



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01/04/2024 Period start date. To 31/3/2025 Period end date.

Charity name: JOINT CIVIL AID CORPS

Charity registration number: 1160699

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The Joint Civil Aid Corps (JCAC) is a Civil Defence organisation established to manage and develop the Civil Aid Volunteer Corps (CAVC), the Community Resilience Volunteers, and the Civil Cadet Corps (CCC), which is planned for future implementation, and other arms that may be developed.</p> <p>Its charitable purpose is to provide a credible, disciplined body of civilian volunteers to support emergency services, civil authorities, and other voluntary organisations during times of need – including adverse weather, disasters, and incidents of national emergency.</p> <p>JCAC fulfils this purpose through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Structured training and development for all members</li><li>• A clear and accountable organisational framework</li><li>• Collaboration with professional and voluntary bodies</li><li>• Public education on matters of community resilience</li><li>• Any other related activities, at the discretion of the Trustees, that contribute to the protection of life and property</li></ul>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>The Joint Civil Aid Corps (JCAC) operates as a Civil Defence organisation, delivering structured training and operational readiness to civilian volunteers. Its primary activity is the development of emergency support capabilities that enable members to assist professional services and civil</p>

		<p>authorities during times of crisis, including adverse weather, disasters, and other emergencies.</p> <p>In the past year, JCAC has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivered training programmes in key generalist skills such as First Aid, Search and Rescue, Communications, Security, Logistics, and Auxiliary Fire support</li> <li>• Supported community events with volunteer-led services including first aid provision, radio communications, and stewarding</li> <li>• Promoted community resilience through public education and outreach, encouraging preparedness and self-reliance across diverse communities</li> <li>• Strengthened partnerships with other voluntary and professional bodies to ensure coordinated response and mutual support</li> </ul> <p>These activities are underpinned by JCAC's guiding principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Inclusion and Unity:</b> Embracing the concept of 'ONE PEOPLE', respecting individual identity while removing societal labels that divide</li> <li>• <b>Community Integration:</b> Encouraging participation from all backgrounds and fostering cohesion in a multicultural society</li> <li>• <b>Self-Reliance:</b> Empowering communities to support themselves in times of need, from youth to senior citizens</li> <li>• <b>Accessibility and Dignity:</b> Ensuring roles within the Corps are suited to the capabilities of each volunteer</li> <li>• <b>Cooperation over Competition:</b> Promoting coordination and mutual respect among organisations and individuals</li> <li>• <b>Bondship:</b> Cultivating camaraderie and morale through shared training and operational experience</li> </ul> <p>All activities are conducted with the aim of protecting life and property, and are delivered for the public benefit without charge, ensuring accessibility and impact across the regions in which JCAC operates.</p>
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Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Yes, the Trustees of the Joint Civil Aid Corps have had full regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. The Corps is expressly constituted to serve the public through its Civil Defence mission, and all activities – from training and operational support to community outreach and education – are designed to deliver meaningful benefit across the communities in which it operates. Public benefit remains central to the Trustees’ decision-making and strategic planning.
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#### **Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	<b>N/A</b>
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	<b>N/A</b>
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>The Joint Civil Aid Corps is a wholly voluntary Civil Defence organisation, sustained by the dedication and commitment of its members. Volunteers contribute across all levels of the Corps — from operational support and training delivery to administrative governance and strategic development. Their work enables the Corps to maintain readiness, deliver public benefit, and uphold its values of service, resilience, and unity.</p> <p>The Chief Officer and Trustees wish to formally acknowledge and express deep gratitude for the tireless efforts of senior volunteers, whose leadership, initiative, and generosity of time are instrumental in the running and growth of the organisation.</p>
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>Despite a period of significant challenge, including the temporary absence of the Chief Officer due to bereavement and stress, and the departure of a small group of senior officers who disrupted operations and misrepresented the leadership transition, the Joint Civil Aid Corps (JCAC) has emerged stronger, more unified, and increasingly effective in its charitable mission.</p> <p>Following this disruption, JCAC re-established its operational momentum and made notable progress in several key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rebuilding and Expansion:</b> The Corps consolidated its leadership, reaffirmed its values, and expanded its reach across multiple centres, laying the groundwork for future growth and resilience.</li> <li>• <b>Training and Readiness:</b> Training programmes resumed with renewed focus, equipping volunteers with essential Civil Defence skills including First Aid, Search and Rescue, Communications, and Community Support.</li> <li>• <b>Community Engagement:</b> JCAC strengthened its presence at local events, offering voluntary support in stewarding, first aid, and public education — reinforcing its role as a trusted community partner.</li> <li>• <b>Restoration of Credibility:</b> The Trustees and senior leadership worked diligently to restore relationships with Local Resilience Forums and other stakeholders, reaffirming JCAC's commitment to cooperation, transparency, and public service.</li> </ul> <p>The difference made to beneficiaries is tangible: volunteers gained structure, purpose, and recognition; communities received practical support and reassurance; and wider society benefited from the re-emergence of a principled, inclusive Civil Defence organisation ready to serve in times of need.</p> <p>JCAC continues to offer a place for all – regardless of background or circumstance – and remains committed to building community resilience, fostering unity, and acting as a voluntary reserve to professional emergency services where needed.</p>

