patients who need an enhanced level of care that a normal road ambulance crew is unable to deliver. On scene, our practitioner will either treat the patient alone or more often work with a road ambulance crew. If he/she assesses that the patient requires critical care, they can advise SWASFT and our Critical Care Team on the helicopter.

Inter-Hospital transfer
In addition to the routine, day to day tasking of HEMS missions, DSAA also carries out inter-hospital transfers of the sickest patients from local hospitals to the regional specialist hospitals. This work includes support for adults and children.

Enhanced Care Responder Scheme
Following suggestion by critical care practitioners working for DSAA, the charity has introduced a new Enhanced Care Responder Scheme (ECRS) on a two-year trial. Clinicians in this scheme are able, outside of their paid working hours, to voluntarily book on as available to be tasked to incidents which need enhanced care in their area. DSAA is providing the clinicians taking part in this voluntary scheme with all the equipment required to provide enhanced care and the car conversation to respond under blue lights. Clinical governance of their activity is provided by DSAA under SWAST governance, as per all DSAA clinical activity. This voluntary scheme supports the DSAA drive to reach every patient that needs critical or enhanced care. The scheme will be reviewed periodically though the two-year trial.

Operational Support Activity
Our Patient and Family Liaison Nurses (PFLNs) team was expanded in 2022, and through 2023 has continued to build relationships with patients, families and with the key elements of the care pathways. They have helped to improve understanding of patients and those closely affected by the care that is delivered. They are also providing high quality feedback to our clinicians on patient progress and professional feedback on the care delivered.

Given the challenging nature of the work of DSAA's clinical and aviation crew, DSAA started a trial of psychological supervision programme for its own team four years ago. Following a review, this has now been confirmed as an ongoing, much-needed layer of support to the well-being of our crews and an excellent complement to the services available to all clinicians through their parent NHS Trusts.

Research
The DSAA Research Team which is formally led by a Professor and Lead Research Practitioner. A rounded portfolio of research activity is being developed based on an assessment of the research needs in pre-hospital emergency medicine, which was completed with partners across the country.

DSAA is part of the SWIFT trial (Study of Whole Blood in Frontline Trauma). This study will look at whether giving 'whole blood,' instead of red blood cells and plasma, to patients with severe bleeding before they get to hospital, will be better at reducing the number of deaths 24 hours after injury and reduce the need for further large blood transfusions.

DSAA and the University of West of England (UWE) are co-funding a PhD study of the tasking of pre-hospital critical care assets. This work started in January 2024, to investigate how Emergency Medical Service specialist critical care resource allocation can be improved and is expected to conclude in 2026.

Aviation Services Provider Change

DSAA owns its helicopter, an Augusta Westland 169 (AW169). The aircraft is registered, maintained, governed and operated for DSAA by an aviation services provider in order to provide the necessary skills, regulatory adherence, and personnel.

At the start of the financial year 2023-2024, the aviation services provider contracted to DSAA was Specialist Aviation Services Ltd (SAS Ltd). SAS Ltd also provided aviation services to other UK air ambulances with AW169 aircraft.

During 2023, DSAA became aware that SAS Ltd was experiencing financial difficulties. SAS Ltd was put up for sale in December through an 'accelerated' process after a financial review concluded its capital structure was not fit for purpose. In order to manage the situation, DSAA liaised appropriate with the charity commission and secured expert and legal advice, much of which was provided pro-bono or at reduced rates. DSAA worked very closely with all parties involved in the sale of SAS Ltd in order to ensure that DSAA operations and life-saving service to patients continued uninterrupted, and to steward and safeguard charity resources and reputation.

DSAA conducted due diligence on Gama Aviation (Gama) and assessed their capabilities and terms. Being pleased with the finding of review of Gama, DSAA proceeded to negotiate and agree novation of the relevant contracts to Gama, who are now the charity's aviation services provider. Transition from SAS Ltd to Gama has been smooth, with no impact on DSAA operational capability or increased running costs for the charity.

Income Generation

Fundraising

The charity's fundraising is in significant part based on voluntary fundraising, concentrating on achieving a high volume of smaller donations rather than a low volume of high value donors. To that end, we support individuals and groups who run events and activities on our behalf. Over the last couple of years, DSAA has also increased the number of events it runs itself, trialling further running, cycling and open garden events as well as the established DSAA Coast to Coast Cycle Challenge.

As the environment for fundraising changes, and as we continue to evolve the DSAA service provision to best serve our community and save lives, the charity will review its fundraising activities for the future. However, the charity's commitment to maintaining high standards will absolutely remain.

Donations

Our supporters continue to fundraise for us enthusiastically, and we are incredibly grateful for all their efforts and their activities of all types and sizes, which includes £897,313 from sponsored activities, businesses and group fundraising and £949,390 from individual donors. Total donations have increased in the current year to £1,713,360 compared to £1,558,409 in the previous year.

Gifts-in-Wills (Legacies)
Gifts in Will income this year was £1,952,065. This is an increased from £1,525,453 in the year to March 2023, which was itself low due to the timing of legacies at the end of March 2022. DSAA is aware of the ongoing delays and backlog in processing of probate in the UK and is taking steps to increase monitoring of gifts in wills and legacies intended for DSAA.

Committed Giving and Charity Prize Lottery
The charity's prize lottery represents the single biggest component of our overall income. Over recent years, the charity have also introduced and are growing a 'committed giving' alternative way for supporters to make a regular monthly donation to DSAA. DSAA manage the lottery and committed giving in-house but outsource the canvassing activity in support of these initiatives to a third-party canvassing provider.

Following the pandemic and in the current national employment situation, recruiting canvassers is currently extremely challenging. Vacancies in the DSAA committed giving and lottery canvasser teams has hampered DSAA maintaining the lottery and committed giving income.

During the year, DSAA has introduced a new annual 'superdraw.' Supporters wishing to be part pay £5 per month instead of £1 per week, in return for which they are entered into the annual superdraw in addition to the weekly draws. In the year ending March 2024 the superdraw brought £85,075 income, which will increase in future years as more participants will have been in for a full year.

The lottery's total gross income for the year ending March 2024 was £4,023,182, a £327,241 decrease on the previous financial year. The two additional seasonal raffles banked £216,171, which is slightly less than the year ending March 2023.

Collection boxes
Our collection boxes are distributed across the two counties, collected and maintained by volunteers working under the direction of DSAA staff. Opening, counting and banking of boxes is done only in DSAA offices in a secured & monitored room. We also have QR donation codes on our tins for those that do not carry cash, and we have trialled the use of contactless payment for donations at events.

Investments & Interest
DSAA invests a proportion of its reserves in order to conserve the value of those reserves against inflation and to provide income to contribute to the regular running costs of the service. The charity received £527,960 from its long-term investments and £372,731 from bank interest in the year to March 2024.

Income Generation Ethical Commitment, Safeguarding and Complaints handling

The charity is committed to maintaining the highest standards of fundraising behaviour and is registered with the Fundraising Regulator. Our commitment made to donors and the public is to ensure that our fundraising is legal, open, honest and respectful. The standards of fundraising are set out in the Fundraising Code of Practice and DSAA carries out regular internal audits to ensure our fundraising activity adheres to this code. DSAA's Safeguarding policy states that concerns or allegations of abuse or neglect will always be taken seriously and investigated and DSAA seeks to safeguard adults at risk and children by valuing, listening to and respecting them. All Trustees, employees and volunteers have access to, and are familiar with, this policy and will know their responsibilities within it and have access to Safeguarding Procedures including how to report concerns or allegations of abuse. All managers are responsible for promoting awareness of this policy within their teams. All contracts with third parties associated with DSAA fundraising are set in line with the guidelines issued by the Fundraising Regulator.

Our Lottery and Committed Giving Face-to-face Fundraisers are all checked and go through a strict induction process where they will be asked to follow the canvassers charter. This states that they should always act with integrity, honesty, and transparency and in such a manner that supporters are not misled.

Dementia friends training is also undertaken so that DSAA employees and Face-to-face Fundraisers can gain a better understanding of the condition while helping them to learn how to recognise a vulnerable adult and act appropriately. During interactions, Face-to-face Fundraisers are alert to any signs that the individual may not be able to make an informed choice and if the Face-to-face Fundraiser has any grounds for concern, then a commitment should not be taken. Any customer who joins with a Face-to-face Fundraiser will be given a confirmation receipt straight away, with a welcome letter arriving a few days later as a physical sign of what has been arranged. Any concern from a customer or a member of their family that they had not been aware of or understand what they had set up, will result in an immediate cancellation and if required the offer of a refund of any monies already taken. To ensure that we are maintaining the highest standards of fundraising we also make regular compliance calls to new lottery members to check that Face-to-face Fundraisers are all consistent in their behaviour and that the customer is happy with their Face-to-face Fundraiser experience and to able to support the charity in this way.

Any complaints that are received are treated seriously and dealt with promptly, amicably, and efficiently by the lottery or fundraising team. We ensure that complaints are treated in confidence and aim to resolve the complaint within 10 working days. Most complaints are satisfactorily and immediately resolved without the need for any further action. Any complaints regarding Face-to-face Fundraisers that do need to be escalated are passed to the supervisor and then LFS to investigate. Over the last year, despite active monitoring and proactive compliance calls we have only received five reports of negative attitude by Face-to-face Fundraisers. These have been discussed with the supervisor and subsequently with the individuals. No complaints were received regarding fundraising activities outside of lottery and committed giving canvassing.

Future Plans

Increasing Critical Care availability

The number of patients that DSAA reaches has been increasing year-on-year since the charity first began work. However, the patient reach that the charity can achieve is currently limited by: the time that our aircraft is off-line for maintenance, repairs and pilot certification; weather restriction on flying, particularly low cloud; and the hours that DSAA does not have a duty shift, i.e. 0200 to 0700.

DSAA's mission and vision entail that the charity should try to reach all those patients that need its pre-hospital critical care. DSAA critical care availability could be increased by having at least one aircraft available throughout the current 19 hours per day duty shift. Furthermore, the charity considers that there are patients needing critical care between the hours of 0200 and 0700 in Dorset and Somerset, who would benefit from the provision of its critical care service for 24 hours per day. DSAA is therefore currently assessing the potential to increase its aviation capacity in order to reach more patients during our current 19 shifts and then the potential to increase the hours of the day in which our critical care team is available.

In order to improve availability via aircraft during periods of low cloud, DSAA is working with the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), supported by the Department for Transport, to implement a Global Navigation Satellite System approach to its base at Henstridge Airfield. This has been selected by the CAA as one of the five initial sites for 'blue light' services use of this system.

Air Base development

As the provision of care and the aviation capability of DSAA has developed, so the needs on the airbase have increased. In order to support the existing and further development of the service, the charity is assessing the more efficient way to redevelop our operational base.

Research

Continuous improvement in prehospital emergency medicine and critical care must be based on good evidence. DSAA will continue to develop the use of clinical data to advocate for improvements in patient care through audit and research, and provide a DSAA Clinical Research Lead. We will take part in clinical studies that address key questions in the provision of prehospital care, such as the SWIfT study and the ongoing PhD study into effective HEMS tasking.

Financial sustainability

Over recent years, DSAA has increased the reach and capability of its critical care and enhanced care to patients, focusing its efforts and spend onto those aspects of its mission and vision, and keeping centred on care for patients and their families. Supporters in Dorset and Somerset have been, and continue to be, generous with their support for our service. As the capability and activity level of the DSAA service has increased to fill patient need, so the costs have inevitably increased and these have been compounded by recent inflation, such that DSAA now spends annually all the charitable funds that it receives. In order to ensure that future costs and development of the clinical service are financially sustainable, DSAA is looking at increasing its fundraising activity, investing modestly to increase its engagement with corporate partners, grant funders, charitable trusts and individual donors.

Financial Review

Transactions and Financial position

The Statement of Financial Activities shows a net surplus in funds of £1,516,792 (2023 – deficit £1,687,462) and reserves stand at £42,676,249 of which £321,289 is restricted. The cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year stood at £8,062,875 with a further £3,374,451 in cash term deposits.

Tangible Fixed assets for use by the Charity

Details of the movements of fixed assets are set out in note 10 of the Accounts.

Investment Policy

The charity invests reserves in order to conserve the value of those reserves against inflation and to provide income to contribute to the regular running costs of the service. The charity appoints professional investment management firms to manage the investment assets on a discretionary basis, in line with the ethical investment policy and to produce the best financial return within an acceptable level of risk. In order to mitigate the risk of investments, the Core Financing Fund investments are managed by three separate investment managers and an active cash management service.

The charity has adopted an ethical investment policy to ensure that its investments do not conflict with its aims, and our investment managers must demonstrate the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues are core to their 'house' investment policies and reviewed regularly.

Reserves policy

Given the mission life-saving criticality of DSAA service, our reserves policy is to hold sufficient reserves to ensure that our work is protected from the risk of disruption and to enable future major investments required for development of our service in best interests of patients. This means that the charity holds reserves:

- to cover any disruption of income or unforeseen cost without significant reducing clinical service for a period of two years
- to cover all working capital requirements
- to build capital for investment in assets necessary for provision of critical care and helicopter ambulance, such as airbase, future aircraft and medical equipment
- to provide income into the ongoing regular running cost of the service

DSAA policy is therefore to hold 6-12 months free reserves.

The charity's mission and vision entail that it provides excellent clinical care, that it strives to reach all patients who need critical care and that it remains financially sustainable in order to do so. Practical limitation is put onto the charity's operations by the current airbase, which was built in an era of a smaller aircraft and fewer staff, and the inevitable limitations of depending on a single aircraft. In order to reach more patients who need critical care, and to continue excellence in the care delivered, the charity intends to invest reserves in:

- further aircraft which will enable the team to be fully operational and be able to reach patients more of the time
- redevelopment of the operational airbase

During an exceptional period of legacy and prize lottery fundraising income, our Trustees made the decision to accumulate reserves for specific purposes that will improve the organisation's service delivery and future sustainability. These funds are designated into the following categories:

£16m	designated towards significant capital projects (£11m helicopter, £5m airbase)
£8m	free reserves (equivalent to 10 months operational costs)
£17m	long term investment as Core Financing Fund, with target to cover up to 5% annual expenditure Fund would be available to draw down if charity experiences an exceptional drop in income, or in order to enable key strategic capital investment in operations infrastructure or equipment

The £5m designated so far for the new airbase is not expected to cover the full cost of base development, and the board expect that further investment will be required.

Increases in operational costs have coincided with legacy, prize lottery, donation and investment income all falling or stagnating. This has placed the charity in an ongoing annual deficit position, requiring it to expand and diversify income streams for it to continue providing essential support to critical care patients.

The Trustees continually review the reserves policy to make sure that the funds which DSAA has are best used to the charity's purpose and mission to save and enhance lives, while also ensuring good financial sustainability to continue its life-saving service. With the reserves in mind, the Trustees judge the financial position of the charity to be satisfactory.

Risk

The principal risks to which the charity is exposed are set out in its Risk Management Strategy which is supported by a Risk Matrix. The Risk Matrix presents a high-level overview of the identified risks' status, including the probability and impact of occurrence, mitigation measures and the person responsible for managing the risk. The Risk Matrix is reviewed quarterly at each meeting of the Board, and in this way the Board maintains oversight of identified risks and is can satisfy itself that proper measures and systems are in place to mitigate or eliminate those risks, and that appropriate insurance cover is obtained.

Much of the operational risk is managed in conjunction with Gama and SWASFT. The DSAA Aviation Sub-Committee has reviewed Gama as the provider of aviation services to DSAA and the Trustees are assured that Gama is a competent provider to deliver aviation services to DSAA. Trustees with clinical experience review the workings of DSAA clinical governance activities, which fall under the overall clinical governance within SWASFT.

DSAA, like most charities, must manage risk relating to reputational or financial issues. Although separate in nature, they are inextricably linked. Clearly, the reputation of the charity in its ability to deliver its clinical service is vital to generating and maintaining donor support. Key financial risks reviewed by the Board of Trustees quarterly are: major loss of income due to competition for fundraising or changes in legislation, loss of donor confidence because of adverse publicity, loss of donor support due to perception of high reserves and loss of access to critical data.

Mitigation measures in place include:

- Networking with other charities across the area.
- Monitoring legislative developments.
- Adherence to fundraising codes of practice.
- Development of strategies to counter negative impacts on income.
- Cultivation and retention of effective media links.
- Maintenance of transparency.
- Demonstrating to the public that their donations are being well spent and well managed by being transparent in all communications.
- Not employing 'cold calling' telemarketing or sending unsolicited mail or email.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are directors of The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustee Directors' Report (incorporating the Directors' Report) and the financial statements in accordance with 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).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of 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 Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

- 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 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 the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on 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.

Auditors

The auditors, Albert Goodman LLP, are deemed to be reappointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

By order of the Trustees.

D G Bryce
Chair
The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity

Date: 10/9/24

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, 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 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources 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 charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern
In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors 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, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter 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 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 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
We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees
As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 16], 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.

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.

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:

The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud
Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, Gambling commission registration, fundraising regulator registration and data protection 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 regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

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; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation, claims and breaches of relevant legislation; and
- reviewing correspondence with the charity commission and other relevant regulators including the company's legal advisors and insurers.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

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 and 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Michelle Ferris BSc (Hons) FCA DChA
Senior Statutory Auditor
for and on behalf of
Albert Goodman LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Date: 30/9/24

Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £
Income:							
Donations and legacies	2	3,627,145	362,238	3,989,383	3,364,683	26,787	3,391,470
Trading activities	3	4,475,001	-	4,475,001	4,652,040	-	4,652,040
Investment income	4	900,691	-	900,691	680,468	-	680,468
Total income		9,002,837	362,238	9,365,075	8,697,191	26,787	8,723,978
Expenditure:							
Raising funds	5	1,166,754	-	1,166,754	1,124,732	-	1,124,732
Charitable activities	6	8,580,491	40,949	8,621,440	7,773,776	-	7,773,776
Total expenditure		9,747,245	40,949	9,788,194	8,898,508	-	8,898,508
Net income / (expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses		(744,408)	321,289	(423,119)	(201,317)	26,787	(174,530)
Net gain / (loss) on investments	12	1,847,499	-	1,847,499	(1,512,932)	-	(1,512,932)
Net income before transfers		1,103,091	321,289	1,424,380	(1,714,249)	26,787	(1,687,462)
Transfers	17	13,156	(13,156)	-	13,631	(13,631)	-
Net movement in funds for the year		1,116,247	308,133	1,424,380	(1,700,618)	13,156	(1,687,462)
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		41,146,301	13,156	41,159,457	42,846,919	-	42,846,919
Total funds carried forward		42,262,548	321,289	42,583,837	41,146,301	13,156	41,159,457

The statement of financial activities has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations. There were no gains or losses arising in the year that are not shown above.

The statement of financial activities incorporates the income and expenditure account

Balance Sheet
As at 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	10	7,305,115		7,659,181	
Intangible fixed assets	11	74,370		-	
Investments	12	23,683,337		21,429,069	
			31,062,822		29,088,250
Non-current assets					
Investments	13	-		4,500,414	
			-		4,500,414
Current assets					
Stock	14	21,129		5,485	
Debtors	15	1,214,091		782,705	
Investments	13	7,700,448		3,310,069	
Cash at bank and in hand		3,709,878		4,391,687	
		12,645,546		8,489,946	
Liabilities:					
Creditors falling due within one year	16	(1,124,531)		(919,153)	
Net current assets			11,521,015		7,570,793
Total net assets			42,583,837		41,159,457
The funds of the charity:					
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	17		1,262,548		5,072,392
Fair value reserve	17		-		33,909
Designated funds	17		41,000,000		36,040,000
Total unrestricted funds			42,262,548		41,146,301
Restricted funds	17		321,289		13,156
Total charity funds			42,583,837		41,159,457

The financial statements have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Approved by the Board of Trustees for issue on 10/9/24 and signed on their behalf by:

Dr G Bryce
Chair

R Kennedy
Treasurer

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net movements in funds for the year		1,424,380	(1,687,462)
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		1,500	10,504
Depreciation and amortisation	10	489,502	474,988
Dividends and interest from investments	4	(900,691)	(680,468)
Investment revaluations	12	(1,847,499)	1,512,932
		(832,808)	(369,506)
Working capital adjustments			
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	14	(15,644)	8,136
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	15	(431,386)	386,357
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	16	205,378	(64,217)
Net cash flow from operations		(1,074,460)	(39,230)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends and interest from investments		900,691	680,468
Proceeds on disposal of fixed assets		(1,500)	(10,504)
Purchase of tangible and intangible assets	10/11	(209,806)	(28,040)
Acquisition of investments	12/13	(3,336,238)	(4,628,490)
Investment disposals	12/13	2,982,690	2,093,336
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		335,837	(1,893,230)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(738,623)	(1,932,460)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		4,710,937	6,643,397
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		3,972,314	4,710,937
Cash & Cash equivalents reconciliation:			
Cash at bank		3,709,878	4,391,687
Cash held by investment manager	12	262,436	319,250
Total cash & cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		3,972,314	4,710,937

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of accounting

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in the United Kingdom under the Companies Act. The maximum liability of each member is limited to £1. The address of the registered office is given on page 1. The nature of the charity's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Trustees report on pages 3-19.

The financial statements have been prepared in £ sterling on the historical cost basis and in accordance with accounting and reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts 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)) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The accounts are prepared for the company alone. The company has a dormant subsidiary, and consolidated accounts are not presented as the charity has taken advantage of the exemption provided by S405(2) of the Companies Act 2006 on the grounds of immateriality.

1.2 Income

Income from donations is recognised on a cash basis, in the year in which the income is physically received, except when the donors specify that they must be used in future accounting periods or donors conditions have not been fulfilled, then the income is deferred.

Bequests and legacies are included when entitlement is established, it is probable that the amount will be received, and the amount receivable can be estimated with sufficient accuracy. Where conditions for recognition have not been met, the legacies are disclosed in note 2.

Income from grants is recognised in the year in which they are receivable. Grants without performance conditions are presented within donations and legacies and within charitable activities when performance criteria apply.

Trading activity income from lottery receipts is recognised when the draw for the relevant week is made. Any amounts received prior to the draw being made are deferred.

Income from trading activities, other than lottery income, is included in the period in which the company is entitled to receipt.

Income from investments constitutes dividends and bank interest and is recognised in the year to which it relates.

1.3 **Expenditure**
Resources expended are recognised on the accruals basis to match the period in which the expenditure was incurred, inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered. These include both costs associated with both charitable activity and those which relate to governance arrangements and the general running of the charity.

1.4 **Donated services**
In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the unpaid volunteer time is not recognised in the financial statements. Refer to the Trustee Directors' Report for more information about their contribution.

1.5 **Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**
Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Short leasehold improvements	10 years straight line
Freehold land and buildings	50 years straight line
Medical equipment	4 – 5 years straight line
Fixtures & fittings	10 years straight line
Computer equipment	3 years straight line
Motor vehicles	7 years straight line
Aircraft	10 years straight line

Fixed assets costing less than £5,000 are not capitalised.

1.6 **Intangible fixed assets and amortisation**
Intangible fixed assets are stated at cost less amortisation. Amortisation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation over its expected useful life, once operational.

1.7 **Investments**
Fixed asset investments comprise investment portfolios maintained by investment managers. These are recognised initially at fair value which is normally the transaction price (but excludes any transaction costs.) Subsequently, investments are held at market value, with all realised and unrealised gains passing through the SOFA.

Non-current asset investments are cash deposits with a maturity date of more than one year from the balance sheet date. These are recognised at the deposit amount plus any interest, with any interest gains passing through the SOFA when falling due.

Current asset investments are cash deposits with a maturity date of less than one year from the balance sheet date. These are recognised at the deposit amount plus any interest, with any interest gains passing through the SOFA when falling due.

1.8 **Stock**
Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making allowances for obsolete and slow moving stock.

1.9 **Debtors**
Accrued income is recognised at the settlement amount due and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

1.10 **Cash at bank and in hand**
Cash at bank and in hand comprise cash on hand and call deposits with a maturity of less than three months, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

1.11 **Creditors**
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at their settlement amount.

1.12 **Pensions**
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable by the charity during the year in accordance with FRS 17.

1.13 **Operating lease rentals**
Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred over the term of the lease. The charity has operating leases for the premises in which they operate, as well as motor, office equipment leases. The title of the leased premises and equipment remains with the lessor.

1.14 **Foreign currencies**
Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recorded in the charity's functional currency by applying the spot exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. All differences are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities and presented within charitable activities expenditure.

1.15 **Taxation**
As a registered charity, the company is not liable to corporation tax to the extent that income and gains are applied to charitable activities.

