

ASSOCIATION OF LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE

England & Wales · Charity number 1150317

Details

Other names	ALSAR, LOWLAND RESCUE
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2013-01-02
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Unit 70 5th Street Stoneleigh Park Kenilworth CV8 2LG
Phone	03333 12 9999
Email	admin@lowlandrescue.org
Website	www.lowlandrescue.org

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF ALSAR SHALL BE TO RELIEVE THE SUFFERING AND DISTRESS AMONGST PERSONS ENDANGERED BY ACCIDENTS OR NATURAL HAZARDS AND THE PRESERVATION OF LIFE IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY:1. TO PROMOTE ADEQUATE SEARCH AND RESCUE ARRANGEMENTS IN THE LOWLAND AREAS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND IRELAND IN CO-OPERATION WITH ITS MEMBERS, PARTNERS, GOVERNMENT BODIES AND WITH OTHER RELEVANT ORGANISATIONS.2. TO ENSURE APPROPRIATE CONSISTENT TRAINING STANDARDS AND USE OF BEST-PRACTICE BY MEMBERS IN LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE TECHNIQUES.3. TO PROMOTE APPROPRIATE STANDARDS AND CONDUCT AMONGST MEMBERS WITH THE AIM THAT ALL UK POLICE FORCES WILL ACCEPT ALSAR MEMBERS AS APPROPRIATE AND EFFECTIVE PARTNERS FOR SEARCH & RESCUE OPERATIONS.4. WHERE REQUIRED, TO ADVISE AND ASSIST ITS MEMBERS IN ENSURING THEIR APPROPRIATE USE BY THEIR LOCAL POLICE FORCE OR CALLING AGENCY.

Activities: Lowland Rescue provides Search & Rescue support to the emergency services alongside Mountain Rescue, Cave Rescue, RNLI and others. Lowland Rescue teams work 'From Hill to High Water' in

over 30 counties of the UK and all of Northern Ireland. The Association of Lowland Search & Rescue is the coordinating body for individual Lowland Rescue teams.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Armed Forces/emergency Service Efficiency
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Jersey
- Northern Ireland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£88,505	£47,681	-	-
2024-03-31	£48,000	£62,448	-	-
2023-03-31	£92,938	£29,160	-	-
2022-03-31	£47,059	£38,863	-	-
2021-03-31	£74,214	£31,352	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Sean McCarry OBE	Chair	2021-09-02
Adrian Nicholas Edwards		2021-09-02
Andrew Harrison MBE		2020-07-05
Dave Alcock		2023-09-30
Diana Elizabeth Green		2022-10-22
Lyndsey Donaldson-Selby		2022-10-22

ASSOCIATION OF LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE

England & Wales - Charity number 1150317

Accounts

Income and Expenditure Account for Association of Lowland Search and Rescue
Year to 31 March 2025

Income

General Sales and Misc	15,920.55
Donations - Unrestricted	259.75
Grants for ALSAR	<u>72,324.78</u>
	<u>88,505.08</u>

less Cost of Income

Purchase Tax Control Account	-5,392.57
Training Costs	-7,019.22
Travelling	-2,754.91
Hosting Fees and IT Consumables	-324.37
Telephone and Mobile Charges	-57.03
Bank Charges	-110.03
Stationery	-515.42
Subscriptions	-80
Hotels	-19,107.24
Miscellaneous Expenses	-450
Audit and Accountancy Fees	-325
Insurance	-2,054.20
Training Course Costs of Sales	-2,802.92
SDH - Restricted Fund	-3,465.13
General Purchases	<u>-3,223.00</u>
	<u>-47,681.04</u>

Net Cash Flows 40,824.04

Cash and Bank at 1 April 2024 162,026.73

Cash and Bank at 31 March 2025 202,850.77

Income and Expenditure Account for Association of Lowland Search and Rescue
Year to 31 March 2025

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Donations - Unrestricted	259.75
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Telephone and Mobile Charges	-57.03
Bank Charges	-110.03
Stationery	-515.42
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Hotels	-19,107.24
Miscellaneous Expenses	-450
Audit and Accountancy Fees	-325
Insurance	-2,054.20
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SDH - Restricted Fund	-3,465.13
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Cash and Bank at 1 April 2024 162,026.73

Cash and Bank at 31 March 2025 202,850.77



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
ASSOCIATION OF LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 MARCH 2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

1150317

Set out on pages

1-2

(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 DD / MM / YYYY.

**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:

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

Signed:

Date:

18 AUGUST 2025

Name:

ANDREW CHAPPELL

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

FCA

Address:

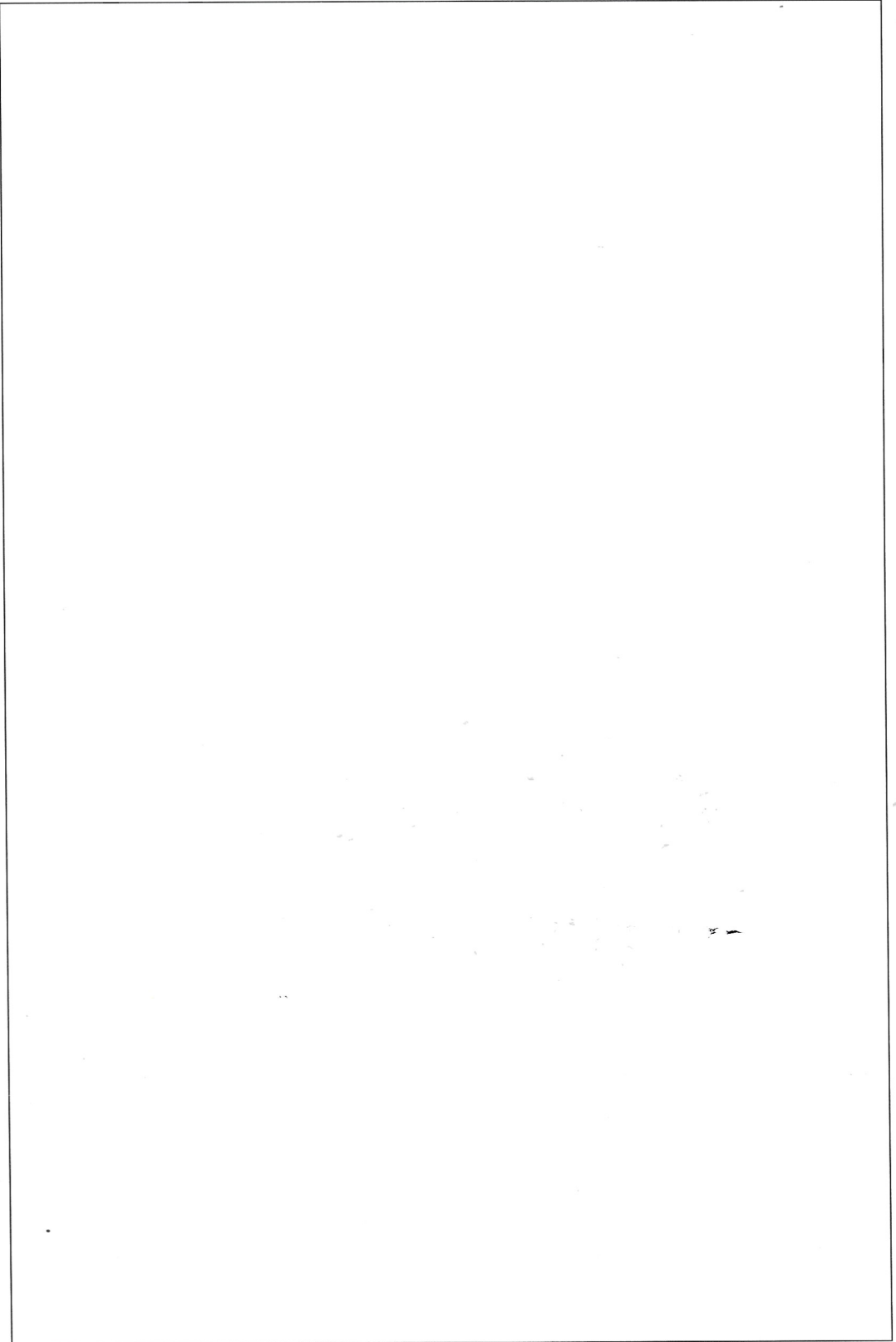
CHAPPELL ASSOCIATES LTD

WESTFIELD HOUSE, BRATTON ROAD, WESTBURY

WILTSHIRE, BA13 3EP

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.



ASSOCIATION OF LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE

England & Wales - Charity number 1150317

Accounts

Trustees Report 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

The trustees continue to work on and develop the four objectives set in 2019 as follows:

1. Supporting, engaging and communicating with our Teams and being transparent in our dealings

Our leadership team continued to support any probationary teams through our process to full operational status.

During 2023-24 we received £39,976 from Charities Aid Foundation which is supporting Lowland Rescue in continuing to provide additional training to all our member teams to cover elements specific to our environment.

2. Ensuring our Tasking Agencies, SAR Strategic Partners and the Charity Commission have confidence in LR

Lowland Rescue continues to be an active part of UKSAR and regularly meets with the Operators, Medical, Radio Communications, Volunteer and Mental Wellbeing groups. Active work has also taken place in the Emergency Drivers Working Group with great progress being made during the past year.

In addition, we attend the Police Search Governance Board and meet regularly with the National Police Chiefs Council and other strategic partners and stakeholders.

3. Demonstrating good governance and managing key risk areas

It is important in terms of overall governance that, as an organisation, we have accurate data on our activities and resources in LR. This assists in terms of internal management but also supports some of the developments we are undertaking and need external support. LR team members continue to develop the AIR (Annual Incident Report) database and to collate such important data. In addition to this we have begun the process of updating our internal AMS system which holds all our documents and records.

The 2024 AGM and Conference attendance was excellent with a high percentage of our Teams participating.

Key points from 2024 include:

- There currently are **34 Lowland Rescue Teams**
- There remains **1,626 operational members** and 531 non-operational members across the teams. This compares with the operational numbers from 2021 (1653 operational).so retention and recruitment remain good.
- Resources available across the teams included:
 - 54 dogs
 - 112 vehicles
 - 52 boats
 - 64 drones
 - 98 bikes
 - 40 canoes and kayaks

Last year we have seen a significant increase in drones from 56 to 64 as drones are proving to be a valuable tool in searching for missing people and this has again increased over the past year. We also had 6 teams with sonar capacity – a valuable resource when searching in rivers,

lakes etc and this capability has also increased with the establishment of a new department for underwater search and recovery.

