

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 06715319 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1128026

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024
FOR
VETERANS IN ACTION LTD

Hysons
Chartered Accountants
14 London Street
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 2PA

VETERANS IN ACTION LTD

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 October 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

OVERVIEW

Veterans In Action (VIA) is a UK-based armed forces charity dedicated to supporting veterans who have suffered the effects of war or found the transition to civilian life difficult. Founded on lived experience and developed through years of direct work with veterans, VIA takes a unique and non-clinical approach to mental health and wellbeing-placing emphasis not just on recovery, but on long-term personal growth, resilience, and rebuilding lives with purpose.

What sets VIA apart is its use of outdoor environments, expedition-based activities, and hands-on, centre-based projects to support veterans in their recovery journeys. At the heart of everything we do is the ALIVE Programme, a structured yet flexible methodology developed over the last 16 years by our Chief Operations Officer, Billy MacLeod MBE, himself a veteran. ALIVE stands for Achieve - Learn - Inspire - Value - Experience, and it forms the foundation of our work. These values are translated into real-world outcomes through the principles: Build It - Make It - Use It - Film It, offering veterans practical, creative, and engaging ways to rebuild self-confidence, reconnect with peers, and rediscover their identity beyond military service.

The ALIVE Programme is not therapy, but it is therapeutic. It works alongside therapy for those already engaged in it, or as a standalone support model for those not yet ready for formal mental health services. It meets veterans where they are, allowing them to participate at their own pace, and offering structure, community, and purpose, key components often lost after leaving the Armed Forces.

A crucial element introduced in recent years and now deeply embedded in our work is a comprehensive welfare support strand. This runs in the background of every activity, ensuring that any veteran who engages with VIA also has their wider needs assessed and supported. Whether it's housing, benefits, debt, or legal representation at tribunals, our team ensures that no veteran has to carry these burdens alone. This holistic approach addresses the practical barriers to recovery, allowing veterans to build solid foundations before they focus on personal growth. This is not just a support service; it's a full circle of care built with compassion, experience, and a deep understanding of the challenges veterans face.

VIA is one of the very few organisations in the south of England to offer structured support to veterans six days a week from a dedicated centre, complete with workshops, office space, and access to tailored activities and staff. Our work is veteran-led, with projects shaped by the people who take part in them, ensuring relevance, ownership, and personal investment.

With projects ranging from vehicle rebuilds and creative workshops to public event participation and wilderness-based well-being, VIA provides an environment where veterans can reconnect, rediscover purpose, and build lasting resilience, not through talking but through doing, belonging and being supported every step of the way.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charity's objective remains: to support veterans who have suffered the effects of war or who have found the transition to civilian life difficult.

To achieve this, VIA delivers a non-clinical, long-term, peer-led programme of recovery and development through its own structured framework, the ALIVE Programme, developed by our Chief Operations Officer, Billy MacLeod MBE.

The ALIVE Programme is based on the values of:

ACHIEVE - LEARN - INSPIRE - VALUE - EXPERIENCE

Delivered through practical outcomes:

BUILD IT - MAKE IT - USE IT - FILM IT

These values guide the charity's core activities, which include:

- Outdoor and expedition-based projects
- Practical, hands-on projects based at our dedicated centre
- Public engagement events and structured workshops
- Peer-led development supported by trained staff and volunteers

A major development this year has been the full integration of a welfare support strand into all activities. This includes help with benefit claims, housing issues, and legal support, with VIA staff accompanying veterans to appointments and representing them at tribunals where required. This holistic approach ensures that every veteran has a stable foundation from which to grow.

This year also saw the continued growth of key projects, including:

- The **Stepping Stone Project** (funded by the National Lottery), including Walk & Talk, Bricks & Banter, and Step by Step - Piece by Piece
- The **Veterans' Places, Pathways and People** programme, in partnership with nine organisations
- The new **Veterans In Wilderness** project: (funded by the Veterans' Foundation), promoting well-being through nature-based activities
- The expansion of our **expedition vehicle fleet**, including the Mechanic's Vehicle and new kitchen vehicle
- Attendance at major national events and local shows, reintroducing veterans to public spaces

Veterans In Action continues to provide a safe and supportive environment six days a week at our dedicated centre, located on a private estate near the UK's largest military garrison. This is one of the few such facilities in the south of England offering consistent, year-round, face-to-face support for veterans.

