

LEICESTERSHIRE SEARCH AND RESCUE

England & Wales · Charity number 1150100

Details

Other names	LEICSAR
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2012-12-10
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	2 Speedwell Road Mountsorrel Loughborough Leicestershire LE12 7FF
Phone	07721 922091
Email	info@leicestershire-sar.org.uk
Website	www.leicestershire-sar.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF LEICSAR SHALL BE TO RELIEVE SUFFERING AND DISTRESS AMONGST PERSONS ENDANGERED BY ACCIDENTS OR NATURAL HAZARDS, IN PARTICULAR;1. TO PROMOTE AND CO-ORDINATE ADEQUATE SEARCH AND RESCUE ARRANGEMENTS IN THE COUNTY OF LEICESTERSHIRE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STANDARDS SET BY THE ASSOCIATION OF LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE.2. TO SUPPORT SEARCH AND RESCUE ACTIVITIES IN OTHER GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS AS REQUESTED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE OR OTHER MEMBER TEAMS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE.3. TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS EXCEPT WHEN SEARCH AND RESCUE ACTIVITIES TAKE PRIORITY.4. TO SUPPORT STATUTORY BODIES AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN NATIONAL RESILIENCE.

Activities: LeicSAR is a lowland search and rescue unit operating throughout Leicestershire and Rutland. We are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Our primary role is to assist the Police in the search for vulnerable missing persons in urban, rural and lowland areas. This includes children, the elderly or those suffering from an illness including dementia, depression or mental health issues.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Leicester City
- Leicestershire
- Rutland

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-01-31	£42,995	£36,335	-	-
2024-01-31	£70,858	£67,874	-	-
2023-01-31	£28,649	£29,120	-	-
2022-01-31	£38,430	£38,140	-	-
2021-01-31	£37,215	£43,735	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Nicholas Canham	Chair	2017-07-05
Debi Wright		2014-04-23
Ian Silver		2022-09-07
Jon Birnie		2023-10-03
Stephen Lamb		2024-11-19
Timothy Hargraves		2020-09-13

Accounts



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Leicestershire Search & Rescue

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 January 2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

1150100

Set out on pages

3 - 5

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/01/2025.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: P. A. Glyn-Smith

Date: 15/10/2025

Name: Philip Anthony Glyn-Smith

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

FCA

Address:

HSP Tax & Accounts Ltd

Whiteacres, Cambridge Road

Whetstone, Leicestershire, LE8 6ZG

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.



Leicestershire Search and Rescue Treasurer's Report AGM Tuesday 14th Oct 2025

Introduction

This report is for the financial year from **1st February 2024 – January 31st 2025** and is in conjunction with the Income and Expenditure statement which you all have a copy of.

These accounts were produced by Phil Glyn-Smith, FCA | Director of HSP Tax & Accounts Ltd who will be signing them off and submitting them to the Charities Commission.

In addition, there has been the usual internal audit carried out of our financial transactions by Russell Frost, and everything was found to be satisfactory. We are very grateful to Russell for continuing to provide this additional check.

Income

We had an extremely good year of fundraising and donations, with our first ever full team fundraising event generating over £7000 alone. The sponsored event undertaken by a team member, a successful supermarket collection as well as the clothes bank and a presence at several emergency service days, generated the £10,000 income you see on the statement, and meant we achieved our budgeted figure.

The budget for donations was set high at £13,500 based on the previous year and happily we achieved 84% of this figure, with amazing support from local organisations, businesses, both family and employers of several team members and the ongoing generosity of the general public.

The 3 large events that have become regular annual events for us, along with several smaller events have stabilised our income and enabled more accurate budgeting, and we achieved 86% of the budgeted £10,650.

Grant applications still proved difficult this year, with the focus on so many of them still being cost of living, fuel poverty etc.

We did however secure three grants during the year, two for additional FREC qualifications for team members and one to help with the cost of uniforms for the new intake.

Our VAT refund is always a direct result on expenditure and following last year's heavy investment in equipment, expenditure this year was purposely kept significantly lower, hence the lower VAT reclaim figure.

As reported last year we now have Miscellaneous receipts/social as an income category where team payments for the Xmas meal are allocated. Refunds and account transfers have also been included here for ease of accounting.

Expenses

As previously mentioned, expenditure for this year was deliberately kept to a minimum, concentrating on upgrading our day-to-day medical equipment such as defibrillators and the medic bags. Likewise expenditure on ICT was limited to the annual renewing of IT systems, and with the water team the addition of some safety equipment ie; good scene lighting.

As in previous years, expenses such as insurances, fuel, stationery, mobile data and vehicle running costs remain fairly static and can be fairly be accurately budgeted for. This was the case again this year, with the exception of the expenditure on uniforms. The figure shown on the statement only refers to CFR uniforms and Keela promotions, as the invoice for uniforms for the 2024 cohort was paid later in February and therefore in the current financial year.

