

Canine Concern

Annual report and financial statements
Year ended 31 December 2022

CANINE CONCERN CIO

Annual report and financial
statements Year ended
31 December 2022

Charity no 1177334 (England & Wales)



Canine Concern

Annual report and financial statements
Year ended 31 December 2022

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History

Canine Concern was formed in 1988 by Eve Waring, who had seen how important dog visits were to the elderly and lonely. Eve believed in reaching out to people through our dogs. She wanted to make the group friendly and supportive of each other as well as to the people, old and young, that we visited.



The group grew across England and Wales with local coordinators to support new members on their visits as well as friendship for the established members. We all need a friendly ear to tell our many success stories to as well as the challenging moments, which are few and far between. There are many stories of the successes and experiences of our members. Some sad, some happy, but all emotional and good in their own ways

Canine Concern became a successful charity, with Eve at the helm, from 1988 to the summer of 2016 when she became poorly, but never wanted to the charity to fade away.

In September 2016 one of the area coordinators, Barbara Gasson, (initial Chair) and Valerie Fillery (CEO), picked up the baton to continue the good work with Eve's blessing. The Charity offices were moved from Wellington in Somerset to its current home in Pevensey in East Sussex. Sadly, on 4th April 2017, Eve passed away, but knowing that Canine Concern was continuing to flourish and her legacy would continue.

In February 2018 Canine Concern became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) That year we also celebrated 30 years of being a Charity whose policy and belief is and always will be the organisation, caring for the whole community with our care dogs. This we have continued to do now for nearly 35 years.

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Legal and administrative information

Charity Name	Canine Concern CIO
Charity registration no	1177334
Date of Formation	27th February 2018
Date of Established (Non-CIO)	June 1988
Founder	Eve Waring
Registered office	21 Dallaway Drive Stone Cross Pevensey East Sussex BN24 5FB
Trustees	Chris Lovegrove Colin Scott Steve White Amanda Morris
CEO	Valerie Fillery <i>BSc(Hon), IHM BSYA (MT) BSYA (CMA) MCMA , FIRST AID for MENTAL HEALTH (RQF), DIP Canine Massage, Cert In Dog Psychology Dip in Pet Bereavement Dip in Animal Assisted Therapy</i>
Accountants	Rowland Smith 4 Grand Parade Polegate East Sussex BN26 5HG
Principal Bankers	HSBC 94 Terminus Road Eastbourne East Sussex BN21 3ND

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Trustees Annual Report

Canine Concern CIO Registered number: 1177334

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 December 2022.

Overview

We entered 2022 with fresh hope, after COVID 19, which had such a dramatic impact on all our lives throughout 2020 and 2021.

Although during 2022 the charity continued to increase its membership and national coverage, it also continued to experience ever increasing costs in operating to conform with statute and implementing our re-modelling, with decreasing revenue of donations to the charity due to the economic situation.

We are most grateful for the continued support of our volunteers who gave additional donations and supported our fundraising activities throughout the year.

We remain today on a sound financial foundation for the years ahead, but like most similar charities we are constantly having to find funding for our day-to-day running costs in supporting our membership.

The sphere of our operations has expanded and grown. Our read to dogs' programme in schools has grown and is highly rewarding and beneficial. We are heavily involved with the three main services within the Home Counties and beyond. We also are providing specialist services to the NHS and government departments.

The work for residential homes, care homes, hospices and hospitals continues and we remain immensely proud of that. The staff have also benefitted from our visits, especially when they have had a particularly stressful experience and added stress from workload and deadlines.

Universities, colleges, special needs and mainstream Schools and many more benefit from the wellbeing provided by our charity work. We embrace all, young and old.

Our membership is limited to 1,000 members/volunteers as the Trustees do not wish to over-expand the charity and seek to remain a more friendly charity.

We look forward to many years of serving the members and public but will be seeking to increase donations to the charity to stabilise our reserves in future years and months to preserve and protect our future and secure long-term financial stability.

