



The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Charity registration no. 1153790

Trustees' report and unaudited accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2024

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Legal and administrative information

Patron	Her Majesty Queen Camilla	
Vice Patrons	The Marchioness of Lansdowne Mrs Annette Lynton Mason	
Trustees	Philip Coward (appointed 29 October 2024) Peter Begg Henry Colthurst Marion Deegan John Nokes Emily Tulloch Chief Constable Catherine Roper (appointed 1 July 2023) Col. Robert Richardson-Aitken	
Director	Jennie Shaw	
Operators	Kathleen Williams Sally Raubenheimer Doug Batchelor Mick Leighfield Will Todd	Co-ordinator Co-ordinator Van operator Van operator Van operator
Charity number	1153790	
Charity office	Hazeland Mill Bremhill Calne Wiltshire SN11 9LJ	
Registered office	Wiltshire Constabulary Headquarters London Road Devizes Wiltshire SN10 2DN	
Independent examiner	James Angus Burnett ACA CTA Martin and Company 25 St Thomas Street Winchester Hampshire SO23 9HJ	
Bankers	Lloyds Bank Plc 38 Market Place Devizes Wiltshire SN10 1JD	

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Contents

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 4
Independent examiner's report	5
Statement of financial activities	6
Balance sheet	7
Notes to the accounts	8 - 14

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees present their report and the independently examined accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' in preparing the annual report and accounts of the charity.

Reference and administrative details

The charity information is detailed on the legal and administrative information page of the accounts.

The trustees who served during the year were as follows:

Robert Hiscox DL - Chairman (resigned 29 October 2024)

Lucinda Baker LVO (resigned 18 June 2024)

Peter Begg

Henry Colthurst

Marion Deegan

John Nokes

Emily Tulloch

Chief Constable Catherine Roper (appointed 1 July 2023)

Col. Robert Richardson-Aitken

Objectives and activities

The Trust protects the most vulnerable people in Wiltshire and Swindon by providing physical security to the homes of the over 60s and 18+ with a registered disability who have become, or are at risk of becoming, victims of house crime or domestic abuse. We also provide advice on avoiding cyber-crime which has become a major threat, especially to elderly and vulnerable people.

The 'Bobby' operators carry out full home security and fire risk assessments before fitting the appropriate hardware for each client. This service and the equipment are provided free to all eligible clients. They secure approximately 1,500 homes each year thereby reducing the fear of crime, the incidence of crime or re-victimisation and allowing people to live with a feeling of safety in their own home.

The Stay Safe Online team of 7 volunteers advise and educate our clients on all aspects of online safety either at their own home or at group talks. The use of computers is often essential to our clients and they are very vulnerable to exploitation by theft and by deceit from unscrupulous fraudsters.

Public benefit

The objects of the charity are to promote the protection of people and property, the prevention of criminal acts and the reduction of the fear of crime. The Trustees, in reviewing the Charity's aims and objects and in planning activities, have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The Trustees are content with the degree and scope of public benefit the Charity provides. The Charity exercises no exclusion or discrimination although the elderly and vulnerable are prioritised.

Strategic report

Structure, governance and management

The appointment of trustees is governed by the Trust Deed of the charity. The Board of Trustees is authorised to fill vacancies arising through the resignation or death of an existing trustee or to strengthen the committee having identified the mix of skills and experience the Trust needs to lead the charity.

Achievements and performance

The Bobby operators have visited 1,491 homes in the past financial year; 248 of these were in response to a crime being committed; 406 domestic abuse victims were visited an increase of 3% from the previous year and 837 homes were secured on pro-active visits to elderly and vulnerable people who didn't feel they had adequate security to feel safe, an increase of 6% on the previous year.

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2024

In addition, Bobby Van operators attended 86 community events, giving talks on staying safe in the home and personal safety or having stands highlighting our service, to the Wiltshire/Swindon communities, an increase of 34% on the previous year.

The Stay Safe Online (SSO) team have returned to normality since the pandemic and are back visiting clients at home on a 1:1 basis. The SSO team have received 69 referrals in the past financial year, 52 were Protect Awareness i.e. had not been subject to a scam and 12 were Victim Protect i.e. were previous victims of a scam. 11 Group Talks were also undertaken in addition to the 58 individual visits.