1.16 **Financial Instruments**
The charity only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and liabilities of the charity and their measurements are as follows:

Financial assets – trade, other debtors and loans (programme related investment) are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 20. Investment portfolios are basic financial instruments measured at fair value through the income and expenditure account. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Cash at bank and deposit accounts– is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 20. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.17 **Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement**

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The charity makes estimates and assumptions concerning the depreciation on the aircraft held within fixed assets, as discussed below:

The charity's most important capital asset is its aircraft, the AW169 G-DSAA also known as 'Peggy'. Depreciation of this aircraft is estimated based on assumption that at the end of 10 years after purchase of G-DSAA by DSAA the aircraft will have a value of 50% of the price at which DSAA purchased it. The period of 10 years and the residual value percentage assumed take into account that G-DSAA was bought some 5 years after it initially entered service (ie not new) and that 10 years from purchase would not take the aircraft to its full level of depreciation and final value.
Various different methods are used to estimate the value of an aircraft for the purpose of valuing depreciation, and the method used by DSAA results in a monthly depreciation amount comparable to that estimated by other AW169 owners.

2. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £
Donations	1,682,378	42,238	1,713,360	1,531,622	26,787	1,558,409
Gifts in wills	1,620,809	320,000	1,952,065	1,525,453	-	1,525,453
Collecting boxes	164,916	-	164,916	177,772	-	177,772
Gift aid	159,042	-	159,042	129,836	-	129,836
	3,627,145	362,238	3,989,383	3,364,683	26,787	3,391,470

As at the year end, the charity had been notified of material gifts in wills which have not been included in the Statement of Financial Activities due to the conditions for recognition not being met. These consist of 2 gifts in wills totalling approximately £120,000 (2023: 7 gifts in wills totalling approximately £766,275).

3. Trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £
Lottery	4,023,182	-	4,023,182	4,350,423	-	4,350,423
Special draws	301,246	-	301,246	231,750	-	231,750
Other fundraising & sponsorship	34,193	-	34,193	2,302	-	2,302
Sale of merchandise	8,023	-	8,023	11,242	-	11,242
Events income	108,357	-	108,357	56,323	-	56,323
	4,475,001	-	4,475,001	4,652,040	-	4,652,040

Income received for the lottery totalling £475,769 (2023: £416,176) has been deferred and is recognised at the date the relevant draw takes place.

4. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £
Dividends receivable	527,960	-	527,960	459,024	-	459,024
Interest receivable from banks/deposits	372,731	-	372,731	221,444	-	221,444
	900,691	-	900,691	680,468	-	680,468

5. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £
Lottery prizes	92,070	-	92,070	91,293	-	91,293
Staff salaries	416,134	-	416,134	377,266	-	377,266
Commission	353,182	-	353,182	369,997	-	369,997
Rental of computer system	6,240	-	6,240	6,240	-	6,240
Lottery office costs	25,747	-	25,747	26,289	-	26,289
Beeline	66,777	-	66,777	67,855	-	67,855
Bank charges	35,046	-	35,046	36,968	-	36,968
Event costs	21,913	-	21,913	4,530	-	4,530
Collection tins	789	-	789	1,555	-	1,555
General costs	7,270	-	7,270	1,868	-	1,868
Goods purchased for resale	6,693	-	6,693	10,786	-	10,786
Investment management costs	134,893	-	134,893	130,085	-	130,085
	1,166,754	-	1,166,754	1,124,732	-	1,124,732

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £
Aviation, airbase and clinical costs						
Aircraft costs	4,451,679	-	4,451,679	4,148,745	-	4,148,745
Critical care team	2,269,313	-	2,269,313	1,947,627	-	1,947,627
Medical equipment	195,545	10,167	205,712	190,554	-	190,554
Airbase costs	46,588	30,782	77,370	47,939	-	47,939
Paramedic training	165,972	-	165,972	232,045	-	232,045
Foreign currency gain	-	-	-	(8)	-	(8)
VAT reclaimed	(116,602)	-	(116,602)	(114,738)	-	(114,738)
	7,012,495	40,949	7,053,444	6,452,164	-	6,452,164
Other charitable activities						
Grants awarded - Institution	-	-	-	30,000	-	30,000
	-	-	-	30,000	-	30,000
Support & governance costs						
Wages and salaries	589,749	-	589,749	476,547	-	476,547
Premises costs	24,628	-	24,628	13,732	-	13,732
Print and stationery	3,932	-	3,932	4,307	-	4,307
Postage	8,017	-	8,017	6,585	-	6,585
Telephone	11,264	-	11,264	10,388	-	10,388
Vehicle insurance	871	-	871	943	-	943
Office equipment and maintenance	19,872	-	19,872	21,612	-	21,612
Publicity	49,935	-	49,935	13,371	-	13,371
Beeline	66,777	-	66,777	67,854	-	67,854
Insurance	21,488	-	21,488	19,578	-	19,578
Legal and professional	129,752	-	129,752	9,433	-	9,433
Training costs	9,302	-	9,302	9,153	-	9,153
Recruitment	1,917	-	1,917	22,675	-	22,675
Bank charges	21,993	-	21,993	16,060	-	16,060
Subscriptions	9,368	-	9,368	8,273	-	8,273
Health and safety	2,484	-	2,484	1,727	-	1,727
Travel & subsistence	32,369	-	32,369	37,878	-	37,878
Van hire	4,958	-	4,958	3,956	-	3,956
Depreciation	489,502	-	489,502	474,988	-	474,988
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	1,500	-	1,500	10,504	-	10,504
IT costs and website	57,218	-	57,218	52,028	-	52,028
Audit and accountancy	11,100	-	11,100	10,020	-	10,020
	1,567,996	-	1,567,996	1,291,612	-	1,291,612
	8,580,491	40,949	8,621,440	7,773,776	-	7,773,776

7. Net incoming resources/operating surplus

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation of owned assets	489,502	474,988
(Profit)/loss on sale of fixed assets	1,500	10,504
Auditors' remuneration for:		
Audit services	8,700	8,600
Accountancy services	2,400	1,720

8. Trustee directors

None of the Trustee Directors (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the current or prior year. One Trustee Director was reimbursed during the year for travelling expenses £71 (2023: £138 reimbursed to two Trustee Directors for travelling expenses).

9. Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly head count was 24 staff (2023: 23 staff) and the average number of full-time equivalent employees (including casual and part-time staff) during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Chief Executive	1	1
Lottery staff	3	3
Fundraising staff	8	8
Operations staff	2	2
Management and admin staff	7	6
	21	20

Employment costs	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	853,901	723,843
Social security costs	86,131	69,501
Other pension costs	65,851	60,469
	1,005,883	853,813

The number of employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more (excluding employer national insurance and employer pension costs) were:

	2024 number	2023 number
£60,000 - £70,000	1	1
£70,000 - £80,000	1	1
£100,000 - £110,000	1	-

These employees are a member of the defined contribution pension scheme, into which contributions of £13,589 (2023: £17,835) were made. The employees included in the above noted bands are not all included in the definition of key management personnel.

The key management personnel of the charity are considered to be the Chief Executive Officer and The Deputy Chief Executive, the Finance Manager, Head of Operations and the Lottery Manager. The total costs to the charity of employee benefits (including employer national insurance and employer pension costs) for the key management personnel were £334,422 (2023: £287,136).

Defined contribution pension scheme

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the scheme and amounted to £65,851 (2023: £60,469).

Contributions totalling £nil (2023: £8,651) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

10. Tangible fixed assets

Cost	Short leasehold improvements £	Freehold Land & Buildings £	Medical Equipment £	Fixtures & Fittings £	Computer Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Aircraft £	Total £
At 1 April 2023	297,063	597,805	436,265	35,763	58,228	82,466	7,302,743	8,810,333
Additions	41,539	-	97,647	-	-	-	-	139,186
Disposals	-	-	(29,400)	-	-	-	-	(29,400)
At 31 March 2024	338,602	597,805	504,512	35,763	58,228	82,466	7,302,743	8,920,119
Depreciation								
At 1 April 2023	162,382	54,798	366,747	34,405	40,569	20,616	471,635	1,151,152
Charge for the year	30,588	11,956	63,572	582	5,886	11,781	365,137	489,502
Disposals	-	-	(25,650)	-	-	-	-	(25,650)
At 31 March 2024	192,970	66,754	404,669	34,987	46,455	32,397	836,772	1,615,004
Net book value								
At 31 March 2024	145,632	531,051	99,843	776	11,773	50,069	6,465,971	7,305,115
At 1 April 2023	134,681	543,007	69,518	1,358	17,659	61,850	6,831,108	7,659,181

11. Intangible assets

	PiNS software £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2023	-	-
Additions	74,370	74,370
At 31 March 2024	74,370	74,370
Amortisation		
At 1 April 2023	-	-
Charge for the year	-	-
At 31 March 2024	-	-
Net book value		
At 31 March 2024	74,370	74,370
At 1 April 2023	-	-

12. Investments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Listed shares	23,420,900	21,109,818
Cash held by investment manager	262,436	319,250
Shares in subsidiary undertaking	1	1
	23,683,337	21,429,069

Listed shares	2024	2023
	£	£
Market value		
At 1 April 2023	21,109,818	20,183,927
Additions	3,336,238	4,532,159
Disposals	(2,872,655)	(2,093,336)
Revaluation	1,847,499	(1,512,932)
At 31 March 2024	23,420,900	21,109,818

	2024	2023
	£	£
Historical cost		
At 1 April 2023	19,067,914	17,270,067
Additions	3,336,238	4,532,159
Disposals	(2,112,582)	(2,734,312)
Other movements	-	-
At 31 March 2024	20,291,570	19,067,914

Shares in subsidiary undertaking

Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance (Trading) Limited was incorporated on 19 October 1999 as a wholly owned trading subsidiary of The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity. The parent charity holds 100% of the issued share capital and 100% of the voting rights of the subsidiary trading company. The company became dormant on 31 March 2013.

The profit for the year was £nil (2023: £nil) and the balance sheet total was £1 (2023: £1).

13. Investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed rate cash held on deposit	7,700,448	7,810,483
Split as:		
Non-current asset investment (due > 1 year)	-	4,500,414
Current asset investment (due < 1 year)	7,700,448	3,310,069
	7,700,448	7,810,483

Investments are split in the statutory accounts based on maturity date.

14. Stocks

	2024 £	2023 £
Goods for resale	3,311	5,485
Medical consumables	17,818	-
	21,129	5,485

15. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other debtors	250,304	125,743
Prepayments and accrued income	963,787	656,962
	1,214,091	782,705

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deferred income: lottery receipts	475,769	416,176
Other creditors	136,461	219,943
Accruals	488,544	262,228
Amounts owed to group undertakings	1	1
Taxation and social security	23,756	20,805
	1,124,531	919,153

Reconcilation of deferred income : Lottery receipts

Opening balance	416,176	501,384
Received during the year	4,082,775	4,265,215
Released during the year	(4,023,182)	(4,350,423)
Closing balance	475,769	416,176

17. Summary of movement in funds

	Opening balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gain/(loss) on investments & transfers £	Closing balance £
Unrestricted funds					
General	5,072,392	9,002,837	(9,747,245)	(3,065,436)	1,262,548
Fair value reserve	33,909	-	-	(33,909)	-
	5,106,301	9,002,837	(9,747,245)	(3,099,345)	1,262,548
Designated funds					
Disruption reserve	20,000,000	-	-	(12,000,000)	8,000,000
New aircraft fund	11,000,000	-	-	-	11,000,000
Airbase redevelopment	5,000,000	-	-	-	5,000,000
Staff responding scheme	40,000	-	-	(40,000)	-
Core financing fund	-	-	-	17,000,000	17,000,000
	36,040,000	-	-	4,960,000	41,000,000
Total unrestricted funds	41,146,301	9,002,837	(9,747,245)	1,860,655	42,262,548
Restricted funds					
County Air Ambulance Trust- HELP Appeal	13,156	-	-	(13,156)	-
Gift - B Dicks	-	320,000	-	-	320,000
CPR Project	-	11,456	(10,167)	-	1,289
HELP Appeal - lights at Dorchester helipad	-	30,782	(30,782)	-	-
	13,156	362,238	(40,949)	(13,156)	321,289
Total funds	41,159,457	9,365,075	(9,788,194)	1,847,499	42,583,837

The designated funds shown above reflect decisions taken by the Trustees prior to the year end. Please see the Trustees Report for details.

	Opening balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gain/(loss) on investments & transfers £	Closing balance £
Unrestricted funds					
General	41,315,380	8,697,191	(8,898,508)	(36,041,671)	5,072,392
Fair value reserve	1,531,539	-	-	(1,497,630)	33,909
	42,846,919	8,697,191	(8,898,508)	(37,539,301)	5,106,301
Designated funds					
Disruption reserve	-	-	-	20,000,000	20,000,000
New aircraft fund	-	-	-	11,000,000	11,000,000
Airbase redevelopment	-	-	-	5,000,000	5,000,000
Staff responding scheme	-	-	-	40,000	40,000
	-	-	-	36,040,000	36,040,000
Total unrestricted funds	42,846,919	8,697,191	(8,898,508)	(1,499,301)	41,146,301
Restricted funds					
County Air Ambulance Trust- HELP Appeal	-	26,787	-	(13,631)	13,156
	-	26,787	-	(13,631)	13,156
Total funds	42,846,919	8,723,978	(8,898,508)	(1,512,932)	41,159,457

Summary of movement in funds

- The fair value reserve is an accumulation of unrealised gains and losses, being the difference between market value and the cost of investments. The reserve cannot fall below £0 and is therefore capped at this if downward revaluation in the year exceeds brought forward reserves.
- Designated funds – Disruption reserves – free reserves to mitigate short- to medium-term risk of disruption, set at 2 years running costs.
- Designated funds – New Aircraft fund – towards purchase of a second aircraft which will enable the team to be fully operational and be able to reach patients more of the time.
- Designated funds – Airbase Redevelopment fund – towards redeveloping the operational airbase
- Designated funds – Staff Responding Scheme – reserves in order to conserve the value of the reserves against inflation and to provide income to contribute to the regular running costs of the service.
- Designated funds – Core Finance Fund – a long term investment with a target to cover up to 5% annual expenditure and would be available to draw down if charity experiences an exceptional drop in income, or in order to enable key strategic capital investment in operations infrastructure or equipment.
- County Air Ambulance Trust – HELP appeal – funds have been received towards the runway lights and windsock and Helipad lighting.

- CPR Project – The Grace Trust, The Hobson Charity, and Trust Dental supported DSAA with grants totalling £11,456 to equip and run a project in which DSAA volunteers demonstrate to the public how to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and use a defibrillator.
- B Dicks gift – a gift-in-will was received from a B Dicks to use on medical equipment. This generous legacy is being used for the new medical interior of the helicopter
- HELP Appeal – funds have been received for helipad lights to support air ambulance landing at Dorchester Hospital

Where transfers have been made out of funds, they relate to the purchase of fixed assets, which is taken to discharge the restriction.

18. Analysis of assets between funds

	Fixed assets (tangible and intangible) £	Long term invest-ments £	Cash at bank and in hand (including short term investments) £	Other net current assets £	Current liabilities £	2024 Total £
Unrestricted funds	7,379,485	-	(6,227,626)	1,235,220	(1,124,531)	1,262,548
Designated funds	-	23,683,337	17,316,663	-	-	41,000,000
Restricted funds	-	-	321,289	-	-	321,289
	7,379,485	23,683,337	11,410,326	1,235,220	(1,124,531)	42,583,837

Analysis of assets between funds – prior year

	Fixed assets (tangible and intangible) £	Long term invest-ments £	Cash at bank and in hand (including short term investments) £	Other net current assets £	Current liabilities £	2023 Total £
Unrestricted funds	7,659,181	-	(2,421,917)	788,190	(919,153)	5,106,301
Designated funds	-	25,929,483	10,110,517	-	-	36,040,000
Restricted funds	-	-	13,156	-	-	13,156
	7,659,181	25,929,483	7,701,756	788,190	(919,153)	41,159,457

19. Financial instruments

Categorisation of financial instruments

	2024 £	2023 £
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account	23,775,749	21,429,069
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	12,245,617	12,813,833
	36,021,366	34,242,902
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	625,006	473,520

Item of income, expenditure, gain or losses

2024	Income £	Expense £	Net gains £	Net losses £
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account	527,960	134,893	1,847,499	-
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	372,731	-	-	-
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	-	-	-	-
	900,691	134,893	1,847,499	-

2023	Income £	Expense £	Net gains £	Net losses £
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account	459,024	130,085	-	1,512,932
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	221,444	-	-	-
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	-	-	-	-
	680,468	130,085	-	1,512,932

20. Financial commitments

At 31 March 2024 the charity was committed to making the following payments under non-cancellable operating leases:

Other	2024 £	2023 £
Expiry date:		
Within one year	3,025,554	732,461
Between two and five years	12,853,691	876
	15,879,245	733,337

21. Related parties

There were no related party transactions during the year (2023: none).

22. Post balance sheet events

Since the year end, the charity has paid a deposit of £342,671 on an additional aircraft. This payment secures the price and the scheduling of manufacture by the aircraft manufacturer. Funds allowing, the charity intends to pay a further deposit required in December 2024 of €1,576,500, and the final payment of €8,533,500 at the end of 2025.

The charity has incurred costs of £378,614 for costs of design and manufacture of medical interior upgrade for its existing aircraft and intended second aircraft.

THE DORSET AND SOMERSET AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1078685

Accounts

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity

(A Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Company Number: 03893356
Charity Registered in England and Wales Number: 1078685

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
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For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

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Trustee Directors	Dr G Bryce (Chair) S Day W Entwisle W Green S Heyes S Jones R Kennedy T Killen M Lyne R Marlow A Phillips
Secretary	C Launchbury (until 16/03/2023) S Davies (from 16/03/2023)
Chief Executive Officer	W Sivewright (until 23/06/2022) C Hackett (from 23/06/2022)
Deputy Chief Executive	J Plowden
Finance Manager	S Davies
Lottery Manager	C Guy
Charity Number	1078685
Company Number	03893356
Principal Address and Registered Office	Landacre House Castle Road Chelston Business Park Wellington Somerset TA21 9JQ
Auditors	Albert Goodman LLP Goodwood House Blackbrook Park Avenue Taunton Somerset TA1 2PX
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc South West RCSC 740 Waterside Drive, Aztec West Almondsbury, BS99 5BD Virgin Money Jubilee House Gosforth Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 4PL

Aldermore
6th Floor, The Monument Building
11 Monument Street
London, EX3R 8AF

Cambridge & Countries Bank
Charnwood Court
5B New Walk
Leicester, LE1 6TE

Cambridge Building Society
PO Box 232
51 Newmarket Road
Cambridge, CB5 8FF

Close Brothers Treasury
4th Floor, 10 Crown Place
London, EA2A 4FT

Hampshire Trust Bank
Savings
PO Box 74003
London, EC2P 2QR

Hodge Bank
One Central Square
Cardiff, CF10 1FS

Saffron Building Society
Saffron House
1a Market Street
Saffron Walden
Essex, CB10 1HX

United Trust Bank Limited
One RopeMaker Street
London, EC2Y 9AW

Investment Advisors

Brewin Dolphin
Vantage Point
Woodwater Park
Pynes Hill
Exeter, Devon, EX2 5FD

Rathbones Investment Management
The Senate, Southernhay Gardens
Exeter, Devon, EX1 1UG

Evelyn Partners
Portwall Place
Portwall Lane
Bristol, BS1 6NA

The Trustees, who are also directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their annual report and the audited financial statements For the Year Ended 31 March 2023. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Charity's governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS 102- implemented 1 January 2019).

The full name of the Charity is The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity. It was incorporated 13 December 1999 as a company limited by guarantee. Its company registration number is 03893356. Its Charity registration number is 1078685. The registered office is Landacre House, Castle Road, Chelston Business Park, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 9JQ.

References and Administrative Details

Administrative information is given in a separate section at the front of these accounts.

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the Company are the Charity's trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

The Trustees serving during the year and since the year-end are as follows:

- Dr G Bryce (Chair)
- S Day
- W Entwisle (appointed 14 March 2023)
- W Green
- S Heyes
- S Jones
- R Kennedy
- T Killen
- M Lyne (appointed 14 March 2023)
- R Marlow (appointed 13 June 2023)
- A Phillips
- D Senior (resigned 24 July 2022)

None of the Trustees have any beneficial interest in the Company. All of the Trustees are members of the Company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Structure Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity (DSAA) is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by a memorandum and articles of association. It has a dormant subsidiary company, Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance (Trading) Limited (Company registration number 03861464).

The Board

DSAA is led by a Board of Trustees embracing a balanced spectrum of skills and experience including healthcare, aviation, legal, business, finance and the Armed Forces. The Charity follows a protocol for the recruitment of new Trustees which facilitates both personal referrals and professional recruitment. The protocol enables both Trustees and candidates to make proper assessments before appointment. Trustees are appointed in accordance with the DSAA constitution, in line with a defined procedure and fulfil their responsibilities in accordance with clearly defined and approved Terms of Reference. The Board comprises a Chair and up to twelve other trustees. It has three sub committees responsible for the oversights of: staffing and remuneration; finance; and aviation. The board intends to maintain a balance in county representation.

Trustees serve a term of 3 years, but are eligible for re-appointment twice so that a trustee may serve a total of 9 years. The board can, but very rarely has, make an exception in the interests of the Charity. The current chair has been extended a year beyond the 9 years in order to provide support and continuity during the change in CEO during 2022.

The Board maintains close liaison with Southwestern Ambulance Services NHS Foundation Trust (SWASFT) on all aspects of medical provision and clinical governance, and with Specialist Aviation Services (SAS) on all aviation matters. These two bodies are directly involved in the operational governance of charitable activities and, through the executive and committees, provide the Board with professional advice on all operational matters.

Employees and Volunteers

The Charity is managed by full and part-time staff of 23 (totalling 19 FTE) and over 100 volunteers. Operations are delivered by a further 53 team members – including our DSAA Critical Care Team and Patient & Family Liaison Nurses, employed by the South West Ambulance Foundation Trust (SWASFT or SWAST) and NHS Hospital Trusts, and DSAA pilots employed by Specialist Aviation Services (SAS). Seven of the Critical Care Team are paid for by SWASFT, all the rest of the team members are paid for by DSAA irrespective of employer. In total 78 paid individuals on full or part time basis are responsible for the organisation's outputs. The day-to-day management of the charity and its finances is delegated to the key management personnel, who the Trustees consider to be the Chief Executive Officer, the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, the Finance Manager and the Lottery Manager.

Remuneration of Key Personnel

The Staffing & Remuneration Committee, consisting of the Chair and 2 Trustees, is responsible to the Board for an annual review of the staffing levels, contracted terms of engagement and remuneration levels of all salaried staff of DSAA. Salary levels for all staff are considered in line with regional and sector norms set against the levels of responsibility expected within a role. The Committee also reviews benefits that affect volunteers, such as mileage allowance. The Committee considers the annual pay review in line with the draft annual budget for the Charity and makes recommendations to the Board.

Working with Volunteers

The Charity is extremely well supported by over 100 volunteers. They perform a wide range of invaluable duties on behalf of the Charity including giving talks, supporting events, servicing collection boxes and running information/merchandise stalls.

Our volunteers have a thorough induction to the charity with one of the community fundraisers. The volunteers have access to the Charity Handbook which has all the relevant and essential information that they need when volunteering with the charity. The Community Support Officers are their main point of contact and provide ongoing support, training and regular catch-up meetings.

We believe that our volunteers represent much more than just a "labour source". They are our eyes, ears and voices in the communities we serve. Their interaction with others in their communities helps to raise awareness and boost support for the Charity across Dorset and Somerset. They also provide us with an excellent feedback mechanism, helping us to shape our approach to volunteering, fundraising and general operations. Without our volunteers, the Charity would not be able to raise the funds required to provide the air ambulance service nor engage as effectively with the community we serve.

Strategy

Charitable Purpose

Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance is a registered charity, established to provide relief from sickness and injury for the people of Dorset and Somerset, by the provision of an air ambulance, with an air and road-delivered critical care capability.

Our Mission

To save and enhance lives through the funding and provision of an air ambulance service, with an air and road-delivered critical care capability.

Our Vision

Innovation and collaboration are maximised to continually improve patient outcomes and all who need it receive excellent clinical care.

Our Service

Our cohort of clinicians include a mixture of senior emergency physicians, intensive care consultants and anaesthetists, critical care nurses and specialist practitioners in critical care. 'Critical Care' is the treatment of people who are in a critically ill or unstable condition. These patients might be unable to breathe without support. Critical care is provided in hospital by Intensive Care Units (ICUs) but pre-hospitally by a 'Critical Care Team'.

When responding to incidents by air, we provide a 'Critical Care Team', consisting of at least a doctor, a specialist practitioner and a pilot for each mission. The doctors are predominately drawn from NHS Hospital Trusts across the region and the practitioners are from the South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SWASFT or SWAST). Some clinicians have joined us from further afield, broadening the skills and experience of the team.