The Focus of our work

Our main objectives for the year continued to be the promotion of the work and its benefit to the whole community, old, young, fit or poorly. We can all benefit from a calm, friendly dog. Whilst there are so many injuries from dog attacks, we are also trying to guide children how to behave around dogs. This has been from chats and demonstrations in schools, Brownie, Guide, Cub and Scout groups. This could help in reducing attacks by dogs that are scared or hurt by unintentional harmful human interactions.

Aims and Objectives

The object of the charity is:

- 1) to relieve people who are in need by reason of their age, disability, health, or social circumstances, particularly, but not exclusively by the provision of therapy dogs to visit schools, care homes, hospitals, hospices, libraries, courts and other similar institutions.
- 2) to relieve sickness, suffering and distress and to promote good health and interactions especially but not exclusively amongst children and elderly people, demonstrating good relationships between people and companion animals.

The accounts incorporate the results of Canine Concern Fund Raising which raises funds and promotes public awareness of the charity by the holding of fun dog shows and giving talks.

Activities

Our volunteers with their temperament-assessed dogs visit a wide spectrum of establishments which include prisons, secure units, hospitals, hospices, residential/nursing homes and day-care centres and clubs, to help the residents with loneliness and mental wellbeing, even sometimes being the only visitor to get any response from some people. The staff also benefit from a dog cuddle and chat to help with their stress and giving them time out from their often-demanding duties. We are even working alongside a couple of ambulance trusts where we are supporting their staff to use their own dogs, if suitable, to visit on their off-duty times when there has been a stressful call out or incident. Even staff training and de-briefing sessions have benefitted from having a calm, friendly dog in the room. This has led to enquiries from other NHS and government departments for projects to use our dogs.

We also work with universities and colleges to help with freshers' weeks, before exams and any stressful deadlines. Again, both the students and staff have benefitted from these visits. We have been asked to just visit the staff by some colleges where they get stressed with getting the students through the deadlines and coping with the extra demands teachers are receiving.

Our school support work has really become popular. We help the pupils in several ways, from encouraging them to actually attend the school in the morning, to gaining confidence and respect from teaching tricks, taking turns and even learning about dog behavior and body language. This should help with dog-child interactions at home and outside school, to prevent some of the nasty dog bites and attack incidents. 75% of these dog bites are to children's heads, possibly leaving physical facial scars as well as mental trauma which affect the child through to adulthood.

We have found with many special needs children spending a few minutes regularly with the calm dog just stroking and talking can bring them into a calmer zone. They learn that being calm brings rewards and makes them feel better able to cope with life.

We are also involved with the Kennel Club 'bark and read scheme', where children spend time reading to the calm, friendly and attentive dog. The dogs will 'listen' but will not correct any incorrect words, so gives the child a more enjoyable, calm experience of reading a book, leading to more confidence and willingness to read. This will help with all their studies as well as in the future.

Publicity

We have received some very positive media coverage from our work as well as from our volunteers' own experiences. We have several dogs who also support their owners as well as the people they visit. It is lovely to hear how our own volunteers can also benefit from their dog's support as well as getting the 'volunteer high' from getting out and helping others. So not only do we and our dogs help the community they also help our volunteers. Without our volunteers there would be no charity, so we also show our appreciation which the volunteers share with their family and friends. The media have picked up on some of these stories, as it seems more important these days to lift people's spirits through some 'good news' stories.

We encourage our volunteers to post on social media about their experiences which often get these press contacts. With so much bad press about what stressed, untrained dogs can do to people, it is important to show a balance of what the right properly trained dog can do especially when approached correctly.

Risk Management

The Trustees have conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. A risk register has been established and is updated at least annually.

Structure governance and management

The charity was registered with the Charities Commissioners (No. 1177334) and charitable status was granted on 27 February 2018 as **Canine Concern CIO** which incorporated Canine Concern Charity (No. 328237) which was registered in 1988.

