

**Sirona Therapeutic Horsemanship  
Charitable Incorporated Organisation**

**Registered Charity Number 1169709**

**Trustees' Report  
and Accounts**

**For the year ended  
31 December 2023**

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## Sirona Therapeutic Horsemanship CIO

# Legal and Administrative Information

(The information below forms part of the Trustees' Report)

Status	Sirona Therapeutic Horsemanship CIO is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered with the Charities Commission of England and Wales
Trustees	Sarah Urwin (Chair) Deidre Ford Rowan Lawrence Jane Turner Annie Tempest Tania Beard
CEO	Hannah Burgon
Charity number	1169709
Registered office	The Merchant's House 10 Town Quay The Plains Totnes Devon TQ9 5DW
Principal place of activities	Buckhams Stables Old School Farm Dartington Hall Totnes TQ9 6EB
Web address	<a href="http://www.sironaequine.org.uk">www.sironaequine.org.uk</a>
Accountant	MAP Accountants 2 Bridge Farm Offices Harberton Totnes TQ9 7PP
Bankers	Lloyds Bank Plc Newton Abbot Branch PO Box 1000 BX1 1LT

**Special thanks to all our partners, funders, supporters and staff who make Sirona's work possible.**

## Sirona Therapeutic Horsemanship CIO

# Trustees' Report

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Charity's Memorandum & Articles of Association, and the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP) issued in March 2005.

### Structure, governance and management

Sirona Therapeutic Horsemanship CIO (Sirona) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed in accordance with the Constitution dated 17 October 2016. It was registered with the Charity Commission on 17 October 2016. Sirona took over the assets and activities of Sirona Therapeutic Horsemanship CIC on 1 January 2017

#### The Board of Trustees

The Trustees are:

Sarah Urwin (Chair)

Deidre Ford

Rowan Lawrence

Jane Turner

Annie Tempest

Tania Beard

#### Appointment of Trustees

Trustees can be appointed at any general meeting, provided the conditions outlined in the charity's governing document are met.

#### Trustee induction and training

New trustees are given a copy of the Constitution, and the latest accounts and are explained their role by a current member of the Board. Continuing trustees are advised of updates as they arise. Trustees are invited to attend relevant trustee training courses in for example governance and safeguarding.

#### Organisational structure

The charity is governed by the board of trustees, with day-to-day operations delegated to the CEO, Hannah Burgon

#### Public Benefit

The Trustees, in their meetings, have referred to the Charities Commission guidance on Public Benefit in making their decisions. Sirona Therapeutic Horsemanship provides therapeutic and learning opportunities for young people, people with disabilities and other disadvantages and those suffering social exclusion, through engaging in activities with horses, all set within the context of the natural environment.

Our vision is for marginalised or excluded young people and adults to improve their wellbeing, become more resilient and be better able to overcome the challenges and disadvantages they face in order to have more positive life outcomes.

#### Risk management

The Trustees assess the risk to which Sirona Therapeutic Horsemanship CIO is exposed on a continuous basis. This includes the on-going monitoring of core reserves (see the reserves policy below).

## Objectives and activities

### Our objectives:

The objects of the CIO are:

(1) To relieve those in need (in particular but not limited to those with physical, mental, social or emotional disabilities or disadvantages) by providing equine-assisted therapeutic and educational activities that may also involve other animals

(2) To promote humane behaviour towards animals by providing appropriate care, protection, treatment and security for animals which are in need of care and attention by reason of sickness, maltreatment, poor circumstances or ill-usage and to educate the public in matters pertaining to animal welfare in general and the prevention of cruelty and suffering among animals

In sub-clause (1), "emotional disabilities" will encompass those beneficiaries who struggle with low self-esteem or self-confidence or have difficulty with communication and relationships or in regulating emotions (such as anger, anxiety and sadness), or who lack emotional stability and resilience. "Disadvantages" will encompass those beneficiaries who experience social or educational exclusion or lack of opportunity, taking into account factors such as socio-economic or educational background or physical, mental, communicational, behavioural or emotional difficulties.

