



# ANNUAL REPORT 2024

## Little Paws Ferret Rescue

You can't buy love, but you can  
rescue it!



# Trustees' Report

2023 – 2024

Little Paws  
Ferret Rescue  
Charity No:  
1182331

# Table of Contents

1

WELCOME FROM RESCUE MANAGER

2

YEARLY REVIEW

3

REVIEW OF  
ACTIVITIES AND  
ACHIEVEMENTS

4

TRUSTEES AND  
VOLUNTEERS

5

FINANCIAL REPORTS

6

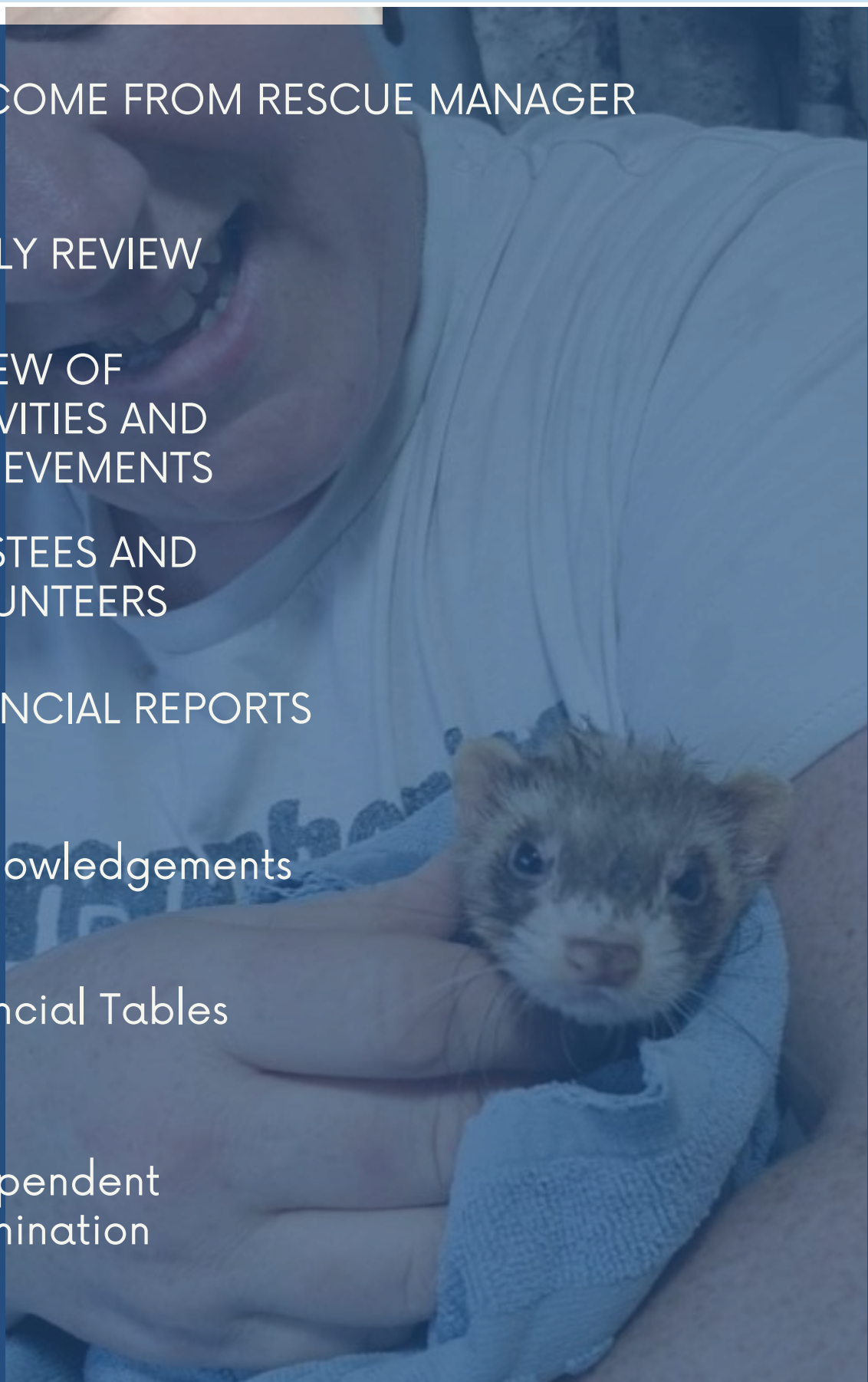
Acknowledgements

7

Financial Tables

8

Independent  
Examination





# WELCOME

Hello and welcome to all of our supporters and followers for Little Paws Ferret Rescue.

