

Chair's Annual Report

Charity Name: Warwickshire and Solihull Blood Bikes

Charity Number: 1156751

Reporting Period: March 2024 to March 2025

Introduction

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to present the annual report for Warwickshire and Solihull Blood Bikes (WSBB) for the year ending March 2025. This report has been prepared in accordance with Charity Commission requirements and provides an overview of the charity's activities, achievements, governance, and financial management during the year.

Charitable Objectives and Public Benefit

The charity's primary objective is to provide a free 24/7 on call transport service to NHS hospitals and healthcare providers within Warwickshire, Solihull, and the wider region. Our volunteers transport blood, medical samples, medication, donor breast milk, and other urgent items between hospitals and laboratories.

The trustees confirm that the charity has continued to operate for the public benefit, in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission, by supporting the NHS and thereby improving patient outcomes and reducing healthcare costs.

Activities Undertaken

During the reporting period, Warwickshire and Solihull Blood Bikes:

- Responded to 3,291 requests from NHS trusts, transporting blood, pathology samples, donor breast milk, and medical supplies.
 - Operated a 24/7 service, staffed entirely by trained volunteer riders, drivers, and controllers.
 - Supported local NHS partners including University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire, Warwick Hospital, Rugby St Cross, George Eliot, Heartlands, Good Hope and Solihull Hospital, and others within the region.
 - Continued to participate in the nationwide Blood Bikes network relays to provide resilience and cross-cover when needed.
 - Continued our nightly service to re stock the WNDLR Air Ambulance with blood products.
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Service Statistics

The trustees are happy to report the following operational statistics for the reporting year:

Measure	2024 Result	Notes / Impact
Jobs completed	3,536	Urgent deliveries for NHS partners across Warwickshire & Solihull
Operational fleet	5 motorcycles (increasing to 7), 2 hybrid cars, 1 van	Maintained and deployed to meet NHS demand
Estimated NHS cost savings	£265,200	Calculated at £75 per job, equivalent to private courier costs [National Couriers Direct]

These figures demonstrate the scale and value of the service provided. By completing thousands of urgent journeys and covering well over one hundred thousand miles, WSBB delivered substantial public benefit and generated significant cost savings for NHS partners.

Achievements and Performance

The trustees are pleased to report another successful year of operations. Key achievements include:

- Completion of 3,536 deliveries on behalf of NHS partners.
 - Reliable service delivery, maintaining a 24/7 operational presence throughout the year.
 - Expansion of the operational fleet a Kia Sportage hybrid car and a Honda NT1100, with two additional motorcycles to be introduced in 2025.
 - Continued positive recognition from NHS trusts for professionalism, reliability, and contribution to cost savings.
 - Active participation in awareness-raising and fundraising events across Warwickshire and Solihull.
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Governance

The charity is governed by a Board of Trustees, who met monthly throughout the year to ensure proper oversight of operations, risk management, and financial stewardship. During the year, the trustees:

- Maintained compliance with all relevant charity and road safety regulations.
- Reviewed safeguarding and operational procedures.
- Managed risks associated with vehicle operation, fundraising, and service delivery.
- Ensured the financial sustainability of the charity through regular monitoring and independent examination of accounts.

Financial Review

Total income for the year amounted to £120,473, derived primarily from donations and community fundraising. Most notably we received substantial donations of £25,000 from the Mark Benevolent Fund, £10,000 from SWFT, £3254.59 from NFU Mutual and our own fundraising, including talks to local groups and collections supported by Tesco, Sainsburys and Asda totalled £104,482.

Expenditure totalled £99,503, the majority of which related to:

- Fuel, servicing, and maintenance of the charity's fleet of motorcycles, cars, and van.
- Insurance and safety equipment.

At year end, the charity held reserves of £170,864, which the trustees consider appropriate to ensure continuity of service and cover unforeseen expenditure.

