

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Trustees

Mr G Gordon
Sir A Massey
Mr P Styles
Dr. C Aps
Mr S Hand
Mr D Crozier
Mr J Rothwell
Mr T Colquhoun
Mr I Whalley
Mr C Pouncey

Charity number

1159975

Principal address

17 Dean Street
Liskeard
Cornwall
PL14 4AB

Independent examiner

Rouse Partners LLP
55 Station Road
Beaconsfield
Buckinghamshire
HP9 1QL

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION

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NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION



TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered charity name	National Coastwatch Institution
Constituted as	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Governed by	NCI Constitution 16 th January 2015 (Updated October 2020)
Charity registration number	1159975
Principal office	17 Dean Street, Liskeard, PL14 4AB

The Trustees

The Trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows:

Dr. C Aps	
Mr. T Colquhoun	(Resigned as a Trustee 4th April 2023)
Mr. D Crozier	
Mr. G Gordon Ex-Officio Trustee	(National Treasurer)
Mr. Stephen Hand	(Re-elected as a Trustee 4th April 2023)
Mrs. L Lawrence	(Co-opted as a Trustee 4th June 2023)
Sir Alan Massey	(Co-opted as a Trustee on 4th April 2023)
Mr. C Pouncey	(Resigned as a Trustee 8 th June 2023)
Mrs. G. Rendle	(Elected as a Trustee 4th April 2023)
Mr. J Rothwell	(Resigned as a Trustee 4th April 2023)
Mrs. Helen Simpson	(Elected as Trustee 4th April 2023, Resigned as a Trustee 12 th October 2023, Co-opted as a Trustee 26 th January 2024)
Mr. P Styles	
Mr. I Whalley	(Resigned as a Trustee 4th April 2023)

Independent Examiner

Rouse Partners LLP, 55 Station Road, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, HP9 1QL



TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY Oct 2022 – Sep 2023

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am pleased to report a year of considerable progress against the goals and objectives set in our 5 Year Business Plan in 2022.

Another year of growth in our search and rescue operation across the UK saw NCI watchkeepers involved in 845 incidents, of which 399 were initiated by NCI and 346 resulted in RNLI rescues.

Local Coastal and Water Safety Officers and teams have been set up in many of our stations. Over thirty stations now have volunteers trained to engage directly with the public to provide safety information and material and have been active in targeting key activity groups using the coastline through the summer period. Collaboration with our partners in water safety, especially the RNLI and the RLSS have been strengthened by our recent membership of the NWSF.

Links with His Majesty's Coastguard both nationally and locally remain strong and we look forward to further strengthening these through 2023 and into 2024. The unique joint venture with His Majesty's Coastguard to open an NCI station at Bembridge (IoW), sharing the facilities of the Coastguard Rescue Team at that location, was assessed as successful. It is hoped that this trial will lead to further locations being utilised in this way in future. At the end of the year, we had sixty operational stations. The work of the Station Development team has continued apace, and they have overseen the opening of the new Stations in addition to assisting with obtaining new equipment and refurbishments.

Our Royal Patron, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, has once again provided highly valued support, visiting NCI stations at St Donat's Bay, Felixstowe, Gosport, and Folkestone where she met many watchkeepers and supporters. Her Royal Highness also agreed to visit six more stations in late 2023 and into 2024 and we are extremely grateful for the close interest she takes in our work and the time that she continues to give to NCI.

Our finances at station level have remained healthy thanks to the significant fundraising efforts in local communities by our volunteers and supporters. It will be important, going forward, that these efforts are supported by a national fundraising strategy. The National Treasurer launched an initiative to improve our financial reporting and increase the visibility of charity finances to the Board of Trustees.

The NCI Annual General Meeting took place in April 2023 in London where following the formal business the members discussed aspects of implementing the business plan and in particular the need to restructure the charity's financial reporting.



NCI OBJECTIVE AND ACTIVITIES

Objective

The Charity objective is to assist in the protection and preservation of life at sea and around the UK coastline.

Vision

Our vision is to:

- increase coverage around the coast in areas of highest need.
- continuously expand NCI's capability to help save lives and be recognised for this.
- strengthen our reputation as a 'professional' organisation.

Activities

The volunteers of the National Coastwatch Institution (NCI) help to keep people safe and save lives by providing a visual, listening and radar watch around the coast. We aim to keep watch in daylight hours, every day of the year to:

- 'spot' accidents, incidents and vulnerable people or vessels
- 'plot' the location
- 'report' the details to HMCG or other emergency services
- 'respond' with further assistance as required by HMCG

NCI is a declared asset of HM Coastguard and part of the UK National Search and Rescue organisation, providing support to the frontline services. We help coastal users to be safe and stay safe, providing information about local conditions and facilities - in person, by the radio or by telephone.

Public Benefit

In managing the activities of the Charity, the Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

In addition to our primary objective "to protect and preserve life at sea and around the UK coastline," NCI continues to benefit the wider community in several ways:

NCI has an ongoing role in assisting HM Coastguard and other agencies, including the Police and Local Authorities, by alerting them to visible suspicious activity along the coastline. We regularly conduct visual searches for overdue craft and missing persons, as well as highlighting environmental incidents.

By helping to improve safety around the coast, NCI encourages increased use of inshore coastal facilities and community participation. Local businesses and councils see us as a major contributor to safety, providing benefit where they offer leisure facilities and venues.



NCI PEOPLE

NCI is a voluntary organisation set up in 1994 to restore a visual safety watch around the UK coastline. Each station operates as an operational hub of NCI, with a degree of autonomy but conforming to national standards and ethos. In 2023 our 60 operational stations around the coast have achieved Declared Facility Status (DFS) as part of the UK Search and Rescue (SAR) organisation, agreed by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA).

The stations are staffed by some 2700 volunteers who contribute thousands of hours of watchkeeping, our watchkeepers come from many different walks of life and bring with them a wide range of experience.

All volunteers provide their time as watchkeepers or supporters, buy their own uniforms, travel at their own expense to and from the Stations, and fund raise and train new recruits.

By their very nature, our stations are situated in places exposed to the most severe weather conditions and it is a credit to all our watchkeepers that NCI 'eyes along the coast' were maintained for the vast majority of 2021-22 and 2022-23. The loyalty, commitment and dependability of our volunteers are unparalleled.

Our watchkeepers are all volunteers, recruited from many walks of life, with an interest in protecting and preserving life at sea and around the coast. A significant number are retired, some work full or part time, others are unemployed. A proportion of our members have a maritime background, but many do not. When volunteers join us, we provide all the training required to ensure watchkeepers are both competent and confident. NCI also provides a sense of purpose and focus for watchkeepers by promoting teamwork and community spirit.



ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Search and Rescue Support

The following reports illustrate some of the incidents and activities we have been involved in during the past year, collaborating with our partners in the Search and Rescue organisation.

Cape Cornwall

Three young people found themselves in difficulty on the shoreline and after climbing further up the rocks of the Cove they became cut off. HM Coastguard at Falmouth orchestrated a multi-agency response involving both the Sennen Cove RNLI All Weather Lifeboat and Inshore Lifeboats along with Lands End and Penzance Rescue Teams and the Coastguard Search and Rescue Helicopter. An extraction involving the RNLI crews and Coastguard Rescue Teams was deemed to be impossible, so the Coastguard Helicopter had to winch the three young persons to safety. Throughout the incident, the NCI Cape Cornwall volunteer watchkeeper provided real-time information and over-watch facilities to the rescue services.



Prawle Point

The volunteer watchkeepers from the National Coastwatch Institution station at Prawle Point overheard a Pan Pan radio message from a yacht, requiring assistance due to engine failure, and sailing with jib only. The watchkeepers quickly located the vessel and contacted HM Coastguard at Falmouth to advise them of the yacht's position. They also advised Falmouth Coastguard of other vessels in the vicinity that might be able to offer assistance. A spokesperson for NCI Prawle Point said "We maintained watch on the casualty and contacted Falmouth a little later to advise that they had managed to hoist their mainsail and make slow progress into Salcombe. We were stood down, and able to close the evening watch".



Solent



The Round the Island yacht race is a prestigious one-day race around the Isle of Wight. This is one of the largest one-day yacht races in the world, attracting over 1,000 boats and competition was fierce for this challenging 50 nautical mile course.

The volunteer watchkeepers at the National Coastwatch Institution stations at Bembridge, Needles, Gosport, Calshot Tower, Stone Point and Lee-on-the-Solent provided the organisers of the Round The Island race with extra safety support and looked out for the safety of the competitors. All the competitors were advised to call NCI on VHF Channel 65 for radio checks and the event support boats were also to call on Ch 65 if required. The NCI stations also provided regular local weather and sea state updates to the event race team.

Our stations around the coasts are always watching out for your safety every day of the year, keeping an eye on those on land and at sea.



NCI Fleetwood

23rd June 2023. The involvement by the National Coastwatch Institution volunteer watchkeepers at NCI Fleetwood has been acknowledged by the Commander at HM Coastguard Holyhead

"I am writing to express my thanks to Fleetwood NCI for their vigilance in highlighting the family of four who were in danger of being cut off near Rossall Point ... Everyone at Holyhead MRCC is grateful for the work that your volunteers do and for providing us with critical real time information" - MRCC Commander Holyhead.





NCI Porthcawl

One morning the volunteers at NCI Porthcawl were involved with an incident at Sandy Bay which included some good inter-agency cooperation from the Search and Rescue organisations. A Cockapoo called Winni had fallen from the Eastern Prom onto the rocks below. Luckily, the RNLI Lifeboat was preparing to launch on exercise and were there quickly. At one point there were around thirty rescue people on the scene including 3 Fire Tenders, 2 Coastguard vehicles and the RNLI Lifeboat. The volunteer watchkeepers from the National Coastwatch Institution at Porthcawl were monitoring the situation from their camera at Rhych Point. Winni was eventually rescued after a visit to the vet the dog was given a clean bill of health. Well done to all the organisations were involved, once again another example of how the various blue light organisations can work together for a successful outcome.



NCI Stone Point and Calshot Tower

The National Coastwatch Institution station at Stone Point observed a yacht with its anchor down but drifting northeast in near gale force conditions. The yacht was going out of direct sight from the Stone Point station, so having called HM Coastguard and updated the yacht's position, NCI Calshot Tower were asked to take over tracking the casualty. HM Coastguard tasked Gosport lifeboat who, having been guided to the yacht by the NCI Calshot Tower volunteer watchkeepers, put a crew member on board the yacht and towed it to safety in the Hamble River.





STRATEGY AND BUSINESS PLAN

In 2022 the Trustees launched a new strategic plan for NCI's future which outlined six high level forward strategies to:

1. Strengthen our management organisation and processes
2. Expand our coverage around the coast in areas of greatest need
3. Collaborate more closely with partners in the Search and Rescue community
4. Raise our profile and win hearts and minds of the public nationally and locally
5. Establish NCI's role in water safety widely sharing safety information
6. Establish a cohesive fundraising programme for NCI

Progress on these themes during 2023 has been good and is outlined below.

1. Strengthening our Management Process

The relatively new structure operated by the Management Executive (ME) has developed well and has successfully managed all aspects of NCI day to day operations. The support structure for stations, comprising Sector Managers, Heads of Department, and the ME itself has been able to deal with every element of support and development in a timely manner. The ME has also advised the BoT on matters requiring policy decisions and financial approval.

The Sector Management aspect of operations has been consistently busy with support and advice for stations being provided on a daily basis. Stations' use of, and trust in, the sector system is developing well. Distribution of national information has been well-executed by the Sector Managers.

Within the ME, HR and Admin has been particularly busy with all types of personnel and administrative needs successfully addressed despite a consistently heavy workload.

Initial and continuation training has been successfully supported with the National Training Manager being kept busy ensuring national standards of training are adhered to while embracing local needs as well. The National Training Manager is, in turn, supported by the Head of Operations and the knowledge and experience encompassed within the ME.

The DFS team, although under separate leadership, is part of operations and successfully completed its task of annual DFS reviews as well as supporting new stations.

Stations' fundraising strategy has benefited from the work of the ME and the Head of Stations Fundraising (Strategy) working on inventive ways of fundraising at stations. New approaches have been trialled and work continues on investigating new avenues of fundraising.

The workload of the Head of Stations Technology (HoST) has been increasing and is much valued at all levels. The HoST has been able to research suitable technology for stations as well as negotiating discounted rates for some items. Stations are slowly realising that the HoST can prevent them re-inventing the wheel and provide a financial advantage as well.



TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

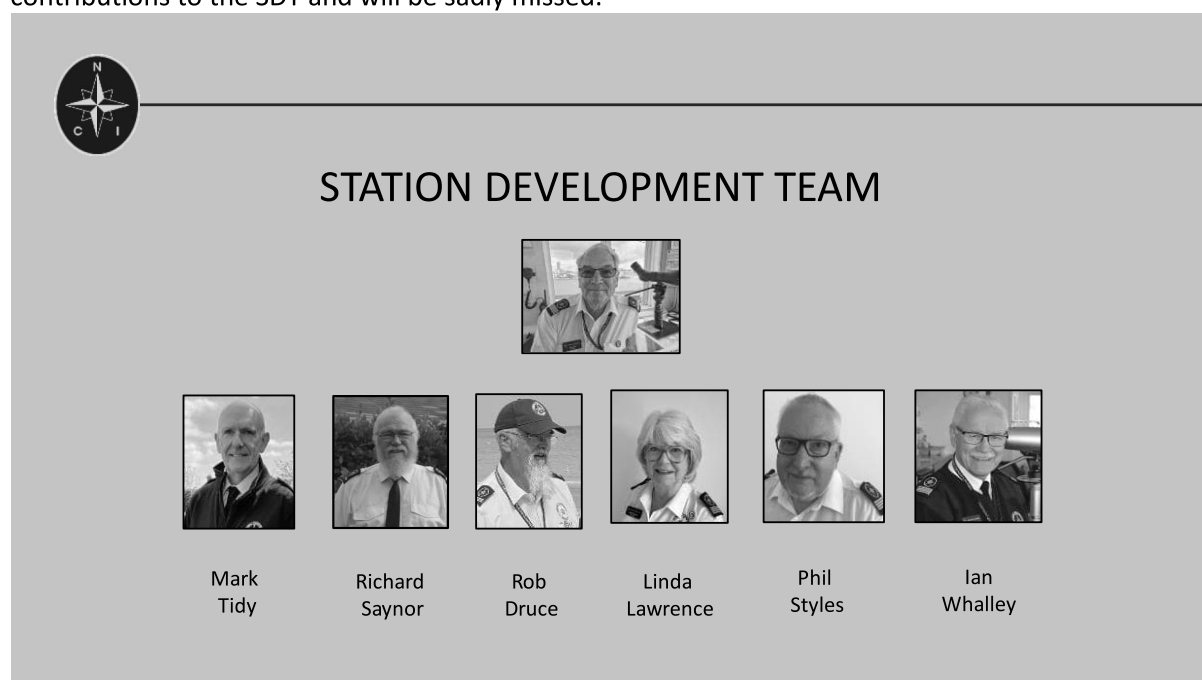
2. Collaboration with SAR Partners (DC)

Liaison with HMCG and the UKBF has continued, with HMCG re-asserting their appreciation of our work as a declared asset. The UKBF are engaging in conversations about our potentially increased role in their work for the future.

Priorities for the ME for the near future include improving internal communications, finding inventive ways of raising public awareness, promoting internally the One Charity: One Crew ethos, ensuring Coastal and Water Safety (CWS) is rolled out in a careful and well-trained manner and ensuring the national NCI management structure remains fit for purpose and future proof.

3. Expanded Coverage – Station Development (CA)

Chris Aps continued to chair the Station Development Team (SDT) which saw some changes to its membership throughout this year. Mark Tidy replaced Linda Lister as Treasury Liaison, a role which proved extremely advantageous to station development within the Charity. Mike Johnson, who had been very active as Project Lead for station development in Yorkshire, stepped down to be replaced by Rob Druce, East Coast Sector Manager. Finally, the SDT was devastated at the sudden passing of Julian Milsom in March 2023. He was Sector Manager of East Anglia and made valuable contributions to the SDT and will be sadly missed.



Ian Whalley was congratulated on his being awarded an MBE in the New Year Honours List. Although he stepped down as Trustee and Deputy Chair at the AGM in 2023, he remained a member of the SDT and continued to bid successfully for grants to support new station projects.

The SDT oversaw a number of initiatives throughout England and Wales and the table (below) sets out these ongoing projects, all at various stages, during this year.



TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

Many of these, such as Brancaster, Filey, Anglesey and Llandudno involved replacing a temporary NCI trailer with a permanent demountable unit, but none of these was due to be completed in 2022/23. SDT Leads for these projects were Linda Lawrence, Rob Druce, and Phil Styles.

The latter, as our CCTV Lead, oversaw a number of station projects around the coastline with a view to expanding to twenty stations fitted with forty-four Coastal water safety cameras. An operator's guide for CCTV was also being developed, along with an update to the existing guide to setting up cameras to assist those stations that are thinking of using CCTV for the first time. He also explored establishing a nation-wide website for CCTV to give greater access by our SAR partners.

As alluded to in the previous Annual Report, NCI Bembridge was officially confirmed by the MCA to become operational on October 1st, 2022, and remains the first and only NCI station within an active HM Coastguard CRT facility.

Despite prolonged and concerted efforts to identify a more suitable location for the temporary NCI trailer at Caister, Norfolk (and thus a permanent site for a demountable unit), together with adverse funding, council planning and local manning issues, the SDT advised that, unfortunately, the project would have to be abandoned. The crew agreed and voted to close the station in September 2023.

The SDT formally became an integral part of the new SigEx process, with its members able to advise and assist station teams as well as signing off bids sent to the Board of Trustees for approval. Richard Saynor as Head of Stations Technology, and SDT, member was ideally placed to advise on significant equipment acquisition whilst continuing to manage the maintenance and refurbishment of the NCI trailer fleet.

In November 2022, NCI received a substantial end-of-life donation towards the Browndown project, which is the conversion of a derelict MOD observation tower at Stokes Bay, Hampshire. When completed, this will be the final piece of the jigsaw for total NCI coverage of the Solent.



Station Development - Ongoing Projects October 2022 to September 2023



1. Anglesey	Replace trailer, relocate from Point Lynas to Moelfre
2. Brancaster	Replace trailer with demountable unit
3. Caister	Plans to replace/relocate trailer failed. Station closed.
4. Filey	Replace trailer with demountable unit
5. Herne Bay	Station collapsed. Relocation plans to Thanet.
6. Lyme Bay	Replacement of lookout and CCTV
7. Somerset Coast	Creation of new stations at Minehead and Burnham
8. Steamer Point	Creation of satellite or CCTV in Christchurch Bay
9. Stokes Bay	Rebuild of MOD observation tower
10. Torbay	Major trenching to provide on -grid power
11. Whitstable.	Relocation to new site, new demountable unit.

4. Coastal and Water Safety (LS)

The purpose of NCI CWS is to offer safety information to the public, providing key safety messages and local information to help them take safe decisions and actions so 'stay safe along the coast'. Proactive engagement with the public is at the heart of this. Early discussions with HMCG and RNLI were most helpful in setting the tone for our engagement. From the start we adopted a friendly, helpful approach, providing safety information to help coastal/water users to make their own safe and sensible decisions. We avoid giving instructions, advice or taking actions outside NCI's bailiwick, and do not engage in confrontation.

In 2023 NCI volunteers have been out and about over the busy summer period offering coastal safety information to the public as part of the charity's new proactive approach to safety. Some 30 NCI stations participated in CWS activity between April and October helping people to 'Stay Safe Along the Coast'.

The charity's volunteer watchkeepers have always been a source of reliable information on local conditions and hazards - but this year we provided additional training to many of our members enabling them to offer face to face friendly and practical safety information to coastal users at outreach locations away from the lookout.