### Our activities:

2023 was once again a very full and busy year at Sirona. We continued to receive high levels of demand for our provision, with waiting applications up by a further 13% this year. This would appear to be a reflection of the national mental health crisis in young people, compounded by the lack of statutory support available. Recent figures show that the number of under 18yrs referred to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) has risen by 53% since 2019, with this being partly attributed to the pandemic. In Devon there were nearly 1500 young people on the waiting list for CAMHS in 2022, with a mean average waiting time around 19 weeks and the longest waiting time 80 weeks. Alongside this we are seeing more young people being referred to Sirona who are unable to attend school due to anxiety – again reflecting the national trend. Persistent absenteeism – where pupils miss 10 per cent or more classes – has more than doubled, rising from 10.9 per cent in 2018-19, to 22.5 per cent.

We have especially noticed a large increase in teenage girls attending Sirona this year who are unable to attend school due to their anxiety, and who are self-harming, isolated, and in some cases completely withdrawn from society apart from their attendance at Sirona. In addition, at the time of writing this report we have 4 young people attending who are exploring gender identity issues, one of whom is only 7 years old.

Our work continues to be centred on our participants being at the heart of our provision, we follow a strengths and child-centred approach, and our annual community open day is an important part of this. Young people and volunteers are involved in all aspects of the day, which takes many months of planning and lots of behind the scenes work to make it a successful event on the day. Our open day on the 1st of July had over 170 people through the gates again and raised a fantastic £1424.26 through donations and sales of cakes, plants, games, a bric a brac stall and a raffle. This year we had some fantastic prizes donated by local companies such as a voucher for a weekend in a holiday cottage in Cornwall to a wine tasting day at local Sharpham Vineyard. Young people and volunteers from our community helped with all aspects of the day such as horseshoe painting and horse activity games, introducing the horses and other animals to the public, and helping on the stalls. The highlight of the day is the horse agility demonstration that participants take part in with some of the ponies in the arena. This showcases the horse handling skills and awareness young people have learnt from their time at Sirona – and it is a huge achievement doing this in front of a large crowd. Time and time again we are truly astonished at how much young people have grown from when they started at Sirona, often withdrawn and uncommunicative and with no confidence in themselves, to being able to skilfully lead a pony around an obstacle course, reading their body language and talking to complete strangers about their experience and knowledge.

***"I never thought I would be able to help on the open day – I hate people watching you – and I hate shows - but here everyone is so nice and not judgy so I felt like I could do it".***

In line with our work being underpinned by encouraging a love and understanding of nature and the environment to our participants, our session activities continued to include opportunities for learning about nature and

increasing biodiversity on our land. Participants were involved in helping prepare an area of our horses' field to be rested for mulching and reseeded with a wildflower meadow seed attractive to bees and butterflies. A number of volunteer days were held where volunteers helped with planting a native hedgerow and assisting with the development of our nature garden and pond area.

To support Sirona in promoting our work we were very privileged to have the well-known environmental journalist and activist George Monbiot join Sirona as a new patron in 2023. In October 2023 George took part in a popular community fundraiser 'Desert Island Tracks' where he talked about his life and work; with the event raising **£ 1,750 for Sirona**.

2023 has also been a busy year for Sirona in terms of our community outreach; a key highlight was being invited to meet HRH Princess Anne at the HEIR 1st anniversary event at Saddlers Hall in London in the Spring. The Sirona team were on the original working group helping to establish the register in order to improve standards and practice in the field. There are now 50 registered members and growing, with recognition in many media publications this year including the national equine magazine, Horse and Hound.

In addition to being invited to the HEIR event we were also invited to present at a conference and networking event at Cambridge University in July, centred on bringing together selected people and organisations with a wide range of expertise in the field of equine and animal-assisted interactions. Hannah Burgon and Sarah Urwin presented on 'The importance of Equine-Welfare in Equine-Assisted Interactions'. The presentation was well-received, and we were able to learn from other presentations ranging from programmes with therapy dogs and those with ex racehorses.