The Trustees remain committed to the continued development and oversight of the charity, ensuring VIA continues to meet its objectives while maintaining high standards of governance and delivery.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

During the financial year ending 31 October 2024, Veterans In Action continued to make strong progress in delivering meaningful support to veterans who have suffered the effects of war or faced difficulties transitioning to civilian life. All projects and initiatives delivered this year were aligned with the charity's objectives and guided by the ALIVE Programme, which remains central to VIA's methodology.

Key achievements include:

1. Development of the ALIVE Centre

VIA has continued to develop its ALIVE Centre, located on a private estate near the largest military garrison in the UK. This purpose-built facility offers a safe, welcoming environment for veterans to engage in structured projects, rebuild confidence, and connect with others. The centre remains open six days a week and serves as the operational hub for all programme activities.

2. Integration of Welfare Support

A significant milestone this year was the full integration of welfare support into every aspect of the charity's work. Veterans accessing VIA projects now receive comprehensive assistance with benefits, housing, legal issues, and financial guidance. VIA staff regularly accompany veterans to official appointments and represent them at tribunals. This holistic approach ensures that veterans are not just participating in projects but are also supported in the underlying issues affecting their well-being, building solid foundations for sustainable recovery.

3. Project Delivery and Veteran Engagement

Several key projects were delivered and expanded over the year, including:

- **Stepping Stone Project** (National Lottery-funded): Aimed at easing veterans into hands-on work through accessible and non-threatening activities, including Walk & Talk sessions, Bricks & Banter (using LEGO to support conversation and focus), and Step by Step - Piece by Piece.
- **Veterans' Places, Pathways and People (VPPP)**: Delivered in partnership with nine organisations, providing coordinated support across the wider veteran community.
- **Veterans In Wilderness** (Veterans Foundation-funded): A nature-based wellbeing programme helping veterans reconnect with the outdoors while improving mental health and emotional resilience.
- **Vehicle Renovation and Practical Skills**: Veterans took part in the rebuild of a Mechanic's Vehicle and the construction of a new Land Rover kitchen vehicle, both of which form part of VIA's expedition fleet. These projects offered skill development, teamwork, and a sense of achievement.
- **Public Events and Social Reintegration**: Veterans participated in national and local events including the Great British Land Rover Show, CarFest, Wings & Wheels, and the Adventure Overland Shows. These events allowed veterans to re-engage with the public and build confidence in social settings, while also raising awareness of VIA's work.

Despite a slight drop in footfall compared to the previous year, this was due to a strategic focus on deeper, more involved project work rather than a reduction in activity. Veterans working on vehicle builds and core developments were involved in longer-term, more intensive support.

Two veterans also transitioned into volunteer roles as part of their recovery, offering peer support and gaining valuable experience through ongoing involvement with the charity.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

4. Commercial Expansion

The **Made by Veterans** initiative has continued to grow, with several large commercial orders secured during the year. This has provided income that supports core costs while offering real-world work experience to veterans, contributing to both financial sustainability and personal development.

5. Strengthening of Governance and Leadership

The charity maintained strong oversight and governance throughout the year. New Trustees joined the board, bringing fresh insight and support. VIA previously scored 67/80 on the Cobseo Self-Governance Tool, and work has continued to strengthen areas identified for improvement. Trustees and senior leadership worked closely together on strategic planning, including the development of a new financial strategy to future-proof the organisation.

6. National Lottery Core Funding Grant

A major achievement was the successful application for a National Lottery grant to cover **50% of VIA's core funding for the next three and a half years**. This application, led by Chief Operations Officer Billy MacLeod MBE with the support of the Trustees, required significant planning and documentation. Its success marks a turning point for the charity, offering financial stability and the ability to continue operating at full capacity while planning for further growth.

STRATEGIC AIMS

Veterans In Action remains firmly committed to its founding principle: supporting veterans who have struggled with the effects of war or with the transition to civilian life. As we look to the future, our strategic aims are shaped by the need to sustain and grow our impact, ensure financial resilience, and create meaningful partnerships that enhance the services we offer.

Our primary focus continues to be the well-being and development of the veterans who engage with our charity. All strategic aims are designed to reinforce this purpose by building on what works, expanding our reach, and safeguarding the long-term future of the organisation.