Our teams attended a variety of venues and events including beach access points and car parks, beach huts and gazebos on the promenade, sea safety days and community fun days. On many occasions we worked closely with RNLI and other local safety groups.



TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

All stations reported very positive reactions to NCI's CWS activity and much interest in the safety messages. The public were also interested in NCI in more widely and there was clearly added PR value to being 'out and about'.

Our friendly, non-confrontational approach providing information to help people make their own safe decisions worked well. Engaging with the public 'breaking the ice' to start conversations was sometimes challenging but a friendly greeting and chatty introduction worked well. Offering eye-catching safety information cards or leaflets and small 'giveaways' for children was particularly helpful.

The NCI safety messages were developed in consultation with, and are aligned to those of, HMCG and RNLI. This led to changes in mid-summer to the national 'Float to Live' logos and advice required updates to our CWS promotional items, information, and literature. All electronic material, A5 leaflets, wristbands, craft ID stickers and phone pouches have been updated and new stock procured will carry new logos.

The NCI CWS training package was developed following advice from RNLI and incorporates elements of the RNLI 'Engaging with the Public' module. The package covers public engagement, safety messages and provides scenarios for group discussion.

Training was rolled out nationally to station Water Safety Officers, who then cascaded to their CWS team members. Stations were broadly happy with the package and found the group discussions particularly valuable. Completion of the training package as part of a one to one or group discussion was and remains essential for all members involved in CWS activity.

NCI made available a range of CWS material and equipment to stations, including a 'Stay Safe Along the Coast' feather flag, CWS pull up banner, posters, leaflets, child wrist bands, craft stickers and waterproof phone pouches. All were in high demand and there were many requests and suggestions for additional items.

5. Raising NCI Profile (PR and Marketing) (SH/DC/TS)

Publicity, press and marketing has been an area of inventiveness using both internal and external resources. Some progress has been made in increasing awareness of NCI, particularly through social media and the Southampton International Boat Show. Our stand at the boat show was well attended and enthusiastically supported by watchkeepers from many stations giving their time and experience. There remains much work to be done in promoting awareness of NCI.

6. National Funding and Fundraising

In June this year the Board approved a recommendation that NCI should contract with a professional fundraising agency, with a proven track record of supporting charities in developing and implementing a fund-raising strategy, to assist NCI in developing and implementing a fundraising strategy.



TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

In July, a contract was agreed with the recommended consultancy Charity Fundraising Ltd, and work began on the development of a strategic fundraising plan for NCI.

Charity Fundraising Ltd were supported in their work by the Business Development Team comprising Robert Thornton, Ian Whalley and Stephen Hand. Input and help were also received from Graeme Gordon and members of NCI Felixstowe.

Charity Fundraising submitted their report to the team, and we have worked through the information provided and the conclusions and recommendations that the consultant has drawn. The 77-page report contains proposals for new fundraising initiatives for enhancing our ability to raise funds from corporate, trust and individual giving sources. These will require some significant changes in NCI organisation and processes including.

- Implementing major changes to centralisation of station funds
- Setting up a sector-based community fundraising team to operate new national and local fundraising initiatives.
- Re-examining NCI branding and external messaging to support fundraising.
- Recruiting resources specifically to work on submissions for funding to corporate and trust bodies.
- Creating and maintaining strong internal communications around the need for fundraising beyond individual stations

These recommendations have formed the basis for a new fundraising programme of work for NCI in 2024.

The National Treasurer launched an important programme of work to implement new financial reporting software which would provide the Trustees with improved visibility of the charity's finances. This programme also incorporated the transition of all charity bank accounts to a single bank and will be fully documented in the report for 2023-24.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

In accordance with the NCI Constitution (October 2020):

Election of Trustees

The Charity Constitution states that there should be not less than 5 nor more than 8 elected trustees; one ex officio trustee; and not more than 3 nominated or co-opted trustees. If the number of elected trustees falls below 5 the remaining trustee or trustees may act only to call a meeting of the charity trustees to appoint a new charity trustee.

Elected Trustees

NCI Trustees will be elected by the member Stations at the annual general meeting and will serve a term of 3 years after which they must retire, however they may seek re-election (to a maximum of 3 terms).



TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

Vacancies not filled at the annual general meeting, or that occur between annual general meetings, may be filled. The member Stations or the Trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new Trustee, whether in place of a Trustee who has retired or been removed, or as an additional Trustee, provided that the limit specified on the number of Trustees would not as a result be exceeded.

Ex Officio Trustee

NCI's Treasurer for the time being ('the office holder') shall automatically, by virtue of holding that office ('ex officio'), be an NCI Trustee. If unwilling to act as a Trustee, the office holder may, before accepting appointment as a Trustee, give notice in writing to the Trustees their unwillingness to act in that capacity, or, after accepting appointment as a Trustee, resign. The office of ex officio Trustee will then remain vacant until the office holder ceases to hold office.

Nominated Trustees

Corporate or unincorporated bodies, agencies, and other organisations ('the appointing body'), as invited by the NCI Trustees, may each appoint one Trustee. Any appointment must be made at a meeting held according to the ordinary practice of the appointing body. Each appointment must be for a term of 3 years. Trustees so appointed have the same duty as the other NCI Trustees, to act in the way they decide, in good faith, would be most likely to further NCI's purposes.

Co-opted Trustees

NCI Trustees may at any time, also appoint other fit and proper persons as Trustees. Co-opted Trustees shall be reappointed on an annual basis following each AGM. Trustees so appointed have the same duty as the other NCI Trustees, to act in the way they decide, in good faith, would be most likely to further NCI's purposes.

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION



TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

NCI in Numbers

Personnel

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Watchkeepers	2485	2608	2546	2,332	2,419	2,132
Trainees	450	408	385	355	344	328
Cadets	15	7	0	0	0	0
Others in Support roles	315	89	80	62	53	63

Stations

	2023	2022	2021	2020*	2019	2018
No of Watchstations	60	59	56	56	56	54
No. of DFS	51	52	50	49	48	46
Percentage DFS	85	88	89	86	86	85
Total watchkeeper hours	284,931	274,152	215,113	146,408	280,514	265,139

Incidents

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Total Number of Incidents	840	835	705	595	638	546
Incidents initiated by NCI	399	386	354	319	384	323
Incidents initiated by HMCG/others	441	449	351	276	254	223
Incidents requiring Lifeboat Rescue	348	370	288	240	242	225

Vessels Logged

	2023	2022	2021	2020*	2019	2018
Commercial Vessels	214,139	222,334	222,851	137,374	205,860	223,486
Leisure Vessels	415,163	424,763	410,997	256,007	330,949	340,359
Military & Auxiliaries	4,792	6,077	6,729	4,752	6,919	6,048
Harbour Vessels etc.	24,178	23,953	23,426	17,882	26,500	26,698



REGIONAL SUMMARIES

Cornwall- Helen Simpson

The High Sherriff of Cornwall chose the NCI in Cornwall as his charity for his term of office and visited stations around the coast. In December 2022 he hosted a celebration presentation in recognition of individual achievements. to many watch keepers from Cornwall.