- In total over 75,000 **person-hours were recorded** (69,000 in 2022) of Lowland Rescue incident activity were completed in the past year.
- In 2023-2024 period there were 1,726 **incident callouts** (1,665 in 2021) including assists and 1,551 (1,450 in 2021) of these associated with searches for missing people.
- Operationally, July and November 2022 were the busiest months. During the week there were slightly more callouts on Saturdays and Sundays, and slightly less midweek.
- Based on the full economic costs of a police officer (National Policing Guidelines 2018) the **total value of the Lowland Rescue Services provided for search incidents alone would be £5.9 million**. This excludes all costs associated with additional activities.
- Coronation Medals – were awarded across all 34 Teams. These were also awarded to other frontline emergency services personnel dealing with emergencies and have completed five full calendar years of service at the required date.
- Special mention to our teams who were awarded the Kings Award for Voluntary Service
- LR has introducing new processes for delivery of land search training to enhance the consistency of training across all member teams.

Sean Mc Carry OBE

Chair

The association of Lowland Search and Rescue



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
ASSOCIATION OF LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 MARCH 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1150317

Set out on pages

1-2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

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Signed:

Date:

8 AUGUST 2024

Name:

ANDREW CHAPPELL

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

FCA

Address:

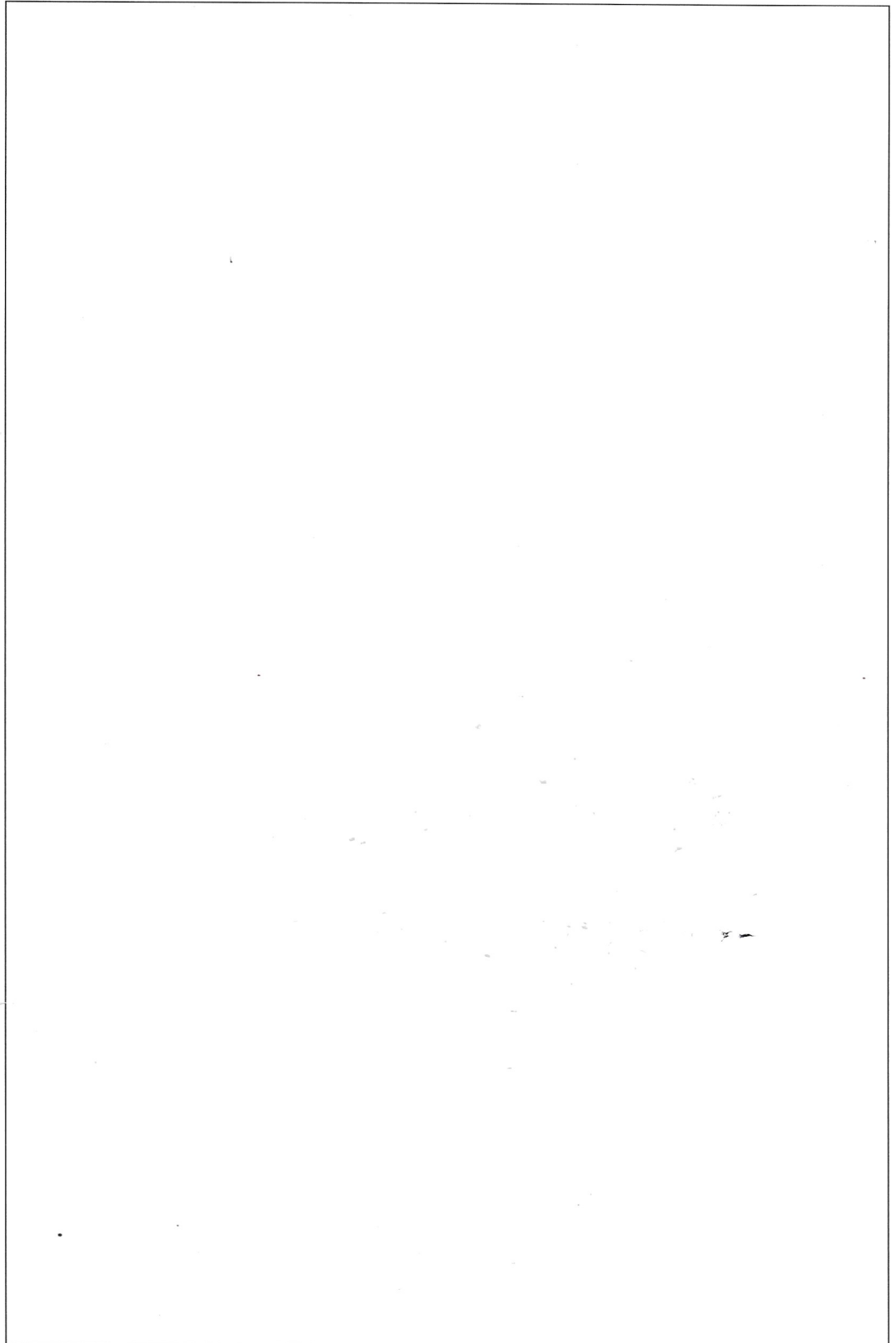
CHAPPELL ASSOCIATES LTD

WESTFIELD HOUSE, BRATTON ROAD, WESTBURY

WILTSHIRE, BA13 3EP

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Income and Expenditure Account for Association Of Lowland Search and Rescue
Year to 31 March 2024

Income

Donations - Unrestricted	613.53
General Sales	7,080.00
Team Subscriptions	330
Grants for ALSAR	39,976.00
	47,999.53

less Cost of Income

Telephone and Mobile Charges	-46.03
Bank Charges	-88.14
Travelling	-5,195.35
Training Costs	-8,022.00
Training Course Costs of Sales	-16,842.50
Purchase Tax Control Account	209.67
Hotels	-18,950.44
Stationery	-37.59
General Purchases	-337.56
Subscriptions	-80.08
Hosting Fees and IT Consumables	-500.04
Audit and Accountancy Fees	-315
Insurance	-1,937.89
SDH - Restricted Fund	-7,432.53
Other costs	350.00
Licences	-3,223.00
	-62,448.48