1. Securing Long-Term Financial Stability

The long-term viability of VIA depends on the development of sustainable funding streams beyond short-term grants. While we have had great success in securing project-based funding and, more recently, a substantial National Lottery grant to support core costs, we recognise the importance of developing a broader financial base. This includes diversifying income through commercial activities, increasing public support, and building long-term donor and corporate relationships.

We are currently working on a new financial strategy that combines robust budgeting with a focus on income generation. This approach will allow us to maintain existing services while planning responsibly for future growth.

2. Developing a Corporate Partner Scheme

A key area of development is the launch of a structured Corporate Partner Scheme. This will enable businesses to support VIA through financial contributions, sponsorship of projects, or employee engagement opportunities. In return, partners will gain access to meaningful team-building experiences, recognition of their support, and alignment with a trusted and impactful veteran-focused charity.

The scheme will be designed to offer flexible levels of involvement, allowing organisations of all sizes to participate and make a difference. Corporate partnerships will not only contribute financially but will also expand our network of supporters, advocates, and ambassadors.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

3. Expanding the 'Made by Veterans' Commercial Arm

Our Made by Veterans initiative has shown great potential in generating income while delivering hands-on opportunities for veterans. This commercial arm provides meaningful activity, promotes skill development, and allows veterans to see the tangible results of their work. Several large orders have already been fulfilled, demonstrating demand and scalability.

Our strategic aim is to grow this side of the charity into a more prominent income stream. This includes investing in equipment, marketing, and building relationships with buyers across various sectors. Profits from the initiative are reinvested directly into the charity, helping support core services and giving veterans even greater ownership of the work being produced under their name.

4. Promoting Team-Building Days for Corporate Supporters

Team-building days hosted at the VIA Centre are another area of strategic focus. These events offer businesses the chance to engage directly with our work, participate in practical activities alongside veterans, and experience first-hand the impact of their support.

These sessions not only foster corporate involvement but also offer valuable opportunities for veterans to share their stories, build connections, and showcase the work they've done. Promoting and scaling this offering will allow VIA to increase engagement with the private sector, create new funding opportunities, and continue breaking down the barriers between civilian and military communities.

Together, these strategic aims are designed to ensure that Veterans In Action continues to deliver impactful, life-changing work-built on solid foundations and guided by a clear, sustainable vision for the future.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Fundraising activities

The fundraising landscape continues to present significant challenges for small and medium-sized charities, and Veterans In Action is no exception. The economic impact of the post-COVID recovery period and ongoing cost-of-living pressures have made it increasingly difficult to generate unrestricted income through traditional methods such as community donations and sponsored events.

In response, the Trustees and senior leadership team have been actively working to develop a more robust and sustainable fundraising strategy that reflects the current climate while building for the future. The focus is on creating diversified, mission-aligned income streams that support both core and project-based costs.

1. Greater Corporate Engagement

One of the central pillars of our revised strategy is the expansion of corporate partnerships. We recognise that many businesses are seeking meaningful ways to demonstrate their social responsibility and support causes with a tangible impact. VIA offers a unique opportunity for companies to engage directly with the veteran community through tailored sponsorship packages, project partnerships, and team-building experiences at our centre.

This approach allows us to create long-term relationships rather than one-off donations. Our goal is to launch a structured Corporate Partner Scheme that provides clear benefits to sponsors while securing vital funding for our operations. This includes offering branded collaborations, recognition in media and events, and opportunities for corporate volunteers to take part in VIA activities.

2. Merchandise Sales and In-House Branding

VIA has already begun to develop its own range of veteran-made merchandise, produced as part of the "Made by Veterans" project. These items, which include practical products, handmade goods, and branded clothing, are not only a potential revenue stream but also a reflection of the charity's ethos, providing purpose, pride, and skills development to those involved in production.

We aim to expand the availability and visibility of these items, both online and at events, reinforcing our identity while generating unrestricted income. Every item sold tells a story and supports the broader mission of VIA.

3. Attendance at Public Events and Shows

Public events remain an essential part of both fundraising and awareness-raising. This year, VIA attended major shows such as the Great British Land Rover Show, CarFest, Wings & Wheels, and the Adventure Overland Show, as well as several local community events.

