



**Dogs for Autism
(a Charitable Incorporated Organisation)**

Charity No. 1181615

Reports and Financial Statements

for the period ended

31st January 2020

Dogs for Autism **(a Charitable Incorporated Organisation)**

Company information

Trustees	Max Charman (Chair) (appointed 17 January 2019) Zoe Lattimer (appointed 17 January 2019) Richard Wilkinson (appointed 17 January 2019)	
Senior management team	Hilary Armour Jan Kiley Philippa Sjoberg	Chief executive officer Operations manager Trainer Co-ordinator
Registered Charity number	1181615	
Principal office	32 Kings Hill Beech Hampshire GU34 4AL	
Independent accountants	Riches & Company 34 Anyards Road Cobham Surrey KT11 2LA	

Dogs for Autism **(a Charitable Incorporated Organisation)**

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Dogs for Autism (a Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Administrative Information

Status

Dogs for Autism ("the Charity") is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered under the Charities Act 2011 with charity registered number 1181625 and has no share capital. The Charity is governed by its constitution.

Trustees

The Charity's governing body is the Board of Trustees ("the Trustees"). The Charity's constitution requires that there be not less than three nor more than six Trustees. The initial Trustees were appointed on incorporation of the Charity and the Trustees may elect new Trustees either to fill vacancies or to increase the number of Trustees up to the maximum permitted.

New Trustees are appointed for an initial three-year term and may be re-appointed to serve a maximum of three consecutive terms.

New Trustees will be provided with a suitable induction program to introduce them to the Charity, the Trustees' decision making process, their obligations under Charity and Company Law, business plan and financial performance and forecasts.

There are currently three Trustees who meet as required to receive management reports and set strategy objectives. During the period under review the Trustees met 5 times.

Chief Executive

The Trustees have delegated day to day management to the Chief Executive Officer and the senior management team.

Investments

The Charity's constitution states the Trustees have the power to invest surplus funds as they see fit. To date this power has not been exercised.

Principal office:

32 Kings Hill, Beech, Hampshire, GU34 4AL

Mission

The Charity's mission is to have a positive impact on the lives of autistic individuals and their families. The overall aim is to empower autistic people to realise their individual potential, improve their access to their chosen communities, and to enhance their emotional and physical wellbeing.

Our work

In this first year the Charity:

- Enrolled 9 puppies to our training program
- Placed 10 dogs with their forever family
- Set up a pilot project for dogs to support the young people at the Chorley OnSide Youth Zone

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Trustees' annual report (continued) For the first period ended 31st January 2020

Chairs' review

This first year has seen a huge amount of hard work put in by the Charity's senior management team to identify suitably qualified trainers local to the forever family, sourced and implemented training plans for the initial dogs, raised sufficient funding to enable the Charity to deliver on its mission to expand the horizons of autistic people and enrich the lives of those people and their families.

By the end of the financial year tremendous progress has been made to establish the right structures for the Charity including:

- Appointing senior management team
- Creating partnerships with key sponsors
- Developing a network of trainers
- Sourcing and starting the training program for our first 10 dogs
- Raising sufficient funds to enable the Charity to begin to deliver its strategic objectives.

There remains a lot of work to be done and many of the decisions made this year will need to evolve and develop as the Charity grows. Key areas for the coming year include:

- Expanding the network of trainers, especially in the North of England
- Expanding the management team
- Maximising revenue
- Developing long term partnerships with sponsors and funders

As expected, our limited number of public information days resulted in 47 applications for an autism assistance dog of which we had only been able to accept 15 during the period under review. At the time of writing this review a further 9 dogs have been sourced and all of these have been allocated their forever families. This huge demand serves as a reminder to us all of the importance of our work.

Even at this early stage in the working lives of these first dogs the impact they have on their special person and their forever families is truly humbling. Our trainee dogs have already facilitated:

- regular access to education,
- shopping trips
- leaving the home environment
- social interaction
- de-stress, anxiety and emotional support

This first year has been very much about laying the right foundations; creating the right structures to enable the Charity to grow and deliver on its aim to provide an assistance dog to as many autistic people as possible, in order to expand the horizons and enrich the lives of those autistic people and their families.

On behalf of the Trustees I would like to thank all our staff, trainers, volunteers, sponsors and donors, without whom none of this would be possible.

Max Charman

Max Charman, Chair
Dogs for Autism

30 November 2020

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Trustees' annual report (continued) For the first period ended 31st January 2020

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the first period ended 31st January 2020. The Charity was founded on 17th January 2019.