## **Achievements and performance**

We have supported **115** direct participants and **486** total beneficiaries over the year. **610** equine and animal-assisted sessions were delivered equating to **1495** direct participant hours. **48** volunteers supported our work contributing **2051** volunteer hours.

We have continued to provide a range of different types of session to suit the diverse needs of our participants over the past year. In response to community feedback and to help meet the increased demand for our provision from beneficiaries and local referring organisations we introduced a new session called Horse Works in Autumn 2023 to suit the needs of young people 14 – 25 years who have completed a course of 1-1 therapeutic sessions at Sirona and gained the confidence to progress onto a small group activity. Three young people have attended these sessions to date, and we have started a waiting list with the aim to provide between 4-6 spaces for young people on Horse Works at a time depending on their levels of support needs, whilst recognising the need to keep the group a small, safe, therapeutic space.

***"Without Sirona, there is very little on offer for young people who have fallen through the gaps".***

Our 1-1 Therapeutic Horsemanship and Equine-Assisted Therapy sessions have continued to be the most in demand of our provision; this is due to the increased need for 1-1 specialist support for young people with high levels of mental health and other related support needs. Providing this provision alongside horses and other animals set within the therapeutic aspect of the natural environment is therefore much in demand, and there are limited similar opportunities within our locality.

### Supported Volunteering group

This has continued to be a popular group and is provided to participants on a donation basis supported by the lottery community fund. There is a constant waiting list for those 18 years and over with a range of support needs to join the Supported Volunteer group. To manage this demand, we run the Supported Volunteering group on a 6-week rolling basis so new participants normally only have a 6 week wait and can then return to the waiting list for the next available block of sessions. Participants are referred from sources such as local GPs, social prescribing officers, NHS mental health teams, residential care providers and privately. Participants are referred with support needs such as mental health or physical health issues, isolation and exclusion in their communities, learning disabilities, and those who may have lost confidence following an illness which resulted in them losing employment.

### Animal-Active and Arts-based holiday sessions

During the summer holidays we ran new Animal Active and Art sessions based on our previous Holiday Horsemanship holiday sessions but encompassing more variety with the other animals we now have at Sirona, together with art sessions with a local community artist. The sessions allowed new participants to attend Sirona who may not be able to attend during the school term, and for those who already attend Sirona but who need the consistency of provision to continue over the holidays. The small group sessions enable social opportunities for those young people who may be isolated over the long summer holiday, and those for whom mainstream holiday activities can be too overwhelming.

### OCN London accredited course status

Following a huge amount of work on the part of our education co-ordinator Kirsty, a qualified teacher, we were able to finally gain independent centre approval status for delivering accredited courses at Sirona at the end of 2023. Previously we have partnered with Bicton College to deliver the Level 1 in Equine Care course, but sadly, due to education budget cuts they have withdrawn from outreach delivery partnerships, as have other local colleges. Because we strongly believe in the power of education to empower disadvantaged young people to have better life outcomes, we explored alternative options and found that the OCN London range of courses is a good fit for Sirona. We are excited for the further opportunities this can offer us in being able to deliver other related training, such as environmental and personal development courses in the future if there is demand for these.

### Young people experiencing school challenges

As stated previously we have experienced a sharp increase in the number of young people referred to Sirona over the past two years who are not attending school, attending on a part-time timetable, educated other than at school (EOTAS) or electively home educated (EHE). In 2023 we therefore closely followed the progress of 18 young people in this category who attended Sirona for 12 or more sessions over the year.