The charity was constituted under its governing document, the Constitution dated 28 February 2018. All of the assets and funds of the Canine Concern Charity (No. 328237) were transferred on 28 February 2018. Canine Concern (No. 328237) was then removed from the charities register on 29 March 2018.

The charity was managed by the Board of Trustees. If a vacancy on the Board arose, a new member would have been co-opted by the existing trustees.

Trustees

The following persons served as trustees during the period:

Chris Lovegrove (Chairman)
Colin Scott
Amanda Morris
Steve White

No further Trustees were appointed during the period.

Achievements and performance

Having regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit, during the period the charity has promoted its objectives by providing therapy dogs to homes, hospitals, schools, colleges, secure units, county courts and businesses.

The Charity continues to grow with new volunteers registering during the year. The demand for our service is ever growing and our Read to Dogs programme is also expanding, being recognized, and supported by the Kennel club.

We have also had several newspapers and magazines featuring our members and our work.

The number of members not renewing their yearly membership remains at a rock-bottom percentage and usually relates to their dogs not being able to carry out duties, due to illness or death or the members themselves being unable to continue.

Organization Structure

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the administration of the Charity. The Board meets formally at least twice a year with other informal contacts and meetings as appropriate. The Charity's Chairman is responsible for the Charity's operational management.

Future Plans

The Trustees have agreed that membership of volunteers should be limited to 1,000 members, this is to avoid over stretching the service we provide and to becoming unmanageable with a financial drain on its assets both current and fixed.

The Trustees believe that it is not the size of the membership that counts, but the service and devotion that the individual member brings to charity and the support and guidance from the managing staff

Our membership fees remain the lowest possible, in order that it remain open to all regardless of income. Although many members have paid more to the charity, if they feel they can, some struggle with the amount and ask if they can pay after the next payday.

The Trustees have taken steps to provide a secure future for the Charity by careful investment, thus providing a platform for income to keep membership fees low and assist in the administration costs of the Charity.

The charity is proud of being more family and personally based and wishes to keep that status.

Financial review

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the financial information and observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.

The trustees have reviewed the level of unrestricted reserves carried by the charity other than those invested in property, and which represent nearly 3 years' expenditure.

The trustees regard this level of reserves as appropriate in the context of uncertainty over the charity's income to cover the ongoing costs of maintaining the charity's operation.

Each month the CEO provides a financial overview to the Trustees including budget comparisons, profit & loss statements and any extraordinary require expense required. As the majority of work that was undertaken in the course of the fulfilling the charity's objectives was undertaken by unpaid volunteers, the recurring annual costs remain low.

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Net outgoing resources for the period amounted to £17,456.00

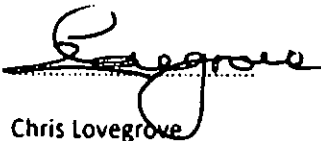
Canine Concern received money from membership fees, member, and establishment donations and from the income from rented property.

Investment Policy

Aside from retaining a prudent amount in reserves each year, most of the charity's funds are to be spent in the short term so there are few funds for long-term investment.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the financial information and observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf.



Chris Lovegrove
Chairman/Treasurer

Dated 13/10/23

Canine Concern
Independent Examiner's Report

**Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of
Canine Concern**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out in pages 12 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

- 1) examine the accounts under section 144 of the Charities Act.
- 2) to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- 3) to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you as trustees concerning any 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:

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Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) 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 2011 Act and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met or

(2) to which, in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Mr G Trenchard, MAAT
Rowland Smith
Chartered Tax Advisers and Accountants
4 Grand Parade
Polegate
East Sussex
BN26 5HG

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Canine Concern
Statement of financial activities
for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Incoming resources		68,779	91,265
Resources expended		(86,234)	(73,951)
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	2	(17,455)	17,314
Exceptional items:			
Gain on the revaluation of fixed assets		-	50,000
		(17,455)	67,314
Interest payable	3	(1)	-
Net movement in funds for the year		(17,456)	67,314