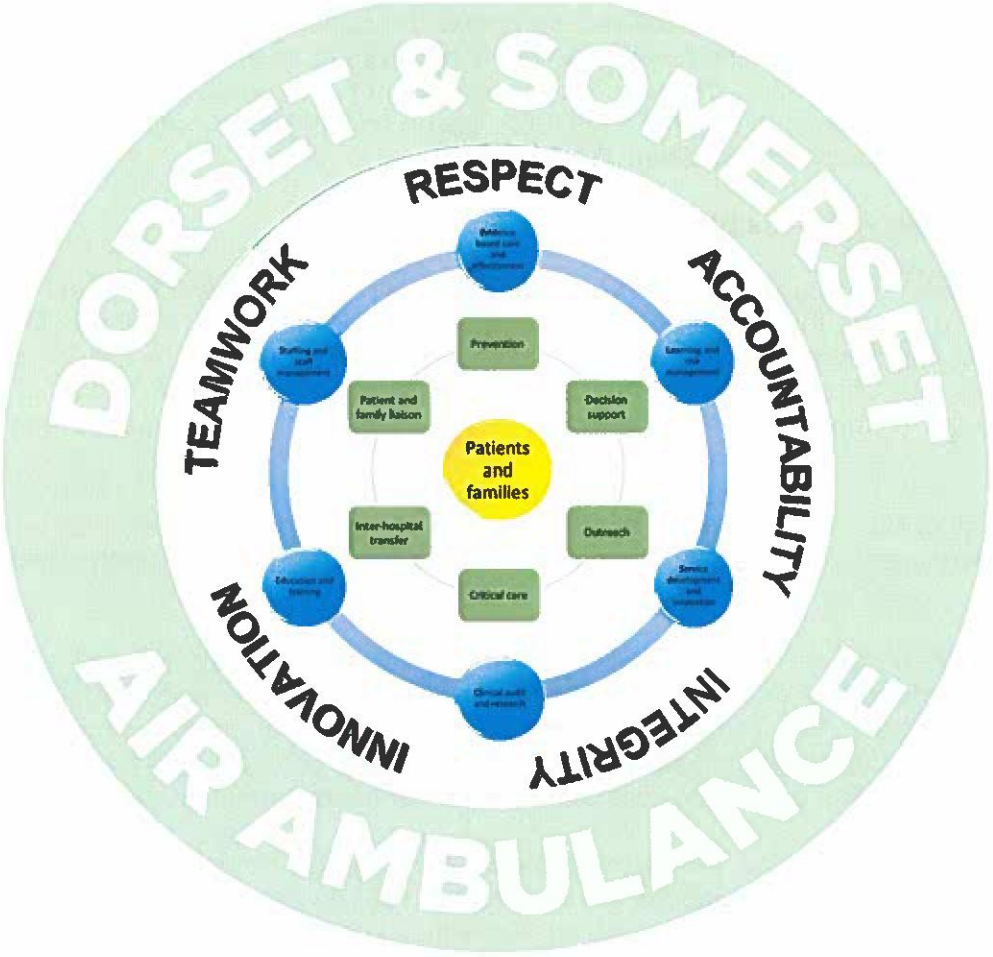
Our patient and family liaison nurses provide recovery support to patients who have been treated by our team, and to family members of patients, and can answer questions they might have about their pre-hospital care. They also provide links with patient support services and other charities aligned with the patient's condition, whilst encouraging peer support links with other similarly injured patients.

Our pilots are provided by Specialist Aviation Services Ltd, who operate our aircraft. They are carefully selected because air ambulance flights are more challenging than regular non-emergency flight services. They have a great deal of experience in low-level operations and instrument flying.

We operate 19 hours a day (7.00am – 2.00am) providing a critical care service, using our AgustaWestland 169 (AW169) helicopter and critical care car. We also provide an enhanced care service across Dorset and Somerset using our outreach cars.

Our Model of Patient-Focused Care

DSAA Model for Patient-Focused Care – P Hyde



The DSAA Model of Patient-Focused Care (above) shows how, within the overall context of the clinical governance of SWASFT, DSAA provides clinical governance aspects in the 'blue' layer and these inform much of the work conducted in the 'green layer'. Importantly, patients and families remain at the centre of all thinking and the Charity's values wrap around everything we do.

Assessment of success of the clinical strategy is complex and requires careful examination of both empirical data and patient outcomes. There are currently no national criteria of pre-hospital clinical performance against which DSAA can be measured. However, our clinicians are working with the other air ambulances both regionally and nationally to resolve this issue. In the meantime, the level of demand for our clinical service from other health professionals (Ambulance Service Paramedics and NHS Hospital Trust Consultants, et al) is at least an indicator of success since it points to professional trust of the standard of DSAA clinical delivery.

In order to continually improve patient care, DSAA conducts a detailed and comprehensive programme of analysis, audit and research on its clinical practices and outcomes using the PHEMnet clinical database system. PHEMnet is used as NHS systems of reporting alone are not yet able to provide the clear patient outcome data that reflects the care given in the pre-hospital environment.

DSAA's team of Patient and Family Liaison Support Nurses support patients' progress after their treatment by DSAA and feedback into the Charity to enable learning and continuous improvement of care.

The Charity acts as an advocate for patient care in the pre-hospital environment by facilitating greater cooperative working with all agencies involved in patientcare across the South West. This includes providing support to road safety, accident prevention and health promotion initiatives in an effort to reduce the number of avoidable calls on the Critical Care Team. DSAA actively includes injury and illness prevention messages into the core of Charity activity and communications, and DSAA has an ongoing collaboration with Docbike, a motorcycle safety charity founded by one of the Charity's doctors.

Partnership make the DSAA service possible

DSAA owns its aircraft, G-DSAA or "Peggy" as it is known, but works with Specialist Aviation Services (SAS) to maintain, test, pilot, fly and govern that aircraft. Specialist Aviation Services provide a full aviation service managed through a contract that has been in effect in April 2017, with modifications as the service develops. The contract encompasses operation and maintenance of DSAA's helicopter and provision of backup aircraft, pilots and engineers to support day to day operations as well as full maintenance and logistic support.

DSAA has a full complement of five pilots and five first officers, and an engineer focused primarily on DSAA's day to day aviation engineering task, provided by Specialist Air Services, working closely with clinicians and charity staff.

The South West Ambulance Foundation Trust (SWASFT or SWAST) is responsible for tasking the helicopter and supporting the provision of medical team. Support to the Charity has been managed through contracts and Service Level Agreements (SLAs). These cover the provision of 18 Paramedics and Nurses and associated equipment, support and maintenance. This forms part of the core capability of the Charity's clinical provision. SWASFT pay for 7 of the paramedics, but all the other costs are funded by the Charity.

A further contract with SWASFT covers the provision of specialist Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) tasking desk to ensure that air ambulances are sent to the most appropriate incidents. The HEMS tasking provision is funded equally by the five air ambulance charities operating in the SWASFT area. The Charity's clinical activities include significant governance supervision, events and training. However, overall clinical governance of the Charity's operations is provided by SWASFT, and consultants working as part of the critical care team are also included through honorary contracts with SWASFT.

Public Benefit

DSAA is free at the point of need and responds only to incidents having been tasked by the HEMS specialist tasking team in the SWASFT Dispatch Centre. This ensures that it attends incidents across Dorset and Somerset and, at times beyond its borders, according to where it can deliver best effect. The Charity delivers its service to patients, regardless of age, according to clinical priority and without discrimination.

The continued development of its clinical provision requires the Charity to consider other players in the emergency support to patients. The crews now run regular cross-training exercises with members of the Maritime Coastguard Agency Search and Rescue teams, the Police and Fire Services, road-based elements of SWASFT and Emergency Departments of our local NHS Hospital Trusts.

In doing so it has demonstrated its patient-focus and benefit to every segment of the population resident in and transiting through both counties and around their borders.

No private benefit use of the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance helicopter is given to anyone at any time. The Trustees run the charity with due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by The Charity Commission and the Charity Act 2011.

Environmental Impact

Practical aviation for Helicopter Emergency Medical Service is currently inevitably based on the use of aviation jet fuel, and given the distances inherent in the geography of our region our ground-base transport cannot yet practically be electric. Therefore, the Charity is currently exploring the best way to off-set the carbon emission of aircraft and cars.

The Charity has also completed an initial assessment of our environmental impact. The main area outside aviation and transport in which we can make improvements is in the running impact of our base, which is operational in some form throughout 24 hours. As per our Future Plans (see page 13), in order to support the existing and further development of DSAA service to patients we are assessing how to redevelop our operational base. As part of that initiative, our intention is that in redeveloping our base to fit our current and future operational requirements, we will also make the new base more energy efficient and with appropriate use of renewable energy.

Achievements and Performance

The core of DSAA's service is pre-hospital critical care and enhanced care. This is care that the NHS cannot currently provide itself, and it relies on having a helicopter to get our critical care team to the patient and then the patient directly to the right hospital to provide the right urgent care that they need. DSAA's mission and vision mean that the Charity strives to reach all patients that need the critical care or enhanced care that we provide pre-hospital and would otherwise not be available.

In the last year, DSAA has again increased the number of patients it reaches with needed critical and enhanced care. In the twelve months to March 2023, DSAA was tasked to 2424 incidents, an increase from 2238 the previous year. 1213 of these missions were activations of the critical care team by helicopter or, occasionally, by car, in comparison to 1323 in the twelve months to March 2022.

Activity of the outreach cars increased, from 913 missions in the twelve months to March 2022 to 1210 by March 2023. This was in part due to the full establishment of the Somerset outreach car, which followed on from the initial introduction of the Dorset outreach car.

We ultimately provided critical or enhanced care to 1576 patients in the last year, all treated by our specialist Doctors and/ or Practitioners, an increase on the 1406 supported in the year ending March 2022. 792 of those supported this year where attended by the critical care team and 784 by enhanced care.

The type of incident that DSAA was tasked to was broadly similar to previous years. In the twelve months to March 2023, DSAA missions were 47% trauma, 24% cardiac, 26% medical and 1% urgent inter-hospital transfer (2% other); these compare to 50% trauma, 22% cardiac, 26% medical and 2% transfer in the previous period. A little under a half of the trauma incidents that DSAA are tasked to are road traffic accidents; with falls and then a wide range of different sources of trauma making up the rest. 'Medical' incidents are half cardiac arrest and then a range of collapses, fits, poisoning and other.

12% of the patients that DSAA treated in the twelve months to March 2023 were children, a total number of 182.

Getting the critical care team or enhanced care to a patient quickly is often vital, and therefore the teams continue to keep pressure on the time from activation to take-off. At night, this is slightly longer due to the need for additional flight planning. In the recent period, the mean time to take-off during daylight was 7 minutes, an improvement on 9 minutes in year to March 2022; and at night was 11.5 minutes vs previous 11 minutes. As timeliness can be vital, the teams are sometimes tasked, and therefore activated, when probably needed but then stood down when more details are known about the incident. Stand-down have remained relatively consistent through recent years at about a third, and DSAA is not striving to reduce this as that would risk activating late, and therefore arriving late, to patients that urgently need critical care.

Helicopter & Critical Care Car (CCC)

Pre-hospital critical care is delivered by a DSAA 'Critical Care Team', consisting of at least a doctor and a specialist practitioner. Getting the critical care team to the patient rapidly, and then getting the patient to the right hospital to deliver the right care, is where the aircraft with pilot and co-pilot come in. If the aircraft is not able to be used, due to weather or maintenance, the critical care team respond by car and onward patient transfer is using a road ambulance.

The geography of Dorset and Somerset means that the aircraft is usually required. The availability of our aircraft in the last twelve months has been kept above 90%, requiring the commitment and dedication of the engineering and aviation teams, often working during the night between 0200 and 0700 when DSAA does not have an operational shift.

Outreach Response Cars (ORC)

The role of the ORC is to raise awareness of the patient benefit that can be derived from the timely delivery of critical care to other health professionals. This deliberate engagement with the ambulance service and other emergency services directly improves on-scene collaboration, so that DSAA crews can be most effective in the provision of care. The ORCs are also tasked to patients who need an enhanced level of care that a normal road ambulance crew is unable to deliver. On scene, our practitioner will either treat the patient alone or more often work with a road ambulance crew. If he/she assesses that the patient requires critical care, they can advise SWASFT and our Critical Care Team on the helicopter.

Inter-Hospital transfer

In addition to the routine, day to day tasking of HEMS missions, DSAA also carries out inter-hospital transfers of the sickest patients from local hospitals to the regional specialist hospitals. This work includes support for adults and children.

Operational Support Activity

Our Patient and Family Liaison Nurses (PFLNs) team was expanded in 2022 and has continued to build relationships with patients, families and with the key elements of the care pathways. They have helped to improve understanding of patients and those closely affected by the care that is delivered. They are also providing high quality feedback to our clinicians on patient progress and professional feedback on the care delivered.

Given the challenging nature of the work of DSAA's clinical and aviation crew, DSAA started a trial of psychological supervision programme for its own team three years ago. Following a review, this has now been confirmed as an ongoing, much-needed layer of support to the well-being of our crews and an excellent complement to the services available to all clinicians through their parent NHS Trusts.

Clinical Research

The DSAA Research Team which is formally led by a Professor and Lead Research Practitioner. A rounded portfolio of research activity is being developed based on an assessment of the research needs in pre-hospital emergency medicine, which was completed with partners across the country.

DSAA is part of the SWIFT trial (Study of Whole Blood in Frontline Trauma). This study will look at whether giving 'whole blood', instead of red blood cells and plasma, to patients with severe bleeding before they get to hospital will be better at reducing the number of deaths 24 hours after injury, and reduce the need for further large blood transfusions.

Income Generation

Fundraising

The Charity's fundraising in significant part based on voluntary fundraising, concentrating on achieving a high volume of smaller donations rather than a low volume of high value donors. To that end, we support individuals and groups who run events and activities on our behalf. Over the last year, DSAA has also increased the number of events it runs itself, trialling further running, cycling and open garden events as well as the established DSAA Coast to Coast Cycle Challenge.

As the environment for fundraising changes and looks more challenging for most charities expected, and as we continue to evolve the DSAA service provision to best serve our community and save lives, the Charity will review its fundraising activities for the future. However, the Charity's commitment to maintaining high standards will absolutely remain.

Donations

Our supporters continue to fundraise for us enthusiastically, and we are incredibly grateful for all their efforts and their activities of all types and sizes. which includes £886,803 from sponsored activities, businesses and group fundraising and £671,606 from individual donors. Total donations have increased in the current year to £1,558,409 compared to £1,326,403 in the previous year.

Legacies

Legacy income this year was £1,525,453. This reduction from £3,375,363 in the previous year was expected due to the unusually high level of gifts in wills received in the twelve months to March 2022.

Committed Giving and Charity Prize Lottery

The Charity's prize lottery represents the single biggest component of our overall income. Over recent years, we have also introduced and are growing a 'committed giving' alternative way for supporters to make a regular monthly donation to DSAA. We manage the lottery and committed giving in house but outsource the canvassing activity to a third party canvassing provider.

Following the pandemic and in the current national employment situation, recruiting canvassers is currently extremely challenging. The vacancies in the DSAA committed giving and lottery canvasser teams has hampered DSAA maintaining the lottery and committed giving income.

Despite this, the lottery's gross income for the year ending March 2023 was £4,350,423, a £145,710 decrease on the previous financial year. However the two additional seasonal raffles banked £231,750, which is slightly less than the year ending March 2022.

Collection boxes

Our collection boxes are distributed across our counties, collected and maintained by volunteers working under the direction of DSAA staff. Opening of boxes, counting and banking is done only in DSAA offices in secured & monitored room. This year we have also added QR donation codes to our tins for those that do not carry cash, and we have trialled the use of contactless payment for donations at events.

Investments

The received £680,463 from its Core Financing Fund of long term investments. The Charities future target is to cover up to 5% of annual expenditure from this fund.

Income Generation Ethical Commitment, Safeguarding and Complaints handling

The Charity is committed to maintaining the highest standards of fundraising behaviour and is registered with the Fundraising Regulator. Our commitment made to donors and the public is to ensure that our fundraising is legal, open, honest and respectful. The standards of fundraising are set out in the Fundraising Code of Practice and DSAA carries out regular internal audits to ensure our fundraising activity adheres to the Fundraising Code of Practice. DSAA's Safeguarding policy states that concerns or allegations of abuse or neglect will always be taken seriously and investigated and DSAA seeks to safeguard adults at risk and children by valuing, listening to and respecting them. All Trustees, employees and volunteers have access to, and are familiar with, this policy and will know their responsibilities within it and have access to Safeguarding Procedures including how to report concerns or allegations of abuse. All managers are responsible for promoting awareness of this policy within their teams. All contracts with third parties associated with DSAA fundraising are set in line with the guidelines issued by the Fundraising Regulator.

Our Lottery and Committed Giving canvassers are all checked and go through a strict induction process where they will be asked to follow the canvassers charter. This states that they should always act with integrity, honesty, and transparency and in such a manner that supporters are not misled.

Dementia friends training is also undertaken so that canvassers can gain a better understanding of the disease while helping them to learn how to recognise a vulnerable adult and act appropriately. During interactions, canvassers are alert to any signs that the individual may not be able to make an informed choice and if the canvasser has any grounds for concern, then a commitment should not be taken. Any customer who joins with a canvasser will be given a confirmation receipt straight away, with a welcome letter arriving a few days later as a physical sign of what has been arranged. Any concern from a customer or a member of their family that they had not been aware of or understand what they had set up, will result in an immediate cancellation and if required the offer of a refund of any monies already taken. To ensure that we are maintaining the highest standards of fundraising we also make regular compliance calls to new lottery members to check that canvassers are all consistent in their behaviour and that the customer is happy with their canvasser experience and to able to support the charity in this way.

Any complaints that are received are treated seriously and dealt with promptly, amicably, and efficiently by the lottery or fundraising team. We ensure that complaints are treated in confidence and aim to resolve the complaint within 10 working days. Most complaints are satisfactorily and immediately resolved without the need for any further action. Any complaints regarding canvassers that do need to be escalated are passed to the canvassing supervisor and then LFS to investigate. Over the last year, we have escalated two complaints regarding canvassers to LFS, both of which have resulted in the canvassers concerned being spoken to and subsequently leaving the charity team. No complaints were received regarding fundraising activities outside of lottery and committed giving canvassing.

Future Plans

Increasing Critical Care availability

The number of patients that DSAA reaches has been increasing year-on-year since the Charity first began work. However, the patient reach that the Charity can achieve is currently limited by: the time that our aircraft is off-line for maintenance, repairs & pilot certification; weather restriction on flying, particularly low cloud; and the hours that DSAA does not have a duty shift, ie 0200 to 0700.

DSAA's mission and vision entail that Charity should try to reach all those patients that need its pre-hospital critical care. DSAA critical care availability could be increased by having at least one aircraft available throughout the current 19 hours per day duty shift. Furthermore, the Charity considers that there are patients needing critical care between the hours of 0200 and 0700 in Dorset and Somerset, who would benefit from the provision of its critical care service for 24 hours per day. DSAA is therefore currently assessing the potential to increase its aviation capacity in order to reach more patients during our current 19 shifts and then the potential to increase the hours of the day in which our critical care team is available.

In order to improve availability via aircraft during periods of low cloud, DSAA is working with the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), supported by the Department for Transport, to implement a Global Navigation Satellite System approach to its base at Henstridge Airfield. This has been selected by the CAA as one of the five initial sites for 'blue light' services use of this system.

Air Base development

As the provision of care and the aviation capability of DSAA has developed, so the needs on the air base have increased. In order to support the existing and further development of the service, the charity is assessing the more efficient way to redevelop our operational base.

Research

Continuous improvement in prehospital emergency medicine and critical care must be based on good evidence. DSAA will continue to develop the use of clinical data to advocate for improvements in patient care through audit and research, and provide a DSAA Clinical Research Lead. We will take part in clinical studies that address key questions in the provision of prehospital care, such as the SWIfT study.

Financial sustainability

Over recent years, DSAA has increased the reach and capability of its critical care and enhanced care to patients, focusing its efforts and spend onto those aspects of its mission and vision, and keeping centred on care for patients and their families. Supporters in Dorset and Somerset have been, and continue to be, generous with their support for our service. As the capability and activity level of the DSAA service has increased to fill patient need, so the costs have inevitably increased and these have been compounded by recent inflation, such that DSAA now spends annually all the charitable funds that it receives. In order to ensure that future costs and development of the clinical service are financially sustainable, DSAA is looking at slightly increasing its fundraising activity, investing modestly to increase its engagement with corporate partners, grant funders & charitable trusts, and individual donors.

Financial Review

Transactions and Financial position

The Statement of Financial Activities shows a net deficit in funds of £1,687,462 for the year (2022 – surplus £3,089,310) and reserves stand at £41,159,457 of which £13,156 is restricted. The cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year stood at £4,391,687 with a further £7,810,483 in cash term deposits.

Tangible Fixed assets for use by the Charity

Details of the movements of fixed assets are set out in note 10 of the Accounts.

Investment Policy

The Charity has a £21m long term investment as its Core Financing Fund, with a target to cover up to 5% of annual expenditure. In the year to March 2023, the income received was £459,024, which equates to 5.2% of the annual expenditure.

The Fund is available to draw down if the charity experiences an exceptional drop in income, in order to keep blue light emergency service operational for two further years. In order to mitigate the risk of investments, the Core Financing Fund investments are managed by three separate investment managers and an active cash management service.

The Charity has adopted an ethical investment policy to ensure that its investments do not conflict with its aims, and our investment managers must demonstrate the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues are core to their 'house' investment policies and reviewed regularly.

Reserves policy

Given the mission life-saving criticality of DSAA service, our reserves policy is to hold sufficient reserves to ensure that our work is protected from the risk of disruption and to enable future major investments required for development of our service in best interests of patients. DSAA policy is therefore to hold 6-12 months free reserves.

During an exceptional period of legacy and prize lottery fundraising income, our Trustees made the decision to accumulate reserves for specific purposes that will improve the organisation's service delivery and future sustainability. These funds are designated into the following categories:

£16m	designated towards significant capital projects (£11 mil helicopter, £5 mil base)
£8m	free reserves (equivalent to 10 months operational costs)
£17m	long term investment as Core Financing Fund, with target to cover up to 5% annual expenditure Fund would be available to draw down if charity experiences an exceptional drop in income, in order to keep blue light emergency service operational for two further years

Increases in operational costs have coincided with legacy, prize lottery, donation and investment income all falling or stagnating. This has placed the charity in an ongoing annual deficit position, requiring it to expand and diversify income streams for it to continue providing essential support to critical care patients.

With the reserves in mind, the Trustees judge the financial position of the Charity to be satisfactory.

Risk

The principal risks to which the Charity is exposed are set out in its Risk Management Strategy which is supported by a Risk Matrix. The Risk Matrix presents a high-level overview of the identified risks' status, including the probability and impact of occurrence, mitigation measures and the person responsible for managing the risk. The Risk Matrix is reviewed quarterly at each meeting of the Board, and in this way the Board maintains oversight of identified risks and is can satisfy itself that proper measures and systems are in place to mitigate or eliminate those risks, and that appropriate insurance cover is obtained.

Much of the operational risk is managed in conjunction with SAS and SWASFT. The DSAA Aviation Sub-Committee has reviewed SAS as the provider of aviation services to DSAA and the Trustees are assured that SAS is a competent provider to deliver aviation services to DSAA. Trustees with clinical experience review the workings of DSAA clinical governance activities, which fall under the overall clinical governance within SWASFT.

DSAA, like most charities, must manage risk relating to reputational or financial issues. Although separate in nature, they are inextricably linked. Clearly, the reputation of the Charity in its ability to deliver its clinical service is vital to generating and maintaining donor support. Key financial risks reviewed by the Board of Trustees quarterly are: major loss of income due to competition for fundraising or changes in legislation, loss of donor confidence because of adverse publicity, loss of donor support due to perception of high reserves and loss of access to critical data.

Mitigation measures in place include:

- Networking with other charities across the area.
- Monitoring legislative developments.
- Adherence to fundraising codes of practice.
- Development of strategies to counter negative impacts on income.
- Cultivation and retention of effective media links.
- Maintenance of transparency.
- Demonstrating to the public that their donations are being well spent and well managed by being transparent in all communications.
- Not employing 'cold calling' telemarketing or sending unsolicited mail or email.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are directors of The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustee Directors' Report (incorporating the Directors' Report) and the financial statements in accordance with 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).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of 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 Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- 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 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 the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on 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.

Auditors

The auditors, Albert Goodman LLP, are deemed to be reappointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

By order of the Trustees.

G M Bryce

Dr G Bryce
Chair
The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity

Date: 13/9/23

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, 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 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources 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 charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors 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, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter 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 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 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
We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees
As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 16], 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.

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.