Training expenditure was much lower than anticipated, coming in at less than 50% of the budgeted figure, as fewer members completing the FREC3 course than planned as we were not awarded the full grants applied for. Navigation training for team leaders and the Planners and Ops cadre was put on hold, as was drone pilot training for 2 additional members.

The new entry for Team welfare also includes social events, namely the Xmas meal for which members reimburse us. This appears in miscellaneous receipts as mentioned earlier, where happily the two entries almost cancel each other out. For ease of accounting Sundry expenses also includes a small figure for General Maintenance.

Summary

To summarise; our Income and Expenditure statement makes for pleasant reading. Limiting expenditure on equipment following the heavy investment last year, coupled with the success of our first ever team fundraising event and the increased income from donations and event cover, has led to a very healthy year financially for the team. As you can see in the statement, resulting in a surplus of income over expenditure in excess of £6,500.

As the statement shows; this has increased our surplus carried forward from £26,207 in Feb 2024 to £32,867 in Feb 2025, so a really good strong start for the team for this current year.

As usual, an independent examiners report will be submitted to the Charity Commission, along with our accounts and this report.

We are very grateful to Phil Glyn-Smith for continuing to provide this service free of charge each year.



From Date 01-Feb-24

To Date 31-Jan-25



**The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service**

LEICESTERSHIRE SEARCH & RESCUE.

Income & Expenditure Statement

(All values reported in GBP Sterling)

Turnover

Balance bought forward from previous year:	£26,207.45
Fundraising, donations & membership subs	£23,902.50
Grants	£4,410.00
Event cover	£9,170.32
VAT refund	£3,003.94
Uniform sales	£996.88
Equipment sales	-
Miscellaneous receipts	£1,511.46

Total Income for year **£42,995.10**

Less Expenses

Equipment	£7,405.69
Fundraising event expenses	-
Professional fees/subscriptions	£583.40
Stationery / Office	£745.72
Vehicle Maintenance & Tax	£4,489.36
Insurances	£9,726.73
Uniforms	£1,905.51
Fuel	£2,026.64
Training	£6,497.90
Mobiles/Data	£1,418.57
Team Welfare	£1,257.95
Sundry expenses	£277.94

Total Expenses for year **£36,335.41**

Surplus of income over expenses **£6,659.69**

Surplus brought forward £26,207.45

Surplus carried forward £32,867.14

Accounts



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Leicestershire Search & Rescue

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 January 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1150100

Set out on pages

3 - 6

(remember to include the page numbers of additional annexes)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/01/2024.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: P.A. Glyn-Smith

Date: 20/11/2024

Name: Philip Anthony Glyn-Smith

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

FCA

Address:

HSP Tax & Accounts Ltd

Whiteacres, Cambridge Road

Whetstone, Leicestershire, LE8 6ZG

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.



Leicestershire Search and Rescue Treasurer's Report AGM Tuesday 19th Nov 2024

Introduction

This report is for the financial year from **1st February 2023 – January 31st 2024** and is in conjunction with the Income and Expenditure statement which you all have a copy of.

These accounts were produced by Phil Glyn - Smith FCA | Director, who will be signing them off and submitting them to the Charities Commission. In addition, there has been the usual internal audit carried out of our financial transactions by Russell Frost, and everything was found to be satisfactory. We are very grateful to Russell for continuing to provide this additional check.

Income

This report has to begin by mentioning the incredibly generous donation we received 6 days into the start of this financial year of £25,000. This was a donation from a private individual who did not want any publicity. Our budgets are set at the end of the previous financial year and total income was projected to be just over £46,000, but as you can see from the statement our actual income was nearly £71,000.

Putting aside the £25,000, this was a good year for donations. We received further sizeable donations from the Freemasons, a relation of a team member and another private individual who donated towards the cost of a new drone.

Our income was also significantly boosted by securing event cover at two new large events, generating additional unbudgeted income of £4,500. In addition, income from Grants came in very close to the budgeted figure. The £9000 received in grants from 2 sources were both for the Water team, which enabled all the required equipment to be purchased for the newly qualified Swift water team.

This expenditure, along with our new drone and some more investment in ICT equipment meant a larger than expected VAT refund from HMRC.

Unfortunately Fundraising still struggles, only generating £4,300 of income, less than 50% of the budgeted figure.

Refunds, Account transfers and team payments for our Xmas meal have all been allocated to Miscellaneous receipts for ease of accounting.

NB. For the current financial year we have added Miscellaneous receipts/social as an Income category and Team welfare/social as an Expense category for more accurate accounting.

Expenses

The expenditure for this year reflects the increase in our income due to the large donation.

As mentioned above the expenditure on swift water equipment was totally funded by the two grants.

The other big expense was the purchase of a new drone which was included in the budget.

In addition, we improved our medical equipment specifically for providing first aid at events, significantly upgraded our MX Sarman software and invested in additional ICT equipment.

