



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

<b>Address:</b>	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.

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## **Leicestershire Search and Rescue Treasurer's Report** **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> Oct 2021**

### **Introduction**

This report is for the financial year from **1<sup>st</sup> February 2020 – January 31<sup>st</sup> 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
<b>Total Income for year</b>	<b>£37,215.36</b>

#### 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**