This year sees our rescue in its fifth year of trading.

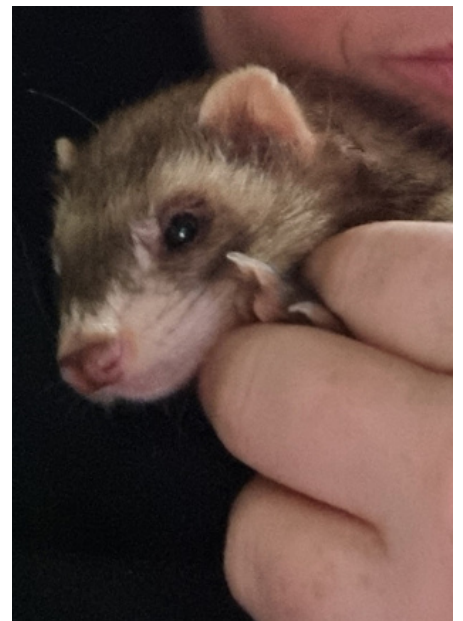
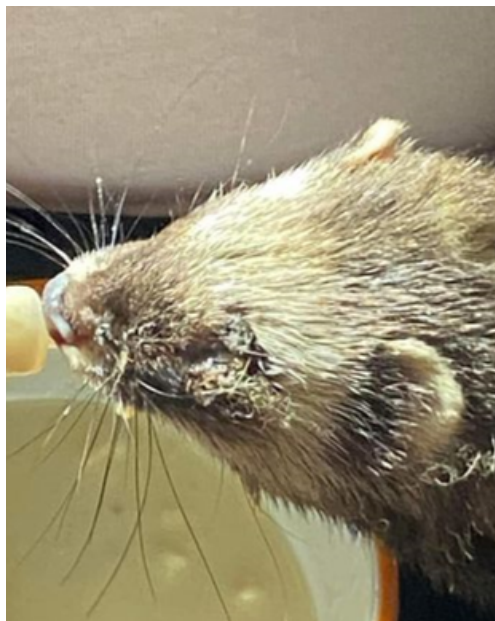
We continue to provide the excellent care that the rescue prides itself on. Our volunteers have worked tirelessly to provide care and enrichment for each and every ferrets that has entered the rescue and we continue to provide medical interventions such as neutering, vaccinations, microchipping, etc... for the hundreds of ferrets we see every year.

Our volunteer programme has grown to include over forty active and dedicated volunteers that provide day to day care, support for collection of strays, event cover and general support.

We have attended many events throughout the year and are very grateful to our supporters for making our social media and other marketing efforts a huge success.

We thank you all for your support and love throughout.

Michelle Brunton  
Rescue Manager





# Yearly Review

## GRANTS RECEIVED

This year we were lucky to have applied and been accepted for a grant of £3000 from Animal Friends Insurance. This was used to help neuter the ferrets that arrive in our care. .

The rescue received a grant from Animal Friends Insurance of £2500 to help with rescue running costs.

We have been lucky to be part of the Pets At Home Foundations VIP Scheme. This has allowed us to access grants based on your spending at Pets At Home. We have used our vouchers to purchase bedding, food and toys for the ferrets.

We have benefited from Charity discounts at Sore Paws Vets in Winlaton, Wrights Vets in Birtley and Vets for Pets in Sunderland.

Our Charity has received donations through Paypal giving, Easy Fundraising and Facebook.

We have received donated goods such as cages, bedding and toys that have helped us to generate income to fund our charity work.