The figure shown against vehicle maintenance and tax is again as a direct result of the large donation, as it enabled us to buy an additional 4x4 vehicle with a much-improved spec to our existing vehicle. The donor is aware of this purchase, he has seen photos and is very gratified at being kept informed. An acknowledgement of their donation will be added to the livery.

If we discount the purchase price of this vehicle, happily we spent very little on vehicle maintenance over the year, in fact only slightly over 50% of the budgeted figure for this category.

#Other expenses such as insurances, uniform purchases and fuel remain fairly static costs which can be accurately budgeted for. This was the case again this year, with the exception of insurance which was higher than the budgeted figure due to quite a significant increase in the value of our assets.

It was anticipated that we would be awarded grant funding to send a number of members on the FRE3 course throughout the year but unfortunately, we were not successful. As a result, even though we did finance a portion of this training cost ourselves the expenditure on training was significantly below the budgeted figure.

NB we were successful with some grant funding for this in 2024.

Sundry expenses are largely made up of costs relating to team welfare, social events (for which members reimburse us) and general maintenance. As I said previously these have been added as categories for this current year for more transparent accounting.

Summary

To summarise; our Income and Expenditure statement is a total contrast to last year's very sobering report. To be in a financial position to make the investments needed to further develop the team's skills is very gratifying. With a fully trained, fully equipped swift water team, and a drone that is of the same calibre as the Police drone, our capabilities make us one of the strongest SAR teams in the country.

In addition, the investment in medical training and equipment is already paying dividends. The addition of 2 new lucrative events that we covered this year and are now expanding year on year, along with the Ashby 20 would not have been possible without the additional investment. All in all, a very good year for the team.

As usual, an independent examiners report will be submitted to the Charity Commission, along with our accounts and this report.

We are very grateful to Phil Glyn-Smith for continuing to provide this service free of charge each year.



From Date 01-Feb-23

To Date 31-Jan-24

LEICESTERSHIRE SEARCH & RESCUE.

Income & Expenditure Statement

(All values reported in GBP Sterling)

Turnover

Balance bought forward from previous year:	£23,223.63
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Fundraising, donations & membership subs	£43,918.08
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Grants	£9,014.00
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Event cover	£9,759.00
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VAT refund	£6,320.79
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Uniform sales	£474.93
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Equipment sales	
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Miscellaneous receipts	£1,371.43
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Total Income for year	£70,858.23
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Less Expenses

Equipment	£26,371.62
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Fundraising event expenses	£254.98
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Professional fees/subscriptions	£884.00
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Stationery / Office	£381.40
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Vehicle Maintenance & Tax	£16,346.05
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Insurances	£8,810.40
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Uniforms	£6,292.85
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Fuel	£1,754.42
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Training	£4,086.98
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Mobiles/Data	£960.50
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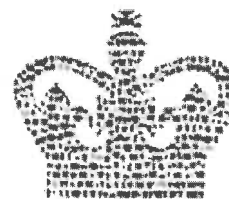
Sundry expenses	£1,731.21
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Total Expenses for year	£67,874.41
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Surplus of income over expenses	£2,983.82
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Surplus brought forward	£23,223.63
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Surplus carried forward	<u>£26,207.45</u>
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The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service

Accounts



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Leicestershire Search & Rescue

On accounts for the year
ended

31 January 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1150100

Set out on pages

3 - 7

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/01/2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

P.A. Glyn-Smith

Date:

13/11/2023

Name:

Philip Anthony Glyn-Smith

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FCA

Address: HSP Tax & Accounts Limited
Whiteacres, Cambridge Road
Whetstone, Leicestershire, LE8 6ZG

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.



Leicestershire Search and Rescue Treasurer's Report AGM Tuesday 3rd Oct 2023

Introduction

This report is for the financial year from **1st February 2022 – January 31st 2023** and is in conjunction with the Income and Expenditure statement which you all have a copy of.

These accounts were produced by Phil Glyn - Smith FCA | Director of HSP Tax & Accounts Ltd, who

will be signing them off and submitting them to the Charities Commission assuming that the members here today find them to be in good order.

In addition, there has been the usual internal audit carried out of our financial transactions by Russell Frost and everything was found to be satisfactory. We are very grateful to Russell for continuing to provide this additional check.

Income

Our budgets were set in Jan 2022, and unlike the previous year this was done with a good degree of optimism with the pandemic behind us.

2022 was to be a year of growth for the team, with investment planned for the introduction of a Swift Water team and significant medical training to get more members FREC3 qualified. So as not to reduce our cash reserves, it was decided that this growth was to be financed by grants.

The dramatic rise in the cost of living in 2022 had a significant impact on our ability to generate income. Donations were significantly down, and the main focus of many grants was help with cost of living and fuel poverty, and our projects often failed to meet the grant criteria.

- Fundraising, Donations & Membership Subs - we only achieved 50% of the figure we had budgeted for fundraising and the shortfall was largely due an opportunity to Crowdfund not materialising. We had optimistically budgeted for £5000 of income from this.