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:

The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud
Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, Charity Act 2011, Gambling commission registration, fundraising regulator registration and data protection 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 regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

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; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation, claims and breaches of relevant legislation; and
- reviewing correspondence with the Charity Commission and other relevant regulators including the company's legal advisors and insurers.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

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 and 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Michelle Ferris BSc (Hons) FCA DChA
Senior Statutory Auditor
for and on behalf of
Albert Goodman LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

Date: 19/09/2023

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unres-tricted £	Res-tricted £	2023 Total £	Unres-tricted £	Res-tricted £	2022 Total £
Income:							
Donations and legacies	2	3,364,683	26,787	3,391,470	4,994,895	-	4,994,895
Trading activities	3	4,652,040	-	4,652,040	4,832,003	-	4,832,003
Investment income	4	680,468	-	680,468	553,578	-	553,578
Total income		8,697,191	26,787	8,723,978	10,380,476	-	10,380,476
Expenditure:							
Raising funds	5	1,124,732	-	1,124,732	1,020,005	-	1,020,005
Charitable activities	6	7,773,776	-	7,773,776	6,865,584	-	6,865,584
Total expenditure		8,898,508	-	8,898,508	7,885,586	-	7,885,586
Net income / (expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses		(201,317)	26,787	(174,530)	2,494,890	-	2,494,890
Net gain / (loss) on investments	11	(1,512,932)	-	(1,512,932)	594,420	-	594,420
Net income before transfers		(1,714,249)	26,787	(1,687,462)	3,089,310	-	3,089,310
Transfers	16	13,631	(13,631)	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds for the year		(1,700,618)	13,156	(1,687,462)	3,089,310	-	3,089,310
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		42,846,919	-	42,846,919	39,757,609	-	39,757,609
Total funds carried forward		41,146,301	13,156	41,159,457	42,846,919	-	42,846,919

The statement of financial activities has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations. There were no gains or losses arising in the year that are not shown above.

The statement of financial activities incorporates the income and expenditure account

Balance Sheet
As at 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	10	7,659,181		8,106,129	
Investments	11	21,429,069		22,585,166	
			29,088,250		30,691,295
Non-current assets					
Investments	12	4,500,414		2,169,420	
			4,500,414		2,169,420
Current assets					
Stock	13	5,485		13,621	
Debtors	14	782,705		1,169,062	
Investments	12	3,310,069		5,544,732	
Cash at bank and in hand		4,391,687		4,242,159	
		8,489,946		10,969,574	
Liabilities:					
Creditors falling due within one year	15	(919,153)		(983,370)	
Net current assets			7,570,793		9,986,204
Total net assets			41,159,457		42,846,919
The funds of the charity:					
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	16		5,072,392		41,315,380
Fair value reserve	16		33,909		1,531,539
Designated funds	16		36,040,000		-
Total unrestricted funds			41,146,301		42,846,919
Restricted funds	16		13,156		-
Total charity funds			41,159,457		42,846,919

The financial statements have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Approved by the Board of Trustees for issue on 12/9/23 and signed on their behalf by:

Dr G Bryce
Chair

R Kennedy
Treasurer

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net movements in funds for the year		(1,687,462)	3,089,310
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		10,504	-
Depreciation and amortisation	10	474,988	220,021
Dividends and interest from investments	4	(680,468)	(553,578)
Investment revaluations	11	1,512,932	(594,420)
		(369,506)	2,161,333
Working capital adjustments			
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	13	8,136	2,968
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	14	386,357	(680,733)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	15	(64,217)	105,024
Net cash flow from operations		(39,230)	1,588,592
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends and interest from investments		680,468	553,578
Proceeds on disposal of fixed assets		900	-
Purchase of fixed assets	10	(39,444)	(7,393,363)
Acquisition of investments	11/12	(4,628,490)	(2,653,689)
Investment disposals	11	2,093,336	1,804,012
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		(1,893,230)	(7,689,462)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Loan repayments received		-	2,483,835
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities		-	2,483,835
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(1,932,460)	(3,617,035)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		6,643,397	10,260,432
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		4,710,937	6,643,397
Cash & Cash equivalents reconciliation:			
Cash at bank		4,391,687	4,242,159
Cash held by investment manager	11	319,250	2,401,238
Total cash & cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		4,710,937	6,643,397

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of accounting

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in the United Kingdom under the Companies Act. The maximum liability of each member is limited to £1. The address of the registered office is given on page 1. The nature of the charity's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Trustees report on pages 3-17.

The financial statements have been prepared in £ sterling on the historical cost basis and in accordance with accounting and reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts 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)) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The accounts are prepared for the company alone. The company has a dormant subsidiary, and consolidated accounts are not presented as the charity has taken advantage of the exemption provided by S405(2) of the Companies Act 2006 on the grounds of immateriality.

1.2 Income

Income from donations is recognised on a cash basis, in the year in which the income is physically received, except when the donors specify that they must be used in future accounting periods or donors conditions have not been fulfilled, then the income is deferred.

Bequests and legacies are included when entitlement is established, it is probable that the amount will be received, and the amount receivable can be estimated with sufficient accuracy. Where conditions for recognition have not been met, the legacies are disclosed in note 2.

Income from grants is recognised in the year in which they are receivable. Grants without performance conditions are presented within donations and legacies and within charitable activities when performance criteria apply.

Trading activity income from lottery receipts is recognised when the draw for the relevant week is made. Any amounts received prior to the draw being made are deferred.

Income from trading activities, other than lottery income, is included in the period in which the company is entitled to receipt.

Income from investments constitutes dividends and bank interest and is recognised in the year to which it relates.

1.3 **Expenditure**
Resources expended are recognised on the accruals basis to match the period in which the expenditure was incurred, inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered. These include both costs associated with both charitable activity and those which relate to governance arrangements and the general running of the charity.

1.4 **Donated services**
In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the unpaid volunteer time is not recognised in the financial statements. Refer to the Trustee Directors' Report for more information about their contribution.

1.5 **Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**
Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Short leasehold improvements	10 years straight line
Freehold land and buildings	50 years straight line
Medical equipment	4 – 5 years straight line
Fixtures & fittings	10 years straight line
Computer equipment	3 years straight line
Motor vehicles	7 years straight line
Aircraft	10 years straight line

Fixed assets costing less than £5,000 are not capitalised.

1.6 **Investments**
Fixed asset investments comprise investment portfolios maintained by investment managers. These are recognised initially at fair value which is normally the transaction price (but excludes any transaction costs.) Subsequently, investments are held at market value, with all realised and unrealised gains passing through the SOFA.

Non-current asset investments are cash deposits with a maturity date of more than one year from the balance sheet date. These are recognised at the deposit amount plus any interest, with any interest gains passing through the SOFA when falling due.

Current asset investments are cash deposits with a maturity date of less than one year from the balance sheet date. These are recognised at the deposit amount plus any interest, with any interest gains passing through the SOFA when falling due.

1.7 **Stock**
Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making allowances for obsolete and slow moving stock.

1.8 **Debtors**
Accrued income is recognised at the settlement amount due and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

1.9 **Cash at bank and in hand**
Cash at bank and in hand comprise cash on hand and call deposits with a maturity of less than three months, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

1.10 **Creditors**
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at their settlement amount.

1.11 **Pensions**
The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable by the Charity during the year in accordance with FRS 17.

1.12 **Operating lease rentals**
Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred over the term of the lease. The charity has operating leases for the premises in which they operate, as well as motor, office equipment leases. The title of the leased premises and equipment remains with the lessor.

1.13 **Foreign currencies**
Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recorded in the charity's functional currency by applying the spot exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. All differences are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities and presented within charitable activities expenditure.

1.14 **Taxation**
As a registered charity, the company is not liable to corporation tax to the extent that income and gains are applied to charitable activities.

1.15 **Financial Instruments**
The charity only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and liabilities of the charity and their measurements are as follows:

Financial assets – trade, other debtors and loans (programme related investment) are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 19. Investment portfolios are basic financial instruments measured at fair value through the income and expenditure account. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Cash at bank and deposit accounts– is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 19. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.16 **Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement**

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The charity makes estimates and assumptions concerning the depreciation on the aircraft held within fixed assets, as discussed below:

The charity's most important capital asset is its aircraft, the AW169 G-DSAA also known as 'Peggy'. Depreciation of this aircraft is estimated based on assumption that at the end of 10 years after purchase of G-DSAA by DSAA the aircraft will have a value of 50% of the price at which DSAA purchased it. The period of 10 years and the residual value percentage assumed take into account that G-DSAA was bought some 5 years after it initially entered service (ie not new) and that 10 years from purchase would not take the aircraft to its full level of depreciation and final value.
Various different methods are used to estimate the value of an aircraft for the purpose of valuing depreciation, and the method used by DSAA results in a monthly depreciation amount comparable to that estimated by other AW169 owners.

2. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £
Donations	1,531,622	26,787	1,558,409	1,326,403	-	1,326,403
Legacies	1,525,453	-	1,525,453	3,375,363	-	3,375,363
Collecting boxes	177,772	-	177,772	191,629	-	191,629
Gift aid	129,836	-	129,836	101,500	-	101,500
	3,364,683	26,787	3,391,470	4,994,895	-	4,994,895

As at the year end, the charity had been notified of material legacies which have not been included in the Statement of Financial Activities due to the conditions for recognition not being met. These consist of 7 legacies totalling approximately £766,275 (2022: 13 legacies totalling approximately £853,005).

3. Trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £
Lottery	4,350,423	-	4,350,423	4,496,133	-	4,496,133
Birthday draw	231,750	-	231,750	280,800	-	280,800
Other fundraising & sponsorship	2,302	-	2,302	1,502	-	1,502
Sale of merchandise	11,242	-	11,242	8,056	-	8,056
Events income	56,323	-	56,323	45,512	-	45,512
	4,652,040	-	4,652,040	4,832,003	-	4,832,003

Income received for the lottery totalling £416,176 (2022: £501,384) has been deferred and is recognised at the date the relevant draw takes place.

4. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £
Dividends receivable	459,024	-	459,024	316,648	-	316,648
Interest receivable from banks/deposits	221,444	-	221,444	160,910	-	160,910
Loan interest receiveable	-	-	-	76,020	-	76,020
	680,468	-	680,468	553,578	-	553,578

5. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £
Lottery prizes	91,293	-	91,293	89,570	-	89,570
Staff salaries	377,266	-	377,266	325,951	-	325,951
Commission	369,997	-	369,997	343,363	-	343,363
Rental of computer system	6,240	-	6,240	6,240	-	6,240
Lottery office costs	26,289	-	26,289	25,908	-	25,908
Beeline	67,855	-	67,855	70,312	-	70,312
Bank charges	36,968	-	36,968	38,629	-	38,629
Function costs	4,530	-	4,530	2,654	-	2,654
Collection tins	1,555	-	1,555	1,026	-	1,026
General costs	1,868	-	1,868	-	-	-
Goods purchased for resale	10,786	-	10,786	7,351	-	7,351
Investment management costs	130,085	-	130,085	109,001	-	109,001
	1,124,732	-	1,124,732	1,020,005	-	1,020,005

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023 Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total
Helicopter costs	£	£	£	£	£	£
Helicopter costs	4,148,745	-	4,148,745	3,529,435	-	3,529,435
Critical care team	1,947,627	-	1,947,627	2,158,811	-	2,158,811
Medical equipment	190,554	-	190,554	124,769	-	124,769
Airbase costs	47,939	-	47,939	43,546	-	43,546
Paramedic training	232,045	-	232,045	200,740	-	200,740
Travel & subsistence	37,878	-	37,878	13,412	-	13,412
Car hire	3,956	-	3,956	4,202	-	4,202
Foreign currency gain	(8)	-	(8)	(15)	-	(15)
VAT reclaimed	(114,738)	-	(114,738)	(98,679)	-	(98,679)
	6,493,998	-	6,493,998	5,976,221	-	5,976,221
Other charitable activities						
Grants awarded - Institution	30,000	-	30,000	-	-	-
	30,000	-	30,000	-	-	-

6. Charitable activities (cont.)

Support & governance costs						
Wages and salaries	476,547	-	476,547	391,536	-	391,536
Accommodation	13,732	-	13,732	16,168	-	16,168
Print and stationery	4,307	-	4,307	6,341	-	6,341
Postage	6,585	-	6,585	4,924	-	4,924
Telephone	10,388	-	10,388	9,630	-	9,630
Vehicle insurance	943	-	943	1,098	-	1,098
Office equipment and maintenance	21,612	-	21,612	18,925	-	18,925
Publicity	13,371	-	13,371	8,630	-	8,630
Beeline	67,854	-	67,854	70,312	-	70,312
Insurance	19,578	-	19,578	18,622	-	18,622
Legal and professional	9,433	-	9,433	11,052	-	11,052
Training costs	9,153	-	9,153	3,905	-	3,905
Recruitment	22,675	-	22,675	21,530	-	21,530
Bank charges	16,060	-	16,060	14,577	-	14,577
Subscriptions	8,273	-	8,273	10,708	-	10,708
Health and safety	1,727	-	1,727	1,728	-	1,728
Depreciation	474,988	-	474,988	220,021	-	220,021
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	10,504	-	10,504	-	-	-
IT costs and website	52,028	-	52,028	49,156	-	49,156
Audit and accountancy	10,020	-	10,020	10,500	-	10,500
	1,249,778	-	1,249,778	889,363	-	889,363
	7,773,776	-	7,773,776	6,865,584	-	6,865,584

7. Net incoming resources/operating surplus

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation of owned assets	474,988	220,021
(Profit)/loss on sale of fixed assets	10,504	-
Auditors' remuneration for:		
Audit services	8,600	8,500
Accountancy services	1,720	2,000

8. Trustee directors

None of the Trustee Directors (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the current or prior year. Two Trustee Directors were reimbursed during the year for travelling expenses £138 (2022: No reimbursements).

9. Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly head count was 23 staff (2022: 17 staff) and the average number of full-time equivalent employees (including casual and part-time staff) during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
Chief Executive	1	1
Lottery staff	3	3
Fundraising staff	8	4
Management and admin staff	7	9
	19	17

Employment costs	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	723,843	603,783
Social security costs	69,501	54,826
Other pension costs	60,469	58,878
	853,813	717,487

The number of employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more were:

	2023 number	2022 number
£60,000 - £70,000	1	2
£70,000 - £80,000	1	-

These employees are a member of the defined contribution pension scheme, into which contributions of £17,835 (2022: £27,515) were made.

The key management personnel of the charity are considered to be the Chief Executive Officer, The Deputy Chief Executive, the Finance Manager and the Lottery Manager. The total costs to the charity of employee benefits for the key management personnel were £287,136 (2022: £260,335).

Defined contribution pension scheme

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the scheme and amounted to £60,469 (2022: £58,878).

Contributions totalling £8,651 (2022: £10,007) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

10. Tangible fixed assets

Cost	Short leasehold improvements £	Freehold Land & Buildings £	Medical Equipment £	Fixtures & Fittings £	Computer Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Aircraft £	Total £
At 1 April 2022	301,677	597,805	428,111	35,763	40,569	82,466	7,302,743	8,789,134
Additions	13,631	-	8,154	-	17,659	-	-	39,444
Disposals	(18,245)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(18,245)
At 31 March 2023	297,063	597,805	436,265	35,763	58,228	82,466	7,302,743	8,810,333
Depreciation								
At 1 April 2022	138,898	42,842	311,539	33,823	40,569	8,836	106,498	683,005
Charge for the year	30,325	11,956	55,208	582	-	11,780	365,137	474,988
Disposals	(6,841)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(6,841)
At 31 March 2023	162,382	54,798	366,747	34,405	40,569	20,616	471,635	1,151,152
Net book value								
At 31 March 2023	134,681	543,007	69,518	1,358	17,659	61,850	6,831,108	7,659,181
At 1 April 2022	162,779	554,963	116,572	1,940	-	73,630	7,196,245	8,106,129

11. Investments

	2023 £	2022 £
Listed shares	21,109,818	20,183,927
Cash held by investment manager	319,250	2,401,238
Shares in subsidiary undertaking	1	1
	21,429,069	22,585,166

Listed shares	2023 £	2022 £
Market value		
At 1 April 2022	20,183,927	16,240,400
Additions	4,532,159	5,153,119
Disposals	(2,093,336)	(1,804,012)
Revaluation	(1,512,932)	594,420
At 31 March 2023	21,109,818	20,183,927

	2023 £	2022 £
Historical cost		
At 1 April 2022	17,270,067	13,586,443
Additions	4,532,159	5,140,636
Disposals	(2,734,312)	(1,457,012)
Other movements	-	-
At 31 March 2023	19,067,914	17,270,067

Shares in subsidiary undertaking

Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance (Trading) Limited was incorporated on 19 October 1999 as a wholly owned trading subsidiary of The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity. The parent charity holds 100% of the issued share capital and 100% of the voting rights of the subsidiary trading company. The company became dormant on 31 March 2013.

The profit for the year was £nil (2022: £nil) and the balance sheet total was £1 (2022: £1).

12. Investments

	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed rate cash held on deposit	7,810,483	7,714,152
Split as:		
Non-current asset investment (due > 1 year)	4,500,414	2,169,420
Current asset investment (due < 1 year)	3,310,069	5,544,732
	7,810,483	7,714,152

Investments are split in the statutory accounts based on maturity date.

13. Stocks

	2023 £	2022 £
Goods for resale	5,485	13,621

14. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other debtors	125,743	423,570
Prepayments and accrued income	656,962	745,492
	782,705	1,169,062

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deferred income: lottery receipts	416,176	501,384
Other creditors	219,943	88,003
Accruals	262,228	379,830
Amounts owed to group undertakings	1	1
Taxation and social security	20,805	14,152
	919,153	983,370

Reconcilation of deferred income : Lottery receipts

Opening balance	501,384	501,384
Received during the year	4,265,215	4,496,133
Released during the year	(4,350,423)	(4,496,133)
Closing balance	416,176	501,384

16. Summary of movement in funds

	Opening balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gain/(loss) on Investments & transfers £	Closing balance £
Unrestricted funds					
General	41,315,380	8,697,191	(8,898,508)	(36,041,671)	5,072,392
Fair Value Reserve	1,531,539	-	-	(1,497,630)	33,909
	42,846,919	8,697,191	(8,898,508)	(37,539,301)	5,106,301
Designated funds					
Disruption reserve	-	-	-	20,000,000	20,000,000
New Aircraft Fund	-	-	-	11,000,000	11,000,000
Airbase Redevelopment	-	-	-	5,000,000	5,000,000
Staff Responding Scheme	-	-	-	40,000	40,000
	-	-	-	36,040,000	36,040,000
Total unrestricted funds	42,846,919	8,697,191	(8,898,508)	(1,499,301)	41,146,301
Restricted funds					
County Air Ambulance Trust- HELP Appeal	-	26,787	-	(13,631)	13,156
	-	26,787	-	(13,631)	13,156
Total funds	42,846,919	8,723,978	(8,898,508)	(1,512,932)	41,159,457

The designated funds shown above reflect decisions taken by the Trustees prior to the year end. Since the year end, the reserves policy has been updated further – please see the Trustees Report for details.

Summary of movement in funds – 2022

	Opening balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gain/(loss) on Investments & transfers £	Closing balance £
Unrestricted funds					
General	38,485,043	10,380,476	(7,885,586)	335,447	41,315,380
Fair Value Reserve	1,272,566	-	-	258,973	1,531,539
Total funds	39,757,609	10,380,476	(7,885,586)	594,420	42,846,919

- The fair value reserve is an accumulation of unrealised gains and losses, being the difference between market value and the cost of investments.
- Designated funds – Disruption reserves – free reserves to mitigate short- to medium-term risk of disruption, set at 2 years running costs.
- Designated funds – New Aircraft fund – towards purchase of a second aircraft which will enable the team to be fully operational and be able to reach patients more of the time.
- Designated funds – Airbase Redevelopment fund – towards redeveloping the operational airbase
- Designated funds – Staff Responding Scheme – reserves in order to conserve the value of the reserves against inflation and to provide income to contribute to the regular running costs of the service.
- County Air Ambulance Trust – HELP appeal – funds have been received towards the runway lights and windsock and Helipad lighting.

Where transfers have been made out of funds, they relate to the purchase of fixed assets, which is taken to discharge the restriction.

17. Analysis of assets between funds

	Tangible fixed assets £	Long term investments £	Cash at bank and in hand (including short term investments) £	Other net current assets/ (liabilities) £	2023 Total £
Unrestricted funds	7,659,181	-	(2,421,917)	(130,963)	5,106,301
Designated funds	-	25,929,483	10,110,517	-	36,040,000
Restricted funds	-	-	13,156	-	13,156
	7,659,181	25,929,483	7,701,756	(130,963)	41,159,457

Prior year - 2022

	Tangible fixed assets £	Long term investments £	Cash at bank and in hand (including short term investments) £	Other net current assets/ (liabilities) £	2022 Total £
Unrestricted funds	8,106,129	24,754,586	9,786,891	199,313	42,846,919
Designated funds	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted funds	-	-	-	-	-
	8,106,129	24,754,586	9,786,891	199,313	42,846,919

18. Financial instruments

Categorisation of financial instruments

	2023 £	2022 £
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account	21,429,069	22,585,166
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	12,813,833	12,648,734
	34,242,902	35,233,900
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	473,520	457,826

Item of income, expenditure, gain or losses

2023	Income £	Expense £	Net gains £	Net losses £
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account	459,024	130,085	-	1,512,932
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	221,444	-	-	-
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	-	-	-	-
	680,468	130,085	-	1,512,932

2022	Income £	Expense £	Net gains £	Net losses £
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account	316,648	109,001	594,420	-
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	236,930	-	-	-
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	-	-	-	-
	553,578	109,001	594,420	-

19. Financial commitments

At 31 March 2023 the charity was committed to making the following payments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	2023	2022
Land and Buildings	£	£
Expiry date:		
Within one year	-	-
Between two and five years	-	-
Other		
Expiry date:		
Within one year	732,461	733,264
Between two and five years	876	-
	733,337	733,264

20. Related parties

There were no related party transactions during the year (2022: none).

THE DORSET AND SOMERSET AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1078685

Accounts

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity

(A Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Company Number: 03893356
Charity Registered in England and Wales Number: 1078685

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
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For the Year Ended 31 March 2022

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The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
Reference and Administrative Details
For the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Trustee Directors	Dr G Bryce (Chair) S Day W Green S Heyes S Jones R Kennedy T Killen A Phillips
Secretary	C Launchbury
Chief Executive Officer	W Sivewright (until 23/06/2022) C Hackett (from 23/06/2022)
Deputy Chief Executive	J Plowden (from 1 April 2021)
Finance Manager	C Routley
Lottery Manager	C Guy
Charity Number	1078685
Company Number	03893356
Principal Address and Registered Office	Landacre House Castle Road Chelston Business Park Wellington Somerset TA21 9JQ
Auditors	Albert Goodman LLP Goodwood House Blackbrook Park Avenue Taunton Somerset TA1 2PX
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc South West RCSC 740 Waterside Drive, Aztec West Almondsbury, BS99 5BD Virgin Money Jubilee House Gosforth Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 4PL Aldermore 6th Floor, The Monument Building 11 Monument Street London, EX3R 8AF

Cambridge & Countries Bank
Charnwood Court
5B New Walk
Leicester, LE1 6TE

Cambridge Building Society
PO Box 232
51 Newmarket Road
Cambridge, CB5 8FF

Close Brothers Treasury
4th Floor, 10 Crown Place
London, EA2A 4FT

Hampshire Trust Bank
Savings
PO Box 74003
London, EC2P 2QR

Hodge Bank
One Central Square
Cardiff, CF10 1FS

Saffron Building Society
Saffron House
1a Market Street
Saffron Walden
Essex, CB10 1HX

United Trust Bank Limited
One RopeMaker Street
London, EC2Y 9AW

Investment Advisors

Brewin Dolphin
Vantage Point
Woodwater Park
Pynes Hill
Exeter, Devon, EX2 5FD

Rathbones Investment Management
The Senate, Southernhay Gardens
Exeter, Devon, EX1 1UG

Smith & Williamson
Portwall Place
Portwall Lane
Bristol, BS1 6NA

The Trustees, who are also directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Charity's governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS 102- implemented 1 January 2019).

The full name of the Charity is The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity**.** It was incorporated 13 December 1999 as a company limited by guarantee. Its company registration number is 03893356. Its Charity registration number is 1078685. The registered office is Landacre House, Castle Road, Chelston Business Park, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 9JQ.

References and Administrative Details

Administrative information is given in a separate section at the front of these accounts.

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the Company are the Charity's trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

The Trustees serving during the year and since the year-end are as follows:

- Dr G Bryce (Chair)
- S Day (Appointed 14/09/2021)
- M Gallagher (Resigned 15/06/2021)
- W Green (Appointed 14/09/2021)
- S Heyes (Appointed 14/09/2021
- S Jones
- R Kennedy
- T Killen (Appointed 14/09/2021)
- H Nobbs (Resigned 14/09/2021)
- A Phillips
- R Popper (Resigned 14/09/2021)
- D Senior (Resigned 24/07/2022)
- G Taylor (Resigned 15/06/2021)

None of the Trustees have any beneficial interest in the Company. All of the Trustees are members of the Company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Structure Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity (DSAA) is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by a memorandum and articles of association. It has a dormant subsidiary company, Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance (Trading) Limited (Company registration number 03861464).

The Board

DSAA is controlled by a Board of Trustees embracing a balanced spectrum of skills and experience including healthcare, aviation, legal, business, finance, charities and local affairs. The Charity follows good practise for the recruitment of new Trustees which facilitates both personal referrals and professional recruitment, and enables both Trustees and candidates to make proper assessments before appointment. Trustees are appointed in accordance with the DSAA constitution and fulfil their responsibilities in accordance with clearly defined and approved Terms of Reference. The Board comprises a Chair and up to twelve other trustees. It has two sub committees responsible respectively for staffing & remuneration and for finance. It is policy to maintain a balance in county representation on the Board.