Net Cash Flows -14,448.95

Cash and Bank at 1 April 2023 176,475.68

Cash and Bank at 31 March 2024 162,026.73



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

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ASSOCIATION OF LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 MARCH 2024

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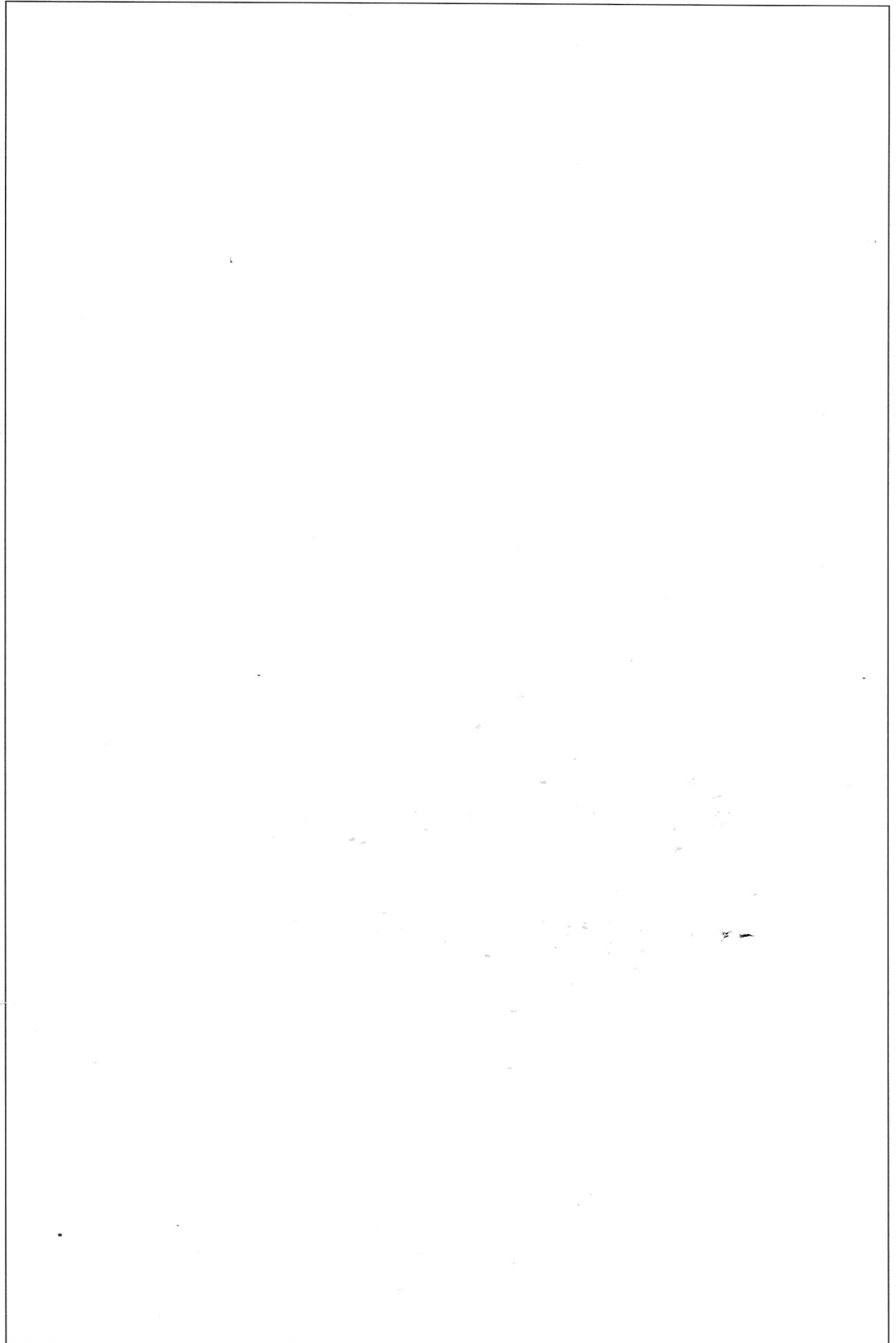
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Year to 31 March 2024

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	47,999.53

less Cost of Income

Telephone and Mobile Charges	-46.03
Bank Charges	-88.14
Travelling	-5,195.35
Training Costs	-8,022.00
Training Course Costs of Sales	-16,842.50
Purchase Tax Control Account	209.67
Hotels	-18,950.44
Stationery	-37.59
General Purchases	-337.56
Subscriptions	-80.08
Hosting Fees and IT Consumables	-500.04
Audit and Accountancy Fees	-315
Insurance	-1,937.89
SDH - Restricted Fund	-7,432.53
Other costs	350.00
Licences	-3,223.00
	-62,448.48

Net Cash Flows -14,448.95

Cash and Bank at 1 April 2023 176,475.68

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ASSOCIATION OF LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE

England & Wales - Charity number 1150317

Accounts

Trustees Report 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

We continued to work on the four objectives set in 2019 as follows:

1. Supporting, engaging and communicating with our Teams and being transparent in our dealings

We continued to support our probationary teams on their journey to full operational status. During 2022-23 we received £66,723 from Charities Aid Foundation which allowed us to continue providing additional training to all Teams to cover elements specific to our environment.

2. Ensuring our Tasking Agencies, SAR Strategic Partners and the Charity Commission have confidence in LR

Lowland Rescue continues to be an active part of UKSAR and regularly meets with the Operators, Medical, Radio Communications, Volunteer and Mental Wellbeing groups. Active work has also taken place in the Emergency Drivers Working Group.