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

<p>Achievements against objectives set.</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	<p>Despite ongoing challenges in securing sustainable funding, the Joint Civil Aid Corps (JCAC) has made meaningful progress against its strategic objectives. Income has been maintained at the previous year's level, enabling the Corps to strengthen its operational capacity and deepen relationships with external organisations and authorities.</p> <p>A major milestone has been the continued acquisition of suitable insurance – a critical development that has unlocked a range of operational activities and brought the Corps closer to full readiness. As the only known independent Civil Defence charity operating globally, JCAC faces unique insurance challenges not encountered by government-supported counterparts. This achievement marks a significant step forward in the Corps' ability to serve communities and fulfil its charitable mission.</p> <p>Following an unsuccessful engagement with a professional fundraiser, the Corps continues to seek appropriate support for its fundraising efforts, though progress has been limited so far this year.</p> <p>The Trustees' reluctant but necessary decision to introduce membership subscriptions has contributed considerably to the Corps' growth and development. These funds have enabled the acquisition of both a volunteer management system and access to an eLearning platform for training. The introduction of these systems has transformed the recruitment and induction process, streamlining volunteer onboarding and accelerating access to essential training.</p> <p>JCAC remains steadfast in its commitment to building a credible, inclusive Civil Defence organisation; supporting emergency services and communities; and offering structured training and development to volunteers. The progress made this year – despite considerable difficulties – reflects the Corps' resilience, adaptability, and unwavering dedication to public service.</p>
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Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set.	Para 1.41	<p>The Joint Civil Aid Corps continues to face significant challenges in securing mainstream funding, largely due to its unique position outside the media-friendly and socially conventional charity landscape. Despite its vital role in community resilience and emergency preparedness, the Corps remains sidelined in comparison to more widely recognised causes.</p> <p>Following the previous year's engagement of a fundraiser with experience in the voluntary emergency service arena, progress has unfortunately been limited. The anticipated traction in grant applications and donor engagement has not materialised, and the Corps continues to seek appropriate fundraising support. This remains a key priority, though success has proven elusive so far this year.</p> <p>In response to these difficulties, the Corps has focused on strengthening internal sustainability measures. The introduction of membership subscriptions has provided a modest but reliable income stream, enabling investment in volunteer infrastructure and training systems. While not a substitute for broader fundraising success, this approach has helped maintain momentum and deliver tangible benefits to volunteers.</p> <p>JCAC remains committed to developing a credible and strategic fundraising framework that reflects its values, operational scope, and long-term vision. The Corps continues to explore partnerships, grant opportunities, and advisory support that align with its mission and unique standing within the resilience sector.</p>
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	<b>N/A</b>
Other		<b>N/A</b>

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>While funding remains slow and somewhat limited, the Corps has maintained a stable financial footing, despite the challenges faced. Income for the year has slipped very slightly compared to the previous twelve months, reflecting both prudent management and the dedication of senior officers.</p> <p>Regardless of the slight slip in income, the Corps has still managed to continue its development across key areas of the organisation. The introduction of membership subscriptions and careful prioritisation of resources have contributed to financial resilience, allowing the Corps to invest in volunteer infrastructure, training systems, and insurance coverage.</p> <p>Thanks to the unwavering commitment of its leadership, the Joint Civil Aid Corps remains financially stable and well-positioned to pursue its long-term objectives. The charity continues to operate within its means while seeking new avenues for sustainable funding and strategic partnerships.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The charity does not currently have any reserves.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<b>N/A</b>
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	The charity simply does not have sufficient funds to allow for reserves.
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	<b>N/A</b>
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	There are no uncertainties, the Corps will succeed.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The Corps is funded through donations, grants, and subscriptions from its members.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted.	Para 1.46	<b>N/A</b> at this time.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The primary risk facing the Joint Civil Aid Corps (JCAC) remains the ongoing challenge of securing sustainable funding.