- Likewise, donations were down by 50% for the reasons mentioned earlier. Over 60% of our donations came from the continued support of Next plc and the Dog & Gun pub in Syston.

We had also hoped to see some Corporate sponsorship this year but it became apparent during the year that this is an area that needs careful planning and structuring, something we will focus on going forward.

Memberships subs remained the same amount as in previous years.

- Grants – as stated at the beginning the focus of grants across the board changed dramatically in this financial year and we struggled to qualify for a large majority of those available. We had 5 successful applications for smaller grants which helped towards costs like new recruits uniforms, training and drone and medical equipment.
- Event Cover – with the return of most sporting events, our income from this returned to the expected level and we achieved 90% of our budget.
- VAT refunds – without the grants to invest in the new equipment as we had hoped, it follows that the amount received in VAT refunds was also much less than budgeted, at 40%.

In November the role of Fundraising officer was once again filled and with it came a new direction for fundraising, providing a more positive feel to the end of the year.

Expenditure

The budget for expenditure was set high this year to match the anticipated income. It was hoped we would secure funding to develop our Swift Water team, but unfortunately this did not materialise and consequently expenditure on equipment was significantly lower than expected.

Additional medical equipment was purchased for specific training needs with funding from a grant along with upgrading some of our essential equipment.

Likewise, our drone team received a small grant to purchase their own laptop, some additional batteries and also for essential upgrades with our operating licence.

We also anticipated more training courses being made available to us this year. Some of these were grant dependent, but it was felt that after 2

years with very little team development a sizeable training budget should be set to allow this to take place.

- Vehicle maintenance - this was limited to essential repairs only due to the significant reduction in income so that came in well under the budgeted figure.
- Stationery/Office - expenditure for this was also less than the budgeted figure. This was largely due to the closure of Respond Tech, our old call out system for which we paid monthly, and the migration to Cube which is supplied free of charge.
Also in September we vacated the storage unit at Western Fire Station and moved into our new premises at FHQ for which no rent is charged, a saving of £160 per month.
- Insurance - whilst both team and vehicle Insurance are significant expenses, we are very fortunate to have brokers for both who continue to negotiate very favourable rates for us. In fact, the cost of insuring the fleet has remained at £600 per vehicle for many years now. We are able to pay both in instalments which helps our cash flow greatly.
- Uniforms - the purchasing of uniforms for the new intake remains a major cost, and in previous years we have been fortunate to receive a grant to cover a large percentage of this cost. Unfortunately, this year we only received funding for less than 50% of that cost. Adding to this the price increase from Keela meant we exceeded the £5000 we had budgeted for uniforms.
- Fuel - as last year we budgeted for £1500 on fuel. This figure seems to reflect a 'normal' year's fuel consumption and 2022 was no different with the team fully active again. We came in very close to this figure at £1342.10.
- Training - although we budgeted for a much higher spend on training than we achieved, we did have the opportunity to further develop the team with a variety of courses this year.
These ranged from Team Leader and Search Planner courses by Lowland Rescue, FREC3 training for some of our medics, GVC (general visual line of sight certificate) to enable our drone to be flown in built up areas, a Mental Wellbeing course for several of our members, Water safety training and also K9 first aid for our dog handlers.

Summary

So, to summarise; our Income and Expenditure statement makes sobering reading this year when looked at in conjunction with our budgets, and clearly shows that our optimistic expectation for funding to return to pre-covid levels, both with donations and grants was not forthcoming as mentioned at the beginning.

As already mentioned, this did mean that specialisms that we really wanted to develop during the year did not happen, namely the investment in training and equipment for the Swift water team and the number of FREC3 qualified medics we would have liked to give us more scope for event cover.

However, on a positive note by cutting our expenditure accordingly we have again managed to keep our income and expenditure in line, with less than a £500 deficit in our income.

This therefore means that the balance carried forward into the current financial year of £23,244 very closely matches the opening balance for 2022, and again keeps us very much in line with where we need to be financially.

It is always the aim of the Trustees to move into a new financial year with sufficient funds in the bank to cover our day to day running costs for the forthcoming year.

That being said jumping ahead to the current year, we got off to a tremendous start with a very generous donation of £25,000 in February!

Finally, as our annual turnover exceeds £25,000 it is a legal requirement that we have an independent examiners report submitted to the Charity Commission, along with our accounts and this report.

We are very grateful to Phil Glyn-Smith of HSP Tax & Accounts Ltd for continuing to provide this service free of charge each year.



From Date 01-Feb-22

To Date 31-Jan-23



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service

LEICESTERSHIRE SEARCH & RESCUE.