Financial review

Expenditure exceeded income in the last three years as expected, but with the growth in activities and the separation from Wiltshire Police, we have now stepped up fundraising again. Fundraising income was up 66%.

Expenses over the period have been stable. The value of investment assets has also remained stable. With effect from 15 June 2022 the investments have been managed by Evelyn Partners and the return since then has been + 2.84%.

The trustees conservatively believe that there may be extra costs in the future following the separation from Wiltshire Police so have allocated a fund of £300,000 towards them out of general reserves. Although reasonable general reserves remain, this is the stimulant to increased fundraising.

As crime prevention has moved into the need for additional technology, costs will continue to rise. The trustees are preparing the charity for such increased costs. This is also an important consideration when looking at the level of reserves currently held.

Financial reserves policy

The Trust's reserves policy is one of maintaining a capital reserve to meet and respond to the needs of the community which it serves. As a result, it must be prepared to vary its method of operation to meet new challenges with the emphasis often for immediate response and action knowing that funds are already available to support such intervention. This has occurred with the separation from Wiltshire Police. Reserves must also be held to include purchase of capital equipment as well as employment of additional staff which may also carry liabilities for future pensions. In addition, reserves are being held to meet extra demands and needs of the cybercrime team whose future strategy is currently being set.

Pension liabilities

Under the terms of an Agreement dated 1 April 2023 the contracts of employment of five individuals formerly employed by Wiltshire Police were transferred to WBVT with effect from that date in accordance with the TUPE Regulations. The staff transferring to WBVT have been permitted, under the terms of a separate Pension Admission Agreement with Wiltshire Council, to remain members of and to accrue active membership of the Wiltshire Police sub-fund of the Local Government Pensions Scheme, which is administered by Wiltshire Council. However, WBVT assumes responsibility for the payment of all their employment and pension expenses, including salary, NI, tax and pension contributions.

For all actuarial calculation purposes, a pooled funding arrangement with Wiltshire Police applied under the Scheme and the notional pension funding positions of WBVT and Wiltshire Police are treated as one for the purpose of calculating the appropriate employer contribution rate.

WBVT assumes responsibility under the Agreement for all costs of membership of the scheme including any incremental costs arising from any discretion exercised or decision taken by WBVT in respect of transferring staff. For example, if WBVT were to permit any of them to draw benefits prior to normal pension age, or to grant any additional period of membership, or to waive any early retirement reduction WBVT would be required to pay Wiltshire Council an additional sum representing the actuarial strain on the Pension Fund attributable to the exercise of that discretion.

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2024

Equally, if WBVT were to make any of them redundant, WBVT would be responsible for any redundancy costs and any sum representing the actuarial strain on the Pensions Fund. However, Wiltshire Police remains responsible for any incremental pension costs not arising from a decision made or action taken by WBVT, including any pension cost incurred as a result of ill health of any of the transferring staff resulting in an early pension credit (but only to the extent the strain is not met through the employer contribution rate).

If the Agreement were terminated for any reason, a broadly comparable scheme would have to be made available to the transferring staff.

Investment policy and performance

The trustees have the power to invest in such assets as they see fit. All investment opportunities are chosen with due regard to the level of risk and ethical considerations.

The current aim is preservation of capital with an overall return balanced between capital growth and income. The Finance Committee consisting of Robert Hiscox and Henry Colthurst appointed Evelyn Partners to manage the investments and the portfolio is discussed at each meeting of the Trustees. The Trustees are satisfied with the performance.

The future

On 1 April 2023, the charity separated from the Wiltshire Police whilst remaining in very close collaboration with them. The restructuring of the WBVT to be an independent organisation, employing its own staff to administer the operational side of the business, is a natural progression. There were significant cultural differences between the WBVT and Wiltshire Police and often prohibitive risk restrictions imposed on Wiltshire Police which had unintended consequences when enforced on WBVT staff. We look forward with confidence that, working in tandem with Wiltshire Police, we will continue to grow our successful activities protecting the more vulnerable people in Wiltshire.

Risk management

The Trustees have assessed the risks to which the Charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Charity, and are satisfied that proper systems and controls are in place to mitigate exposure to foreseeable risks.

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2024

Statement of Responsibilities of the Trustees

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed;
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed.


The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of accounts may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approval

In approving the Trustees' Report, we also approve the Strategic Report included therein.