These events serve a dual purpose:

- **Engaging the public** and promoting understanding of the challenges faced by veterans
- **Generating income** through merchandise sales, donations, and networking with potential sponsors

Moving forward, we intend to enhance our event presence with more polished displays, storytelling tools, and veteran involvement, turning each show into an opportunity to connect new supporters to our cause.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Our fundraising strategy is evolving to meet the demands of today's climate while staying true to our mission. Rather than relying solely on short-term campaigns or one-off donations, we are building a long-term, sustainable approach rooted in relationships, identity, and the strength of our community. This strategy will not only support the charity financially but also help raise awareness and reinforce the value of our work in the wider public sphere.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The fallout of Covid and the financial crisis had really impacted on the charity with fundraising becoming increasingly difficult. This has also impacted on people who previously supported the charity on challenges.

Activity wise VIA have been successful in grant bids which fund the activities carried out and it is the core funding of the charity that is the more difficult aspect of the work we do.

VIA had a total net income for the year of £41,380 (2023 - £14,714).

At the year end, VIA had total reserves of £107,226 (2023 - £65,846), of which £28,652 (2023 - £49,880) represented unrestricted reserves that can be used by the trustees to further the charity's objectives.

Reserves policy

Veterans In Action operates as a small, dynamic charity that prioritises delivering direct support to veterans through practical projects and long-term engagement. As such, our ability to hold large financial reserves is currently limited. The Trustees are mindful of this and remain committed to responsible financial planning that balances immediate operational needs with the long-term security of the charity.

At present, the majority of funds received are allocated directly to programme delivery, ensuring that veterans benefit fully from the support we offer. This approach reflects our values, ensuring that donations, grants, and earned income are used to maximise impact on the ground, rather than being held in surplus.

However, the Trustees recognise the importance of maintaining an adequate level of unrestricted reserves to provide a financial buffer against unexpected events, such as a drop in income, delays in grant funding, or emergency expenditure. Our reserves policy aims to build towards holding a contingency fund that would allow the charity to continue essential operations for a minimum of three months should other income sources temporarily cease.

Current Position

Due to ongoing economic pressures and the challenging fundraising environment, our reserves have remained limited. This has been a deliberate but necessary choice to ensure the continuation of key services during a period of high demand and financial uncertainty.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

FUTURE PLANS

Looking ahead, a core focus of our new financial strategy is to gradually strengthen our reserves position without compromising on delivery. This includes:

- Diversifying income sources through corporate partnerships, merchandise sales, and commercial projects
- Reducing reliance on short-term grant funding by building long-term financial planning into all projects
- Allocating a portion of unrestricted income toward a ring-fenced reserves fund
- Monitoring and reviewing reserve levels quarterly as part of our financial governance framework

The recent success in securing a National Lottery grant to cover 50% of core costs for three and a half years provides VIA with a crucial period of stability. This breathing space will allow the Trustees and leadership team to implement the new financial strategy and begin the process of building healthy and sustainable reserves in line with best practices.

While VIA's reserves are currently modest, we are taking clear, realistic steps to improve our position over time. The Trustees remain committed to maintaining financial stability while continuing to deliver high-impact work that improves the lives of veterans across the country.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT
STATEMENT FROM THE CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER

As Chief Operations Officer, I'm incredibly proud of what Veterans In Action has achieved over the past year. The work we do is not easy, and the challenges are many, but the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and the veterans themselves continues to inspire me every day.

This year has seen significant developments across all operational areas of the charity. We are best known for our hands-on projects, the vehicles we build, the expeditions we plan, and the workshops we run.

It's what happens behind the scenes that truly defines the heart of what we do. Every project, whether it's Bricks & Banter, Walk & Talk, or the Veterans In Wilderness initiative, is underpinned by a powerful support network focused on one thing: helping veterans rebuild from the ground up.

A major step forward this year has been the full integration of welfare support into everything we do.

This isn't just an add-on or a side project, it runs in the background of every single activity at VIA. Veterans arriving at the ALIVE Centre are often dealing with more than just the emotional effects of their service. Many are facing financial issues, housing insecurity, complex benefit claims, or legal challenges. We now address these issues directly, helping them build solid foundations so they are not trying to recover while still stuck in survival mode. This cannot be stressed enough; this is what makes our approach different.

Our approach is holistic. We understand that recovery is not just about therapy, it's about stability, structure, community, and purpose. That's why every veteran who engages with us is offered wraparound support.

Whether it's being represented at a tribunal, guided through paperwork, or simply having someone to talk to who gets it, our team are there. Always. Quietly working in the background, making sure no one slips through the cracks.

Operationally, the year has been intense. From vehicle rebuilds to supporting large public events to training volunteers and preparing for future expeditions, every day at VIA is filled with activity. And none of it would be possible without our small but fiercely dedicated team.