Income & Expenditure Statement

(All values reported in GBP Sterling)

Turnover

Balance bought forward from previous year:	£23,694.68
Fundraising, donations & membership subs	£15,561.96
Grants	£4,855.00
Event cover	£5,259.69
VAT refund	£2,724.80
Uniform sales	£153.00
Equipment sales	-
Miscellaneous receipts	£94.63

Total Income for year **£28,649.08**

Less Expenses

Equipment	£4,355.90
Rent / Hire charges	£1,120.00
Stationery / Office	£704.07
Vehicle Maintenance & Tax	£1,438.89
Insurances	£7,727.44
Uniforms	£5,767.78
Fuel	£1,342.10
Training	£4,933.30
Mobiles/Data	£774.55
Sundry expenses	£956.10

Total Expenses for year **£29,120.13**

Surplus of expenses over income **(£471.05)**

Surplus brought forward £23,694.68

Surplus carried forward £23,223.63

Accounts



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Leicestershire Search & Rescue

On accounts for the year
ended

31 January 2022

Charity no
(if any)

1150100

Set out on pages

3 - 6

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and
basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/01/2022.

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

P.A. Glyn-Smith

Date:

15/11/2022

Name:

Philip Anthony Glyn-Smith

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FCA

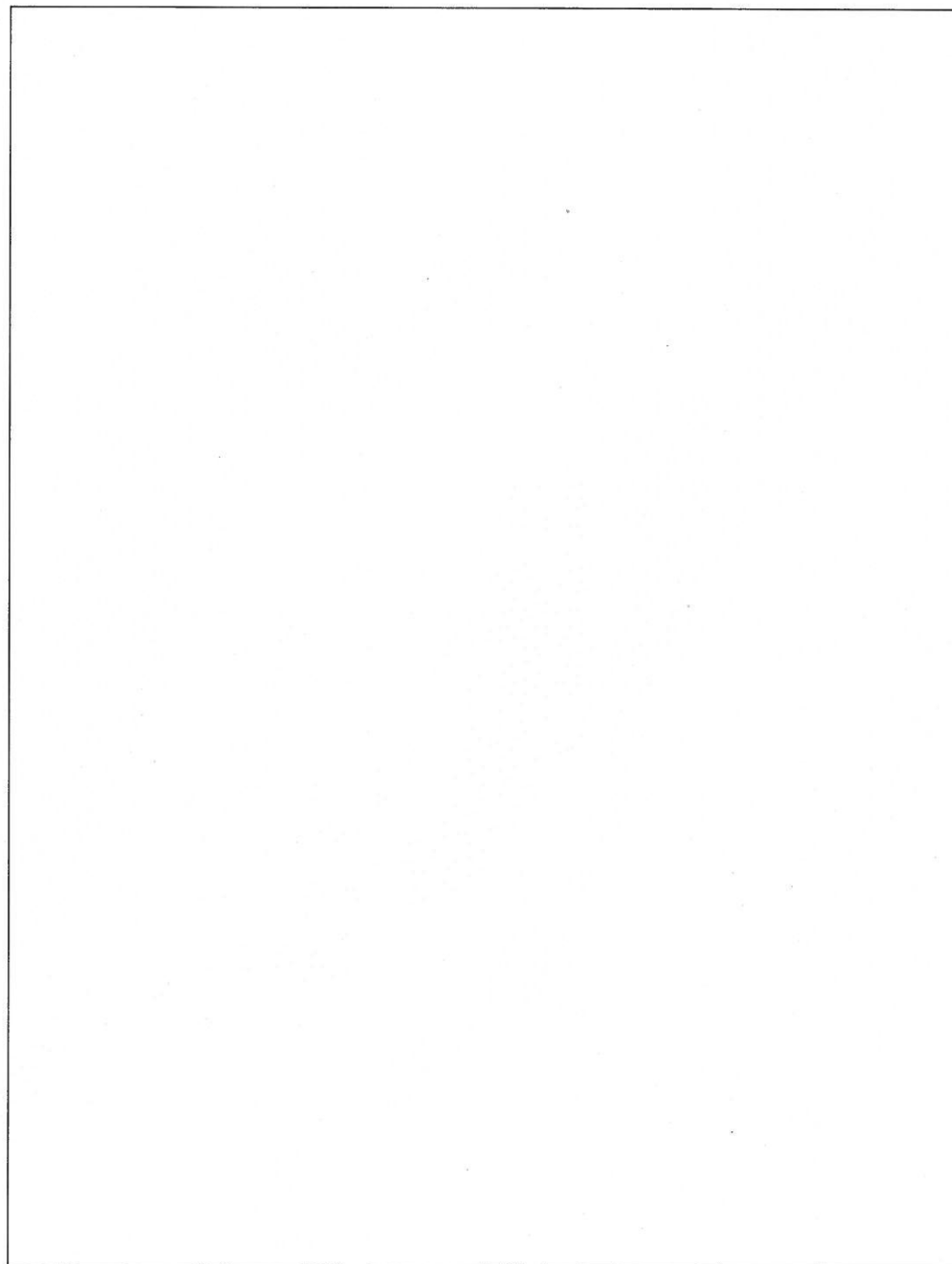
Address:	HSP Tax & Accounts Limited
	Whiteacres, Cambridge Road
	Whetstone, Leicestershire, LE8 6ZG

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.