Principal activities and objectives

The principal activities of the Charity are to promote the health, safety, equality and independence of people in the United Kingdom diagnosed with autism or autistic spectrum disorder by breeding, purchasing or funding puppies and dogs to be trained as autism assistance dogs; provision for the training and welfare of such dogs; and training and educating autistic people, their guardians or carers and families in the use of such assistance dogs and other such services for their benefit.

Principal office:

32 Kings Hill, Beech, Hampshire, GU34 4AL

Trustees

The following have held office throughout the period: -

Max Charman (Chair)	(appointed 17 th January 2019)
Zoe Lattimer	(appointed 17 th January 2019)
Richard Wilkinson	(appointed 17 th January 2019)

Review of activities

During the period since inception the Charity has been successful in obtaining sufficient donations & raising funds to cover overhead expenses and meet its primary aims.

Public benefit

In preparing their statements on public benefit, the directors have, in accordance with s.17 of the Charities Act 2011, considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Dogs for Autism provides autistic people with dogs trained to provide suitable assistance and teaches the people and their families how to make best use of those dogs.

The dogs receive specialist training, generally living with a qualified trainer from the age of 8 weeks until they are placed permanently with their "forever family". Once placed the dogs and their handlers will receive regular visits and continuing training or refresher work throughout the dogs working life.

During the period under review 19 dogs entered the Charity's training program, have been introduced to their forever families and are already enriching the lives of their special person.

There are an estimated 700,000¹ people diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder living in the UK. Including their families this equates to over 2.8 million people are impacted by autism on a daily basis. Although not every autistic person or their family will benefit from access to an assistance dog many can and do. Research published in 2014 estimated the annual cost of autism to the UK economy was £32 billion.²

The provision of autism assistance dogs gives potential benefits to autistic individuals, their families, and wider society. In addition to the direct benefit to the families involved having access to an assistance dog can have a positive financial benefit for the NHS, reducing the need for medical care

¹ BMA website

² BBC News website

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Trustees' annual report (continued) For the first period ended 31st January 2020

such as less frequent need for GP appointments, fewer trips to A&E etc. Being able to access education will provide long lasting benefits to an autistic person and may make it possible for some to make an improved contribution within the working environment that might otherwise not be possible as well as potentially reducing the need for social care and assistance.

EU Assistance Dog Standards

We are delighted to report that our CEO has been invited to become a member of an EU committee named Assistance Animals and Animal Training Competencies, the scope of which is to create Standardization in the field of assistance dogs, users and training staff.

The work is well underway, ultimately the committee will publish a document which can be used to inform best practice for trainers and training schools as well as to advise governments across Europe in their development of laws pertaining to assistance dogs.

Covid-19

Since the year end the UK and the world have been severely affected by the pandemic. Whilst the company has continued to function, there has been an inevitable disruption with the temporary cessation of all interactive family & dog training activity and the cancellation of fund-raising events.

The Charity has been fortunate to benefit from emergency funding from a number of funders and the Trustees are confident that the financial position remains robust and activity levels will recover strength over the coming months and year.

Corporate Sponsors

The Charity has benefitted from the support provided by Oscar pet foods and Joii.

Oscar pet foods supply us with food and nutritional advice for all our trainee dogs during their first two years.

Joii assist us with online vet support for all our puppies and dogs.

Financial Review

The Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and following notes show the performance of the Charity during the first period.

Income from fund raising events was £11,124 and income from donations was £44,603. Surplus funds for the period were £2,114.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

Charity and company law require the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the Charity for that period. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the income and expenditure of the Charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

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Trustees' annual report (continued) For the first period ended 31st January 2020

- state whether applicable UK accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

By Order of the Board of Trustees 30 November 2020

Max Charman

Max Charman
Trustee

Dogs for Autism (a Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Independent Accountants' Report to the Trustees

In order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Companies Act 2006, we have prepared for your approval the financial statements of Dogs for Autism for the first period ended 31st January 2020 set out on pages 5 to 11 from the Charity's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given us.

As a practising member firm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at <http://www.icaew.com/en/members/regulations-standards-and-guidance/>

This report is made solely to the Board of Trustees of Dogs for Autism, as a body, in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the financial statements of Dogs for Autism and state those matters that we have agreed to state to the Board of Directors of Dogs for Autism, as a body, in this report in accordance with ICAEW Technical Release 07/16 AAF as detailed at icaew.com. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Dogs for Autism and its Board of Trustees as a body, for our work or for this report.