In addition, we attend the Police Search Governance Board, and meet regularly with the National Police Chiefs Council.

3. Demonstrating good governance and managing key risk areas

It is important in terms of overall governance that, as an organisation, we have accurate data on our activities and resources in LR. This assists in terms of internal management but also supports some of the developments we are undertaking and need external support. LR team members continue to develop the AIR (Annual Incident Report) database and to collate such important data.

The 2022 AGM attendance was excellent with a high percentage of our Teams attending. We elected two new Trustees, Diana Green (Secretary) and Lyndsey Donaldson-Selby (Treasurer).

4. Establishing a Sub-Group to generate options of the future structure of LR – ensuring that we have a diverse membership of the group and including our younger members.

We postponed work on this as significant change continues through the review of all of our LandSAR training courses are reviewed and updated, which in turn may impact on our operating standards. This does however remain an important strategic aim and work will take place during 2023-24 to move forward.

Key points from 2022 include:

- There were **34 Lowland Rescue Teams**
- There were **1,626 operational members** and 531 non-operational members across the teams. This compares with the operational numbers from 2021 (1653 operational).
- Resources available across the teams included:
 - 54 dogs
 - 106 vehicles
 - 49 boats
 - 64 drones
 - 98 bikes
 - 40 canoes and kayaks

This year we saw a significant increase in drones from 56 to 64 as drones are proving to be a valuable tool in searching for missing people. We also had 6 teams with sonar capacity – a valuable resource when searching in rivers, lakes etc

- In total over **69,700 person-hours were recorded** (102,000 in 2021) of Lowland Rescue incident activity were completed. 2021 hours included resilience efforts such as Covid support hence the large variance.

- In 2022 there were 1,450 **incident callouts** (2,372 in 2021) including assists and **874** (1,539 in 2021) of these associated with searches for missing people.
- The large number of resilience incidents primarily related to providing support during the COVID-19 pandemic either providing food and PPE for the local community or working in hospitals and vaccination centres.
- Operationally, July and November 2022 were the busiest months. During the week there were slightly more callouts on Saturdays and Sundays, and slightly less midweek.
- Based on the full economic costs of a police officer (National Policing Guidelines 2018) the **total value of the Lowland Rescue Services provided for search incidents alone would be £2.3 million**. This excludes all costs associated with additional activities supporting the NHS and other organisations during the COVID-19 pandemic as well as training and equipment.
- Platinum Jubilee Medals – 810 medals were requested across all 34 Teams. These were awarded to frontline emergency services personnel dealing with emergencies and have completed five full calendar years of service on 6 February 2022. Further eligible members were identified after a clarification in the eligibility criteria and these will be awarded along with Coronation Medals once received.
- Special mention to Suffolk SAR who were awarded of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.
- LR is working on introducing new processes for delivery of land search training with the sole aim being to ensure consistency of training offers across all teams.

Teresa Archer
Chair until May 2023



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

ASSOCIATION OF LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE

On accounts for the year ended

31 MARCH 2023

Charity no (if any)

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Signed:

[Signature]

Date:

7 AUGUST 2023

Name:

ANDREW CHAPPELL

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

FCA

Address:

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WESTFIELD HOUSE, BRATTON ROAD, WESTBURY

WILTSHIRE, BA13 3EP

Section B

Disclosure

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Income and Expenditure Accounts for Association of Lowland Search and Rescue
Year to 31 March 2023

Income

Donations - Unrestricted	6,519.12
Team Subscriptions	3,520.00
General Sales	1,866.00
Grants for ALSAR	81,032.83
	<u>92,937.95</u>

Less Cost of Income

Purchase Tax Control Account	2,369.83
Hotels	3,831.08
Travelling	1,611.27
Training Costs	1,664.00
Bank Charges	100.70
Telephone and Mobile Charges	38.95
VAT on SAR purchases	8,351.65
SDH - Restricted Fund	13,788.18
Subscriptions	149.88
Hosting Fees and IT Consumables	670.60
Audit and Accountancy Fees	300.00
Printing	44.00
Insurance	1,897.07
Licenses	3,223.00
General Purchases	179.17
VTF19 - Restricted Fund	7,644.00
	<u>29,160.08</u>

Net Cash Flows 63,777.87

Cash and Bank at 1 April 2022 112,697.81

Cash and Bank at 31 March 2023 176,475.68

LR Lloyds Account	156,473.16
Bank Reserve Account	20,002.52
	<u>176,475.68</u>
Restricted-SDH DF	7,201.28
Restricted-VTF 2017/18	856.90
Restricted-VTF 2018/19	5,567.22
Restricted-VTF 2019/20	24,394.10
Restricted-VTF 2020/21	-
Restricted-VTF 2022/23	52,029.98
	<u>82,848.20</u>
Operating Reserve	66,423.68
	<u>20,002.52</u>
	<u>176,475.68</u>



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

ASSOCIATION OF LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE

On accounts for the year ended

31 MARCH 2023

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Signed:

[Signature]

Date:

7 AUGUST 2023

Name:

ANDREW CHAPPELL

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

FCA

Address:

CHAPPELL ASSOCIATES LTD

WESTFIELD HOUSE, BRATTON ROAD, WESTBURY

WILTSHIRE, BA13 3EP

Section B

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Audit and Accountancy Fees	300.00
Printing	44.00
Insurance	1,897.07
Licenses	3,223.00
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VTF19 - Restricted Fund	7,644.00
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Restricted-VTF 2018/19	5,567.22
Restricted-VTF 2019/20	24,394.10
Restricted-VTF 2020/21	-
Restricted-VTF 2022/23	52,029.98
	<u>82,848.20</u>
Operating Reserve	66,423.68
	<u>20,002.52</u>
	<u>176,475.68</u>

ASSOCIATION OF LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE

England & Wales - Charity number 1150317

Accounts



Association of Lowland Rescue

Trustees Report 2021/2022

We continued to work on the four objectives set in 2019 as follows:

1. Supporting, engaging and communicating with our Teams and being transparent in our dealings

We continued to support four probationary teams on their journey to full operational status. Merseyside Search and Rescue obtained Operational Status in November 2021.