Leicestershire Search and Rescue Treasurer's Report

Thursday 20th Oct 2022

Introduction

This report is for the financial year from **1st February 2021 – January 31st 2022**, and is written in conjunction with the Income and Expenditure statement which you all have a copy of.

These accounts were produced by Phil Glyn - Smith FCA | Director of HSP Tax & Accounts Ltd, who will be signing them off and submitting them to the Charities Commission assuming that the members here today find them to be in good order.

In addition there has been a bi-annual internal audit carried out of our financial transactions and everything was found to be satisfactory.

Income

Unlike the previous year, the budgets for 2021 were set with the uncertainty surrounding the Pandemic very much in mind.

The unprecedented number of grants available in the previous year eased financial pressure on us and enabled us to increase our assets. It was therefore decided by the Trustees that 2021 should be a year of consolidation and focus on team development rather than any more large 'projects'.

The number of grants available for running costs reduced dramatically in 2021 as life started to return to normal, but the absolute saving grace for us was being offered a decommissioned ambulance, free of charge with permission to sell it on if we did not need it for our own use. The £10,000 that the sale achieved provided a much-needed boost to our income in 2021.

- **Fundraising, Donations & Membership Subs:**
A realistic budget was set for fundraising in the knowledge that the usual opportunities available to us may return later in the year, and happily we achieved 6% over the budgeted figure, largely due to the phenomenal success of the Sainsbury's collection in December.
- We achieved 87% of our budget for donations. Of particular note is the unbelievable generosity of the Much-Loved fund set up following the sad death of one of our members. We also received donations from existing members either directly or because they offered their skills in return for a donation to LeicSAR. A grateful thanks to those members. Next plc continued to support us with another sizeable donation, and we also received a significant donation from the funeral collection of a sadly deceased Misper. Memberships subs were re-instated in 2021 with the amount remaining the same as in previous years.
- **Grants** – as stated earlier grant applications proved a bit of a challenge this year primarily because they returned for the most part to being project related, and we did not feel it was the right time to embark on another significant project. The £10,000 budget was set before this became apparent and we only achieved 30% of this figure. We were successful with 2 applications to fund the purchase of uniforms for the 2021 intake.

- Event Cover – the reverse was the case with event cover, with opportunities becoming available again as sporting events returned later in the year and we managed a 77% increase on the budgeted figure.

Overall, our income from Fundraising, Donations, Grants and Event Cover was only 23% below budget but considering the uncertainty at the beginning the year this is quite acceptable.

- We exceeded our budgeted figure of £2600 in VAT refunds from HMRC by 49%. This was down to the purchase of our drone, which was the only project we had already set funds aside for the previous year and made possible with the Much-Loved Donations, and extra bank search equipment again from donated funds.
- Like the previous year there was no income generating from training since we could not plan to host any training events for neighbouring teams with the continued uncertainty.
- Ebay sales deserves a separate mention since the donated Ambulance was sold on Ebay. This additional income replaced that lost from Grants specifically used for running costs. We are very grateful to De Lage Leasing for allowing us to purchase the Ambulance for £1.00 and then sell it on.
- Miscellaneous receipts – this figure is made up of all the deposits paid in advance for our Christmas meal.

Expenditure

- Expenditure overall for this financial year was well managed, with equipment only being purchased if there was funding in place specifically for it, namely our first drone and additional water equipment, as well as some much needed upgrading of our medical bags.
- Stationary/Office, Rent & Vehicle Tax are for the most part fixed costs, which all came in very close to budget.
- Vehicle maintenance however ended up well over budget due to a large invoice for repairs to the FRV which could not be foreseen.

As last year we are extremely grateful to Leicestershire Police Fleet dept for their ongoing support with servicing and maintenance of our vehicles.

- Both team and vehicle Insurance continue to be a significant expense, but it does remain a consistent cost year on year and the Broker for the fleet insurance continues to negotiate a very competitive deal for all Lowland Rescue teams. We are fortunate to be able to spread the cost throughout the year with very favourable terms.
- Spend on uniforms is high compared to previous years, especially as our intake of new recruits remains fairly static. However, the decision was taken that HiViz for the whole team needed replacing both from a safety point of view and also to bring us in line with the Lowland Rescue orange colour. We did secure a grant from Groundworks UK specifically for this purchase.
The figure also includes an extra £1100 of purchases of the Keela Winter promotion which team members paid for themselves.
- We budgeted for £1500 budgeted on fuel in anticipation of more team activity as the year progressed. As this did not really happen until the second half of the year, we came in under budget by almost 30%.

- We had hoped for a significant amount of team training to take place during the year to make up for the lack of courses over the previous year. Unfortunately, Lowland Rescue did not run the number of courses we anticipated and therefore we only spent 31% of our training budget. The majority of this £2065 was for our Water lead to complete the Swiftwater and Flood Rescue Technician course which was funded by the Severn Trent grant from the previous year.
- A significant amount of the Sundry Expenses is the cost of putting on our Summer Event attended by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant as a belated celebration for receiving the Queens Award for Voluntary service the previous year.