In line with the Charity Governance Code recommendation "…an external evaluation every three years...", the Charity commissioned a comprehensive independent review of its governance structure and its policy framework during 2019. The purpose of the review was to develop best practise against nationally recognised benchmarks, provide an opportunity to stop and reflect as part of continued development and to strengthen governance practise further. The review concluded that the Charity has "hugely impressive Governance". Despite the very positive findings of the review, a number of areas of governance have been further improved since and, in February 2021, the Trustees conducted a workshop to review and confirm the specific areas of trustee recruitment, decision-making and appraisal.

The Board maintains close liaison with Southwestern Ambulance Services NHS Foundation Trust (SWASFT) on all aspects of medical provision and governance and with Specialist Aviation Services (SAS) on all aviation matters. These two bodies are directly involved in the operational governance of all charitable activities and, through the executive, provide the Board with professional advice on all operational matters.

Risk Management

The principal risks to which the Charity is exposed are set out in its Risk Management Strategy which is supported by a Risk Matrix which includes all identified risks. The matrix presents a high-level overview of the identified risks' status, including the probability and impact of occurrence, mitigation measures and the person responsible for managing the risk. The Strategy is reviewed by the Executive on an annual basis and by the Board on a three-yearly cycle unless there has been a significant change. The Risk Matrix is reviewed quarterly, at each meeting of the Board, newly identified risks are added and risk levels reviewed. In this way the Board maintains oversight of identified risks and is can satisfy itself that proper measures and systems are in place to mitigate or eliminate those risks and that appropriate insurance cover is obtained. The frequency of this review ensures that trends can be identified early and that contemporary external issues that might affect the risk status for the Charity can be considered and addressed in a timely fashion.

Employees and Volunteers

The Charity is managed by full and part-time staff of 20 (17 full time equivalents), including 5 fundraisers a lottery management team of 4, and 104 volunteers. The day-to-day management of the charity and its finances is delegated to the key management personnel, who the Trustees consider to be the Chief Executive Officer, the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, the Finance Manager and the Lottery Manager.

Remuneration of Key Personnel

The Employment & Remuneration Committee, consisting of the Chair and 2 Trustees, is responsible to the Board for an annual review of the staffing levels, contracted terms of engagement and remuneration levels of all salaried staff of DSAA. Salary levels for all staff are considered in line with regional and sector norms set against the levels of responsibility expected within a role. The Committee also reviews benefits that affect volunteers, such as mileage allowance. The Committee considers the annual pay review in line with the draft annual budget for the Charity and makes recommendations to the Board.

Working with Volunteers

The Charity is extremely well supported by 104 volunteers. They perform a wide range of invaluable duties on behalf of the Charity including giving talks, supporting events, servicing collection boxes and running information/merchandise stalls.

Our volunteers have a thorough induction to the charity with one of the community fundraisers. The volunteers have access to the Charity Handbook which has all the relevant and essential information that they need when volunteering with the charity. The community fundraisers are their main point of contact and provide ongoing support, training and regular catch-up meetings.

We believe that our volunteers represent much more than just a "labour source". They are our eyes, ears and voices in the communities we serve. Their interaction with others in their communities helps to raise awareness and boost support for the Charity across Dorset and Somerset. They also provide us with an excellent feedback mechanism, helping us to shape our approach to volunteering, fundraising and general operations. Without our volunteers, the Charity would not be able to raise the funds required to provide the air ambulance service nor engage as effectively with the community we serve.

To support them in this role, and recognising that some fall into vulnerable categories, we have maintained contact by telephone and email throughout the periods of restrictions due to coronavirus. This has helped to sustain their morale and engagement, as well as to prepare for face to face activities.

STRATEGIC REVIEW

Objectives and Activities

The Charity's object and its principal activity is the relief of sickness and injury and the protection of human life principally (but not exclusively) by the provision and support of an air ambulance service for the benefit of the population of Dorset and Somerset. The vision for the Charity is to provide the maximum patient benefit by delivering a highly effective, clinically excellent and financially secure air ambulance service in the Southwest Region.



DSAA Model for Patient-Focused Care – P Hyde

The model above shows how, within the overall context of the clinical governance of SWASFT, DSAA provides clinical governance aspects in the 'blue' layer and these inform much of the work conducted in the 'green layer'. Importantly, patients and families remain at the centre of all thinking and the Charity's values wrap around everything we do.

Assessment of success of the clinical strategy is complex and requires careful examination of both empirical data and patient outcomes. There are currently no national criteria of pre-hospital clinical performance against which DSAA can be measured. However, our clinicians are working with the other air ambulances both regionally and nationally to resolve this issue. In the meantime, the level of demand for our clinical service from other health professionals (Ambulance Service Paramedics and NHS Hospital Trust Consultants, et al) is at least an indicator of success since it points to professional trust of the standard of DSAA clinical delivery.

Unfortunately, using NHS systems of reporting alone, provides no clear patient outcome data that reflects the care given in the pre-hospital environment. To overcome this, the Charity uses the PHEMnet clinical database system to assist with analysis, audit and research. Also, to further resolve patient outcomes, DSAA has Patient and Family Liaison Support Nurses to support patients' progress after their treatment by DSAA and feedback into the Charity to enable learning and continuous improvement of care.

The Charity acts as an advocate for patient care in the pre-hospital environment by facilitating greater cooperative working with all agencies involved in patientcare across the South West. This includes providing support to road safety, accident prevention and health promotion initiatives in an effort to reduce the number of avoidable calls on the Critical Care Team. DSAA dovetails injury and illness prevention messages into the core of Charity activity. The Charity has developed a specific prevention part of the DSAA website and ensured that each edition of the Charity's magazine, Beeline has prevention messaging embedded both for trauma and cardiac disease. The prevention activity of DSAA staff has been well highlighted through DSAA communications, and DSAA has an ongoing collaboration with Docbike, a motorcycle safety charity founded by one of the Charity's doctors.

The Charity has an ambition to continue to improve and extend our service provision to ensure we are there when patients need us, potentially extending from our current 19/7 service to 24/7 in time. Our analysis shows that there is an unmet need that this change would help to reduce. However, consistent with our approach to all developments, we will only step forward once we are certain that the development will deliver to patient need and can be sustained.

Specialist Aviation Services provide a full aviation service managed through a contract that came into effect in April 2017. The contract encompasses operation and maintenance of DSAA's helicopter and provision of backup aircraft, pilots and engineers to support day to day operations as well as full maintenance and logistic support.

SWASFT is responsible for tasking the helicopter and supporting the provision of medical team. Support to the Charity has been managed through contracts and Service Level Agreements (SLAs). These cover the provision of 18 Paramedics and Nurses (7 of which are paid for by SWASFT) and associated equipment, support and maintenance which is all funded by DSAA. This forms part of the core capability of the Charity's clinical provision. A further contract covers the provision of specialist Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) tasking desk to ensure that air ambulances are sent to the most appropriate incidents. The HEMS tasking provision is funded equally by the five air ambulance charities operating in the SWASFT area. The Charity's clinical activities include significant governance supervision, events and training. However, overall clinical governance of the Charity's operations is provided by SWASFT, and consultants working as part of the critical care team are also included through honorary contracts with SWASFT.

Public Benefit

The Charity has complied with the duty in section 17 of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission, including public benefit guidance, when reviewing our aim and objectives and in planning our future activities. Trustees are also mindful of the Charity Commission's requirement that they be "informed by, but not directed by, the ambulance service".

DSAA responds only to incidents having been tasked by the HEMS specialist tasking team in the SWASFT Dispatch Centre. This ensures that it attends incidents across Dorset and Somerset and, at times beyond its borders, according to where it can deliver best effect. The Charity delivers its service to patients, regardless of age, according to clinical priority and without discrimination.

The continued development of its clinical provision requires the Charity to consider other players in the emergency support to patients. The crews now run regular cross-training exercises with members of the Maritime Coastguard Agency Search and Rescue teams, the Police and Fire Services, road-based elements of SWASFT and Emergency Departments of our local NHS Hospital Trusts.

In doing so it has demonstrated its patient-focus and benefit to every segment of the population resident in and transiting through both counties and around their borders.

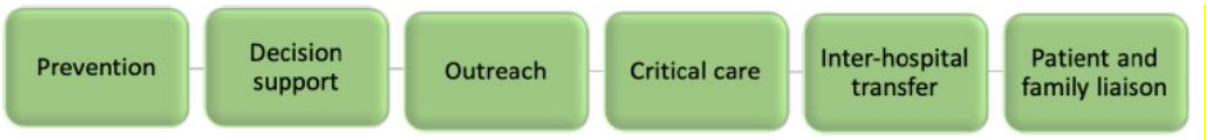
Achievements and Performance

Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance has continued to provide its service to patients despite complications associated with the Covid-19 pandemic. The Charity avoided some of the financial losses felt by other parts of the third sector and in this financial year has retained a good financial position through careful use of resources for maximum patient benefit, enabled by continued lottery and fundraising support and high in-year receipt of legacies and bequests. We continue to be incredibly grateful to all our supporters and partners for their contributions which enable us to serve patients' needs.

Following the end of pandemic restrictions, donations by voluntary fundraising through events and collection boxes has started to recover, supported by our loyal supporter-base, as has income from collecting boxes. Spend on charitable activities has risen as we have continued to develop our service, including pilot and systems cost to enable night flying, costs of our critical care teams, and patient and family liaison and support.

Operations

During the period covered by this report much has changed and the service being delivered by Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance has continued to develop. Many of the elements within the our pathway of care have now linked together working towards a more complete package.



DSAA Clinical Services Pathway of Care

THE FACTS

1ST APRIL 2021 - 31ST MARCH 2022



2,231 MISSIONS

HELICOPTER AND CRITICAL CARE CAR

\+ 1,324

OUTREACH CARS

907

INCIDENT TYPE

TRAUMA	CARDIAC	MEDICAL	TRANSFERS
51%	22%	25%	2%

BUSIEST DAY

THURSDAY

BUSIEST MONTH

JULY

BLOOD

41

A total of 41 patients received blood

INTER-HOSPITAL TRANSFERS

Our critical care team provided 36 time-critical inter-hospital transfers

Outreach Response Cars (ORC)

The role of the ORC is to raise awareness of the patient benefit that can be derived from the timely delivery of critical care to other health professionals. Delivering this outreach function is done through the practical delivery of an enhanced care response to patients in the area. In 2021, DSAA achieved the maintenance of a 7 day a week ORC service within Dorset and a rapidly expanding ORC service within Somerset.

The Dorset ORC and the Somerset ORC responded to 907 incidents during the year. Staffed by one of our Critical Care Practitioners, patients now have access to an enhanced level of care that a normal road ambulance crew is unable to deliver. On scene, our practitioner will either treat the patient alone or more often work with a road ambulance crew to assist the patient. If he/she assesses that the patient requires critical care, they can advise SWASFT and our Critical Care Team on the helicopter.

Critical care

The numbers of patients treated by the critical care team for the year 2021-2022 demonstrated a rise to pre-pandemic levels (1,324 patients).

Due to the ongoing COVID pandemic through 2021-2022, all patients had to be treated as though positive with regards to the donning of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE). The burden on our crew of this mode of operation should not be understated. Full PPE presents significant challenges to those dealing with patients. It can be incredibly hot, gloves masks and eye protection degrade touch, sight, and communication. Dealing with these factors whilst trying to treat a patient or fly an aircraft is particularly demanding and can be extremely stressful. Our crews deserve all our praise and gratitude for the incredible way in which they have sustained our service to patients throughout the year.

We have been fortunate to benefit from considerable support from both SAS and SWASFT. Whether this was through innovation in design changes to both the aircraft and equipment, or through simplified logistics and the provision of alternative supplies of PPE, the list is endless. Due to the close working relationship with SWASFT, DSAA did not suffer from the PPE supply-chain anxieties felt by many other organisations. One of the on going lessons of the last two years has been that we can deliver more and better in collaboration with others.

Having much of the management overhead associated with effective clinical and aviation governance held outside of the Charity enabled our personnel to focus on the front-line aspects of delivery and sustaining our service throughout the most testing of times. The trust that our close collaboration engenders with our NHS partners was undoubtedly a factor in their decision to continue to leave their personnel with the Charity rather than withdraw them to their respective NHS Trusts despite being under significant pressure themselves.

We believe that our strategy of outsourcing these key governance aspects, overlayed with very close collaboration and internal scrutiny were key to DSAA successfully delivering its full service plus adding additional resources to the national effort to deal with the pressures of the pandemic on the NHS more widely.

Inter-Hospital transfer

In addition to the routine, day to day tasking of HEMS missions, DSAA also carries out inter-hospital transfers of the sickest patients from local hospitals to the regional specialist hospitals. This work includes support for adults and children. The collaborative project to enable support of children's inter-hospital critical care transfers was awarded 'innovation of the year' at the Air Ambulance UK national awards of excellence in November 2021.

Operational Support Activity

Our Patient and Family Liaison Nurses (PLAS) have continued to build relationships with both patients, families and with the key elements of the care pathways. They have helped to improve understanding of patients and those closely affected by the care that is delivered. They are also providing high quality feedback to our clinicians on patient progress and professional feedback on the care delivered. This, of course, comes at a price; stretching their time and availability to the limit and an expansion in their numbers is happening in 2022.

Our trial of psychological supervision program is now entering its 3rd year and although again this year, much of it has had to be delivered at a distance, it has provided a much-needed layer of support to the well-being of our crews and an excellent complement to the services available to all clinicians through their parent NHS Trusts. The program is due for formal review near the end of 2022.

A number of our clinicians now form our DSAA Research Team which is formally led by a Professor and Lead Research Practitioner. A rounded portfolio of research activity is being developed.

Many of the developmental strands rely heavily on strong data support. For DSAA, our clinical data is captured and managed within PHEMNet. This system, which was originally developed in-house by DSAA and is now owned by a Community Interest Company, continues to maintain NHS approval as well as full Cyber Essentials Plus accreditation. PHEMnet will work collaboratively with the developing national pre-hospital research and audit network.

Clinical Provision Challenges

Despite the amazing developments that have taken place over recent years, DSAA clinical and operational provision still faces a number of ongoing challenges, including the following:

- Accessing the unmet patient-need within current operating hours through improved tasking, outreach activity and inter-hospital transfers.
- Supporting our current patients and families through DSAA liaison.
- Sustaining and improving the standard of clinical care through robust and mature clinical governance and research.
- Continuing to attract clinicians of quality to replace those who moved on.
- Sustaining the clinical team through developmental opportunities and psychological support.
- Rising to the challenge to provide equitable access to DSAA care across the 24-hour clock.
- Stopping the people of Dorset and Somerset becoming patients in the first place.

Aviation

Having made the decision to move to a multi-pilot model, five first officers were recruited and all are now established in the day roster. Two are yet to be night qualified, but they are expected to complete their training by the end of June. Once they are fully qualified, it will mean that clinicians will no longer be required to fulfil the technical crew member role, but new clinical staff will still receive aviation training to ensure the crew ethos is maintained between the aviation and clinical teams.

We now have a full complement of five pilots and five first officers, and an engineer focused primarily on DSAA's day to day aviation engineering task, provided by Specialist Air Services (SAS), working closely with clinicians and charity staff.

Aircraft

A key consideration of the provision of DSAA service is the aircraft, both in terms of capability and in terms of availability.

DSAA has now completed the full purchase of the AW169 aircraft G-DSAA, known to our supporters and team as 'Peggy' or Pegasus. This secures continuity of aircraft for DSAA service, and along with the continuity of pilots and the commitment to an engineer focused primarily on DSAA day to day aviation engineering, provides a strengthened basis both for ongoing service and also for continued development of provision of that service. The use of capital to purchase the helicopter reduces the Charity's liability for the lease cost of the platform, and was appropriate now that the AW169 has become established as a popular aircraft thus reducing any concerns of the ongoing value and potential to sell of the charity's asset.

We have previously used a MD902 as the relief aircraft for when our own AW169 is not available. The MD902 is not as capable as the AW169, in terms of speed, payload or range and requires the pilots to hold dual ratings. It was therefore decided to contract for an AW169 relief aircraft, this not only retains our full capability throughout the year, but also reduces the training burden for the pilots and consistency of platform for the medical crew. This came into effect when G-DSAA went into base maintenance in December 2021.

Income Generation

Fundraising

The Charity's new Fundraising Manager has been appointed, leading the fundraising team and volunteers.

The Charity is committed to maintaining the highest standards of fundraising behaviour and is registered with the new Fundraising Regulator. All contracts with third parties associated with DSAA fundraising are set in line with the guidelines issued by the Fundraising Regulator. The Charity's fundraising policy has to date promoted a benign approach to voluntary fundraising, concentrating on achieving a high volume of smaller donations rather than a low volume of high value donors. To that end, we support individuals and groups who run events and activities on our behalf and have only run one event directly, our Coast to Coast Cycle Challenge.

As the environment for fundraising changes and looks more challenging for most charities expected, and as we continue to evolve the DSAA service provision to best serve our community and save lives, the Charity will review its fundraising activities for the future. However, the Charity's commitment to maintaining high standards will absolutely remain.

Donations

Our supporters continue to fundraise for us enthusiastically, and we are incredibly grateful for all their efforts and their activities of all types and sizes. We received total donations of £1,326,403, which includes £452,502 from sponsored activities, businesses and group fundraising and £873,901 from individual donors.

Total donations have increased in the current year to £1,326,403 compared to £847,624 in the previous year.

Legacies

Legacy income this year was £3,375,363 up from £2,296,300 the previous year.

Charity Lottery

The Charity's lottery represents the single biggest component of our overall income. We manage the lottery in house but outsource the canvassing activity to a third party canvassing provider. Our canvassers all go through a strict induction process which is attended by our lottery manager and their behaviour is monitored by us with regular random compliance calls to new members. The lottery manager and canvassing supervisor have monthly meetings to discuss how things are going and the whole canvassing team participate in half yearly training events at the air base. They also receive regular contact and updates from the charity to make them feel part of the team.

With lockdown restrictions ending in April 2021, our canvassing team were once again able to recruit new members door to door, store venues were still not available until much later in the year. Unfortunately, the number of canvassers working for us had decreased significantly following each lockdown and it proved very difficult to recruit any new canvassers to the team. This meant that our new member figure for this year, just short of 4,600, was low, maybe only a third of what we would normally see.

Despite this, the lottery's gross income for the year was £4,496,133, a £19,222 increase on the financial year 2021-22, however the two additional seasonal raffles banked £280,800 slightly less than the previous year's bumper figure meaning that in total the lottery income for the year was £4,776,933, down on the previous financial year but only by £30,718.

Collection boxes and recycling banks

Staff serviced the collection boxes on a reactive basis. What was incredible is that money was still coming in, receiving £99,000 during the year. This upcoming year will see us adding QR donation codes to our tins for those that do not carry cash. We received an income of approximately £93,000 over the financial year from textile recycling banks across Dorset and Somerset. In support of this revenue stream, volunteers were able to secure a further 6 sites for recycling banks.

Investments

The Charity's investment policy for the long-term reserves is to generate a fund capable of providing a significant income in the future that will offset risks to other income. This is a long term goal, dependent on the fundraising environment and the need to invest in patient care in the near terms in line with the Charity's primary objectives. This means that the Charity seeks to produce the best financial return within an acceptable level of risk. The investment objective for the short-term reserves is to preserve the capital value with a minimum level of risk. Assets are maintained to be readily available to meet unanticipated cash flow requirements.

In order to mitigate the risk of investments, the Charity's holdings are managed by three separate investment managers and an active cash management service. Whilst they are all instructed similarly as to the level of risk and ethical restrictions on investments, they deliver a diverse range of investments that is monitored by the Charity using a common set of criteria. This helps to identify possible areas of stronger/weaker performance and trigger questions to the investment managers directly. Diversification has helped to balance out the worst of market fluctuations and has achieved the overall investment objectives.

Future Plans

Increasing Critical Care availability

The Charity considers that at least 100 patients per year within Dorset & Somerset could benefit from the provision of its critical care service for 24 hours per day. In addition, critical care availability can be increased during the current 19 hour shift period through further development of tasking by the HEMS dispatch desk and through minimising time when the aircraft is not available or able to fly due to maintenance or weather. In the situation of the aircraft being unable to fly, critical care availability is still provided through use of the Critical Care Car, but the time to location of this care is inevitably affected.

To further increase availability of critical care to the counties and region demands more reliable access to a second aircraft than is currently provided in our contracted backup arrangements. A number of models for providing such support are being explored for affordability.

Air Base development

As the provision of care and the aviation capability of DSAA has development, so the needs on the air base have increased. In order to support the existing and further development of the service, the charity will look and the need for development of the base and consider options for implementation.

Patient and Family Liaison

The value of the DSAA Patient and Family Liaison Nurses has now been demonstrated, and this part of the overall service is established. In order to be able to support all our patients and their families in this way, and to support critical care team learning and continuous improvement of the overall care, we will look to a measure increase in the size of the liaison nurse team.

Research

Continuous improvement in prehospital emergency medicine and critical care must be based on good evidence. DSAA will continue to develop the use of clinical data to advocate for improvements in patient care through audit and research, and provide a DSAA Clinical Research Lead. We will take part in clinical studies that address key questions in the provision of prehospital care, such as the SWIfT study being developed on the use of whole or component blood in the prehospital air ambulance setting.

Financial Review

Transactions and Financial position

The Statement of Financial Activities shows a net movement in funds of £3,089,310 for the year (2021 - £6,251,183) and reserves stand at £42,846,919 all of which is unrestricted (2021 - £39,757,609). The cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year stood at £4,242,159 (2021 - £9,819,621) with a further £7,714,152 in cash term deposits (2021 - £10,213,582).

Tangible Fixed assets for use by the Charity

Details of the movements of fixed assets are set out in note 10 of the Accounts.

Investment Policy and Returns

The Charity has adopted an investment policy which minimises financial risk to the Charity, while producing potential for capital growth over the long term. Under the memorandum and articles of association, the Charity has the power to make any investment which the Trustees see fit.

The Charity has adopted an ethical investment policy to ensure that its investments do not conflict with its aims. For example, there is a proven link between disease and the consumption of alcohol and tobacco. Therefore, the Charity's ethical investment policy precludes direct or indirect investment in companies that generate more than 10% of revenues from alcohol or tobacco.

Trustees are also considering positive ethical investment in areas such as renewable energy.

Reserves policy

Reserves stand at £42,846,919 with no restrictions (2021 – £39,757,609). The cash at bank and in hand at the end of the financial year stood at £4,242,159 (2021 - £9,819,621). Free reserves (net current assets) at the year end stood at £9,986,204 (2021 - £14,612,887).

Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance (DSAA) is an incorporated charity, whose purpose is the relief of sickness and injury and the protection of human life by the provision and support of an air ambulance service for the benefit of the population of Dorset and Somerset. DSAA generates income via fundraising, donations and legacies and to fulfil its mission, DSAA provides and funds an air ambulance service with air- and road-delivered critical care capability and associated supporting activities, and continues to invest resources in continuous improvement and availability of critical care.

Given the mission life-saving criticality of DSAA service, our reserves policy is to hold sufficient reserves to ensure that our work is protected from the risk of disruption and to enable future major investments required for development of our service in best interests of patients. This means that the charity holds reserves:

- to cover any disruption of income or unforeseen cost without significant reducing clinical service for a period of over a year, including cost of aircraft
- to cover all working capital requirements
- to build capital for investment in assets necessary for provision of critical care and helicopter ambulance, such as airbase, future aircraft and medical equipment

In addition, the Charity invests reserves in order to provide income to contribute to the regular running costs of the service.

With this in mind, the Trustees judge the financial position of the Charity to be satisfactory.

Risk

Much of the operational risk is managed in conjunction with SAS and SWASFT. The main risks to the Charity centre on reputational or financial issues. Although separate in nature, they are inextricably linked. Clearly, the reputation of the Charity in its ability to deliver its clinical service is vital to generating and maintaining donor support. Key financial risks reviewed by the Board of Trustees quarterly are: major loss of income due to competition for fundraising or changes in legislation, loss of donor confidence because of adverse publicity, loss of donor support due to perception of high reserves and loss of access to critical data.

Mitigation measures in place include:

- Networking with other charities across the area.
- Monitoring legislative developments.
- Adherence to fundraising codes of practice.
- Development of strategies to counter negative impacts on income.
- Cultivation and retention of effective media links.
- Maintenance of transparency.
- Demonstrating to the public that their donations are being well spent and well managed by being transparent in all communications.
- Not employing 'cold calling' telemarketing or sending unsolicited mail or email.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are directors of The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustee Directors' Report (incorporating the Directors' Report) and the financial statements in accordance with 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).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of 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 Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- 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 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 the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on 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.

Auditors

The auditors, Albert Goodman LLP, are deemed to be reappointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

By order of the Trustees.