Out of the 18 young people 13 were not attending school or any other provision when they were first referred to Sirona, and 5 were only attending on a limited, part-time timetable. Following attendance at Sirona over a course of 12 or more sessions, 9 either returned to school on a full-time basis, moved to an alternative education provider or progressed onto college. 2 have moved into employment and 2 have progressed onto other move-on programmes at Sirona; the OCN London accredited Level 1 Animal Care course, and a new Horse Works group for young people to learn 'skills for employment'. Of the remaining 5 young people, 2 are on the Autistic Spectrum and home educated. Both completed 12 sessions at Sirona to reduce isolation, build confidence and meet other young people - both engaged with regular weekly attendance and completed their set targets. 1 other young person remains at Sirona but has been able to return to education on a part-time basis, and another participant remains at Sirona as she only started in the Autumn term and requires further support to build her confidence. The final young person has just been able to return to Sirona following a break where she was unable to leave the house due to extreme anxiety and OCD. We therefore adapted our provision to virtual online sessions in order to keep the contact and relationship with her practitioner and animals at Sirona during this time. During a recent child in need meeting with other professionals involved in her care it was agreed that this child-centred approach was pivotal in maintaining contact and enabling her to be able to leave her house and return to Sirona. The young people's overall attendance rate at Sirona was 86.9%. This is in contrast to an absence rate of 81% of young people in Alternative Education Provision Pupil Referral Units.

Some qualitative feedback collected from participants over 2023 includes the following;

*"Being at Sirona – has helped me with my emotions loads. I am calmer now and it has helped me learn new skills with animals and feel more confident. I am a lot happier as I have something to do – I know things can get better now as people want to help".*

*"Sirona has helped me eat better, because I'm doing something it makes me want to eat. Now I want to be a farrier or equine vet in the future".*

*"It's made me more happy and more confident in myself. They've made me more confident to show kindness towards other animals and help them - like the mouse. I'm more sensitive – when I walk with Rupert it makes me feel like I'm just like him".*

*"Working with sensitive animals you need to have stability in yourself. Horses might react in a negative way if you shouted - they are prey animals. So you have to be really gentle. I've realised I have to be calmer. If I was angry it may change the horse's behaviour so I have to be calm. It's made me happier."*

*"I would like to say a massive thank you for helping me to fulfil my dream. You are all the most amazing and kind people I have met. You have helped me with so much and taught me so much more. I also want to say thank you to all the horses and ponies. I will miss you all so much and a special thank you to Ginger (cat) for being my little helper"*

## Key achievements in 2023

115 direct beneficiaries    486 total beneficiaries (volunteers/parents/courses etc)  
610 equine and animal-assisted sessions delivered    1495 direct delivery hours  
64% female    32% male    4% LGBTQ+    Age range 4yrs to 78yrs  
88.4% white British    11.6% other ethnic groups/mixed race  
86.9% attendance rate - contrasted to an **absence rate of 81% in Pupil Referral Units\***  
65% referred with mental health/anxiety - compared to 43% in 2022  
40% were not in education/in p/t education or NEET – compared to 19% in 2022  
36% had an Education & Health Care Plan (EHCP)  
35% with an Autistic Spectrum diagnosis - compared to 23% in 2022  
24% care experienced  
16% referred with self-harming behaviours  
13 training courses and events provided to the Sirona team and public  
6 presentations given to external organisations including Cambridge University  
23 community events/networking meetings attended/hosted  
48 volunteers donated 2051 hours costed @ £15 pr hr = **£30,765** \*([https://www.centreforsocialjustice.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/CSJ-Absence\\_Tracker.pdf](https://www.centreforsocialjustice.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/CSJ-Absence_Tracker.pdf)).

**New surfaces** completed for our arena and roundpen

**Research collaboration** with Hartpury University working together on evaluation of our provision and looking at developing new research opportunities into welfare of horses in equine-assisted work

Sirona collaborated with over 30 local and national organisations over the year including;

Cambridge University, Hartpury University, Plymouth University, Torbay Council, Devon County Council, Human Equine Interaction Register, Schumacher College, Guide Dogs UK (Young People), Keeping Young Totnes Safe, The British Horse Society, Equine-Assisted Practitioners Network, Devon Mental Health Alliance, and many others

## Financial review

Sirona is funded primarily by grants and session income. The total income during the year was £255,223 (2022 - £192,358) of which £155,629 (2022 - £108,339) was grant funding and £6,504 (2022 - £7,190) came from donations (including gift aid). £86,085 (2022 - £70,719) was received from session income and £3,954 (2022 - £2,920) from courses. There was an additional amount from fundraisers of £2,349 (2022 - £0) and a further £702 (2022 - £668) from sales of clothing and other items.