During 2021-22 we updated our medical policy to give teams greater flexibility in choosing from a range of courses delivered by appropriately accredited training providers. We continue to work on providing additional e-learning to cover elements specific to our environment.

The trustees supported a number of teams with challenging issues, and received one complaint which was resolved satisfactorily.

2. Ensuring our Tasking Agencies, SAR Strategic Partners and the Charity Commission have confidence in LR

Lowland Rescue continues to be an active part of UKSAR and regularly meets with the Operators, Medical, Radio Communications, Volunteer and Mental Wellbeing groups. Active work has also taken place in the Emergency Drivers Working Group.

In addition, we attend the Police Search Governance Board, and meet regularly with the National Police Chiefs Council.

3. Demonstrating good governance and managing key risk areas

It is important in terms of overall governance that, as an organisation, we have accurate data on our activities and resources in LR. This assists in terms of internal management but also supports some of the developments we are undertaking and need external support. LR team members continue to develop the AIR (Annual Incident Report) database and to collate such important data.

The 2021 AGM took place over Zoom and attendance was excellent with a high percentage of our Teams attending. We elected a new Trustee, Adrian Edwards. Since then we had one resignation, and have co-opted two new trustees to be ratified at the 2022 AGM. Lyndsey Donaldson-Selby will act as Treasurer until then,

and Diana Green will act as Secretary. Thank you to Noel Kerr who has stood down as acting Treasurer and as a trustee, and to Andy Harrison who has stood down as acting Secretary. Andy remains a trustee.

4. Establishing a Sub-Group to generate options of the future structure of LR – ensuring that we have a diverse membership of the group and including our younger members.

We postponed work on this as the pandemic continued and as we make significant changes to our operating standards over 2022-23. This does however remain an important strategic aim and work will take place during 2023 to move forward.

Key points from 2021 data include:

- There were **34 Lowland Rescue Teams**
- There were **1653 operational members** and 523 non-operational members across the teams. This compares with the operational numbers from 2020 (1572 operational). This increase is consistent with earlier years and follows a stagnation in team growth during 2020 possibly as a result of deferred intake programmes due to the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic and the ability to recruit and train new members.
- Resources available across the teams included:
 - 52 dogs
 - 110 vehicles
 - 52 boats
 - 56 drones
 - 95 bikes
 - 44 canoes and kayaks

The main changes are similar to previous years with large increases in vehicles (99 in 2020) and drones (46 in 2020).

- In total over **102,000 person-hours** (91,000 in 2020) of Lowland Rescue incident activity were completed
- In 2021 there were **2372 incident callouts** (2158 in 2020) including assists and **1539** (1642 in 2020) of these associated with searches for missing people.
- The large number of other incidents primarily related to providing support during the COVID-19 pandemic either providing food and PPE for the local community or working in hospitals and vaccination centres.
- Operationally, January 2021 was the busiest month and there is a significant variation across the year compared to pre-COVID-19 trends. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 lockdowns during 2021 this may have had an impact on search activity. There were no significant observable variations in callout by days across the week although, as has been observed previously, there was an upturn in callouts around 8-9am and 6-7pm.

- Based on the full economic costs of a police officer (National Policing Guidelines 2018) the **total value of the Lowland Rescue Services provided for search incidents alone would be £4.6 million**. This excludes all costs associated with additional activities supporting the NHS and other organisations during the COVID-19 pandemic as well as training and equipment.

Teresa Archer

Chair, Lowland Rescue

October 2022

Income and Expenditure Account for Association of Lowland Search and Rescue
Year to 31 March 2022

Income

Donations - Unrestricted	2,140.38
Team Subscriptions	3,630.00
General Sales	1,093.44
Grants for ALSAR	40,000.00
Assessment Fees: Dogs	195
	<u>47,058.82</u>

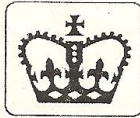
Less Cost of Income

Bank Charges	-84
SDH - Restricted Fund	-25,139.57
Purchase Tax Control Account	-5,097.82
VTF Dog fund	-262.5
Hosting Fees and IT Consumables	-657.99
Telephone and Mobile Charges	-34.59
Subscriptions	-73.29
Travelling	-1,345.89
Licences	-3,260.50
Adjustments	-70
Training Costs	-970
Audit and Accountancy Fees	-300
Insurance	-1,566.54
Total Cost of Income	<u>-38862.69</u>

Net Cash Flows 8,196.13

Cash and Bank etc at 1 April 2021 104501.68

Cash and Bank etc at 31 March 2022 112697.81



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's
report on the accounts**

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of ASSOCIATION OF LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE

On accounts for the year ended 31 MARCH 2022 Charity no (if any) 1150317

Set out on pages 1-2

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

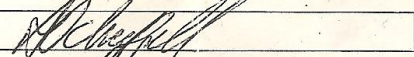
Responsibilities and basis of report As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

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 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.