All stations have raised incident reports showing a continued vigilance along the Cornish coast, swimmers in difficulty and leisure activities being high on the reports.

Falmouth Coastguard have hosted a number of visits for the Cornish stations, which have been very informative and supportive.

Boscastle celebrated its 20th anniversary in June 2023 holding a successful event on a very warm summers day and Penzance celebrated a watchkeepers long service award of 25 years.

The 13 Cornish stations have had their fair share of challenging weather during 2022-23. St Agnes Head an off the grid station lost all wind and solar power, Cape Cornwall have had a number of equipment failures and Bass Point suffered significant water ingress. This has proved very challenging for watchkeepers, but resilience and determination are always evident, and stations have remained open throughout.

All stations have worked hard to attract volunteers and the excellent practice of sharing qualified watch keepers between Charlestown and Polruan has been of great help to Polruan.

Nare Point have recently completed their creation of an information centre, with improved training facilities.

Porthscatho which closes for the winter period has carried out maintenance work and continues with their training programme. During the summer they raised £1,000 in two hours at a local collection.

Donations and fund raising has continued throughout the year and has meant that new Radars have been installed at St Ives, with the support of Trinity House Funding, and a donation from a supporter enabled Penzance to purchase their radar.

DFS – all station underwent their annual DFS, and good practices are being shared amongst stations, with all working well within the competencies. Gwennap Head have very close links with the RNLI at Sennen and regular training exercises on the AWLB for watchkeepers is invaluable.

A partnership with the South-West Coast Path Association was formed in the latter part of the year and has got off to a good start. A number of the Southwest stations are stamping stations with visitors already recorded as calling in.



TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

Stations have worked hard on fundraising. The Paya contactless card system has proved very successful at the stations trialling the system, whereas other stations, supermarket and attendance at events has been ongoing. Fund raising initiatives e.g. book sales and QR codes have all supported funds.

Local press, TV and radio have covered features. with a regular Wildlife report given by St Ives on Radio Cornwall.

Devon and Somerset- Gail Rendle

From being Sector Manager Gail Rendle took over as Regional Trustee from Chris Aps in April, with Ivor Jones now Sector Manager. The loveliest county in England* is favoured to have along its south coast five NCI stations, namely, from east to west, Exmouth, Teignmouth, Torbay, Froward Point and Prawle Point.

These stations range from being sited on busy promenades (Exmouth and Teignmouth) to sitting on isolated, and not so isolated, headlands (Prawle Point and Torbay) or perched on a WW2 battery site close by the entrance to the river Dart (Froward Point).

All are fortunate enough to be on the South-West Coast Path and as such make the most of the fund-raising opportunities that this busy trail allows. Robert Thornton at Prawle Point has led the way in the promoting of fund-raising ideas and improvements to electronic fund-raising.

Given the high volume of water-based leisure activities along the south coast, it's not surprising that between them over the 12 months covering this report the Devon stations clocked up a total of 121 incidents.

The gradual return to normality post-Covid has highlighted the need to concentrate once more on recruitment and training. While there remains some reluctance to dual man, this has not impinged on any station's operational effectiveness.

Local collaboration involving three stations, RNLI and HMCG Liaison (at a meeting arranged by FP) proved extremely worthwhile; with all parties keen to expand and improve on this community co-operation.

The post-Covid DFS programme resulted in excellent reports for four of the Devon stations. Changes of SM at Prawle Point, however, have delayed their DFS assessment.

New ASMs over the period have been Andy Westwood (FP), Peter Oliver (Exmouth) and Bryan Phillips (PP and since resigned). Andy and Peter have proved to be energetic, thoughtful, and effective.

Of the challenges, structural and operational over the year, Torbay's probably topped the table when their power and water supplies from a nearby dwelling were cut without notice. With support



from the BoT, Chris Arkell and his team showed determination and energy in keeping the station running over this difficult time. After several challenging months the station, which received a nomination for the Alan Richards Award for their efforts, finally received mains power.

Coastal Water Safety in Devon got off to a flying start over Easter with three Devon stations involved in the pilot scheme. Exmouth's dynamic and expansive CWS programme led the way in what was overall a very successful first year for this important venture. For their work with the programme this station too was nominated for the Alan Richards Award.

The next loveliest county, Somerset, has had a temporary station (NCI exhibition trailer T6) at Minehead since early summer. Their ongoing recruitment and training programme has proved very successful, with help, and loans of equipment from, and visits to, NCI Exmouth. Planning permission for a new demountable has been received, which will release a donation of £25k from EDF Somerset Community Funding in support of this cost.

Work continues finding NCI Burnham on Sea a home. This has proved challenging for SDT Project Lead Phil Styles since the merger of two councils in Somerset. Despite council-led delays, the fledgling membership at BoS continue to meet, recruit and train, the latter with the generous assistance of the Minehead TO. This station has also received a yet-to-be-released donation of £25k from EDF Somerset Community Funding for station set-up.

*Who doesn't love the clang of a gauntlet being thrown down!



Dorset- Chris Aps

The Regional Trustee's NCI Stations in Dorset are, from West to East, Charmouth, Lyme Bay, Portland Bill, St Alban's Head, Swanage, and Hengistbury Head. Although NCI Needles shares the Dorset Sector manager, it comes under another Regional Trustee's responsibilities and is not included in this report.



Dorset stations had a change of Trustee within this year, following the retirement of the previous Liaison Trustee, Tim Colquhoun. Despite Eric Taylor being appointed NCI Head of Operations, he remained as Sector Manager for the Dorset stations, and continued to work closely with Chris Apps as the incoming Regional Trustee, with a joint visit to all the Dorset stations in 2023 to get a eyes-on understanding of local issues, facilities, their teams, and aspirations.

The Dorset stations work particularly well together. This continued to be evident during 2022-23, with regular small group/station manager meetings, successful co-operative fundraising events and strong operational cohesion. To pick just two neighbouring stations as an example, NCI Swanage sharing information with NCI St Alban's Head watchkeepers on passing vulnerable vessels, kayakers, paddle boarders as they move out of sight is an established operational practice.

The Dorset coast has its own challenges and the year 2022-23 was no exception.