Session income rose by nearly 22% in 2023 as the session staff team was strengthened and stabilised. This was supported by an increase in grant income as the very welcome 3-year grant funding from the Reaching Communities Big Lottery Fund continued.

Total expenditure for the year on our charitable activities amounted to £222,324 (2022 - £183,993) as the charity sought to pursue its objectives. Direct staffing costs rose by £19,309 to £105,983 as the core staff team was strengthened; horse and animal costs stayed stable during 2023 at £10,352 (2022 - £10,575); and rent and utilities also remained similar to the previous year at £3,309 (2022 - £3,463). However, there was again a sharp increase in the provision of bursaries which rose by a further £5,954 to £20,053 as the charity offered support in an increasingly difficult environment for so many. Other costs stayed relatively stable compared with the previous year.



We would like to thank all the grant funders who have supported us in the last year. A full list is given on page 14 of the report. We also wish to say thank you to the friends of Sirona who make regular donations to our work. We could not do what we do without you.

### **Reserves Policy**

The Board of Trustees continually reviews the reserves of the charity. Assets must be sufficient to enable the charity to operate effectively. The charity has a number of restricted funds; the purpose of these funds is detailed in the notes to the financial statements.

The charity aims to hold at least four months' core running costs in reserve at all times. This is to ensure that the charity is able to meet all of its legal obligations should funding be withdrawn. At the year end the core reserves amounted to nearly £30,000 and the trustees are aiming to increase this amount to £40,000.

### **Plans for Future Periods**

We aim to continue to build a strong and stable core team in 2024/2025, increasing our resilience and ability to be flexible to the changing demands on our provision, whilst also building in longer term succession planning. To this aim we are working towards securing more support for the CEO in terms of the day to day running of the centre, alongside additional administrative support due to the increasing safeguarding and local authority quality assurance and inspection requirements.

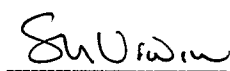
We will continue to try and recruit a forest school leader to develop and run specialist nature-based sessions in our woodland copse, with our recruitment drive for this post in 2023 being unsuccessful in terms of the skills and experience needed for this specialist position. We also aim to explore other environmental options to improve our sustainability such as solar and water harvesting systems.

We hope that our research collaboration with Hartpury University looking at the evaluation of our provision over 2022-23 will be completed in 2024 giving us greater understanding of the impact of our work and informing us on which activities bring greatest benefits and where we can improve our outcomes. We also hope to start developing new areas of research and to provide more opportunities for student placements at Sirona.

### **Approval**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", (issued in March 2005).

### **On behalf of the Board of Trustees**



Sarah Urwin  
(Chair)

Dated: 17 May 2024

# Independent Examiner's Report

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

## Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- follow procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

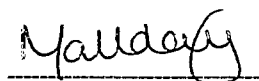
## Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

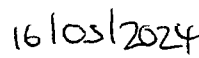
## Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met.

## Independent Examiner



Signed



Dated

MAP Accountants & Business Advisors  
2 Bridge Farm Offices  
Harberton  
Totnes  
Devon  
TQ9 7PP

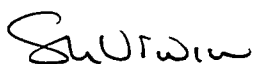
**SIRONA THERAPEUTIC HORSEMANSHIP CIO**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
<b>Incoming resources</b>					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income:					
Donations & grants	4	5,504	156,629	162,133	115,529
Incoming resources from charitable activities	6	93,090	-	93,090	74,307
Other income	7	-	-	-	2,522
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>98,594</u>	<u>156,629</u>	<u>255,223</u>	<u>192,358</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
Charitable activities	8	97,314	118,830	216,144	178,328
Costs of raising funds	8	6,180	-	6,180	5,665
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>103,494</u>	<u>118,830</u>	<u>222,324</u>	<u>183,993</u>
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers</b>		(4,900)	37,799	32,899	8,365
Gross transfers between funds		22,630	(22,630)	-	-
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>		<u>17,730</u>	<u>15,169</u>	<u>32,899</u>	<u>8,365</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>					
Fund balances at 1 January 2023		203,990	22,582	226,572	218,207
Fund balances at 31 December 2023		<u>221,720</u>	<u>37,751</u>	<u>259,471</u>	<u>226,572</u>