The staff and volunteers have worked through incredibly difficult financial constraints, kept projects going, delivered new ideas, and, most importantly, kept our veterans at the centre of everything. They are the engine room of VIA.

A particular highlight has been the work on the Mechanic's Vehicle, which is now expedition-ready, as well as the completion of the new Land Rover kitchen build, which will support future group work and events. These projects don't just provide practical skills, they offer a chance for veterans to work side by side, build confidence, share stories, and slowly, piece by piece, rediscover themselves.

Securing the National Lottery grant to fund half of our core costs for the next three and a half years was another major milestone. This was a team effort, but I want to thank the Trustees for standing with me through the long and detailed application process. It has taken months of planning, reviews, and consultation to bring this together, and its success gives VIA the breathing room we desperately needed. It means we can now focus on growing our impact, strengthening our systems, and reaching more veterans without the constant fear of how we'll fund the next month.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Looking ahead, we are building something stronger, steadier, and more far-reaching. We are expanding our commercial activity, developing new pathways into VIA, and always listening to those who matter most, the veterans we serve.

To every veteran who has walked through our doors, to every staff member, volunteer, trustee, and supporter, thank you. You are part of something that changes lives.

Billy MacLeod MBE
Chief Operations Officer

STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE TRUSTEES

This past year has been one of extraordinary commitment, resilience, and growth for Veterans In Action. As Chair of Trustees, I am deeply proud of what has been achieved, not only in terms of programme delivery but in the spirit, determination, and teamwork that has underpinned everything we've done.

Throughout a financially challenging climate, our dedicated staff and volunteers have continued to show unwavering commitment. They have delivered meaningful and life-changing support to the veterans who rely on us, often going above and beyond. Whether through the delivery of outdoor activities, centre-based projects, or through providing one-to-one welfare support, their work has made a genuine difference.

I want to personally thank each member of the team for their tireless efforts and compassion. The continued success and expansion of projects like the Stepping Stone Project, Bricks & Banter, Veterans In Wilderness, and our broader ALIVE Programme would not have been possible without their hard work.

One of the most important developments this year has been the deepening of our welfare support. For many of the veterans we support, mental health challenges are not isolated; they are often tied to housing, benefits, and day-to-day struggles. Our staff have stepped into these areas with practical help, representing veterans at tribunals, supporting them with paperwork, and guiding them through complicated processes. This wraparound approach has proven transformative.

The charity's leadership, particularly our Chief Operations Officer Billy MacLeod MBE, has played a central role in driving these improvements. Billy's day-to-day involvement in the development of the ALIVE Programme, his hands-on guidance with each project, and his tireless effort in maintaining the charity's ethos have been inspiring.

Billy's work with the Trustees on developing and securing the National Lottery grant, which will fund half of our core costs for the next three and a half years, cannot be overstated. This application was a complex, year-long process requiring careful planning, vision, and clarity. The success of this grant has changed the outlook for the charity... it will give us breathing space, the ability to plan long-term, and the reassurance that our core work can continue without compromise.

This funding, alongside our successful commercial work through Made by Veterans, offers a more stable financial future. However, we are not complacent. Our fundraising strategy is evolving, and we are actively seeking to develop a robust corporate partnership scheme, expand merchandise sales, and create meaningful opportunities for companies to support our mission through team-building days and events.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governance remains a key focus. Our board has welcomed new trustees this year who have brought fresh insight and energy. We continue to follow the best practices set out by the Charity Commission and Cobseo, maintaining full legal and moral responsibility for our operations. Our score of 67/80 on the Cobseo Self-Governance Tool last year provided a benchmark we have worked hard to build upon.

Veterans In Action remains one of the few charities in the south of England offering support to veterans six days a week from our own dedicated centre. This comes with a financial burden, but it is the heart of who we are, a safe place for veterans to belong, rebuild, and move forward.

Looking ahead, we are optimistic. The year behind us has proven that with the right team, strong values, and clear leadership, we can weather challenges and come through stronger. To all our veterans, staff, volunteers, partners, funders, and supporters-thank you. You are the reason we continue to move forward, together.