Signed:  Date: 31/08/2022

Name: ANDREW CHAPPELL

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

Address: CHAPPELL ASSOCIATES LTD
WESTFIELD HOUSE, BRATTON ROAD, WEATBURY
WILTSHIRE, BA13 3EP

Section B Disclosure

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

ASSOCIATION OF LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE

England & Wales - Charity number 1150317

Accounts



Association of Lowland Rescue

Trustees Report 2020/2021

February 2021 saw our Chair Gareth Pritchard step down and a new Chair, Teresa Archer elected in March 2021.

We continued to work on the four objectives set in 2019 as follows:

1. Supporting, engaging and communicating with our Teams and being transparent in our dealings

Each team has a named trustee contact and is encouraged to work with their trustee to resolve any local issues and receive support. We continue to provide regular updates and meetings to keep the organisation informed and engaged.

2. Ensuring our Tasking Agencies, SAR Strategic Partners and the Charity Commission have confidence in LR

Despite the ongoing limitations of the pandemic, we have continued to take part in virtual meetings with our primary tasking authorities through the NPCC, and engaged in the UKSAR Operators Group and various sub groups to move forward on important learning and development across SAR.

3. Demonstrating good governance and managing key risk areas

It is important in terms of overall governance that, as an organisation, we have accurate data on our activities and resources in LR. This assists in terms of internal management but also supports some of the developments we are undertaking and need external support. LR team members continue to develop the AIR (Annual Incident Report) database and to collate such important data.

The 2020 AGM took place over Zoom and attendance was excellent with a high percentage of our Teams attending. We elected a Vice-Chair as well as two new Trustees to give us a good complement of seven Trustees. Since then we have had two resignations, and will be looking to appoint additional trustees at the 2021 AGM.

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4. Establishing a Sub-Group to generate options of the future structure of LR – ensuring that we have a diverse membership of the group and including our younger members.

We had postponed work on this as the pandemic continued and we have had limited capacity on the trustee board. This does however remain an important strategic aim and work will take place during 2022 to move forward.

Key points from 2020 data include:

- There were **34 Lowland Rescue Teams**
- There were **1572 operational members** and 507 non-operational members across the teams. This compares with the operational numbers from 2019 (1587 operational). The lack of increase as has been seen in previous years may be explained by the impact of the COVID pandemic on the ability to recruit and train new members
- Resources available across the teams included:
 - 47 dogs
 - 99 vehicles
 - 48 boats
 - 46 drones
 - 94 bikes
 - 40 canoes and kayaks

The main change has been with the increase in drones compared to 2019 (25 drones)

- In total over **91,000 person-hours** (80,000 in 2019) of Lowland Rescue incident activity were completed
- In 2020 there were **2158 incident callouts** (1746 in 2019) including assists and **1642** (1594 in 2019) of these associated with searches for missing people.
- There was a dramatic increase to almost 450 'other' incidents related to providing support during the COVID pandemic either providing food and PPE for the local community or working in hospitals and vaccination centres.
- Operationally callouts were fairly stable across the year and days of the week with a slight reduction mid-week although comparison with previous years' show there are no clear month or weekday trends established. Peak callout times were at around 09:00 and 19:00 again consistent with previous years
- Based on the full economic costs of a police officer (National Policing Guidelines 2018) **the total value of the Lowland Rescue Services** provided for incidents alone would be **£5.4 million**. This excludes all costs associated with training and equipment

Teresa Archer

Chair, Lowland Rescue

September 2021



Annual General Meeting – 2021

Treasurer's Report for the financial year 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021

Issues and Challenges faced during the year

Financial year 2020/21 was a challenging year with the main challenge being the lack of face to face activities such as training due to the COVID-19 pandemic which restricted spending.

Our main source of income continues to be the annual team subscription fee of £110 (£3,910) which only covers half of the Association's annual fixed running costs(annual average £6,243). The remaining unrestricted income (£2,589) is variable and comes mainly from donations through platforms such as Virgin Money Giving (which is to close this year).

The result of the above is that the Associations unrestricted funds amount to a mere £18,929.

Financial Results (As per Chappell Associates – Chartered Accountants)

The Associations Statement of Income and Expenses shows a surplus of £42,862 for this financial year.

In this reporting period we received £56,590 in Grants;

VTF	£49,460
JLP OFCOM	£4,500
CAF PPE	£3,000

Operating revenue for the year was £74,214 made up most notably of;

General Sales	£9,857
Donations Unrestricted	£2,589
Team Subscriptions	£3,910
Grants for ALSAR	£56,590

Operating expenses for the year were £31,352 which includes most notably;

General Purchases	£1,961
OFCOM radio licenses	£3,223
Insurance	£1,457
LRFR Medical kit	£3,058
Grants (PPE)	£7,266
SDH restricted fund	£8,787
Training course	£4,435

Cash on Hand

Lloyds Current Account	£84,499
Lloyds Saving Account	<u>£20,003</u>
Total	<u>£104,502</u>

Restricted SDH	£2,235
VTF 18/19	£15,642
VTF 19/20	£11,400
VTF 20/21	£35,016
JLP(OFCOM)	<u>£1,277</u>
Total Restricted	<u>£65,570</u>
Operating	£18,929
Reserve	<u>£20,003</u>
Total	<u>£104,502</u>

Plans for the forthcoming year

Priorities for the forthcoming year;

- Set Departmental budgets for the year and closely monitor actuals to ensure we break even on SDH and VTF.
- Consultation with teams and review of the Team Annual Subscription fee.
- Consultation with teams and review of the OFCOM radio license fee.
- Find a replacement platform to Virgin Money Giving for donations.
- Recruit a new Treasurer



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity name:
ASSOCIATION OF LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 MARCH 2021

**Charity no
(if any)**

1150317

Set out on pages

1 - 2

(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 31/03/2021.