Risk Management

The trustees regularly review the principal risks facing the charity. Key areas include volunteer safety, vehicle maintenance, and financial sustainability. Mitigations include:

- Comprehensive training for all operational members.
 - Strict adherence to vehicle servicing and safety schedules.
 - Comprehensive insurance for vehicles and riders/drivers.
 - Careful financial planning.
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Future Plans

In the coming year, Warwickshire and Solihull Blood Bikes intends to:

- Expand the fleet adding 2 new motorcycles, enhancing operational resilience.
 - Continue investment in hybrid vehicles and a van to support diverse delivery needs.
 - Further strengthen community engagement to support fundraising and public awareness.
 - Maintain close collaboration with NHS partners to ensure the service continues to meet evolving healthcare needs.
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Acknowledgements

As chair I would like to thank the board of trustees for their unwavering support and commitment to the charity over the past year. In turn, the trustees wish to record their sincere

thanks to our dedicated volunteers, whose commitment makes the service possible, and to our donors, supporters, and NHS partners. Their collective contribution enables Warwickshire and Solihull Blood Bikes to provide a vital public service, free of charge, to the NHS and the wider community.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees:

Chrissie Smith
WSBB Chair

WARWICKSHIRE & SOLIHULL BLOOD BIKES

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

<u>2024</u>		<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
	<u>Receipts</u>			
83,929	Donations	102,482	-	102,482
6,745	Gift Aid	2,000	-	2,000
1,476	Membership Subscriptions	-	827	827
1,016	Interest Received	1,555	-	1,555
14,300	VAT Refunds	13,610	-	13,610
	<u>Asset Sales</u>			
7,400	Motor Vehicle	-	-	-
<u>114,866</u>		<u>119,646</u>	<u>827</u>	<u>120,473</u>
	<u>Payments</u>			
13,719	Fuel	18,171	-	18,171
14,902	Vehicle Expenses	14,255	-	14,255
4,993	Vehicle Insurances	3,685	-	3,685
1,455	Hi - Viz Jackets & T-shirts	1,783	-	1,783
764	Stationery & Printing	834	-	834
1,999	Public Liability Insurance	2,102	-	2,102
-	Donation - Practical Presents	1,851	700	2,551
1,692	Promotional Materials	832	-	832
3,139	Overheads	3,485	-	3,485
248	Event Costs	1,345	658	2,002
	<u>Asset Purchases</u>			
20,140	Motorbike	12,515	-	12,515
-	Motor Vehicle	32,520	-	32,520
-	Vehicle Livery	3,018	-	3,018
551	Pathology Boxes	-	-	-
-	Laptop Bundle Incl ID Cards	1,750	-	1,750
5,905	Defibrillators	-	-	-
320	Card Reader	-	-	-
<u>69,827</u>		<u>98,146</u>	<u>1,358</u>	<u>99,503</u>
45,039	<u>Net Receipts</u>	21,500	(531)	20,970
104,855	Bank Balances 1 April 2024	147,880	2,014	149,894
-	Adjustment to Unrestricted Funds	(1,112)	1,112	-
<u>149,894</u>	Bank Balances 31 March 2025	<u>168,268</u>	<u>2,596</u>	<u>170,864</u>

WARWICKSHIRE & SOLIHULL BLOOD BIKES

NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use

	<u>Cost</u>
Motor Vehicles	
Peugeot Expert	16,398
Toyota C-HR	33,346
Kia Sportage	32,520
	<u>£ 82,264</u>

Motor Bikes	
Yamaha	15,457
Yamaha	9,750
BMW	15,609
BMW	20,140
Honda NT	12,515
	<u>£ 73,471</u>

Signed on behalf of all the trustees


Chrissie Smith
Chairperson


Simon Quantrell
Secretary

12 May 2025



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name:

Warwickshire & Solihull Blood Bikes

On accounts for the year
ended

31st March 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1156751

Set out on pages

One and Two

(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'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**

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. *Delete [] if not applicable.*

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:

Date:

12/5/25

Name:

Alan Richards

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

CIMA

(if any):

Address:

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.