It is your duty to ensure that Dogs for Autism has kept adequate accounting records and to prepare statutory financial statements that give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit of Dogs for Autism. You consider that Dogs for Autism is exempt from the statutory audit requirement for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit or a review of the financial statements of Dogs for Autism. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the statutory financial statements.



Riches & Company

Chartered Accountants

Date 30 November 2020

34 Anyards Road
Cobham
Surrey
KT11 2LA

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Statement of financial activities
for the period from 17th January 2019 to 31st January 2020

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £
Incoming resources				
Donations		44,603	-	44,603
Income from activities & fundraising		11,124	-	11,124
Total incoming resources		55,727	-	55,727
Charitable expenditure				
Direct cost of activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives		47,314	-	47,314
Activity implementation costs	3	564	-	564
Management and administration	4	5,735	-	5,735
Total resources expended		53,613	-	53,613
Net income for the period		2,114	-	2,114
Fund balances carried forward		2,114	-	2,114

The charitable company has no gains or losses other than those reported above, and therefore no separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented.

All amounts relate to continuing activities.

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Balance sheet at 31st January 2020

	Note	2020 £	£
Current assets:			
Cash at bank		3,961	
		3,961	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	5	(1,847)	
Total net current assets			2,114
Total assets less current liabilities			2,114
Represented by:			
Funds			
Unrestricted funds	9		2,114
Restricted funds	9		-
			2,114

For the financial period ended 31st January 2020 the Charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Trustees' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the Charity to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the period in question in accordance with section 476;
- The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 30 November 2020 date

Max Charman

Max Charman
Trustee

Dogs for Autism

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Notes to the financial statements

for the first period ended 31st January 2020

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, the Charities SORP 2 (FRS 102) and the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 102). The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

The Charity is registered under the Charity Act 2011 in England with registration number 1181615 and its principal office is 32 Kings Hill, Beech, Hampshire, GU34 4AL

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is a small company.

These financial statements are presented in sterling which is also the functional currency of the Charity.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The trustees have considered the financial position, forecasts and cash flows of the organisation and are satisfied that it is appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis.

1.2 Incoming resources

Income is recognised in the period in which the Charity is entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. Income is deferred in accordance with the period of the donation as specified by the donor.

1.3 Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis.

Costs of generating funds comprise those costs directly attributable to obtaining donations and sponsorship.

Management and administration comprises costs for the running of the company.

1.4 Funds accounting

Funds held by the Charity are:

Unrestricted Funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted Funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred.

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Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the first period ended 31st January 2020

1.6 Taxation

As a registered charity, the Charity is exempt from liability to corporation tax on its charitable activities.

1.7 Leasing arrangements

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the unrestricted reserves on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

2 Operating profit

Operating profit stated after charging:	2020 £
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Accountants' remuneration	1,200
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3 Activity & fundraising costs

2020
£

Activities costs	564
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564

4 Management and administration

2020
£

Administration salary	1,264
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Office costs	2,663
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Accountancy fees	1,200
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Professional fees	92
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Computer costs	516
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5,735

5 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

2020
£

Other creditors	647
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Accruals and deferred income	1,200
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1,847

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Notes to the financial statements (continued)

for the first period ended 31st January 2020

6 Staff costs

	2020 £
Gross wages and salaries	9,290
Employer's National Insurance contributions	-
Employer's pension contributions	-
	9,290

No employee earned £60,000 per year or more for the period ended 31st January 2020.

The average number of persons employed by the Charity was 1.

7 Related parties/trustees' remuneration

The Charity was founded on 17th January 2019.

No remuneration was paid to the Trustees during the first period.

No Trustee or other person related to the Charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the Charity during the current and prior year.

8 Company Status

The company has no share capital; the members/Trustees for the time being do not have a liability to contribute if the organisation is wound up.

9 Funds

Unrestricted funds relate only to the Charity's general fund, for use as the trustees see fit.

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Notes to the financial statements
for the first period ended 31st January 2020

	£	2020	£
Income			
Donations			44,603
Income generated from charitable activities			11,124
			55,727
 Expenditure			
Direct dog costs	39,288		
Direct costs of events and fundraising	564		
Salaries - operations	8,026		
Salaries - administration	1,264		
Advertising and promotion	115		
Insurance	365		
Printing, postage and stationery	400		
Other administration costs	817		
Travel and accommodation	621		
Accountancy fees	1,200		
Professional fees	92		
Computer costs	516		
Depreciation	345		
			(53,613)
Operating profit & surplus for the year			2,114