Summary

As the Income and Expenditure statement shows, the decision to have a year of consolidation following the Pandemic was the correct route to take.

Because we only invested in new equipment once we had the funding in place, did not embark on any new projects and budgeted carefully throughout the year, our expenditure was matched by our income almost to the pound.

Consequently, the balance of £23,695 carried forward into the current year is very much in line with where we would hope to be financially.

It is always the aim of the Trustees to move into a new financial year with sufficient funds in the bank to cover our day to day running costs.

As last year, the Trustees would like it noted that they are extremely grateful to all those members who went the extra mile in generating income for our Charity, it all made an incredible difference – Thank you.

Finally, as our annual turnover exceeds £25,000 it is a legal requirement that we have an independent examiners report submitted to the Charity Commission, along with our accounts and this report.

I would like it minuted that we are very grateful to Phil Glyn-Smith of HSP Tax & Accounts Ltd for continuing to provide this service free of charge each year.



From Date 01-Feb-21

To Date 31-Jan-22

LEICESTERSHIRE SEARCH & RESCUE.

Income & Expenditure Statement

(All values reported in GBP Sterling)

Turnover

Balance bought forward from previous year:	£23,404.05
Fundraising, donations & membership subs	£15,920.83
Grants	£3,934.00
Event cover	£3,375.00
VAT refund	£3,880.30
Uniform sales	£1,128.65
Equipment sales	£10,000.00
Miscellaneous receipts	£191.79

Total Income for year **£38,430.57**

Less Expenses

Equipment	£11,763.34
Rent / Hire charges	£2,412.52
Stationary / Office	£862.14
Vehicle Maintenance & Tax	£3,423.06
Insurances	£7,462.65
Uniforms	£7,001.15
Fuel	£1,055.19
Training	£2,065.10
Mobiles/Data	£625.30
Sundry expenses	£1,469.49

Total Expenses for year **£38,139.94**

Surplus of expenses over income **£290.63**

Surplus brought forward £23,404.05

Surplus carried forward £23,694.68



**The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service**

Accounts



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Leicestershire Search & Rescue

On accounts for the year
ended

31 January 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1150100

Set out on pages

3 - 6

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 January 2021.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

P.A. Glyn-Smith

Date:

1/11/2021

Name:

Philip Anthony Glyn-Smith

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FCA

Address:	HSP Tax & Accounts Limited
	Whiteacres, Cambridge Road
	Whetstone, Leicestershire, LE8 6ZG

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.



Leicestershire Search and Rescue Treasurer's Report **Saturday 30th Oct 2021**

Introduction

This report is for the financial year from **1st February 2020 – January 31st 2021**, and is written in conjunction with the Income and Expenditure statement found at the end of the report. These accounts were produced by Phil Glyn - Smith FCA | Director of HSP Tax & Accounts Ltd, who will be signing them off and submitting them to the Charities Commission assuming that the members here today find them to be in good order.

Income

It really needs no introduction, but it should be on record that of course 2020 turned out to be a year the like of which we had never experienced before, and maintaining financial stability became a real challenge.

It should be noted that the budgets for the year are set in the January of the previous financial year and therefore do not reflect the impact of Covid.

However, as the financial statement indicates our income remained steady throughout the year due to the increased number of grants made available to charities to help them through Covid, along with some very generous donations.

We budgeted for a total income for the year of £42,980 and achieves 85% of that figure which is incredible in the circumstances.

- **Fundraising, Donations & Membership Subs**
Face to face fundraising was not permitted for the whole year, so the budgeted figure of £6,500 was not achieved.
We did however receive just over £10,000 in donations in this financial year.
Of particular note is the achievement of one of our members who raised an amazing £2959 by running a Marathon solo to raise funds for us.
We also received £1000 from a member's employer, along with numerous other generous donations from local businesses and members of the public.
We are as always extremely grateful for this support and recognition from the public
The Trustees took the decision at the start of the first lockdown which coincided with the due date for subs, that because on a personal level many members were entering a period of extreme financial uncertainty, we would not ask for subs to be paid in this financial year.
- **Grants** -an unprecedented level of income this year came by the way of the grants which were made available especially by local authorities. In total we received over £20,000 in grants which is a 100% increase on the budgeted figure. This included grants from Leicestershire County Council, Severn Trent, The National Lottery as well as the PCC. In addition to the PCC.

The County Council grant was particularly welcome as applications could be made for running costs, and the grant we were awarded paid our insurance premium for both the team and our fleet for the year.

- Event Cover – we only achieved 16% of our £5000 budgeted figure with 2 events that took place very early on in 2020.

As a consequence of Covid we lost nearly £10,000 of income from Fundraising and Event Cover which would usually provide us with sufficient unrestricted income to cover our running costs.