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:


[Henry Colthurst \(Jan 14, 2025 16:22 GMT\)](#)
Henry Colthurst
Trustee

Dated: 14/01/2025
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The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and the notes to the accounts, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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

Since your charity's income exceeded £250,000, your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the 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.


Angus Burnett (Jan 14, 2025 16:31 GMT)

James Angus Burnett ACA CTA

Martin and Company
25 St Thomas Street
Winchester
Hampshire
SO23 9HJ

Date: 14/01/2025
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The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income					
Donations and gifts	2	113,813	-	113,813	100,329
Fundraising events		168,093	-	168,093	130,156
Sales of security items		19,131	-	19,131	8,700
Investment income	3	18,720	-	18,720	16,796
Total income		319,757	-	319,757	255,981
Expenditure					
Costs of raising funds	4	41,705	-	41,705	22,865
Expenditure on charitable activities	4	283,482	1,357	284,839	279,142
Total charitable expenditure	4	325,187	1,357	326,544	302,007
Governance costs	5	28,032	-	28,032	20,234
Total expenditure		353,219	1,357	354,576	322,241
Net expenditure before gains and losses on investments		(33,462)	(1,357)	(34,819)	(66,260)
Net gains/(losses) on investment assets	6	40,773	-	40,773	(58,822)
Net movement in funds		7,311	(1,357)	5,954	(125,082)
Fund balances brought forward at 1 April 2023		712,374	4,500	716,874	841,956
Fund balances carried forward at 31 March 2024		719,685	3,143	722,828	716,874

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

The notes on pages 8 to 14 form part of the accounts.

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Notes	£	2024 £	£	2023 £
Fixed assets					
Quoted investments	9		659,109		663,848
Current assets					
Stock - goods for resale or charitable activities		19,497		31,500	
Debtors	10	1,025		5,960	
Cash at bank and in hand		51,389		66,745	
			71,911	104,205	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(8,192)		(51,179)	
Net current assets			63,719		53,026
Net assets			722,828		716,874
Represented by:					
Unrestricted income funds:					
General Fund			379,858		407,221
Designated Revaluation Reserve Fund			39,827		5,153
Designated Contingency Reserve Fund			300,000		300,000
			719,685		712,374
Restricted income funds			3,143		4,500
Total funds	12		722,828		716,874

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:


 Henry Colthurst (Jan 14, 2025 16:22 GMT)
 Henry Colthurst
 Trustee

Dated: 14/01/2025

The notes on pages 8 to 14 form part of the accounts.

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies

1.1 General information

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust ("the charity") is a registered charity with the Charity Commission. The Charity number is 1153790, it's registered office address is Wiltshire Constabulary, Headquarters, London Road, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 2DN.

1.2 Basis of preparation

The accounts of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to the accounts. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective from 1 January 2019) and the Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS102) Section 1A and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

1.3 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

1.4 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, receipt is probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.
- Investment income is included when receivable.

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income.
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.
- All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis.

1.6 Investments

Investments held as fixed assets are revalued at the balance sheet date with any gain or loss being taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

(Continued)

1 Accounting policies

1.7 Stock

Stock is included at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Donated items of stock are recognised at fair value which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay for the items on the open market.

1.8 Accounting estimates and key judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant.

Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

2 Donations and gifts

	2024 £	2023 £
Personal	20,882	32,984
Trusts	58,300	50,950
Business and Sponsorship	9,981	2,279
Clubs and Societies	2,691	993
Parish Councils	825	1,440
County, Town and District Councils	8,319	5,348
Gift Aid tax refunds	6,840	5,645
Fire and rescue	2,820	690
Commercial	1,000	-
Other	2,155	-
	113,813	100,329

3 Investment income

	2024 £	2023 £
Interest receivable	117	4,161
Dividends receivable	18,603	12,635
	18,720	16,796