NCI St Alban's Head was heavily involved with a drug smuggling incident; by spotting the largest ever drugs haul in Dorset. This has had the effect of an ever-increasing interaction with Border Force, Marine Police, and other government agencies. Indeed, this coastline attracted an increasing level of criminal activity, not only narcotic but also people smuggling. All Dorset stations reported visits by Border Force during this period. Dorset geology was not to be left out and the precarious cliffs

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION



TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

near NCI Lyme Bay and NCI Charmouth lived up to their reputation with large cliff falls. Fortunately, without loss of life.

Healthy collaboration with RNLI and CRT teams is a common thread in reports from all Dorset stations, and a strong relationship exists between them and SAR partners. Lyme Bay, for example attended RNLI management meetings as well as NCI visits to RNLI stations along the coast. Although not easy to obtain exact figures for the 2022-23 period year outlined in this report, as an illustration of activity the combined Dorset NCI stations reported 126 incidents in the calendar year 2023.

Other highlights from Dorset stations included noteworthy recruitment and fundraising at NCI Hengistbury Head combined with a high incident reporting rate. Essential and extensive repairs to the lookout at NCI Portland Bill dominated their year, which also included modernising their radar and medical equipment.

NCI Bembridge (IOW) is not a Dorset Station, but it falls under this Trustee's remit and is therefore included. Because it represents a significant step forward for this Charity, it is reported here in a little more detail.

On October 1st, 2022, following a six-month trial of NCI watchkeepers working from the lookout of the active HM Coastguard station and a careful bilateral evaluation, NCI Bembridge was given the official go-ahead by MCA. Station development was entirely self-funded by successful presentations to, and donations from, yacht clubs and marine-related organisations. The embryo NCI Bembridge coordinated all six Solent NCI stations for the Round the Island Race and was involved in the organisational safety aspects of the event. The Regional Trustee was privileged to attend the inaugural AGM of NCI Bembridge and the election of Mike Batcheler as Acting Station Manager in February 2023. Crucial to the success of this initiative for us was the ability of the NCI watchkeepers to operationally co-exist with the CRT personnel. The latter have commented very favourably on the contribution provided by National Coastwatch, and NCI Bembridge continues as the only NCI station to operate within an active HMCG station.



Media image of NCI and CRS teams during the trial initiative at HMCG Bembridge.

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION



TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

South and Solent – Stephen Hand

The six stations in the South and Solent region are NCI Shoreham, NCI Gosport, NCI Lee-on-the-Solent, NCI Needles, NCI Calshot Tower, and NCI Stone Point.

All the regional stations have been very busy especially during the high months of the summer. A total of 124 SAR incidents were recorded during the period and every station showed an increase in SA Activity over 2022. A worrying trend in the region is an increase in the number of incidents involving attempted self-harm and suicide.

The south coast is an extremely popular destination for visitors from London and other inland locations and several stations have been early contributors to our new coastal and water safety information provision. We hope to add to their number in the second phase in 2024.

Highlights of the year for our region were a visit in May to NCI Gosport by our Royal Patron (pictured) and the formal opening of the NCI Stone Point satellite station to NCI Calshot.



During the year Jaye Isherwood succeeded Ron Hamilton as SM at Lee-on-the-Solent and Richard Suggitt took over from Colin Church at Gosport. My thanks to the departing managers for their sterling service and best wishes to their successors.

Southeast – David Crozier

Generally, the SE sector has continued to be busy with 45 incidents across the sector during the period.

NCI Newhaven continues to attract good recruiting levels, good fundraising and was involved in 23 incidents during the period.

NCI Folkestone continues to be robustly run with good local connections and was involved in 10 incidents during the period.

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION



TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

NCI Whitstable continues to work at getting a new site approved and was involved in 12 incidents during the period.

NCI Thanet (ex NCI Herne Bay) has been working hard to obtain a new site following their previous building being structurally condemned. No incident figures are available as no station building is operational yet but some watchkeepers have contributed to watches at NCI Whitstable.

East Coast -Linda Lawrence

NCI Filey is doing well and, although in one of the mobile units, they are increasing in volunteer numbers. They have had some trouble with the owner of the shop that is situated behind them, but the SM is dealing with it in a professional way. They have looked at other sites and this is ongoing.

NCI Hornsea's SM has stood down and Kath Robson Jervois has taken over the role of ASM. She is being supported by Sector Manager Rob Druce.

NCI Mablethorpe is falling into a bad state of repair and needs to be replaced. The Station is applying for various grants. They have been very active in Water Safety and some watchkeepers have been trained by the RNLI and working well with them.

NCI Chapel Point has an ongoing problem with the entrance to the lookout as it is shared by the restaurant, if the restaurant isn't open, the watchkeepers cannot gain access.

NCI Skegness's SM has had some problems with a couple of the watchkeepers, but she is being well supported by her DSM and Sector Manager Rob Druce.

NCI Brancaster continues to move forward with positive applications to various funding that is available in North Norfolk. Planning permission will be submitted for a permanent unit at the Royal West Norfolk Golf Club. The RNLI are full of praise for the Station as their callouts have almost halved during this past year.

NCI Wells next the Sea's ongoing watchkeeper problems have continued throughout the year. Two watchkeepers have now been dismissed and the Station Manager although initially on leave of absence, has resigned.

NCI Cromer's new CCTV system was sited high on the cliffs overlooking West RT his gave the watchkeepers good views over West Runton, East Runton and Cromer beaches.

NCI Mundesley's last two Station Managers died of cancer and the then Head of Operations supported them until an ASM could be elected. Andy Potter stepped up and immediately showed strong commitment to the Station.

NCI Caister had over two years using one of the mobile units and seeking places along the coastline where they could eventually site a demountable. Nowhere could be found and after many meetings it was decided that it just was not viable to continue, and the station closed on 31st August 2023.

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION



TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

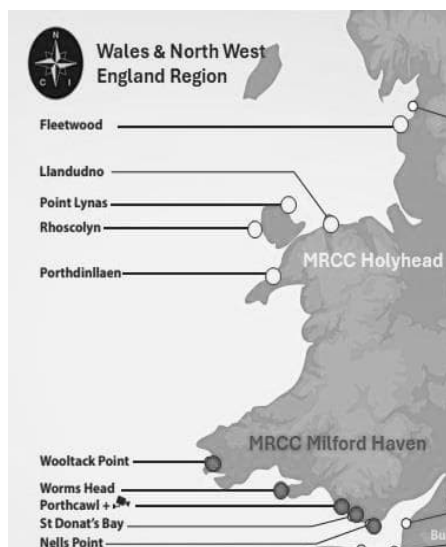
NCI Gorleston experienced a couple of SM changes during the year and the last ASM resigned with immediate effect in July. The DSM's carried on until someone could be elected. Unfortunately, this was another situation where no one wanted the position.