**SIRONA THERAPEUTIC HORSEMANSHIP CIO**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
as at 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Assets	10	191,093	188,961
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	11	966	1,518
Cash at bank and in hand		74,282	39,037
		<u>75,248</u>	<u>40,555</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	12	(6,870)	(2,944)
<b>Net current assets/(liabilities)</b>		<u>68,378</u>	<u>37,611</u>
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		259,471	226,572
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>		-	-
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>259,471</u>	<u>226,572</u>
<b>Income Funds</b>			
Restricted funds		37,751	22,582
Unrestricted fund		221,720	203,990
		<u>259,471</u>	<u>226,572</u>

These accounts were approved by the Trustee Board on 17 May 2024 and signed on their behalf by



Sarah Urwin  
Chair

**SIRONA THERAPEUTIC HORSEMANSHIP CIO**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**1 Accounting Policies**

**Charity information**

Sirona Therapeutic Horsemanship CIO is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation

**1.1 Accounting convention**

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102"), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015. The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102. The disclosure requirements of section 1A of FRS 102 have been applied other than where additional disclosure is required to show a true and fair view.

The accounts are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

**1.2 Going concern**

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate future funding planned in order to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the account.

**1.3 Incoming resources**

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

The charity has entitlement to the funds;  
any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity;  
there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and  
the amount can be measured reliably

No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

**1.4 Resources expended**

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted on the accruals basis.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the independent examiner's fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly; others are apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. staff time or estimated usage

**SIRONA THERAPEUTIC HORSEMANSHIP CIO**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
for the year ended 31 December 2023

**1.5 Irrecoverable VAT**

Irrecoverable VAT is included in the Statement of Financial Activities and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

**1.6 Tangible Fixed Assets**

Tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, are stated at cost or valuation less depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:

Buildings	10% Reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	25% Reducing balance

**1.7 Fund accounting**

Funds held by the charitable company are either:

Unrestricted general funds – these funds can be used in furtherance of the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustee Board.

Restricted funds – these funds can only be used for the particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions, which are legally binding, arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Transfers to or from restricted funds are only made where a legal or constructive obligation has arisen requiring a transfer to be made.

**1.8 Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discounts due.

**1.9 Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**1.10 Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**1.11 Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

**2 Legal Status of the Charity**

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and is regulated by the Charity Commission.

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3 Net income for the year	2023	2022
	£	£
Net income for the year is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	21,023	20,184
Independent examiner's fee	300	300

4 Donations & grants	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023	2022
	£	£	Total	Total
			£	£
Donations	5,504	-	5,504	6,690
Tim Hailstone	-	1,000	1,000	-
The Tresanton Trust	-	-	-	500
	5,504	1,000	6,504	7,190
Grants:				
The Gibbons Family Trust	-	2,000	2,000	2,000
Devon Community Foundation Feel Good Fund	-	-	-	7,897
29th May 1961 Charitable Trust	-	2,000	2,000	-
Devon County Council small grants scheme	-	-	-	1,620
The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust	-	5,000	5,000	-
The Norman Family Charitable Trust	-	1,500	1,500	1,000
British Horse Society Bursary grants	-	3,913	3,913	3,115
The Swire Charitable Trust	-	10,000	10,000	10,000
Sir Peter O'Sullivan Charitable Trust	-	20,000	20,000	0
Government Apprentice grants	-	-	-	2,000
Government Kickstart programme grant	-	-	-	4,419
Elmgrant Trust	-	-	-	1,500
The Veronica Awdry Charitable Trust	-	1,500	1,500	2,000
South Hams District Council	-	-	-	8,470
National Lottery Community Fund	-	78,000	78,000	50,000
Wild about Devon Community Wildlife Fund	-	337	337	222
British Equestrian Federation	-	4,723	4,723	5,187
The Hargreaves Foundation	-	-	-	8,909
Pixel	-	6,156	6,156	-
The Claire Milne Trust	-	10,000	10,000	-
Devon Educational Trust	-	500	500	-
Garfield Weston foundation	-	10,000	10,000	-
	-	155,629	155,629	108,339
Total Donations & Grants	5,504	156,629	162,133	115,529

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**5 Taxation**

The organisation is a registered charity and is therefore not liable to corporation tax on its charitable income.