		<p>Without adequate financial support, the charity's ability to deliver training, procure uniforms and equipment, maintain insurance coverage, and cover essential operational costs is significantly constrained.</p> <p>This risk is compounded by JCAC's unique position within the charitable sector. As an independent Civil Defence organisation, it does not fit easily within conventional funding categories and is often overlooked in favour of more mainstream causes. The lack of public familiarity with Civil Defence as a charitable concept further limits access to grants and sponsorship.</p> <p>Despite these challenges, the Corps has taken proactive steps to mitigate financial risk, including the introduction of membership subscriptions, the implementation of cost-effective digital systems for volunteer management and training, and ongoing efforts to build strategic partnerships. The Trustees continue to monitor financial sustainability closely and remain committed to safeguarding the charity's long-term viability.</p>
Other		N/A

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g.: unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Appointment by the Chief Officer and Board of Trustees

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees.	Para 1.51	This is currently continuously under review and added to as the Corps continues its development.
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The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	<p>The Joint Civil Aid Corps (JCAC) operates as a structured, voluntary emergency support organisation, built on a clear hierarchical framework. This includes defined leadership tiers – Rally Point, Station, Regional, and Group Commanders – supported by Staff Officers and governed by a central Board of Trustees. This structure ensures accountability, operational clarity, and effective coordination during both training and deployment.</p> <p>JCAC works in close collaboration with other voluntary organisations, including community resilience groups, faith-based charities, and heritage associations. It also supports and complements the work of professional emergency services, offering trained volunteers who can assist in logistics, welfare, and public safety roles during emergencies and major events.</p> <p>The Corps maintains active engagement with national networks such as Local Resilience Forums, Voluntary and Community Sector Emergencies Partnership (VCSEP), Civil Defence Association (CDA), National Council of Voluntary Organisations, and the Council of Civil Defence, and continues to build strategic partnerships that enhance its reach, credibility, and operational readiness.</p>
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	The Corps is a key member of the Civil Defence Association and a founding member of the new Council of Civil Defence organisations.
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Joint Civil Aid Corps
Other name the charity uses	It is also being termed as either "The Corps" or "JCAC"
Registered charity number	1160699
Charity's principal address	20 Crowborough Lane Kents Hill Milton Keynes MK7 6HF

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Julie Hooker			Colin Harmsworth, Chief Officer
2	Suzan Bull			Colin Harmsworth, Chief Officer
3	Rui de Sousa			Colin Harmsworth, Chief Officer
4	Heather Harmsworth-Jackson			Colin Harmsworth, Chief Officer
5	Emily Baker			Colin Harmsworth, Chief Officer
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### Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

### Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

### Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity.	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects.	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets.	N/A

### Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)		
Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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### Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A


### Other optional information

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### Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	
Full name(s)	Colin Thomas Harmsworth
Position (e.g., Secretary, Chair, etc)	Founder and Chief Officer of the Joint Civil Aid Corps
Date:	06/09/2025



# THE JOINT CIVIL AID CORPS

## Statement of Financial Status



### Income and Expenditure

	2022-23 (1 Apr – 31 Mar) <b>Total</b> <b>£</b>	2023-24 (1 Apr – 31 Mar) <b>Total</b> <b>£</b>	2024-25 (1 Apr – 31 Mar) <b>Total</b> <b>£</b>
<b>Incoming resources:</b>			
Donations	4,350.53	5,457.63	5,659.79
Grants	2,611.66	-	-
Interest		1.29	0.81
Subscriptions		3,833.92	3,670.33
Other		868.21	282.70
<b>Total Incoming resources:</b>	<b>6,962.19</b>	<b>10,161.05</b>	<b>9,613.63</b>
<b>Resources Expended:</b>			
Stationery & Sundry		195.04	260.29
Fuel		121.00	265.06
Fundraising		629.99	-
Printing & Postage		38.43	558.67
Insurances		995.00	1,232.70
Website & I.T.	1,801.43	1,135.28	1,666.37
Accreditations	234.00	114.00	-
Training		3,583.60	285.68
Uniforms	196.45	2,243.47	1,666.40
Bank fees		77.61	74.70
Catering		921.19	26.65
Ads/ Marketing		846.48	137.44
Miscellaneous	120.03	959.21	293.00
Depreciation	942.98	660.09	1,687.03
<b>Total Resources Expended:</b>	<b>3,294.89</b>	<b>12,520.39</b>	<b>8,153.99</b>
<b>Income - Expenditure:</b>	<b>3,667.30</b>	<b>- 2,359.34</b>	<b>1,459.64</b>
Assets brought forward	1,402.33	2,200.29	1,540.20
Cash balances brought forward	399.52	3,268.86	1,569.61
<b>Reconciliation of Funds:</b>	<b>5,469.15</b>	<b>3,109.81</b>	<b>4,569.45</b>
<b>Represented By:</b>			
<b>Assets:</b>	<b>Total</b> <b>£</b>	<b>Total</b> <b>£</b>	<b>Total</b> <b>£</b>
Tangible Assets	2,200.29	1,540.20	3,936.41
Cash at bank and in hand	3,268.86	1,569.61	633.04
<b>Total Funds:</b>	<b>5,469.15</b>	<b>3,109.81</b>	<b>4,569.45</b>