Carl Atkinson
Chair of Trustees

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

06715319 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1128026

Registered office

The Old Grain Store
Redenham Park
Redenham
Andover
Hampshire
SP11 9AQ

Trustees

Mr S Carr MB
Mr C T E Atkinson
Mrs I Terry
Mr S Ward
Mr S Reilly
Mr A Baines
Mr S Hardman

Independent Examiner

Mr C Joyce FCCA
Hysons
Chartered Accountants
14 London Street
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 2PA

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc
22 High Street
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 1NW

Chief Operations Officer

Mr W J MacLeod

Website

www.veteransinaction.org.uk

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 25 July 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr C T E Atkinson - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
VETERANS IN ACTION LTD

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Veterans In Action Ltd ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 October 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mr C Joyce FCCA

Hysons
Chartered Accountants
14 London Street
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 2PA

25 July 2025

VETERANS IN ACTION LTD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

		Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
	Notes				
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	90,699	119,200	209,899	257,630
Charitable activities					
Principle activity		12,574	-	12,574	4,232
Other trading activities	3	2,296	-	2,296	-
Investment income	4	1	-	1	1
Other income		4,154	-	4,154	5,552
Total		<u>109,724</u>	<u>119,200</u>	<u>228,924</u>	<u>267,415</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5				
Principle activity		<u>130,951</u>	<u>56,593</u>	<u>187,544</u>	<u>252,701</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(21,227)	62,607	41,380	14,714
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		49,879	15,967	65,846	51,132
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>28,652</u></u>	<u><u>78,574</u></u>	<u><u>107,226</u></u>	<u><u>65,846</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET
31 OCTOBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Intangible assets	10	1	-	1	1
Tangible assets	11	5,264	-	5,264	9,829
		5,265	-	5,265	9,830
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	12	2,000	-	2,000	2,000
Debtors	13	1,968	-	1,968	-
Cash at bank and in hand		23,455	78,574	102,029	58,336
		27,423	78,574	105,997	60,336
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(4,036)	-	(4,036)	(4,320)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		23,387	78,574	101,961	56,016
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		28,652	78,574	107,226	65,846
NET ASSETS		28,652	78,574	107,226	65,846
FUNDS	15				
Unrestricted funds				28,652	49,879
Restricted funds				78,574	15,967
TOTAL FUNDS				107,226	65,846

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 October 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET - continued
31 OCTOBER 2024

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 25 July 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mr C T E Atkinson - Trustee

Mrs I Terry - Trustee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions

The charitable company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemption in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Intangible fixed assets

Amortisation is provided at the following annual rate in order to write off each asset over the estimated useful life.

Website	- Over 10 years
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Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Equipment	- 25% on cost
Motor vehicles	- 25% on reducing balance
Office and computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

VETERANS IN ACTION LTD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	90,699	115,130
Grants	119,200	142,500
	<u>209,899</u>	<u>257,630</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Veterans Foundation	27,592	10,000
Lottery	-	80,000
Armed Forces Covenant Trust	16,000	37,500
Blue Light	-	15,000
National Lottery	20,000	-
Lottery Community Fund	41,358	-
Armed Forces Community Fund	14,250	-
	<u>119,200</u>	<u>142,500</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fundraising events	<u>2,296</u>	<u>-</u>

VETERANS IN ACTION LTD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024 £	2023 £
Deposit account interest	1	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 6) £	Totals £
Principle activity	153,302	34,242	187,544
	<u>153,302</u>	<u>34,242</u>	<u>187,544</u>

6. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management £	Finance £	Information technology £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Principle activity	27,308	8	25	6,901	34,242
	<u>27,308</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>6,901</u>	<u>34,242</u>

7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation - owned assets	4,565	6,879
Hire of plant and machinery	187	1,163
Other operating leases	18,820	18,820
Surplus on disposal of fixed assets	-	(1,126)
	<u>4,565</u>	<u>15,736</u>

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 October 2024 nor for the year ended 31 October 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 October 2024 nor for the year ended 31 October 2023.