**6 Incoming resources from Charitable activities**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
Session income	86,085	-	86,085	70,719
Courses and workshops	3,954	-	3,954	2,920
Fundraising Events	2,349	-	2,349	-
T-shirt and book sales	702	-	702	668
	<u>93,090</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,090</u>	<u>74,307</u>

**7 Sundry Income**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
Income from insurance claim	-	-	-	2,522

**8 Total resources expended**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Activities undertaken directly	59,261	100,817	160,078	135,426
Support Costs	38,053	18,013	56,066	42,902
<b>Total</b>	<u>97,314</u>	<u>118,830</u>	<u>216,144</u>	<u>178,328</u>
<b>Costs of raising funds</b>	6,180	-	6,180	5,665
	<u>103,494</u>	<u>118,830</u>	<u>222,324</u>	<u>183,993</u>



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**9 Resources expended**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
<b>Activities undertaken directly</b>				
Staff salaries	22,535	65,202	87,737	69,489
Session practitioners	6,509	9,068	15,577	16,829
Supervision and Training	2,381	2,396	4,777	4,156
Volunteer expenses	1,223	860	2,083	722
Bursaries given	5,595	14,458	20,053	14,099
Horse feed and care	8,326	2,026	10,352	10,575
Horse tack and clothing	1,095	180	1,275	1,309
Facility maintenance	8,484	381	8,865	11,426
Education materials	312	24	336	538
Licences and insurance	1,214	4,590	5,804	4,080
Marketing and promotion	1,587	1,632	3,219	2,203
	<u>59,261</u>	<u>100,817</u>	<u>160,078</u>	<u>135,426</u>
<b>Support Costs</b>				
Staff salaries	5,738	6,328	12,066	11,520
Rent and Utilities	0	3,309	3,309	3,463
Office costs	398	1,425	1,823	2,035
Motor running	7	1,501	1,508	1,821
Sundry expenses	2,370	200	2,570	1,555
Accountancy	1,050	1,950	3,000	1,920
Consultancy and Professional fees	7,467	-	7,467	-
Loan Interest	0	-	0	104
Building and Equipment depreciation	21,023	-	21,023	20,184
Evaluation	0	3,000	3,000	-
Governance cost - Independent Examiners Fee	0	300	300	300
	<u>38,053</u>	<u>18,013</u>	<u>56,066</u>	<u>42,902</u>
<b>Costs of Generating Funds</b>				
Staff salary	6,180	-	6,180	5,665
	<u>6,180</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,180</u>	<u>5,665</u>

Of the resources expended for 2022, £80,774 were unrestricted and £103,219 were restricted

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**10 Tangible fixed assets**

	Buildings £	Equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 January 2023	257,539	23,596	281,135
Additions in year	22,630	525	23,155
At 31 December 2023	280,169	24,121	304,290
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 January 2023	75,146	17,028	92,174
Charge for year	19,338	1,685	21,023
At 31 December 2023	94,484	18,713	113,197
<b>Net book value</b>			
At 31 December 2023	185,685	5,408	191,093
At 31 December 2022	182,393	6,568	188,961

**11 Debtors**

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	966	983
Prepayments	-	535
	966	1,518

**12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade Creditors	1,909	1,454
Advance payments	2,983	-
Taxation and social security	1,978	1,490
	6,870	2,944

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**13 Trustees and employees**

**Number of employees**

There were 3 full time and 5 part time employees during the year (2022 – 3 full time and 5 part time)  
Although the number of staff has not increased noticeably, in the last year the charity has built a stronger more stable staff team.