Dr G Bryce
Chair
The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity

Date: 5 October 2022

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2022, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, 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 31 March 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources 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 charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors 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, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter 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 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 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
We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees
As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 17], 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.

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.

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:

The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud
Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, Charity Act 2011, Gambling commission registration, fundraising regulator registration and data protection 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 regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

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; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation, claims and breaches of relevant legislation; and
- reviewing correspondence with the Charity Commission and other relevant regulators including the company's legal advisors and insurers.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

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 and 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Michelle Ferris BSc (Hons) FCA DChA
Senior Statutory Auditor
for and on behalf of
Albert Goodman LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

Date: 20 October 2022

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
Income:							
Donations and legacies	2	4,994,895	-	4,994,895	3,789,853	2,381	3,792,234
Trading activities	3	4,832,003	-	4,832,003	4,823,947	-	4,823,947
Investment income	4	553,578	-	553,578	627,815	-	627,815
Total income		10,380,476	-	10,380,476	9,241,615	2,381	9,243,996
Expenditure:							
Raising funds	5	1,020,005	-	1,020,005	952,949	-	952,949
Charitable activities	6	6,865,581	-	6,865,581	5,699,077	2,894	5,701,971
Total expenditure		7,885,586	-	7,885,586	6,652,026	2,894	6,654,920
Net income before other recognised gains and losses		2,494,890	-	2,494,890	2,589,589	(513)	2,589,076
Net gain / (loss) on investments	11	594,420	-	594,420	3,662,107	-	3,662,107
Net income before transfers		3,089,310	-	3,089,310	6,251,696	(513)	6,251,183
Transfers	17	-	-	-	(513)	513	-
Net movement in funds for the year		3,089,310	-	3,089,310	6,251,183	-	6,251,183
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		39,757,609	-	39,757,609	33,506,426	-	33,506,426
Total funds carried forward		42,846,919	-	42,846,919	39,757,609	-	39,757,609

The statement of financial activities has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations. There were no gains or losses arising in the year that are not shown above.

The statement of financial activities incorporates the income and expenditure account

Balance Sheet
As at 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	10	8,106,129		932,787	
Investments	11	22,585,166		16,681,212	
			30,691,295		17,613,999
Non-current assets					
Debtors	12	-		2,139,789	
Investments	13	2,169,420		5,390,934	
			2,169,420		7,530,723
Current assets					
Stock	14	13,621		16,589	
Debtors	15	1,169,062		832,375	
Investments	13	5,544,732		4,822,648	
Cash at bank and in hand		4,242,159		9,819,621	
		10,969,574		15,491,233	
Liabilities:					
Creditors falling due within one year	16	(983,370)		(878,346)	
Net current assets			9,986,204		14,612,887
Total net assets			42,846,919		39,757,609
The funds of the charity:					
Restricted funds	17		-		-
Unrestricted funds	17		41,315,380		38,485,043
Fair value reserve	17		1,531,539		1,272,566
Total charity funds			42,846,919		39,757,609

The financial statements have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Approved by the Board of Trustees for issue on 5 October 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Dr G Bryce
Chair

R Kennedy
Treasurer

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net movements in funds for the year		3,089,310	6,251,183
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Proceeds on disposal of fixed assets		-	(21,000)
Depreciation and amortisation	10	220,021	107,366
Dividends and interest from investments	4	(553,578)	(627,815)
Investment revaluations	11	(594,420)	(3,662,107)
		2,161,333	2,047,627
Working capital adjustments			
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	14	2,968	174
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	15	(680,733)	104,984
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	16	105,024	30,518
Net cash flow from operations		1,588,592	2,183,303
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends and interest from investments		553,578	627,815
Proceeds on disposal of fixed assets		-	21,000
Purchase of fixed assets	10	(7,393,363)	(143,759)
Acquisition of investments	11/13	(2,653,689)	(2,106,897)
Investment disposals	11	1,804,012	1,660,590
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		(7,689,462)	58,749
Cash flows from financing activities			
Loan repayments received		2,483,835	328,015
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities		2,483,835	328,015
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(3,617,035)	2,570,067
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		10,260,432	7,690,365
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		6,643,397	10,260,432
Cash & Cash equivalents reconciliation:			
Cash at bank		4,242,159	9,819,621
Cash held by investment manager	11	2,401,238	440,811
Total cash & cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		6,643,397	10,260,432

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of accounting

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in the United Kingdom under the Companies Act. The maximum liability of each member is limited to £1. The address of the registered office is given on page 1. The nature of the charity's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Trustees report on pages 3-17.

The financial statements have been prepared in £ sterling on the historical cost basis and in accordance with accounting and reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts 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)) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The accounts are prepared for the company alone. The company has a dormant subsidiary, and consolidated accounts are not presented as the charity has taken advantage of the exemption provided by S405(2) of the Companies Act 2006 on the grounds of immateriality.

1.2 Income

Income from donations is recognised on a cash basis, in the year in which the income is physically received, except when the donors specify that they must be used in future accounting periods or donors conditions have not been fulfilled, then the income is deferred.

Bequests and legacies are included when entitlement is established, it is probable that the amount will be received, and the amount receivable can be estimated with sufficient accuracy. Where conditions for recognition have not been met, the legacies are disclosed in note 2.

Income from grants is recognised in the year in which they are receivable. Grants without performance conditions are presented within donations and legacies and within charitable activities when performance criteria apply.

Trading activity income from lottery receipts is recognised when the draw for the relevant week is made. Any amounts received prior to the draw being made are deferred.

Income from trading activities, other than lottery income, is included in the period in which the company is entitled to receipt.

Income from investments constitutes dividends and bank interest and is recognised in the year to which it relates.

1.3 **Expenditure**

Resources expended are recognised on the accruals basis to match the period in which the expenditure was incurred, inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered. These include both costs associated with both charitable activity and those which relate to governance arrangements and the general running of the charity.

1.4 **Donated services**

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the unpaid volunteer time is not recognised in the financial statements. Refer to the Trustee Directors' Report for more information about their contribution.

1.5 **Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Short leasehold improvements	10 years straight line
Freehold land and buildings	50 years straight line
Medical equipment	4 – 5 years straight line
Fixtures & fittings	10 years straight line
Computer equipment	3 years straight line
Motor vehicles	7 years straight line
Aircraft	10 years straight line

Fixed assets costing less than £5,000 are not capitalised.

1.6 **Investments**

Fixed asset investments comprise investment portfolios maintained by investment managers. These are recognised initially at fair value which is normally the transaction price (but excludes any transaction costs.) Subsequently, investments are held at market value, with all realised and unrealised gains passing through the SOFA.

Non-current asset investments are cash deposits with a maturity date of more than one year from the balance sheet date. These are recognised at the deposit amount plus any interest, with any interest gains passing through the SOFA when falling due.

Current asset investments are cash deposits with a maturity date of less than one year from the balance sheet date. These are recognised at the deposit amount plus any interest, with any interest gains passing through the SOFA when falling due.

1.7 **Stock**

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making allowances for obsolete and slow moving stock.

1.8 **Non-current assets - debtors**

Non-current assets debtors are programme related investments, made through a loan to an unconnected company. The loan has been measured at the amount paid, with the carrying amount adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments and any accrued interest, adjusted for any necessary impairment.

1.9 **Debtors**

Accrued income is recognised at the settlement amount due and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

1.10 **Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand comprise cash on hand and call deposits with a maturity of less than three months, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

1.11 **Creditors**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at their settlement amount.

1.12 **Pensions**

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable by the Charity during the year in accordance with FRS 17.

1.13 **Operating lease rentals**

Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred over the term of the lease. The charity has operating leases for the premises in which they operate, as well as motor, office equipment leases. The title of the leased premises and equipment remains with the lessor.

1.14 **Foreign currencies**

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recorded in the charity's functional currency by applying the spot exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. All differences are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities and presented within charitable activities expenditure.

1.15 **Taxation**

As a registered charity, the company is not liable to corporation tax to the extent that income and gains are applied to charitable activities.

1.16 **Financial Instruments**

The charity only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and liabilities of the charity and their measurements are as follows:

Financial assets – trade, other debtors and loans (programme related investment) are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 19. Investment portfolios are basic financial instruments measured at fair value through the income and expenditure account. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Cash at bank and deposit accounts– is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 19. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

2. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £
Donations	1,326,403	-	1,326,403	845,243	2,381	847,624
Legacies	3,375,363	-	3,375,363	2,296,300	-	2,296,300
Collecting boxes	191,629	-	191,629	181,362	-	181,362
Gift aid	101,500	-	101,500	85,971	-	85,971
Exceptional government funding						
Other Covid Grants	-	-	-	380,977	-	380,977
	4,994,895	-	4,994,895	3,789,853	2,381	3,792,234

As at the year end, the charity had been notified of material legacies which have not been included in the Statement of Financial Activities due to the conditions for recognition not being met. These consist of 13 legacies totalling approximately £853,005 (2021: 23 legacies totalling approximately £1,626,637).

3. Trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £
Lottery	4,496,133	-	4,496,133	4,476,911	-	4,476,911
Birthday draw	280,800	-	280,800	330,740	-	330,740
Other fundraising & sponsorship	1,502	-	1,502	340	-	340
Sale of merchandise	8,056	-	8,056	4,191	-	4,191
Events income	45,512	-	45,512	(1,088)	-	(1,088)
Profit on sale of fixed assets	-	-	-	12,853	-	12,853
	4,832,003	-	4,832,003	4,823,947	-	4,823,947

Income received for the lottery totalling £501,384 (2021: £511,183) has been deferred and is recognised at the date the relevant draw takes place.

4. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £
Dividends receivable	316,648	-	316,648	280,041	-	280,041
Interest receivable from banks/deposits	160,910	-	160,910	220,456	-	220,456
Loan interest receiveable	76,020	-	76,020	127,318	-	127,318
	553,578	-	553,578	627,815	-	627,815

5. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £
Lottery prizes	89,570	-	89,570	90,597	-	90,597
Staff salaries	325,951	-	325,951	298,473	-	298,473
Commission	343,363	-	343,363	312,413	-	312,413
Rental of computer system	6,240	-	6,240	6,240	-	6,240
Lottery office costs	25,908	-	25,908	25,276	-	25,276
Beeline	70,312	-	70,312	72,383	-	72,383
Bank charges	38,629	-	38,629	29,796	-	29,796
Function costs	2,654	-	2,654	50	-	50
Collection tins	1,026	-	1,026	1,079	-	1,079
Goods purchased for resale	7,351	-	7,351	3,249	-	3,249
Investment management costs	109,001	-	109,001	113,393	-	113,393
	1,020,005	-	1,020,005	952,949	-	952,949

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £
Helicopter costs						
Helicopter costs	3,529,435	-	3,529,435	3,109,281	-	3,109,281
Critical care team	2,158,811	-	2,158,811	1,618,262	-	1,618,262
Medical equipment	124,769	-	124,769	188,236	-	188,236
Airbase costs	43,546	-	43,546	64,081	-	64,081
Paramedic training	200,740	-	200,740	160,721	-	160,721
Travel & subsistence	13,412	-	13,412	5,105	-	5,105
Car hire	4,202	-	4,202	4,179	-	4,179
Foreign currency loss/(gain)	(15)	-	(15)	8	-	8
VAT reclaimed	(98,679)	-	(98,679)	(70,172)	-	(70,172)
	5,976,221	-	5,976,221	5,079,701	-	5,079,701
Support & governance costs						
Wages and salaries	391,536	-	391,536	273,684	-	273,684
Accommodation	16,168	-	16,168	13,253	-	13,253
Print and stationery	6,341	-	6,341	3,146	-	3,146
Postage	4,924	-	4,924	4,740	-	4,740
Telephone	9,630	-	9,630	8,966	-	8,966
Vehicle insurance	1,098	-	1,098	1,092	-	1,092
Office equipment and maintenance	18,922	-	18,922	18,276	-	18,276
Publicity	8,630	-	8,630	129	-	129
Beeline	70,312	-	70,312	72,383	-	72,383
Insurance	18,622	-	18,622	18,257	-	18,257
Legal and professional	11,052	-	11,052	1,458	-	1,458
Training costs	3,905	-	3,905	468	-	468
Recruitment	21,530	-	21,530	479	-	479
Bank charges	14,577	-	14,577	20,070	-	20,070
Subscriptions	10,708	-	10,708	9,072	-	9,072
Health and safety	1,728	-	1,728	1,714	-	1,714
Depreciation	220,021	-	220,021	107,366	-	107,366
IT costs and website	49,156	-	49,156	55,733	2,894	58,627
Audit and accountancy	10,500	-	10,500	9,090	-	9,090
	889,360	-	889,360	619,376	2,894	622,270
	6,865,581	-	6,865,581	5,699,077	2,894	5,701,971

7. Net incoming resources/operating surplus

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation of owned assets	220,021	107,366
(Profit)/loss on sale of fixed assets	-	(12,853)
Auditors' remuneration for:		
Audit services	8,500	7,090
Accountancy services	2,000	2,000

8. Trustee directors

None of the Trustee Directors (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the current or prior year. No Trustee Directors were reimbursed any costs during the year (2021: One reimbursed travelling expenses of £273).

9. Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly head count was 20 staff (2021: 19 staff) and the average number of full-time equivalent employees (including casual and part-time staff) during the year was as follows:

	2022	2021
Chief Executive	1	1
Lottery staff	3	3
Fundraising staff	4	4
Management and admin staff	9	7
	17	15

Employment costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	603,783	482,075
Social security costs	54,826	40,890
Other pension costs	58,878	49,192
	717,487	572,157

9. Employees (cont.)

The number of employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more were:

	2022 number	2021 number
£60,000 - £70,000	2	1

These employees are a member of the defined contribution pension scheme, into which contributions of £27,515 (2021: £17,046) were made.

The key management personnel of the charity are considered to be the Chief Executive Officer, The Deputy Chief Executive (from 1 April 2021), the Finance Manager and the Lottery Manager. The total costs to the charity of employee benefits for the key management personnel were £260,335 (2021: £231,467).

Volunteers contribute unpaid time to fundraising activities. Due to extended periods of lockdown and other restrictions, volunteers have been extremely limited in their direct support to fundraising during the majority of the year. They have, however, provided some administrative assistance, where this could be provided from home. This has not been included in the financial statements in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Defined contribution pension scheme

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the scheme and amounted to £58,878 (2021: £49,192).

Contributions totalling £10,007 (2021: £6,829) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Short leasehold improvements	Freehold Land & Buildings	Medical Equipment	Fixtures & Fittings	Computer Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Aircraft	Total
Cost	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
At 1 April 2021	301,677	597,805	419,957	35,763	40,569	-	-	1,395,771
Additions	-	-	8,154	-	-	82,466	7,302,743	7,393,363
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2022	301,677	597,805	428,111	35,763	40,569	82,466	7,302,743	8,789,134
Depreciation								
At 1 April 2021	108,573	30,886	249,715	33,241	40,569	-	-	462,984
Charge for the year	30,325	11,956	61,824	582	-	8,836	106,498	220,021
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2022	138,898	42,842	311,539	33,823	40,569	8,836	106,498	683,005
Net book value								
At 31 March 2022	162,779	554,963	116,572	1,940	-	73,630	7,196,245	8,106,129
At 1 April 2021	193,104	566,919	170,242	2,522	-	-	-	932,787

11. Investments

	2022	2021
	£	£
Listed shares	20,183,927	16,240,400
Cash held by investment manager	2,401,238	440,811
Shares in subsidiary undertaking	1	1
	22,585,166	16,681,212

Listed shares	2022	2021
	£	£
Market value		
At 1 April 2021	16,240,400	12,345,568
Additions	5,153,119	1,893,315
Disposals	(1,804,012)	(1,660,590)
Revaluation	594,420	3,662,107
At 31 March 2022	20,183,927	16,240,400

	2022	2021
	£	£
Historical cost		
At 1 April 2021	13,586,443	13,130,909
Additions	5,140,636	1,900,300
Disposals	(1,457,012)	(1,445,158)
Other movements	-	392
At 31 March 2022	17,270,067	13,586,443

Shares in subsidiary undertaking

Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance (Trading) Limited was incorporated on 19 October 1999 as a wholly owned trading subsidiary of The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity. The parent charity holds 100% of the issued share capital and 100% of the voting rights of the subsidiary trading company. The company became dormant on 31 March 2013.

The profit for the year was £nil (2021: £nil) and the balance sheet total was £1 (2021: £1).

12. Non-current assets - Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Loan - programme related investment	-	2,139,789

During 2017 the charity provided an initial loan of £3,433,400 to a company to facilitate the purchase of a helicopter for exclusive use by the charity. The loan attracts an interest rate of 4.779% and security is in place in the form of a second mortgage over the asset. The loan is being repaid over 10 years, with the final repayment due in January 2027. During the year the charity acquired ownership of the helicopter. The loan was therefore repaid in full as part of the acquisition process. At 31 March 2022, £nil was outstanding (2021: £2,483,835), of which £nil is due within one year (2021: £344,046), and £nil in more than one year (2021: £2,139,789).

13. Investments

	2022	2021
	£	£
Fixed rate cash held on deposit	7,714,152	10,213,582
Split as:		
Non-current asset investment (due > 1 year)	2,169,420	5,390,934
Current asset investment (due < 1 year)	5,544,732	4,822,648
	7,714,152	10,213,582

Investments are split in the statutory accounts based on maturity date.

14. Stocks

	2022	2021
	£	£
Goods for resale	13,621	16,589

15. Debtors

	Note	2022	2021
		£	£
Other debtors		423,570	88,547
Loan - programme related investment	12	-	344,046
Prepayments and accrued income		745,492	399,782
		1,169,062	832,375

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Deferred income: lottery receipts	501,384	511,183
Other creditors	88,003	79,297
Accruals	379,830	276,736
Amounts owed to group undertakings	1	1
Taxation and social security	14,152	11,129
	983,370	878,346

Reconcilation of deferred income : Lottery receipts

Opening balance	511,183	490,602
Received during the year	4,486,334	4,497,492
Released during the year	(4,496,133)	(4,476,911)
Closing balance	501,384	511,183

17. Summary of movement in funds

	Opening balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gain/(loss) on Investments & transfers £	Closing balance £
Unrestricted funds					
General	38,485,043	10,380,476	(7,885,586)	335,447	41,315,380
Fair Value Reserve	1,272,566	-	-	258,973	1,531,539
	39,757,609	10,380,476	(7,885,586)	594,420	42,846,919
	39,757,609	10,380,476	(7,885,586)	594,420	42,846,919

Summary of movement in funds – 2021

	Opening balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gain/(loss) on Investments & transfers £	Closing balance £
Unrestricted funds					
General	33,506,426	9,241,615	(6,652,026)	2,389,028	38,485,043
Fair Value Reserve	-	-	-	1,272,566	1,272,566
	33,506,426	9,241,615	(6,652,026)	3,661,594	39,757,609
Restricted funds					
Air Ambulance UK	-	2,381	(2,894)	513	-
	-	2,381	(2,894)	513	-
	33,506,426	9,243,996	(6,654,920)	3,662,107	39,757,609

Summary of movement in funds (continued)

- The fair value reserve is an accumulation of unrealised gains and losses, being the difference between market value and the cost of investments.
- Air Ambulance UK was received towards the items to allow employees to work from home due to Covid-19.

Where transfers have been made out of funds, they relate to the purchase of fixed assets, which is taken to discharge the restriction.

18. Analysis of assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £
Tangible fixed assets	8,106,129	-	8,106,129	932,787	-	932,787
Fixed asset investments	22,585,166	-	22,585,166	16,681,212	-	16,681,212
Non-current assets	2,169,420	-	2,169,420	7,530,723	-	7,530,723
Net current assets	9,986,204	-	9,986,204	14,612,887	-	14,612,887
	42,846,919	-	42,846,919	39,757,609	-	39,757,609

19. Financial instruments

Categorisation of financial instruments

	2022 £	2021 £
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account	22,585,166	16,681,212
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	12,648,734	22,910,401
	35,233,900	39,591,613
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	457,826	349,205

Item of income, expenditure, gain or losses

2022	Income £	Expense £	Net gains £	Net losses £
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account	316,648	-	594,420	-
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	236,930	-	-	-
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	-	-	-	-
	553,578	-	594,420	-

2021	Income £	Expense £	Net gains £	Net losses £
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account	280,041	-	3,662,107	-
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	347,774	-	-	-
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	-	-	-	-
	627,815	-	3,662,107	-

20. Financial commitments

At 31 March 2022 the charity was committed to making the following payments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	2022	2021
Land and Buildings	**£**	**£**
Expiry date:		
Within one year	-	-
Between two and five years	-	-
Other		
Expiry date:		
Within one year	733,264	613,506
Between two and five years	-	1,734
	733,264	615,240

21. Related parties

There were no related party transactions during the year (2021: none).

THE DORSET AND SOMERSET AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1078685

Accounts

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity

(A Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Company Number: 03893356
Charity Registered in England and Wales Number: 1078685

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
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For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
Reference and Administrative Details
For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Trustee Directors	Dr G Bryce (Chair) M Gallagher S Jones R Kennedy H Nobbs A Phillips R Popper D Senior G Taylor
Secretary	C Launchbury
Chief Executive Officer	W Sivewright
Deputy Chief Executive	J Plowden (from 1 April 2021)
Finance Manager	C Routley J Plowden (until 31 March 2021)
Lottery Manager	C Guy
Charity Number	1078685
Company Number	03893356
Principal Address and Registered Office	Landacre House Castle Road Chelston Business Park Wellington Somerset TA21 9JQ
Auditors	Albert Goodman LLP Goodwood House Blackbrook Park Avenue Taunton Somerset TA1 2PX
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc South West RCSC 740 Waterside Drive, Aztec West Almondsbury, BS99 5BD Virgin Money Jubilee House Gosforth Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 4PL Aldermore 6th Floor, The Monument Building 11 Monument Street London, EX3R 8AF

Cambridge & Countries Bank
Charnwood Court
5B New Walk
Leicester, LE1 6TE

Cambridge Building Society
PO Box 232
51 Newmarket Road
Cambridge, CB5 8FF

Close Brothers Treasury
4th Floor, 10 Crown Place
London, EA2A 4FT

Hampshire Trust Bank
Savings
PO Box 74003
London, EC2P 2QR

Hodge Bank
One Central Square
Cardiff, CF10 1FS

Saffron Building Society
Saffron House
1a Market Street
Saffron Walden
Essex, CB10 1HX

United Trust Bank Limited
One RopeMaker Street
London, EC2Y 9AW

Investment Advisors

Brewin Dolphin
Vantage Point
Woodwater Park
Pynes Hill
Exeter, Devon, EX2 5FD

Rathbones Investment Management
The Senate, Southernhay Gardens
Exeter, Devon, EX1 1UG

Smith & Williamson
Portwall Place
Portwall Lane
Bristol, BS1 6NA

The Trustees, who are also directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Charity's governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS 102- implemented 1 January 2019).

The full name of the Charity is The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity**.** It was incorporated 13 December 1999 as a company limited by guarantee. Its company registration number is 03893356. Its Charity registration number is 1078685. The registered office is Landacre House, Castle Road, Chelston Business Park, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 9JQ.

References and Administrative Details

Administrative information is given in a separate section at the front of these accounts.

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the Company are the Charity's trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

The Trustees serving during the year and since the year-end are as follows:

- Dr G Bryce (Chair)
- M Gallagher
- S Jones
- R Kennedy
- H Nobbs
- A Phillips
- R Popper
- D Senior
- G Taylor

None of the Trustees have any beneficial interest in the Company. All of the Trustees are members of the Company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Structure Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity (DSAA) is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by a memorandum and articles of association. It has a dormant subsidiary company, Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance (Trading) Limited (Company registration number 03861464).

The Board

DSAA is controlled by a Board of Trustees embracing a balanced spectrum of skills and experience including healthcare, aviation, legal, business, finance, the Armed Forces, charities and local affairs. The Charity follows a defined protocol for the recruitment of new Trustees which facilitates both personal referrals and professional recruitment. Regardless of how the potential trustee is introduced to the Charity, they must follow the defined protocol. The protocol enables both Trustees and candidates to make proper assessments before appointment. Trustees are appointed in accordance with the DSAA constitution, in line with a defined procedure and fulfil their responsibilities in accordance with clearly defined and approved Terms of Reference. The Board comprises a Chair and up to twelve other trustees. It has two sub committees responsible respectively for staffing and remuneration and finance. It is policy to maintain a balance in county representation on the Board.

In line with the Charity Governance Code recommendation "…an external evaluation every three years...", the Charity commissioned a comprehensive independent review of its governance structure and its policy framework during 2019. The purpose of the review was to develop best practise against nationally recognised benchmarks, provide an opportunity to stop and reflect as part of continued development and to strengthen governance practise further. The review concluded that the Charity has "hugely impressive Governance". Despite the very positive findings of the review, a number of areas of governance have been further improved during the year and in February 2021, the Trustees conducted a workshop to review and confirm the specific areas of trustee recruitment, decision-making and appraisal.