NCI Felixstow is excellent, it is run by an extremely competent SM, the training system is well thought out. They have various CCTV cameras, giving them a wide coverage of the area. They have various 'open days', which relates to good fund raising and increase in new members.

NCI Southend made moves with the Coastguard to share a lookout in Southend but eventually it was decided that the area was too small to accommodate both crews. Talks have begun on the prospect of having CCTV to cover the area with monitors in NCI Southend unit.

NCI Canvey Island's SM Grahame Harris continues to run a very good Station, they have excellent support from the local yacht club and locally good fundraising.

Wales and NW – Phil Styles



The Region covers a total of 10 stations from Barry in South Wales to Fleetwood Lancashire Northwest England

Five of the Station's report into MRCC Milford Haven and five report into MRCC Holyhead.

The region has two Sector Managers Tom Scrimgeour covering the south and Martin Cripps covering the north.

The stations are Nells Point, St Donats Bay, Porthcawl, Worms Head, Wooltack Point, Porthdinllaen, Rhoscolyn, Point Lynas, Llandudno & Fleetwood.

Incident Stats Oct 22 to Sept 24

	Incidents	MCA Initiated	Requiring Lifeboat support
All Stations	169	68	77

The 10 stations dealt with 169 Incidents during the period, which equates to 20% of all the NCI incidents recorded during this period.

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION



TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

Due to the high tidal ranges up to 11metres in the Bristol Channel and the large areas of sand banks to the north of the region, tidal cut offs made up the highest causes of incidents at 30%, followed by Paddle Boarders at 18%.

HM Coastguard - All stations had and continue to have excellent working relationship with the two MRCC at Holyhead & Milford with regular visits and online Teams meetings being held during the period. Year on year we see an increase in the number of times the MRCC request assistance/support from the NCI stations in the region. Some NCI stations in the region have made presentations to local CRT regarding what the NCI do and offer from their local teams.

RNLI. Stations with local RNLI lifeboat stations have created close ties including in some cases sharing water safety activities.

Station Specific.

All stations as can be seen from the stats have been very busy but below are some of the highlights or key actions taken.

Llandudno has had a very challenging period having to rebuild a new team and re-establish the station on the West Shore at Llandudno. They are to be applauded that they now are back on track and recruiting new members.

Point Lynas found themselves without a station as the landowners terminated the lease, but with the support of the NCI Station development team, and some local searching by the Point Lynas crew, they managed to secure a site at Amlwch and are currently working out of an NCI Transportable station. They have also secured a final site at Moelfre to the east of the current station on Anglesey.

Porthdinllaen completed its hook up to mains electricity and followed this up with refurbishment to its badly leaking doors and windows ensuring a far nicer working environment for its crew.

Wooltack Point has always struggled to recruit new members but, due to the tenacity of the Station manager, they are seeing an uptick in recruitment which bodes well for the station to increase its opening hours.

Worms Head deservedly won the Alan Richards award in April 2023 for its work at Worms Head causeway reducing the number of people being cut off by the incoming tides.

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023



St Donat's Bay.



In April 2023 the station had a very successful visit from HRH Princess Anne who presented certificates to the station's first Cadet group from UWC Atlantic college.

This has been followed up by another new cadet intake in September.

In July the station passed its first DFS inspection with flying colours.

Finally, thanks. Thanks to Nick Rogers Station manager Nells Point who stood down at the end of Sept 2023 after serving 6 years as SM. Thanks to the 327 NCI Volunteers who gave over 68,000 volunteer hours over the period to support the safety of others along the coast and out at sea of Wales & the North West of England.

Dai iawm chi



FINANCIAL REPORT (GG)

Central Reserves and Contingency

NCI maintains central reserves which include a low/medium risk long term investment with the aim of future proofing the Charity and establishing a stream of sustainable operating surpluses. We retain a readily accessible contingency balance to address unexpected or emergency events such as flooding, roof damage or lightning strikes.

Legacies and Donations

In November of 2022, the Charity was informed of a £85,000 legacy from the Estate of Robin Barrett for the reconstruction of the Browndown site for NCI use, or if that proved impractical, for the development of other NCI Stations.

A further amount of £3,182 was received in November 2022 from the Estate of the late Judi Gifford. With the amounts received in 2019-20 and 2021-22 this takes the overall amount received to £58,853.

In April 2023, the estate of the late Mr Norman C Tricks, donated a legacy of £1,000. Also in April 2023, the NCI received a bequest of £10,000 from the estate of Mr Christopher Grose, and a further bequest of £10,000 from the estate of Mr Alan G Smith.

VAT

With effect from 1st April 2015, qualifying charities as defined by section 33D of the VAT Act 1994 are able to reclaim VAT charged on non-business supplies and services. At 30th September 2023 NCI has successfully reclaimed £88,692 in VAT in total in the year.

Reserves Policy

In November 2016, the Trustees established an investment fund of £250,000, invested with Rathbones Investment Management. Based on projections on income and expenditure, it was envisaged that the investment fund would be reviewed after 5 years. During the financial year 2022/23 this was reviewed and after some consideration the Trustees agreed to retain Rathbones. These reserves have been required to be accessed over the year in question and stood at £178,091 as at 30 September 2023.

Treatment of Restricted Fixed Assets

The purchase of an asset using restricted funds has been considered to meet in full the restriction imposed on the original donation. The present treatments are:

- The purchase of an asset with restricted funds in line with the stipulated restriction is treated as the fulfilment of the restriction.
- The purchased asset is treated as an unrestricted asset.
- The restricted fund holding on the balance sheet will be shown.

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION



TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

Fixed Asset Limit

The NCI requires all Station to maintain a Fixed Asset Register. The Treasury then consolidates this to hold a register for the Charity as a whole. Any asset with a purchase price, including VAT or allied costs such as deliver and installation, should be included. Additionally, assets with a lower initial purchase price, but considered to have a key value to the Charity's purpose, can be included, for example specialist binoculars which have an initial cost under £5,000.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of The Trustees.

Mr S Hand

NCI Chairman

Mr G Gordon

NCI Treasurer

Date: 24/7/24

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE THE TRUSTEES OF NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION

I report to the The trustees on my examination of the financial statements of National Coastwatch Institution (the charity) for the year ended 30 September 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the The trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Rouse Partners LLP, which is one of the listed bodies.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do 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 financial statements to be reached.