**Trustees' remuneration and reimbursement**

One trustee was reimbursed for facilitation of courses amounting to £200 (2022 - £220) and travel expenses amounting to £1,143 (2022 –£157) during the year.

**14 Analysis of assets between funds**

	Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Creditors of more than one year	Total
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	191,093	30,627	-	221,720
<b>Restricted funds</b>	-	37,751	-	37,751
As at 31 December 2023	<u>191,093</u>	<u>68,378</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>259,471</u>

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**15 Summary of movement in funds**

The restricted income funds of the charity arising through its activities are as follows:

<b>Fund name (Funder)</b>	<b>Restricted purpose of funding</b>
Devon Community Foundation Ripple Fund	A grant towards staff and core costs for sessions for young care leavers
Devon Community Foundation Feel Good Grant	A grant towards staffing costs for nature based activities
29 <sup>th</sup> May 1961 Charitable Trust	A grant towards our equine assisted sessions
Devon County Council Small Grants Scheme for Disabled Young People	A grant towards session staff and facility costs for sessions for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
The Elmgrant Trust	A grant for Bursaries for young people
The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust	A grant towards session and general costs
The Gibbons Family Trust	Grants to sustain the activities at Sirona
National Lottery Community Fund	A grant to sustain and enhance the activities at Sirona
Swire Charitable Trust	A grant for core costs
The Norman Family Trust	A grant for general session costs
Restitution Fund	A grant towards our COVID-19 programme for young people
Barratt Developments Charitable Foundation	A grant for general session costs
Wyn and Ken Lo Foundation	A grant for general costs
Devon County Council Small Grants Scheme 2	A grant for staffing and facility costs for equine and animal assisted activities
Pixel Trust	A grant to provide subsidised sessions to young people experiencing increased mental health issues
Sir Peter O'Sullivan Charitable Trust	A capital grant to fund the extension of the barn roof
South Hams District Council Community Recovery Fund	A grant for infrastructure for nature based sessions
British Horse Society	Grants for bursaries and training
South Hams District Council Mental Health	A grant for bursaries for holiday courses for young people
Wild about Devon Community Wildlife Fund	A grant to enhance the biodiversity of our environment
The Veronica Awdry Charitable Trust	A grant for general costs
British Equestrian Federation	A grant to provide sessions to young people
The Hargreaves Foundation	A grant for bursaries
The Claire Milne Trust	A grant for sessions with young people with disabilities
Garfield Weston Foundation	A grant for general costs

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16 The movements of funds for the year ended 31 December 2023 were as follows:

	Opening balance	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Devon Community Foundation Feel Good Grant	4,050	-	4,050	-	
29 <sup>th</sup> May 1961 Charitable Trust	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
The Elmgrant Trust	675	-	675	-	
The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust	-	5,000	2,083	-	2,917
The Gibbons Family Trust	497	2,000	1,347	-	1,150
National Lottery Community Fund	281	78,000	78,274	-	
Swire Charitable Trust	4,400	10,000	4,400	-	10,000
The Norman Family Trust	300	1,500	1,175	-	625
Pixel Trust	-	6,156	6,156	-	
Sir Peter O'Sullivan Charitable Trust	-	20,000	-	20,000	
South Hams District Council Community Recovery Fund	2,654	-	24	2,630	
British Horse Society bursary grants	-	3,913	3,913	-	
The Veronica Awdry Charitable Trust	1,000	1,500	1,748	-	752
British Equestrian Federation	1,076	4,723	5,799	-	(
The Hargreaves Foundation	7,649	-	7,649	-	(
Wild About Devon Community Wildlife Fund	-	337	337	-	(
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
The Claire Milne Trust	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Bursary Fund (Devon Educational Trust and Donations)	-	1,500	1,200	-	300
	22,582	156,629	118,830	(22,630)	37,751
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General	203,990	98,594	103,494	22,630	221,720

Sufficient resources are held for each restricted fund in an appropriate form to enable funds to be applied in accordance with the restrictions.

A transfer of funds was made from restricted funds to unrestricted funds in respect of building works and equipment carried out in accordance with the terms of grant agreements for fixed assets for unrestricted use.