The Board maintains close liaison with Southwestern Ambulance Services NHS Foundation Trust (SWASFT) on all aspects of medical provision and governance and with Specialist Aviation Services on all aviation matters. These two bodies are directly involved in the operational governance of all charitable activities and, through the executive, provide the Board with professional advice on all operational matters.

Risk Management

The principal risks to which the Charity is exposed are set out in its Risk Management Strategy which is supported by a Risk Matrix which includes all identified risks. The matrix presents a high-level overview of the identified risks' status, including the probability and impact of occurrence, mitigation measures and the person responsible for managing the risk. The Strategy is reviewed by the Executive on an annual basis and by the Board on a three-yearly cycle unless there has been a significant change. The Risk Matrix is reviewed quarterly, at each meeting of the Board, newly identified risks are added and risk levels reviewed. In this way the Board maintains oversight of identified risks and is can satisfy itself that proper measures and systems are in place to mitigate or eliminate those risks and that appropriate insurance cover is obtained. The frequency of this review ensures that trends can be identified early and that contemporary external issues that might affect the risk status for the Charity can be considered and addressed in a timely fashion.

Employees and Volunteers

The Charity is managed by full and part-time staff of 19 (15 full time equivalent), including 4 fundraisers. The day-to-day management of the charity and its finances is delegated to the key management personnel, who the Trustees consider to be the Chief Executive Officer, the Deputy Chief Executive Officer/Finance Managers (Job Share) and the Lottery Manager.

Remuneration of Key Personnel

The Staffing and Remuneration Committee, consisting of the Chair and 2 Trustees, is responsible to the Board for an annual review of the staffing levels, contracted terms of engagement and remuneration levels of all salaried staff of DSAA. Salary levels for all staff are considered in line with regional and sector norms set against the levels of responsibility expected within a role. The Committee also reviews benefits that affect volunteers, such as mileage allowance. The Committee considers the annual pay review in line with the draft annual budget for the Charity and makes recommendations to the Board.

Use of Volunteers

The Charity is extremely well supported by 118 volunteers. They normally perform a wide range of invaluable duties on behalf of the Charity including giving talks, supporting events and manning information/merchandise stalls.

However, during the year, restrictions on movement and group gatherings have meant that our volunteer activity has been severely restricted. However, where appropriate, some volunteers have assisted with administrative tasks that they have been able to conduct at home.

We believe that our volunteers represent much more than just a "labour source". They are our eyes, ears and voices in the communities we serve. Their interaction with others in their communities helps to raise awareness and boost support for the Charity across Dorset and Somerset. They also provide us with an excellent feedback mechanism, helping us to shape our approach to volunteering, fundraising and general operations.

To support them in this role, and recognising that many fall into vulnerable categories, we have maintained contact by telephone and email throughout the long periods of lockdown. This has helped to sustain their morale, update them on any changes taking place and to prepare them for the task ahead when the Charity is once again out and about, face to face fundraising.

STRATEGIC REVIEW

Objectives and Activities

The Charity's object and its principal activity is the relief of sickness and injury and the protection of human life principally (but not exclusively) by the provision and support of an air ambulance service for the benefit of the population of Dorset and Somerset. The vision for the Charity is to provide the maximum patient benefit by delivering a highly effective, clinically excellent and financially secure air ambulance service in the Southwest Region.



DSAA Model for Patient-Focused Care – P Hyde

The model above shows how, within the overall context of the clinical governance of SWASFT, DSAA provides clinical governance aspects in the 'blue' layer and these inform much of the work conducted in the 'green layer'. Importantly, patients and families remain at the centre of all thinking and the Charity's values wrap around everything we do.

Assessment of success of the clinical strategy is complex and requires careful examination of both empirical data and patient outcomes. There are currently no national criteria of pre-hospital clinical performance against which DSAA can be measured. However, our clinicians are working with the other air ambulances both regionally and nationally to resolve this issue. In the meantime, the level of demand for our clinical service from other health professionals (Ambulance Service Paramedics and NHS Hospital Trust Consultants, et al) is at least an indicator of success since it points to professional trust of the standard of DSAA clinical delivery.

Unfortunately, using NHS systems of reporting alone, provides no clear patient outcome data that reflects the care given in the pre-hospital environment. To overcome this, the Charity uses the PHEMnet clinical database system to assist with analysis, audit and research. Also, to further resolve patient outcomes, DSAA has 2 Patient and Family Liaison Support Nurses to follow patients' progress after their treatment by DSAA and feedback into the Charity.

Our long-term aim remains to advocate for patients in the pre-hospital environment by facilitating greater cooperative working with all agencies involved in patientcare across the South West. This includes providing support to road safety, accident prevention and health promotion initiatives in an effort to reduce the number of avoidable calls on the Critical Care Team. DSAA dove tails injury and illness prevention messages into the core of Charity activity. The Charity has developed a specific prevention part of the DSAA website and ensured that each edition of the Charity's magazine, Beeline has prevention messaging embedded both for trauma and cardiac disease. The prevention activity of DSAA staff has been well highlighted through DSAA communications. Also, DSAA's collaboration with Docbike, a motorcycle safety charity founded by one of the Charity's doctors, continues to strengthen. This year, one of our practitioners has also launched an initiative aimed at reducing the number of victims of agricultural incidents through raising awareness and education. This is directly supported by our communications and fundraising teams.



It remains our ambition to extend our current 19/7 service to 24/7 in time. Our analysis shows that there is an unmet need that this change would help to reduce. However, consistent with our approach to all developments, we will only step forward once we are certain that the development will deliver and can be sustained.

Specialist Aviation Services provide a full aviation service managed through a contract that came into effect on 1 April 2017. The contract encompasses the provision of the helicopter (including backup), pilots and engineers to support day to day operations as well as full maintenance and logistic support. SWASFT, through its statutory authority, is responsible for tasking the helicopter. Support to the Charity is managed through 2 Service Level Agreements (SLA). The first SLA covers the provision of 18 Paramedics and Nurses (7.2 are paid for by SWASFT) and associated equipment, support and maintenance. This forms part of the core capability of the Charity's clinical provision. The second SLA is for the provision of specialist Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) tasking to ensure that air ambulances are sent to the most appropriate incidents. The HEMS tasking provision is funded equally by the five air ambulance charities operating in the SWASFT area. The Charity's clinical activities include significant governance supervision, events and training. However, overall clinical governance of the Charity's operations is retained by SWASFT.

The Charity has complied with the duty in section 17 of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission, including public benefit guidance, when reviewing our aim and objectives and in planning our future activities. Trustees are also mindful of the Charity Commission's requirement that they be "informed by, but not directed by, the ambulance service".

Public Benefit

DSAA responds only to incidents having been tasked by the HEMS specialist tasking team in the SWASFT Dispatch Centre. This ensures that it attends incidents across Dorset and Somerset and, at times beyond its borders, according to where it can deliver best effect. The Charity delivers its service to patients, regardless of age, according to clinical priority and without discrimination.

The continued development of its clinical provision requires the Charity to consider other players in the emergency support to patients. The crews now run regular cross-training exercises with members of the Maritime Coastguard Agency Search and Rescue teams, the Police and Fire Services, road-based elements of SWASFT and Emergency Departments of our local NHS Hospital Trusts.

In doing so it has demonstrated its patient-focus and benefit to every segment of the population resident in and transiting through both counties and around their borders.

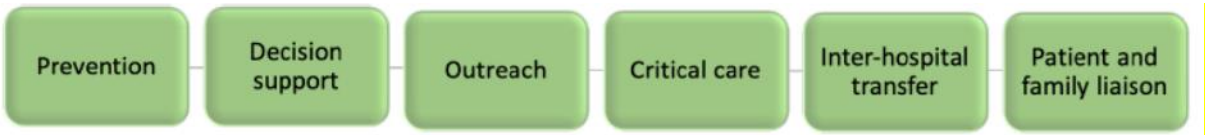
Achievements and Performance

The Charity has been heavily affected by the restrictions and complications associated with the Covid-19 crisis. However, DSAA has avoided some of the financial losses forecast in many other parts of the third sector. This is in due to a favourable outcome in invested reserves, a very successful telephone campaign to increase our lottery membership, 2 very strong responses to our Summer and Christmas Raffle and a welcome increase in legacy funding.

Although voluntary fundraising through events and collection boxes has, for obvious reasons, fallen dramatically for the period of this report, we are confident that the ending of restrictions will see a sharp turnaround in these areas. This confidence is based on our knowledge and understanding of our historically loyal supporter-base and the positive recognition of how well we responded to the clinical needs of patients throughout the year.

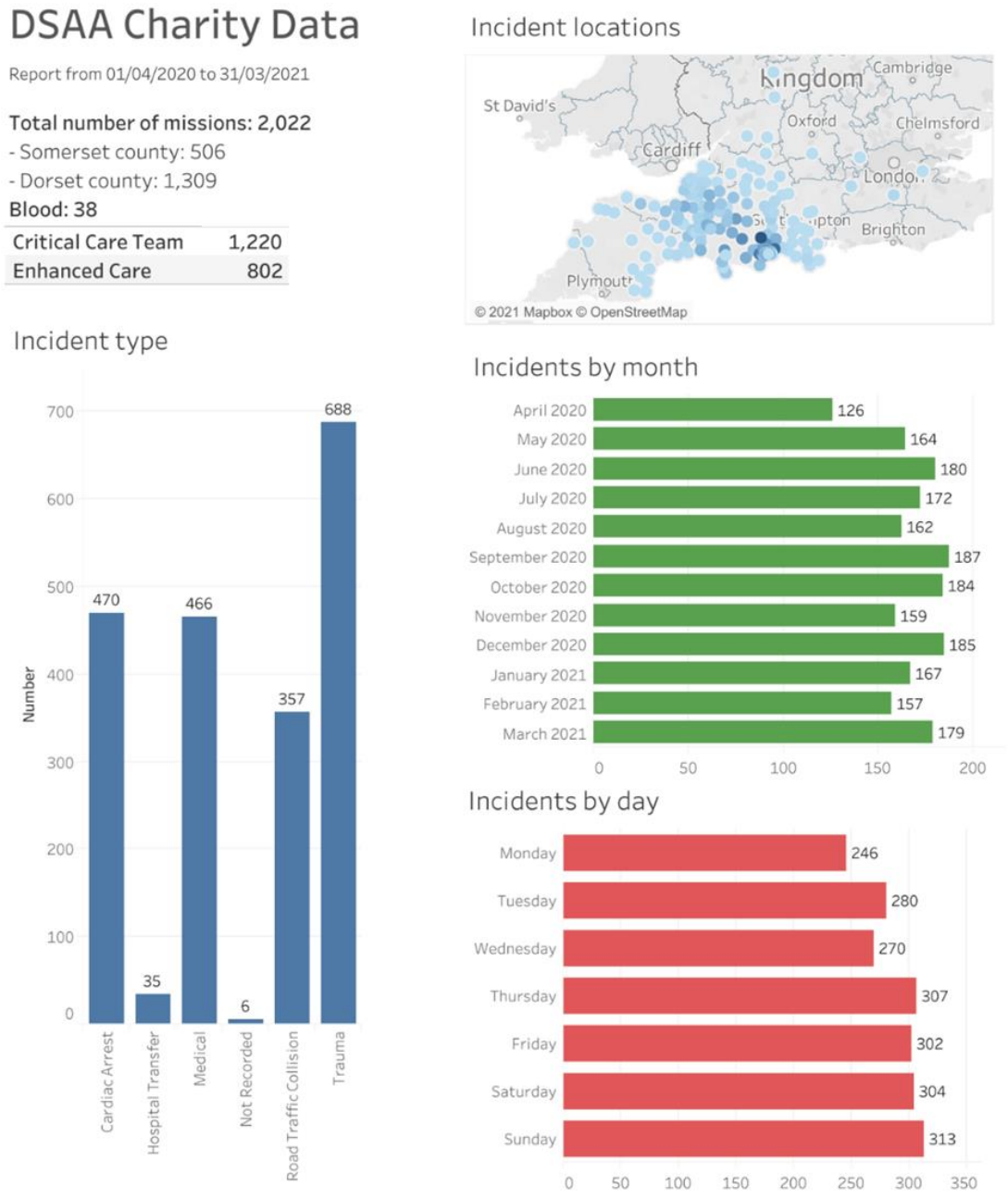
Operations

During the period covered by this report much has changed and the service being delivered by Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance has continued to move forward. Many of the elements within the our pathway of care have now linked together working towards a more complete package.



DSAA Clinical Services Pathway of Care

Figure 1 - Annual Delivery Figures for 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021



During the period of this report, Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance (DSAA) were activated to 2,022 incidents. That is similar to the previous year's tasking and up on the years prior to that. The key change that has affected this metric is the deployment of an Outreach Response Car (ORC) in Dorset.

Outreach Response Cars (ORC)

The role of the ORC is to raise awareness of the patient benefit that can be derived from the timely delivery of critical care to other health professionals. Delivering this outreach function is done through the practical delivery of an enhanced care response to patients in the area.

The Dorset ORC responded to 802 incidents during the year. Manned by one of our Critical Care Practitioners, patients now have access to an enhanced level of care that a normal road ambulance crew is unable to deliver. On scene, our practitioner will either treat the patient alone or more often work with a road ambulance crew to assist the patient. If he/she assesses that the patient requires critical care, they can advise SWASFT and our Critical Care Team on the helicopter. Of course, it is impossible to cover both counties with enhanced care cars through the road network in a timely fashion. However, we are planning to add a Somerset ORC to our service in 2021.

Critical care

The figures for the year might well have been higher but for the effect of the Pandemic. Numbers of incidents were supressed by a combination of factors including the restriction of movement across the population and the extended times required to deal with individual incidents due to virus protection measures.

We were called to fewer trauma incidents but those involving in road traffic collisions, for example, tended to be more serious. This is likely due to quieter roads and higher speeds, but we do not yet sufficient evidence to confirm that view.

Also, although the tasking to Covid patients was not as high as had been expected, all had to be treated as though positive with regards to the donning of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE). The burden on our crew of this mode of operation should not be understated. Full PPE presents significant challenges to those dealing with patients. It can be incredibly hot, gloves masks and eye protection degrade touch, sight, and communication. Dealing with these factors whilst trying to treat a patient or fly an aircraft is particularly demanding and can be extremely stressful. Our crews deserve all our praise and gratitude for the incredible way in which they have sustained our service to patients throughout the year.

We have been fortunate to benefit from considerable support from both SAS and SWASFT. Whether this was through innovation in design changes to both the aircraft and equipment, or through simplified logistics and the provision of alternative supplies of PPE, the list is endless. Due to the close working relationship with SWASFT, DSAA did not suffer from the PPE supply-chain anxieties felt by many other organisations. One of the key lessons of the last 18 months has been that we can deliver more and better in collaboration with others.

Having much of the management overhead associated with effective clinical and aviation governance held outside of the Charity enabled our personnel to focus on the front-line aspects of delivery and sustaining our service throughout the most testing of times. The trust that our close collaboration engenders with our NHS partners was undoubtedly a factor in their decision to leave their personnel with the Charity rather than withdraw them to their respective NHS Trusts despite being under significant pressure themselves.

We believe that our strategy of outsourcing these key governance aspects, overlayed with very close collaboration and internal scrutiny were key to DSAA successfully delivering its full service plus adding additional resources to the national effort to deal with the pressures of the pandemic on the NHS more widely.

Inter-Hospital transfer

In addition to the routine, day to day tasking of HEMS missions, DSAA also delivered critical care teams to facilitate the movements of desperately sick Covid patients between hospitals to avoid the NHS becoming overwhelmed in the hardest hit areas. This necessitated a standard and skillset that many other teams across the country can only aspire to. DSAA was able to deliver teams that had trained together, fully equipped, and capable of operating on a wide variety of platforms. As a result, DSAA conducted 12 transfers before being stood down; more than half of the national inter-regional effort.

During this same period, DSAA has become the only team within the South and Southwest permitted to transfer and retrieve paediatric patients through bespoke pathways between hospitals across the wider region and the specialist centres based at Southampton and Bristol. This capability has taken several years to develop and is testament to the determination of the Charity to deliver on its vision of clinical excellence and its robust framework for the selection, education, and training of its clinicians.

Operational Support Activity

Our Patient and Family Liaison Nurses (PLAS) have continued to build relationships with both patients, families and with the key elements of the care pathways. They have helped to improve understanding of patients and those closely affected by the care that is delivered. They are also providing high quality feedback to our clinicians on patient progress and professional feedback on the care delivered. This, of course, comes at a price; stretching their time and availability to the limit.

Our trial of psychological supervision program is now entering its 3rd year and although, this year, much of it has had to be delivered at a distance, it has provided a much-needed layer of support to the well-being of our crews and an excellent complement to the services available to all clinicians through their parent NHS Trusts. The program is due for formal review near the end of 2022.

A number of our clinicians now form the nucleus of a DSAA Research Team which is formally supported by a Professor and Lead Research Practitioner. Although still a relatively new initiative, we are hopeful that much of their work will be self-funding through a variety of research grant opportunities. We hope that our focused research will be able to inform some fundamental issues such as the benefits of pre-hospital critical care; what works and what doesn't.

Many of the developmental strands rely heavily on strong data support. For DSAA, our clinical data is captured and managed within PHEMNet. This system, which was originally developed in-house by DSAA and is now owned by a Community Interest Company, has successfully achieved NHS approval as well as full Cyber Essentials Plus accreditation. We hope that this will add weight to the argument for PHEMNet to become a national repository for pre-hospital data and which can then be used to turn the spotlight on an area where precious little formal research exists.

Aviation

During the year, we changed the terms of our SAS contract to increase the number of pilots (Captains) from 4 to 5 to provide a more resilient structure that would be less reliant on the SAS visiting pilot pool. We also changed the status of our SAS engineer to enable him to focus primarily on DSAA's day to day aviation engineering tasks rather than cover multiple bases.

Following a review of the increased demands on the flight crew, particularly when operating on full night vision systems we took the decision to move to a multi-pilot model. We hope that our 'First Officers' will begin to arrive in September 2021 and the change will be complete by February 2022.

We are cognisant of the disruptive aspect of these changes and of the potential for an aviator/clinician divide. In order to mitigate these effects, we are planning infrastructure changes at the base that will ensure that the symbiotic relationship between the 2 disciplines is maintained. We will also retain the policy of training every clinician as a Technical Crew Member (TCM) on appointment.

Despite the amazing developments that have taken place over the last year, DSAA clinical provision still faces a number of ongoing challenges, including the following:

- Accessing the unmet patient-need within current operating hours through improved tasking, outreach activity and inter-hospital transfers.
- Supporting our current patients and families through DSAA liaison.
- Sustaining and improving the standard of clinical care through robust and mature clinical governance and research.
- Continuing to attract clinicians of quality to replace those who have moved on.
- Sustaining the clinical team through developmental opportunities and psychological support.
- Rising to the challenge to provide equitable access to DSAA care across the 24-hour clock.
- Stopping the people of Dorset and Somerset becoming patients in the first place.

Fundraising

The Charity is committed to maintaining the highest standards of fundraising behaviour and is registered with the new Fundraising Regulator. All contracts with third parties associated with DSAA fundraising are set in line with the guidelines issued by the Fundraising Regulator. The Charity's fundraising policy promotes a very benign approach to voluntary fundraising; concentrating on achieving a high volume of smaller donations rather than a low volume of high value donors. To that end, we support individuals and groups who run events and activities on our behalf and only run one event, our Coast to Coast Cycle Challenge, directly.

This year has been the most challenging time for fundraising when faced with partial and total lockdown for most of the year. Fundraising across the charity sector has struggled with the COVID-19 pandemic, lockdown, and the legacy from this. With DSAA's fundraising team being based mainly at home in 2020 it has been about dealing with queries, online donations, and virtual contact with the community.

Despite these challenges it is to the credit of our wonderful fundraising volunteers and the team that support them, that our fundraising continued.

Volunteers and community supporters

We have 118 dedicated, inspiring volunteers essential to the success of the charity. They stayed by our side and continued to support us from afar. Even though 6 left during the year (through various circumstances) these are already replaced by new volunteers.

DSAA was committed to maintaining a support network for charity staff and volunteers with regular communications via zoom. Volunteer meetings have continued via Zoom or phone calls on a one-to-one basis. For those without access to electronic communications, or unable to attend, they have received updates by post and/or via our monthly internal communications bulletin.

Donations

As with all charities, our supporters were still fundraising for us albeit in difficult circumstances. The imagination of our supporters was incredible, raising funds in diverse, COVID-19 safe ways. There were virtual events, sponsored walks but one of the most charming was the young man (aged 14) camping out in a self-constructed WW2 war shelter for 4 months and raising £4,323.

We received £162,376 from 2076 individual donations. There were hundreds of sponsored events raising another £194,608.

Total donations amounted to £1,114,957 this financial year compared to £1,559,813 in the previous year. Even though there is a reduction we are delighted at the support we have been given and shows how much DSAA means to the communities in Dorset and Somerset.

Legacies

Legacy income this year was £2,296,300 up from £1,870,154 the previous year.

Charity Lottery

The Charity's lottery represents the single biggest component of our overall income. We manage the lottery in house but outsource the canvassing activity to a 3rd party canvassing provider. Our canvassers all go through a strict induction process and their behaviour is monitored by us with regular random compliance calls to new members. The whole canvassing team participate in half yearly training events, although this obviously did not happen last year, and they receive regular contact and updates from the charity.

With lockdown restrictions in place, our canvassing team were only able to work for 13 weeks during the year and therefore were unable to recruit our normal number of new members. Instead, we decided to undertake a telephone campaign, asking our current single ticket lottery players if they would like to take out a second weekly ticket. This proved to be very successful and by the end of the campaign, nearly 7,000 extra tickets had been sold, showing how our players were happy not only to continue but to increase their support for the charity.

The lottery's gross income for the year was £4,476,911 and although this was down £74,000 on FY20, the two additional seasonal raffles banked an amazing £330,740, £151,000 more than had been received the year before to ensure that this year's total income exceeded that of the previous year.

Charity of the Year

Our community fundraisers contacted businesses to offer support in the difficult climate. 50 Zoom presentations were hosted about the work of DSAA, engaging with new and existing supporters. This has created a positive legacy and meant that businesses have chosen us as their new charity of the year e.g. Rotary, Lions, golf clubs across the counties and Greenslade Taylor Hunt with its 16 offices. It has also seen some supporting businesses carry DSAA over for another year e.g. Taunton Marks and Spencer's and AC Mole and Sons.

Collection boxes and recycling banks

Staff serviced the collection boxes on a reactive basis. What was incredible is that money was still coming in. In Somerset alone, between June and October, we still received £19,000. This upcoming year will see us adding QR donation codes to our tins for those that do not carry cash. We received an income of approximately £120,000 over the financial year from textile recycling banks across Dorset and Somerset. In support of this revenue stream, volunteers were able to secure a further 6 sites for recycling banks.

Coast to coast

The annual Coast to Coast cycle challenge was cancelled in 2020 and then further postponed to 5th September 2021. Our target of £15,000 is on the way to being reached.

The recruitment of a Fundraising Manager and the return of the Dorset Community Fundraiser from maternity leave means the team is now complete. We are now looking forward to reinvigorating fundraising by creating new, exciting, simple fundraising ideas. Based on this last years' experience, we will try to create fundraising challenges that are accessible by all, possibly even from the comfort of one's own home. However, our key priority is to re-engage with our incredibly loyal supporters who have helped to keep our vital life-saving service to be there for those in need.

Investments

The investment objective for the long-term reserves is to generate a fund capable of providing an income in the future that will offset any possible risks to other income. The aim is to be able to provide at least 50% of operating costs (c£3.5m) from investment income from 2035 onwards. This means that the Charity seeks to produce the best financial return within an acceptable level of risk.

The investment objective for the short-term reserves is to preserve the capital value with a minimum level of risk. Assets should be readily available to meet unanticipated cash flow requirements. The Charity aims to build long term reserves to ultimately provide income to reduce dependence on fundraising initiatives.

In order to mitigate the risk of investments, the Charity's holdings are managed by three separate investment managers and an active cash management service. Whilst they are all instructed similarly as to the level of risk and ethical restrictions on investments, they deliver a diverse range of investments that is monitored by the Charity using a common set of criteria. This helps to identify possible areas of stronger/weaker performance and trigger questions to the investment managers directly. Diversification has helped to balance out the worst of market fluctuations and has achieved the overall investment objectives.

Future Plans

Increasing Critical Care availability

The Charity considers that at least 100 patients per year could benefit from the provision of its critical care service for 24 hours per day. The major limiting factor in achieving this goal is considered to be the lack of assured helicopter availability. It demands more reliable access to a second aircraft than is currently provided in our contracted backup arrangements. A number of models for providing such support are being explored for affordability. One of these includes the purchase of our existing helicopter. Although this would require significant capital expenditure, it would also reduce the Charity's liability for the lease cost of the platform. This approach was not considered appropriate at the time of the original procurement because of the potential risk of buying an new mark of aircraft that failed to succeed in the aviation market; it would leave the Charity with a very expensive asset that it might struggle to sell. The AW169 has now been in production for 5 years and has proven to be very popular. Hence, the earlier concerns have been reduced considerably.