Rouse Partners LLP

Susan Drummond FCCA

55 Station Road
Beaconsfield
Buckinghamshire
HP9 1QL

Dated: 29 July 2024

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
	Notes						
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	407,638	147,742	555,380	455,149	145,185	600,334
Other trading activities	4	248,889	-	248,889	251,253	-	251,253
Investments	5	-	-	-	9,417	-	9,417
Total income		656,527	147,742	804,269	715,819	145,185	861,004
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	6	134,132	-	134,132	116,574	-	116,574
Charitable activities	7	762,223	29,883	792,106	673,037	20,040	693,077
Total expenditure		896,355	29,883	926,238	789,611	20,040	809,651
Net losses on investments	8	(8,723)	-	(8,723)	(31,938)	-	(31,938)
Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds		(248,551)	117,859	(130,692)	(105,730)	125,145	19,415
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 October 2022		1,161,016	156,261	1,317,277	1,266,746	31,116	1,297,862
Fund balances at 30 September 2023		912,465	274,120	1,186,585	1,161,016	156,261	1,317,277

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

		2023		2022	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		293,194		368,788
Investments	11		183,808		337,239
			<u>477,002</u>		<u>706,027</u>
Current assets					
Stocks	12	-		5,047	
Debtors	13	7,115		29,586	
Cash at bank and in hand		729,470		603,215	
		<u>736,585</u>		<u>637,848</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	27,002		26,598	
		<u>27,002</u>		<u>26,598</u>	
Net current assets			709,583		611,250
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>1,186,585</u>		<u>1,317,277</u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	15		274,120		156,261
Unrestricted funds			912,465		1,161,016
			<u>1,186,585</u>		<u>1,317,277</u>

The financial statements were approved by the The trustees on 24/7/2024



Mr S Hand
Trustee

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	20		(18,453)		146,223
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-		(186,526)	
Investments cash to cash in hand		-		(3,634)	
Purchase of other investments		(35,375)		(21,022)	
Proceeds from disposal of other investments		180,083		74,010	
Investment income received		-		1,063	
Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities			144,708		(136,109)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			126,255		10,114
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			603,215		593,101
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			729,470		603,215

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements 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 the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the The trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the The trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the The trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold land and buildings	at varying rates on cost
Plant and equipment	25% on reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.12 Legacies

Legacies are recognised on a case by case basis where the receipt of the legacy is considered probable and the amount can be measured reliably. A receipt will be probable if there has been a grant of probate: the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate to pay the legacy, after settling any liabilities, and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met. Where legacies have been notified to the Charity, or the Charity is aware of the granting of probate and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the The trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated 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 ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Donations and gifts	407,638	147,742	555,380	455,149	145,185	600,334

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Shop income	247,923	251,253
Letting and licensing arrangements	966	-
	<u>248,889</u>	<u>251,253</u>
Other trading activities	<u>248,889</u>	<u>251,253</u>

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Rental income	-	8,354
Interest receivable	-	1,063
	<u>-</u>	<u>9,417</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>9,417</u>

6 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Fundraising and publicity		
Other fundraising costs	134,132	116,574
	<u>134,132</u>	<u>116,574</u>

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

7 Charitable activities

	Operating coastal stations 2023 £	Operating coastal stations 2022 £
Depreciation and impairment	75,594	89,361
Direct Costs	377,742	468,131
	<u>453,336</u>	<u>557,492</u>
Share of support costs	338,770	135,585
	<u>792,106</u>	<u>693,077</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	762,223	673,037
Restricted funds	29,883	20,040
	<u>792,106</u>	<u>693,077</u>

8 Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Gains/(losses) arising on:		
Revaluation of investments	-	(34,757)
Sale of investments	(8,723)	2,819
	<u>(8,723)</u>	<u>(31,938)</u>

9 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings £	Plant and equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 October 2022	436,956	392,867	829,823
At 30 September 2023	436,956	392,867	829,823
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 October 2022	231,587	229,448	461,035
Depreciation charged in the year	34,739	40,855	75,594
At 30 September 2023	266,326	270,303	536,629
Carrying amount			
At 30 September 2023	170,630	122,564	293,194
At 30 September 2022	205,369	163,419	368,788

11 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 October 2022	337,239
Additions	35,375
Valuation changes	3,897
Dividends	6,179
Management fees	(3,667)
Disposals	(195,215)
At 30 September 2023	183,808
Carrying amount	
At 30 September 2023	183,808
At 30 September 2022	337,239

12 Stocks

	2023 £	2022 £
Finished goods and goods for resale	-	5,047

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

13 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	250	3,816
Other debtors	6,865	25,770
	<u>7,115</u>	<u>29,586</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other taxation and social security	2,800	-
Trade creditors	24,202	20,598
Accruals and deferred income	-	6,000
	<u>27,002</u>	<u>26,598</u>

15 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 October 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 30 September 2023 £
Station fund	67,756	114,202	(22,729)	159,229
Trinity House	88,505	33,540	(7,154)	114,891
	<u>156,261</u>	<u>147,742</u>	<u>(29,883)</u>	<u>274,120</u>

Previous year:

	At 1 October 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 30 September 2022 £
Station fund	31,116	40,185	(3,545)	67,756
Trinity House	-	105,000	(16,495)	88,505
	<u>31,116</u>	<u>145,185</u>	<u>(20,040)</u>	<u>156,261</u>

Trinity House figure relates to water safety and integration with the coastguard.

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

16 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 October 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 30 September 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	637,770	656,527	(896,355)	523,246	(8,723)	912,465
Designated funds	523,246	-	-	(523,246)	-	-
	<u>1,161,016</u>	<u>656,527</u>	<u>(896,355)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(8,723)</u>	<u>912,465</u>
Previous year:	At 1 October 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 30 September 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	743,500	715,819	(789,611)	-	(31,938)	637,770
Designated funds	523,246	-	-	-	-	523,246
	<u>1,266,746</u>	<u>715,819</u>	<u>(789,611)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(31,938)</u>	<u>1,161,016</u>

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Fund balances at 30 September 2023 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	293,194	-	293,194
Investments	183,808	-	183,808
Current assets/(liabilities)	435,463	274,120	709,583
	<u>912,465</u>	<u>274,120</u>	<u>1,186,585</u>

NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Fund balances at 30 September 2022 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	368,788	-	368,788
Investments	337,239	-	337,239
Current assets/(liabilities)	454,989	156,261	611,250
	<u>1,161,016</u>	<u>156,261</u>	<u>1,317,277</u>

18 Related party transactions

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 September 2023.

The Trust has reimbursed the trustees with £18,165 (2022: £21,867) in respect of travel costs, accommodation, subsistence and other ancillary costs being monies necessarily incurred in the pursuance of the Trust's business.

19 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no material debt during the year.

20 Cash generated from operations

	2023 £	2022 £
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(130,692)	19,415
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	-	(1,063)
Loss/(gain) on disposal of investments	8,723	(2,819)
Fair value gains and losses on investments	-	34,757
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	75,594	89,361
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	5,047	(760)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	22,471	(4,795)
Increase in creditors	404	12,127
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	<u>(18,453)</u>	<u>146,223</u>