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

4 Total resources expended

	General Funds Charitable activities £	Restricted Funds Charitable activities £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Costs directly allocated to activities:				
Security hardware:				
Opening stock	31,500	-	31,500	31,207
Purchases in year	29,561	-	29,561	31,620
Closing stock	(19,497)	-	(19,497)	(31,500)
	41,564	-	41,564	31,327
Hollie Guard Vouchers Purchased	-	1,357	1,357	-
Salaries and pensions	153,499	-	153,499	153,515
Van leasing and expenses	25,094	-	25,094	23,328
Sundry expenses	2,259	-	2,259	1,567
Charitable donations	-	-	-	25,524
Insurance	1,398	-	1,398	1,254
Consultancy fees and expenses	49,084	-	49,084	38,100
Computer consumables	10,584	-	10,584	4,527
	283,482	1,357	284,839	279,142
Costs on raising funds:				
Publicity, promotions and event costs	33,090	-	33,090	19,100
Investment management fees	8,615	-	8,615	3,765
	325,187	1,357	326,544	302,007

5 Costs of governance

	2024 £	2023 £
Accountancy fees	5,796	3,906
Independent examiner's fees	1,200	-
Consultancy fees	21,036	16,328
	28,032	20,234

All support costs are considered to be costs of governance.

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

6 Other recognised gains and losses

	2024 £	2023 £
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of investments	40,891	(12,638)
Losses on disposal of investments	(118)	(46,184)
	<u>40,773</u>	<u>(58,822)</u>

7 The Wiltshire Police Authority met the following costs on behalf of the trust:

Insurance
Uniforms
Co-ordinators' travel expenses
Staff training, supervision and support
Office accommodation
Heating and lighting
Telephone
Printing, postage and stationery
Office equipment repairs and renewals
Vehicle running costs

8 Staff costs and numbers

All staff are employees of Wiltshire Police, they are line managed by Wiltshire Police and adhere to Police procedures and policies.

Staff costs were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Salaries and pensions (including employer's national insurance)	<u>153,499</u>	<u>153,515</u>

The average number of employees during the year was five (2023: five) and the average number of key management personnel was two (2023: two).

No employee or key management personnel of the charity earned more than £60,000 during the year.

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

9 Fixed asset investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Valuation		
Market value at 1 April 2023	663,848	784,630
Additions at cost	40,413	633,957
Disposals at valuation	(86,043)	(742,101)
Gains/(losses) on revaluation	40,891	(12,638)
Market value at 31 March 2024	659,109	663,848
Cost of listed investments at 31 March 2024	619,282	658,695
Material investments (greater than 5% of portfolio)		
Vanguard Investments UK Limited	106,890	71,698

10 Debtors and prepayments

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	822	622
Prepayments and accrued income	203	5,338
	1,025	5,960

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	1,210	48,679
Accruals and deferred income	6,982	2,500
	8,192	51,179

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

12 Movement in funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Other gains and losses £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds:					
General Fund	407,221	319,757	(353,219)	6,099	379,858
Designated funds:					
Revaluation Reserve Fund	5,153	-	-	34,674	39,827
Contingency Reserve Fund	300,000	-	-	-	300,000
Restricted funds:					
Hollie Guard Fund	2,000	-	(1,357)	-	643
Domestic Abuse Services in Swindon Fund	2,500	-	-	-	2,500
Total funds	<u>716,874</u>	<u>319,757</u>	<u>(354,576)</u>	<u>40,773</u>	<u>722,828</u>

Purpose of Designated Funds

Revaluation reserve fund

The revaluation reserve fund represents the amount by which the fair value of investments exceed their historical cost, being unrealised gains.

During the prior year, there was a change in the Investment Portfolio from Non-Managed funds to Managed funds. This crystallised both gains and losses, arising from historic revaluation.

Contingency reserve fund

The trustees have designated sufficient funds in the contingency reserve to cover redundancy and other costs in the event that the charity has to be discontinued through lack of funding.

Purpose of Restricted Funds

Hollie Guard Fund

This restricted income fund comprises money donated specifically towards the costs of providing Hollie Guard, a personal safety app, for which voucher codes are purchased and given to individuals allowing them to download and access the app. During the year, 88 were issued.

Domestic Abuse Services in Swindon Fund

This restricted income fund comprises money donated specifically towards the costs of the domestic abuse services provided in Swindon.

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General fund	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Investments	319,282	339,827	-	659,109
Current assets	68,768	-	3,143	71,911
Current liabilities	(8,192)	-	-	(8,192)
	<u>379,858</u>	<u>339,827</u>	<u>3,143</u>	<u>722,828</u>

14 Trustees' remuneration and related party transactions

None of the trustees received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses during the year (2023: none).

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year (2023: none).