- We exceeded our budgeted figure of £2000 in VAT refunds from HMRC by 34%, this is entirely down to the additional equipment we were able to purchase because of the funding from grants.
- There was no income generating from training since we could not host any training events for neighbouring teams throughout the year.
- EMAS fuel refund is no longer an item of income due to the ongoing use of their vehicle for our CFR team with EMAS paying for all the fuel. This will be removed from the Income & Expenditure statement in the next financial year.
- Miscellaneous receipts – for ease of accounting this covers small amounts of income from Ebay sales, Accounts transfer in & other incidental receipts. It also covers Refund of goods & services which in this case relates to a cancelled order for £1370 for the Thermal imaging cameras with Amazon and a £600 discount awarded following the purchase of the laptops.

Expenditure

Expenditure overall for this financial year was 62% higher than the budgeted figure of £27,040, but as mentioned earlier we had significant funding from grants to spend!

- Equipment – this is entirely responsible for the overall increase in expenditure. This looks like an alarming increase but at the time the budgets were set we had no idea we would receive so much funding by way of grants to purchase equipment enabling us to remain operational throughout lockdown. This is further highlighted by the fact that the figure shown against income from grants is almost identical to the figure shown against expenditure from equipment purchased.
- Stationary/Office, Rent and Vehicle tax are for the most part fixed costs, which all came in very close to budget.
- Vehicle maintenance – likewise now we have a good, reliable fleet of vehicles, expenditure on maintenance can be far more accurately budgeted for and again came very close to the budgeted figure. This should continue to be steady since the removal of the Pathfinders from the fleet which were no longer cost effective to run.
For the record, we are extremely grateful to Leicestershire Police Fleet dept for their ongoing support with servicing and maintenance of our vehicles.

- Insurance costs - both team and vehicles continue to be a significant expense. However as was mentioned earlier we were very fortunate to receive a grant at the beginning of the Pandemic to cover all our insurance premiums for the entire year. Knowing this critical outgoing was covered really did reduce the pressure on our finances considerably.
- Uniforms – as we did not have an intake of new recruits in 2020 the budget was significantly lower than in previous years just to cover some incidental purchases. The majority of the £3,828 actually spent was again due to a grant, this time from the PCC to enable us to buy much needed safety helmets for every member.
- Fuel - we spent less than 50% of our £1500 budgeted figure on fuel, but this is not surprising with Fundraising, Event cover and face to face training cancelled for the majority of the year.
- Training – we budgeted for a significant amount of team training to take place during the year which was unable to take place due to the Pandemic. However, our K9 team lead had the opportunity to acquire a retired fire service victim recovery dog and so went on a 4-week course in Cumbria to qualify as a victim recovery dog handler. We are immensely proud to be the first team in the country with a qualified victim recovery dog and handler. The balance of the £3,450 spent on training was also very specialised, with our newly formed drone team successfully completing their CAA exams to qualify as pilots. In the absence of regular training, we acquired some very specialist skills.

Summary

The Income and Expenditure statement shows we are still in a strong position financially despite expenses exceeding income by £6,500 for the reasons already mentioned.

The balance of £23,404 carried forward to the current year is still in line with where we would hope to be financially moving into a new financial year, with sufficient funds in the bank to cover our day to day running costs.

It should be added that this is quite an achievement following such an unprecedented year, and we remain one of the strongest LR teams financially.

The Trustees would like it noted that they are extremely grateful to all those members who went the extra mile in generating much needed income for our Charity. Whether it was through undertaking a personal challenge and getting sponsorship for doing so, speaking to their employer and securing a donation, speaking to local businesses again to secure donations or turning their hand to writing grant applications for the first time – it all made an incredible difference – Thank you.

Finally, as our annual turnover exceeds £25,000 it is a legal requirement that we have an independent examiners report submitted along with our accounts and this report to the Charity Commission annually. I would like it minuted that we are very grateful to Phil Glyn-Smith of HSP Tax & Accounts Ltd for continuing to provide this service free of charge each year.



From Date 01-Feb-20

To Date 31-Jan-21

LEICESTERSHIRE SEARCH & RESCUE.

Income & Expenditure Statement

(All values reported in GBP Sterling)

Turnover

Balance bought forward from previous year:	£29,923.66
Fundraising, donations & membership subs	£10,761.67
Grants	£20,376.00
Event cover	£800.00
VAT refund	£2,645.70
Miscellaneous receipts	£2,631.99
Total Income for year	£37,215.36

Less Expenses

Equipment	£20,452.06
Fundraising event expenses	£10.86
Rent / Hire charges	£2,357.40
Stationary / Office	£962.14
Vehicle Maintenance	£2,040.03
Vehicle Tax	£530.00
Insurances	£6,794.58
Uniforms	£3,828.09
Fuel	£698.81
Training	£3,449.79
Mobiles/Data	£584.24
Sundry expenses	£2,026.97
Total Expenses for year	£43,734.97

Surplus of expenses over income (£6,519.61)

Surplus brought forward £29,923.66

Surplus carried forward £23,404.05



**The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service**