Other plans for the future

Accessing those patients who can benefit from DSAA critical care but currently are not provided that opportunity by assisting with the development of better tasking and by continuing development of our Outreach programme with other health professionals.

Promoting clinical data to advocate for improvements in patient care through audit and research. This includes the provision of a DSAA Clinical Research Lead.

Advocating for patients across pathways of care into hospitals, including influencing developments in First Response and in Primary prevention of illness and injury.

Development of DSAA as a national training centre in pre-hospital emergency medicine for doctors.

Pilot the concept of training paramedics/nurses to become consultant practitioners in PHEM.

Financial Review

Transactions and Financial position

The Statement of Financial Activities shows a net movement in funds of £6,251,183 for the year (2020 - £875,206) and reserves stand at £39,757,609 all of which is unrestricted. The cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year stood at £9,819,621 with a further £10,213,582 in cash term deposits.

Tangible Fixed assets for use by the Charity

Details of the movements of fixed assets are set out in note 10 of the Accounts.

Investment Policy and Returns

The Charity has adopted an investment policy which minimises financial risk to the Charity, while producing potential for capital growth over the long term. Under the memorandum and articles of association, the Charity has the power to make any investment which the Trustees see fit.

The Charity has adopted an ethical investment policy to ensure that its investments do not conflict with its aims. For example, there is a proven link between disease and the consumption of alcohol and tobacco. Therefore, the Charity's ethical investment policy precludes direct or indirect investment in companies that generate more than 10% of revenues from alcohol or tobacco.

Trustees are also considering positive ethical investment in areas such as renewable energy.

Reserves policy

Reserves stand at £39,757,609 with no restrictions. The cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year stood at £9,819,621 with a further £10m in cash term deposits.

The Trustees have agreed that the Charity should maintain £500,000 in cash as a reserve to cover all known contractual liabilities and £500,000 retained to cover any demobilisation charge by Specialist Aviation Services. In order to ensure continuity in operations, the Charity has an option to 'buy out' the loan of the other investor in the aircraft, should they fail to meet their obligations. This requires the designation of £3.3m in 2018/19, reducing to £1.5m by 2027 at the end of the contract period.

The Charity is currently assessing the feasibility of proceeding to 24/7 operations. To provide resilience to the service the Charity would have to procure a second aircraft or at least assured access to one.

In considering the increasing pressure on fundraising and possible amendments to society lottery rules, Trustees have established an investment policy that seeks to grow unrestricted reserves to a level that could provide an income equal to 50% of the operational costs of the Charity from 2035.

With this in mind, the Trustees judge the financial position of the Charity to be satisfactory.

Risk

Much of the operational risk is managed in conjunction with SAS and SWASFT. The main risks to the Charity centre on reputational or financial issues. Although separate in nature, they are inextricably linked. Clearly, the reputation of the Charity in its ability to deliver its clinical service is vital to generating and maintaining donor support. Key financial risks reviewed by the Board of Trustees quarterly are: major loss of income due to competition for fundraising or changes in legislation, loss of donor confidence because of adverse publicity, loss of donor support due to perception of high reserves and loss of access to critical data.

Mitigation measures in place include:

- Networking with other charities across the area.
- Monitoring legislative developments.
- Adherence to fundraising codes of practice.
- Development of strategies to counter negative impacts on income.
- Cultivation and retention of effective media links.
- Maintenance of transparency.
- Demonstrating to the public that their donations are being well spent and well managed by being transparent in all communications.
- Not employing 'cold calling' telemarketing or sending unsolicited mail or email.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are directors of The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustee Directors' Report (incorporating the Directors' Report) and the financial statements in accordance with 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).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of 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 Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- 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 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 the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on 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.

Auditors

The auditors, Albert Goodman LLP, are deemed to be reappointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

By order of the Trustees.

Dr G Bryce
Chair
The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity

Date: 14th September 2021

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2021, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, 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 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources 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 charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors 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, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter 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 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 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
We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees
As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 17], 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.

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.

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:

The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud
Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, Charity Act 2011, Gambling commission registration, fundraising regulator registration, anti-bribery, employment, data protection 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 regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

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; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation, claims and breaches of relevant legislation; and
- reviewing correspondence with the Charity Commission and other relevant regulators including the company's legal advisors and insurers.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

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 and 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Michelle Ferris BSc (Hons) FCA DChA
Senior Statutory Auditor
for and on behalf of
Albert Goodman LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

Date: 21st September 2021

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unres-tricted £	Res-tricted £	2021 Total £	Unres-tricted £	Res-tricted £	2020 Total £
Income:							
Donations and legacies	2	3,789,853	2,381	3,792,234	3,429,497	470	3,429,967
Trading activities	3	4,823,947	-	4,823,947	4,796,506	-	4,796,506
Investment income	4	627,815	-	627,815	624,503	-	624,503
Total income		9,241,615	2,381	9,243,996	8,850,506	470	8,850,976
Expenditure:							
Raising funds	5	952,949	-	952,949	1,257,280	-	1,257,280
Charitable activities	6	5,699,077	2,894	5,701,971	5,124,265	950	5,125,215
Total expenditure		6,652,026	2,894	6,654,920	6,381,545	950	6,382,495
Net income before other recognised gains and losses		2,589,589	(513)	2,589,076	2,468,961	(480)	2,468,481
Net gain / (loss) on investments	11	3,662,107	-	3,662,107	(1,593,275)	-	(1,593,275)
Net income before transfers		6,251,696	(513)	6,251,183	875,686	(480)	875,206
Transfers	17	(513)	513	-	(480)	480	-
Net movement in funds for the year		6,251,183	-	6,251,183	875,206	-	875,206
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		33,506,426	-	33,506,426	32,631,220	-	32,631,220
Total funds carried forward		39,757,609	-	39,757,609	33,506,426	-	33,506,426

The statement of financial activities has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations. There were no gains or losses arising in the year that are not shown above.

The statement of financial activities incorporates the income and expenditure account.

Balance Sheet
As at 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	10	932,787		896,394	
Investments	11	16,681,212		12,834,224	
			17,613,999		13,730,618
Non-current assets					
Debtors	12	2,139,789		2,483,836	
Investments	13	5,390,934		6,000,000	
			7,530,723		8,483,836
Current assets					
Stock	14	16,589		16,763	
Debtors	15	832,375		921,327	
Investments	13	4,822,648		4,000,000	
Cash at bank and in hand		9,819,621		7,201,710	
		15,491,233		12,139,800	
Liabilities:					
Creditors falling due within one year	16	(878,346)		(847,828)	
Net current assets			14,612,887		11,291,972
Total net assets			39,757,609		33,506,426
The funds of the charity:					
Restricted funds	17		-		-
Unrestricted funds	17		38,485,043		33,506,426
Fair value reserve	17		1,272,566		-
Total charity funds			39,757,609		33,506,426

The financial statements have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Approved by the Board of Trustees for issue on 14th September 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Dr G Bryce
Chair

R Kennedy
Treasurer

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net movements in funds for the year		6,251,183	875,206
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Proceeds on disposal of fixed assets		(21,000)	-
Depreciation and amortisation	10	107,366	95,139
Dividends and interest from investments	4	(627,815)	(624,503)
Investment revaluations	11	(3,662,107)	1,593,275
		2,047,627	1,939,117
Working capital adjustments			
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	14	174	(1,793)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	15	104,984	(379,648)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	16	30,518	70,729
Net cash flow from operations		2,183,303	1,628,405
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends and interest from investments		627,815	624,503
Proceeds on disposal of fixed assets		21,000	-
Purchase of fixed assets	10	(143,759)	(58,736)
Acquisition of investments	11/13	(2,106,897)	(10,850,113)
Investment disposals	11	1,660,590	1,927,548
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		58,749	(8,356,798)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Loan repayments received		328,015	312,729
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities		328,015	312,729
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		2,570,067	(6,415,664)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		7,690,365	14,106,029
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		10,260,432	7,690,365
Cash & Cash equivalents reconciliation:			
Cash at bank		9,819,621	7,201,710
Cash held by investment manager	11	440,811	488,655
Total cash & cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		10,260,432	7,690,365

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of accounting

The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in the United Kingdom under the Companies Act. The maximum liability of each member is limited to £1. The address of the registered office is given on page 1. The nature of the charity's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Trustees report on pages 3-17.

The financial statements have been prepared in £ sterling on the historical cost basis and in accordance with accounting and reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts 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)) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The accounts are prepared for the company alone. The company has a dormant subsidiary, and consolidated accounts are not presented as the charity has taken advantage of the exemption provided by S405(2) of the Companies Act 2006 on the grounds of immateriality.

1.2 Income

Income from donations is recognised on a cash basis, in the year in which the income is physically received, except when the donors specify that they must be used in future accounting periods or donors conditions have not been fulfilled, then the income is deferred.

Bequests and legacies are included when entitlement is established, it is probable that the amount will be received, and the amount receivable can be estimated with sufficient accuracy. Where conditions for recognition have not been met, the legacies are disclosed in note 2.

Income from grants is recognised in the year in which they are receivable. Grants without performance conditions are presented within donations and legacies and within charitable activities when performance criteria apply.

Trading activity income from lottery receipts is recognised when the draw for the relevant week is made. Any amounts received prior to the draw being made are deferred.

Income from trading activities, other than lottery income, is included in the period in which the company is entitled to receipt.

Income from investments constitutes dividends and bank interest and is recognised in the year to which it relates.

1.3 **Expenditure**

Resources expended are recognised on the accruals basis to match the period in which the expenditure was incurred, inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered. These include both costs associated with both charitable activity and those which relate to governance arrangements and the general running of the charity.

1.4 **Donated services**

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the unpaid volunteer time is not recognised in the financial statements. Refer to the Trustee Directors' Report for more information about their contribution.

1.5 **Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Short leasehold improvements	10 years straight line
Freehold land and buildings	50 years straight line
Medical equipment	4 – 5 years straight line
Fixtures & fittings	10 years straight line
Computer equipment	3 years straight line

Fixed assets costing less than £5,000 are not capitalised.

1.6 **Investments**

Fixed asset investments comprise investment portfolios maintained by investment managers. These are recognised initially at fair value which is normally the transaction price (but excludes any transaction costs.) Subsequently, investments are held at market value, with all realised and unrealised gains passing through the SOFA.

Non-current asset investments are cash deposits with a maturity date of more than one year from the balance sheet date. These are recognised at the deposit amount plus any interest, with any interest gains passing through the SOFA when falling due.

Current asset investments are cash deposits with a maturity date of less than one year from the balance sheet date. These are recognised at the deposit amount plus any interest, with any interest gains passing through the SOFA when falling due.

1.7 **Stock**

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making allowances for obsolete and slow moving stock.

1.8 **Non-current assets - debtors**

Non-current assets debtors are programme related investments, made through a loan to an unconnected company. The loan has been measured at the amount paid, with the carrying amount adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments and any accrued interest, adjusted for any necessary impairment.

1.9 **Debtors**

Accrued income is recognised at the settlement amount due and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

1.10 **Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand comprise cash on hand and call deposits with a maturity of less than three months, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

1.11 **Creditors**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at their settlement amount.

1.12 **Pensions**

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable by the Charity during the year in accordance with FRS 17.

1.13 **Operating lease rentals**

Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred over the term of the lease. The charity has operating leases for the premises in which they operate, as well as motor, office equipment leases. The title of the leased premises and equipment remains with the lessor.

1.14 **Foreign currencies**

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recorded in the charity's functional currency by applying the spot exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. All differences are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities and presented within charitable activities expenditure.

1.15 **Taxation**

As a registered charity, the company is not liable to corporation tax to the extent that income and gains are applied to charitable activities.

1.16 **Covid-19**

The Trustees have considered the implication of the Covid-19 pandemic on the operations of the charity. The charity has been able to continue to deliver its charitable services. A reduction in income has been forecast however there are sufficient reserves to cover the temporary reduction. Taking into account all reasonable circumstances, the trustees believe that the charity remains a going concern and no adjustments to the accounts are necessary.

1.17 **Financial Instruments**

The charity only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and liabilities of the charity and their measurements are as follows:

Financial assets – trade, other debtors and loans (programme related investment) are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 19. Investment portfolios are basic financial instruments measured at fair value through the income and expenditure account. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Cash at bank and deposit accounts– is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

1.17 **Financial Instruments (continued)**

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 19. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

2. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total £
Donations	845,243	2,381	847,624	1,305,447	470	1,305,917
Legacies	2,296,300	-	2,296,300	1,870,154	-	1,870,154
Collecting boxes	181,362	-	181,362	184,955	-	184,955
Gift aid	85,971	-	85,971	68,941	-	68,941
Exceptional government funding						
Other Covid Grants	380,977	-	380,977	-	-	-
	3,789,853	2,381	3,792,234	3,429,497	470	3,429,967

As at the year end, the charity had been notified of material legacies which have not been included in the Statement of Financial Activities due to the conditions for recognition not being met. These consist of 23 legacies totalling approximately £1,626,637 (2020: 22 legacies totalling approximately £1,151,021).

3. Trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total £
Lottery	4,476,911	-	4,476,911	4,550,561	-	4,550,561
Birthday draw	330,740	-	330,740	179,278	-	179,278
Other fundraising & sponsorship	340	-	340	3,052	-	3,052
Sale of merchandise	4,191	-	4,191	16,736	-	16,736
Events income	(1,088)	-	(1,088)	46,879	-	46,879
Profit on sale of fixed assets	12,853	-	12,853	-	-	-
	4,823,947	-	4,823,947	4,796,506	-	4,796,506

Income received for the lottery totalling £511,183 (2020: £490,602) has been deferred and is recognised at the date the relevant draw takes place.

4. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total £
Dividends receivable	280,041	-	280,041	245,267	-	245,267
Interest receivable from banks/deposits	220,456	-	220,456	233,465	-	233,465
Loan interest receiveable	127,318	-	127,318	142,603	-	142,603
Rental income	-	-	-	3,168	-	3,168
	627,815	-	627,815	624,503	-	624,503

5. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total £
Lottery prizes	90,597	-	90,597	88,445	-	88,445
Staff salaries	298,473	-	298,473	310,771	-	310,771
Commission	312,413	-	312,413	596,298	-	596,298
Rental of computer system	6,240	-	6,240	6,240	-	6,240
Lottery office costs	25,276	-	25,276	27,445	-	27,445
Beeline	72,383	-	72,383	67,843	-	67,843
Bank charges	29,796	-	29,796	40,069	-	40,069
Function costs	50	-	50	5,741	-	5,741
Collection tins	1,079	-	1,079	1,322	-	1,322
Goods purchased for resale	3,249	-	3,249	12,347	-	12,347
Investment management costs	113,393	-	113,393	100,759	-	100,759
	952,949	-	952,949	1,257,280	-	1,257,280

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total £
Helicopter costs						
Helicopter costs	3,109,281	-	3,109,281	2,656,377	-	2,656,377
Critical care team	1,618,262	-	1,618,262	1,475,456	-	1,475,456
Medical equipment	188,236	-	188,236	106,629	950	107,579
Airbase costs	64,081	-	64,081	33,668	-	33,668
Paramedic training	160,721	-	160,721	223,739	-	223,739
Travel & subsistence	5,105	-	5,105	31,466	-	31,466
Car hire	4,179	-	4,179	6,066	-	6,066
Foreign currency loss	8	-	8	(15)	-	(15)
VAT reclaimed	(70,172)	-	(70,172)	(107,374)	-	(107,374)
	5,079,701	-	5,079,701	4,426,012	950	4,426,962
Support & governance costs						
Wages and salaries	273,684	-	273,684	275,642	-	275,642
Accommodation	13,253	-	13,253	65,029	-	65,029
Print and stationery	3,146	-	3,146	3,860	-	3,860
Postage	4,740	-	4,740	7,494	-	7,494
Telephone	8,966	-	8,966	8,866	-	8,866
Vehicle insurance	1,092	-	1,092	939	-	939
Office equipment and maintenance	18,276	-	18,276	17,556	-	17,556
Publicity	129	-	129	18,326	-	18,326
Beeline	72,383	-	72,383	67,843	-	67,843
Insurance	18,257	-	18,257	16,217	-	16,217
Legal and professional	1,458	-	1,458	7,660	-	7,660
Training costs	468	-	468	6,563	-	6,563
Recruitment	479	-	479	4,814	-	4,814
Bank charges	20,070	-	20,070	11,964	-	11,964
Subscriptions	9,072	-	9,072	12,077	-	12,077
Health and safety	1,714	-	1,714	1,737	-	1,737
Depreciation	107,366	-	107,366	95,139	-	95,139
IT costs and website	55,733	2,894	58,627	67,437	-	67,437
Audit and accountancy	9,090	-	9,090	9,090	-	9,090
	619,376	2,894	622,270	698,253	-	698,253
	5,699,077	2,894	5,701,971	5,124,265	950	5,125,215

7. Net incoming resources/operating surplus

	2021	2020
	£	£
Depreciation of owned assets	107,366	95,139
(Profit)/loss on sale of fixed assets	(12,853)	-
Auditors' remuneration for:		
Audit services	7,090	7,090
Accountancy services	2,000	2,000
Other services	-	762

8. Trustee directors

None of the Trustee Directors (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the current or prior year. One Trustee Director was reimbursed a total of £273 travelling expenses (2020: Two reimbursed travelling expenses of £65).

9. Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly head count was 19 staff (2020: 19 staff) and the average number of full-time equivalent employees (including casual and part-time staff) during the year was as follows:

	2021	2020
Chief Executive	1	1
Lottery staff	3	4
Fundraising staff	4	4
Management and admin staff	7	6
	15	15

Employment costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	482,075	496,536
Social security costs	40,890	42,796
Other pension costs	49,192	47,081
	572,157	586,413

9. Employees (cont.)

The number of employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more were:

	2021 number	2020 number
£60,000 - £70,000	1	1

This employee is a member of the defined contribution pension scheme, into which contributions of £17046, (2020: £15,345) were made.

The key management personnel of the charity are considered to be the Chief Executive Officer, The Deputy Chief Executive (from 1 April 2021), the Finance Manager and the Lottery Manager. The total costs to the charity of employee benefits for the key management personnel were £231,467 (2020: £227,108).

Volunteers contribute unpaid time to fundraising activities. Due to extended periods of lockdown and other restrictions, volunteers have been extremely limited in their direct support to fundraising during the majority of the year. They have, however, provided some administrative assistance, where this could be provided from home. This has not been included in the financial statements in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Defined contribution pension scheme

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the scheme and amounted to £49,192 (2020: £47,081).

Contributions totalling £6,829 (2020: £6,723) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Short leasehold improvements	Freehold Land & Buildings	Medical Equipment	Fixtures & Fittings	Computer Equipment	Total
Cost	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
At 1 April 2020	301,677	597,805	330,021	35,763	40,571	1,305,837
Additions	-	-	151,906	-	-	151,906
Disposals	-	-	(61,970)	-	-	(61,970)
At 31 March 2021	301,677	597,805	419,957	35,763	40,569	1,395,771
Depreciation						
At 1 April 2020	78,248	18,930	239,035	32,659	40,571	409,443
Charge for the year	30,325	11,956	64,503	582	-	107,366
Disposals	-	-	(53,823)	-	-	(53,823)
At 31 March 2021	108,573	30,886	249,715	33,241	40,569	462,984
Net book value						
At 31 March 2021	193,104	566,919	170,242	2,522	-	932,787
At 1 April 2020	223,429	578,875	90,986	3,104	-	896,394

11. Investments

	2021	2020
	£	£
Listed shares	16,240,400	12,345,568
Cash held by investment manager	440,811	488,655
Shares in subsidiary undertaking	1	1
	16,681,212	12,834,224

Listed shares	2021	2020
	£	£
Market value		
At 1 April 2020	12,345,568	5,016,278
Additions	1,893,315	10,850,113
Disposals	(1,660,590)	(1,927,548)
Revaluation	3,662,107	(1,593,275)
At 31 March 2021	16,240,400	12,345,568

	2021	2020
	£	£
Historical cost		
At 1 April 2020	13,130,909	4,168,598
Additions	1,900,300	10,578,079
Disposals	(63,767)	(1,623,028)
Other movements	392	7,260
At 31 March 2021	14,967,834	13,130,909

Shares in subsidiary undertaking

Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance (Trading) Limited was incorporated on 19 October 1999 as a wholly owned trading subsidiary of The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Charity. The parent charity holds 100% of the issued share capital and 100% of the voting rights of the subsidiary trading company. The company became dormant on 31 March 2013.

The profit for the year was £nil (2020: £nil) and the balance sheet total was £1 (2020: £1).

12. Non-current assets - Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Loan - programme related investment	2,139,789	2,483,836

During 2017 the charity provided an initial loan of £3,433,400 to a company to facilitate the purchase of a helicopter for exclusive use by the charity. The loan attracts an interest rate of 4.779% and security is in place in the form of a second mortgage over the asset. The loan is being repaid over 10 years, with the final repayment due in January 2027. At 31 March 2021, £2,483,835 was outstanding (2020: £2,811,850), of which £344,046 is due within one year (2020: £328,014), and £2,139,789 in more than one year (2020: £2,483,836).

13. Investments

	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed rate cash held on deposit	10,213,582	10,000,000
Split as:		
Non-current asset investment (due > 1 year)	5,390,934	6,000,000
Current asset investment (due < 1 year)	4,822,648	4,000,000
	10,213,582	10,000,000

14. Stocks

	2021 £	2020 £
Goods for resale	16,589	16,763

15. Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other debtors	88,547	62,098
Loan - programme related investment	344,046	328,014
Prepayments and accrued income	399,782	531,215
	832,375	921,327

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Deferred income: lottery receipts	511,183	490,602
Other creditors	79,297	57,127
Accruals	276,736	288,616
Amounts owed to group undertakings	1	1
Taxation and social security	11,129	11,482
	878,346	847,828

Reconcilation of deferred income : Lottery receipts

Opening balance	490,602	473,179
Received during the year	4,497,492	4,567,984
Released during the year	(4,476,911)	(4,550,561)
Closing balance	511,183	490,602

17. Summary of movement in funds

	Opening balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gain/(loss) on Investments & transfers £	Closing balance £
Unrestricted funds					
General	33,506,426	9,241,615	(6,652,026)	2,389,028	38,485,043
Fair Value Reserve	-	-	-	1,272,566	1,272,566
	33,506,426	9,241,615	(6,652,026)	3,661,594	39,757,609
Restricted funds					
Air Amublance UK	-	2,381	(2,894)	513	-
	-	2,381	(2,894)	513	-
	33,506,426	9,243,996	(6,654,920)	3,662,107	39,757,609

Summary of movement in funds – 2020

	Opening balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gain/(loss) on Investments & transfers £	Closing balance £
Unrestricted funds					
General	31,718,459	8,850,506	(6,381,545)	(680,994)	33,506,426
Fair Value Reserve	912,761	-	-	(912,761)	-
	32,631,220	8,850,506	(6,381,545)	(1,593,755)	33,506,426
Restricted funds					
Higos Insurance	-	470	(950)	480	-
	-	470	(950)	480	-
	32,631,220	8,850,976	(6,382,495)	(1,593,275)	33,506,426

Summary of movement in funds (continued)

- The fair value reserve is an accumulation of unrealised gains and losses, being the difference between market value and the cost of investments.
- Air Ambulance UK was received towards the items to allow employees to work from home due to Covid-19.
- Higos Insurance was received towards a replacement Iviz Portable Monitor.

Where transfers have been made out of funds, they relate to the purchase of fixed assets, which is taken to discharge the restriction.

18. Analysis of assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total £
Tangible fixed assets	932,787	-	932,787	896,394	-	896,394
Fixed asset investments	16,681,212	-	16,681,212	12,834,224	-	12,834,224
Non-current assets	7,530,723	-	7,530,723	8,483,836	-	8,483,836
Net current assets	14,612,887	-	14,612,887	11,291,972	-	11,291,972
	39,757,609	-	39,757,609	33,506,426	-	33,506,426

19. Financial instruments

Categorisation of financial instruments

	2021 £	2020 £
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account	16,681,212	12,834,224
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	22,910,401	20,503,941
	39,591,613	33,338,165
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	349,205	339,021

Item of income, expenditure, gain or losses

2021	Income £	Expense £	Net gains £	Net losses £
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account	280,041	-	3,662,107	-
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	347,774	-	-	-
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	-	-	-	-
	627,815	-	3,662,107	-

2020	Income £	Expense £	Net gains £	Net losses £
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure account	245,267	-	-	(1,593,275)
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	376,068	-	-	-
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	-	-	-	-
	621,335	-	-	(1,593,275)

20. Financial commitments

At 31 March 2021 the charity was committed to making the following payments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	2021	2020
Land and Buildings	**£**	**£**
Expiry date:		
Within one year	-	4,664
Between two and five years	-	-
Other		
Expiry date:		
Within one year	613,506	417,572
Between two and five years	1,734	6,914
	615,240	429,150

21. Related parties

There were no related party transactions during the year (2020: none).