**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 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.

Signed:

Date:

14/07/2021

Name:

ANDREW CHAPPELL

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

FCA

Address:

CHAPPELL ASSOCIATES LTD

WESTFIELD HOUSE, BRATTON ROAD, WESTBURY

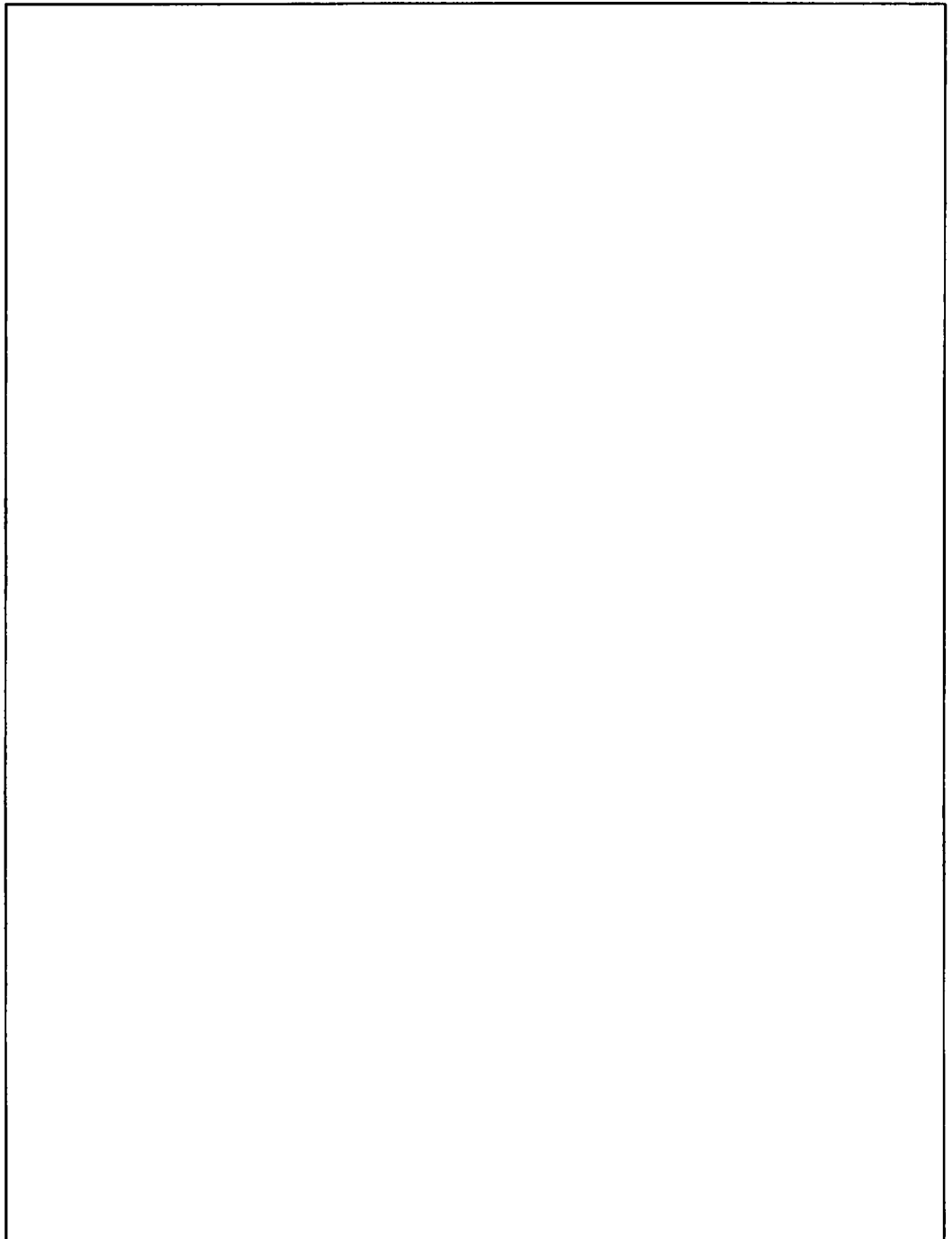
WILTSHIRE, BA13 3EP

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.



Income and Expenditure Account for Association of Lowland Search and Rescue
Year to 31 March 2021

Income

General Sales	9,856.84
Donations - Unrestricted	2,588.90
Team Subscriptions	3,910.30
Grants for ALSAR	56,590.46
Misc	1,267.79
Total income	<u>74,214.29</u>

Less Cost of Income

Purchase Tax Control Account	-1,653.79
Training Course Costs of Sales	-4,435.00
SDH - Restricted Fund	-8,787.26
Other Grants - Restricted Funds	-7,266.23
Subscriptions	-308.57
Bank Charges	-107.37
General Purchases	-1,960.57
Hosting Fees and IT Consumables	-536.61
Training Costs	-75
Mileage Claims	-169.2
LRFR Medical Kits	-3,057.65
Travelling	-394.18
Insurance	-1,457.20
Postage and Carriage	-72.24
Property, plant and equipment	-771.02
Audit and Accountancy Fees	-300
Total Cost of Income	<u>-31,351.89</u>

Net Cash Flows 42,862.40

Cash and Bank etc at 1 April 2020 61639.28

Cash and Bank etc at 31 March 2021 104501.68