**Canine Concern
Balance Sheet
as at 31 December 2022**

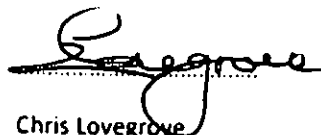
	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	4	427,382	425,893
Current assets			
Debtors	5	529	60,505
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>162,699</u>	<u>120,526</u>
		163,228	181,031
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	6	(1,988)	(846)
Net current assets		<u>161,240</u>	<u>180,185</u>
Net assets		<u>588,622</u>	<u>606,078</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted fund	7	588,622	606,078
Total funds		<u>588,622</u>	<u>606,078</u>

The company was entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small company regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.



Chris Lovegrove
Chairman/Treasurer

Dated 13/10/23

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Canine Concern Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2005) and the Charities Act 2011.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of the incoming resource can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Resources expended

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

VAT

Value added Tax is not recoverable by the charity, and as such is included in the relevant costs in the accounts.

Assets and depreciation

Assets are capitalised at cost and stated in the balance sheet at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Office equipment: 20% Straight Line

2 Net resources for the year	2022 £	2021 £
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	<u>1,239</u>	<u>693</u>

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3 Interest payable		2022	2021
		£	£
Interest payable		<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
4 Tangible fixed assets			
	Land and buildings	Office equipment etc	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 January 2022	425,000	3,466	428,466
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>2,728</u>	<u>2,728</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>425,000</u>	<u>6,194</u>	<u>431,194</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2022	-	2,573	2,573
Charge for the year	<u>-</u>	<u>1,239</u>	<u>1,239</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>3,812</u>	<u>3,812</u>
Net book value			
At 31 December 2022	<u>425,000</u>	<u>2,382</u>	<u>427,382</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>425,000</u>	<u>893</u>	<u>425,893</u>
5 Debtors		2022	2021
		£	£
Legacy Income due		-	60,000
Other debtors		<u>529</u>	<u>505</u>
		<u>529</u>	<u>60,505</u>
6 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		2022	2021
		£	£
Other taxes and social security costs		1,140	-
Other creditors		<u>848</u>	<u>846</u>
		<u>1,988</u>	<u>846</u>

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7 Funds	2022
	£
Unrestricted fund	
At 1 January 2022	606,078
Loss for the year	(17,456)
	<hr/>
At 31 December 2022	588,622

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Canine Concern Schedule to Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Incoming resources		
Legacies & donations	46,721	71,529
Membership subscriptions	5,155	4,616
Bank interest receivable	303	14
Fund raising events	-	306
Investment property income	16,600	14,800
	<u>68,779</u>	<u>91,265</u>
Resources expended		
Costs in furtherance of charitable objects		
Insurance	648	485
Merchandise costs	2,659	1,031
Website and software costs	2,489	2,454
Employer's NI	1,492	989
Staff training and welfare	-	17
Travel and subsistence	324	-
	<u>7,612</u>	<u>4,976</u>
Investment property costs:		
Fixtures, fittings and repairs	448	102
Property insurance	387	359
Property management fees	2,375	993
	<u>3,210</u>	<u>1,454</u>
Governance costs		
Telephone	1,055	918
Postage	800	561
Stationery and printing	1,756	756
Advertising and PR	2,455	2,898
Subscriptions	-	167
Bank charges	151	-
Bookkeeping and administration	2,858	422
Employee salary	62,559	58,794
Pensions	1,005	884
Accountancy	1,133	1,050
Depreciation	1,239	693
Sundry expenses	216	216
	<u>75,227</u>	<u>67,359</u>

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Legal and professional costs:

Other legal and professional

<u>185</u>	<u>162</u>
<u>185</u>	<u>162</u>
<u>86,234</u>	<u>73,951</u>