VETERANS IN ACTION LTD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

9. STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	93,635	106,270
Social security costs	7,594	8,654
Other pension costs	1,842	2,139
	<u>103,071</u>	<u>117,063</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Supervision and organisation	2	3
Management	2	2
	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

10. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Website £
COST	
At 1 November 2023 and 31 October 2024	<u>5,616</u>
AMORTISATION	
At 1 November 2023 and 31 October 2024	<u>5,615</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 October 2024	<u>1</u>
At 31 October 2023	<u>1</u>

VETERANS IN ACTION LTD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Office and computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 November 2023 and 31 October 2024	43,020	26,783	12,309	82,112
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 November 2023	39,366	22,210	10,707	72,283
Charge for year	1,940	1,144	1,481	4,565
At 31 October 2024	41,306	23,354	12,188	76,848
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 October 2024	1,714	3,429	121	5,264
At 31 October 2023	3,654	4,573	1,602	9,829

12. STOCKS

	2024 £	2023 £
Stocks	2,000	2,000

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments	1,968	-

VETERANS IN ACTION LTD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	1,190	1,413
Other creditors	416	416
Accrued expenses	2,430	2,491
	<u>4,036</u>	<u>4,320</u>

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.11.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.10.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	49,879	(21,227)	28,652
Restricted funds			
Lottery fund	8,783	(8,174)	609
Armed Forces Covenant Fund	774	(774)	-
Veteran's Places, Pathways, and People programme	4,500	(4,500)	-
Camera and photography equipment	877	(877)	-
Blue Light	1,033	(1,033)	-
Bricks and Banter	-	903	903
Stepping Stones Project	-	6,212	6,212
ALIVE	-	41,358	41,358
Veterans in Wilderness	-	27,592	27,592
Thrive	-	1,900	1,900
	<u>15,967</u>	<u>62,607</u>	<u>78,574</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>65,846</u>	<u>41,380</u>	<u>107,226</u>

VETERANS IN ACTION LTD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	109,724	(130,951)	(21,227)
Restricted funds			
Lottery fund	-	(8,174)	(8,174)
Armed Forces Covenant Fund	-	(774)	(774)
Veteran's Places, Pathways, and People programme	-	(4,500)	(4,500)
Camera and photography equipment	-	(877)	(877)
Blue Light	-	(1,033)	(1,033)
Bricks and Banter	14,250	(13,347)	903
Stepping Stones Project	20,000	(13,788)	6,212
ALIVE	41,358	-	41,358
Veterans in Wilderness	27,592	-	27,592
Thrive	16,000	(14,100)	1,900
	<u>119,200</u>	<u>(56,593)</u>	<u>62,607</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>228,924</u>	<u>(187,544)</u>	<u>41,380</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.11.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.10.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	33,617	16,262	49,879
Restricted funds			
Lottery fund	-	8,783	8,783
Armed Forces Covenant Fund	774	-	774
Veteran's Places, Pathways, and People programme	14,991	(10,491)	4,500
Camera and photography equipment	1,750	(873)	877
Blue Light	-	1,033	1,033
	<u>17,515</u>	<u>(1,548)</u>	<u>15,967</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>51,132</u>	<u>14,714</u>	<u>65,846</u>

VETERANS IN ACTION LTD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	134,915	(118,653)	16,262
Restricted funds			
Lottery fund	80,000	(71,217)	8,783
Armed Forces Covenant Fund	2,500	(2,500)	-
Veteran's Places, Pathways, and People programme	34,999	(45,490)	(10,491)
Camera and photography equipment	-	(873)	(873)
Blue Light	15,001	(13,968)	1,033
	<u>132,500</u>	<u>(134,048)</u>	<u>(1,548)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>267,415</u>	<u>(252,701)</u>	<u>14,714</u>

Restricted funds

The Lottery fund represents amounts received from the Lottery that are to be used in accordance with the funder's directions.

The Armed Forces Covenant fund represents amounts received from the Armed Forces Covenant that are to be used in accordance with the funder's directions.

Veterans' Places, Pathways and People is a programme run by the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust.

Camera and photography equipment represents funds received for the specific application for the purchase of such equipment.

The Blue Light fund represents amounts received that are specifically to be used towards the cost of building a camper van to be used by the charity.

The Bricks & Banter project is part of the ALIVE programme but is specifically aimed to providing creative workshops where veterans make Lego structures and produce films about it.

The Stepping Stones Project is also part of the ALIVE programme aimed at getting veterans to walk and talk.

The ALIVE fund represents amounts received and the application of these amounts towards the overall running of the ALIVE programme.

Veterans in Wilderness is a programme designed to encourage veterans to be more hands on with nature.

VETERANS IN ACTION LTD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

The Thrive programme aims to improve access to mental health and wellbeing support for veterans by focussing on creating safe spaces and connecting veterans with appropriate pathways of support.

16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 October 2024.

17. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The Company was controlled throughout the period by its trustees.