## ACTIVITY THIS YEAR

During 2023/24 we held a number of events to benefit local ferret owners and members of the public. We have been to a number of rescue shows such as Sara Animal Rescue in Teeside and Pawz for Thought in Sunderland.

The rescue organised our annual camoing trip at Alnwick Rugby Club where we had a fun ferret show and ferret related activities.

The volunteers attended a number of different shows and events to raise funds. These include Wolsingham Show, Westmorland Show and Flatts Lane Summer fayre.



# OUR AIMS & ACHIEVEMENTS THIS YEAR

## Charity Aims

We aim to rescue abandoned, lost and unwanted ferrets in the North East UK. We will rehabilitate and care for these ferrets until they are able to be rehomed. The rescue will carry out activities to find new homes for the ferrets in rescue and provide backup support for the lifetime of the ferret.

Little Paws Ferret Rescue is run by volunteers. We rely on the support of our members, volunteers and generosity of members of the public. We also have benefitted greatly from a grant provided by the Pets at Home Foundation to help with neutering and feeding bills.

Every pound that is donated or raised through fundraising, goes straight to helping animals in need.

We are passionate about providing advice and information to the public about caring for ferrets and the importance of neutering. We will continue to provide educational opportunities to broaden the knowledge of ferrets as a species and the benefits of owning ferrets.

## Ferrets In and Out

During the financial year June 2023 to May 2024 Little Paws Ferret Rescue took in 352 ferrets. Around 52% of ferrets entering rescue were surrendered by their owners who could no longer care for their pets. The remaining 48% were found as strays. This increase in surrendered ferrets reflects the struggles related to the cost of living crisis.

We rehomed 103 ferrets during 2023/2024 which is less than the previous year.

The rescue has 31 permanent residents. This includes or PR team who are trained and experienced in meeting the public and also ferrets that are too old or sick to find a new home.

## Volunteer Development

The number of volunteers dropped this year. We retained a group of 60 volunteers. All volunteers have now completed training in understanding ferrets as a species and safe handling of ferrets.

Volunteers engaged in many activities from attending walks, PR events, crafting, show stewarding and judging, selling donated goods, transporting animals and many were involved in fostering ferrets.

# TRUSTEES AND VOLUNTEERS

NAME	APPOINTED ON	ROLE
Michelle Brunton	24th May 2018	Chair
Emma Moan	24th May 2018	Trustee
Lisa Thompson-Gillett	29th February 2020	Trustee
Reuben Gillett	29th February 2020	Trustee
Vicki Hall	15 September 2022	Trustee
Jade Gardiner	15 September 2022	Trustee

# FINANCIAL REVIEW

## Reserves Policy

The trustees' policy is to retain 3 months' worth of normal running costs in order to meet commitments and to cover any unexpected expenditure.

## Financial Review

Income for the period amount to £14,556 with expenditure of £18,041.

Profitability - Gross Loss £-3485 and net profits are £-5379 (This is due to funding from the previous year sustaining the charity).

Assets - The charity does not hold any fixed assets. Current assets include a balance in the bank of £3594, Paypal Balance (including the main Paypal and Paypal Giving accounts) £1557 and a petty cash balance of £919.

## Future Developments

The Trustees will continue to develop their calendar of events and will look at ways to create income from these events such as stall ideas, photo competitions, seasonal stalls, etc... They will develop more branded goods and merchandise in the future and look to supply goods such as food, oil, harnesses, bedding etc...

We will continue to develop our partnership with Pets at Home as this is a good way to reach our target audience and receive donations and grants from the store.

## Trustee Statement

The Trustees consider the Charity to be a going concern and it is assumed that the Charity will continue for the foreseeable future.



# 44%

Donations and GiftAid

## Sales Breakdown

# 21%

Rehoming

Sales for the financial year 1st June 2023 to 31st May 2024 reached £14556.

44% of the Charity income came from donations and Giftaid. This totals £6468 from a mixture of direct donations, donation buckets and cash donations, Support Adoption for Pets, Facebook donate, Paypal Giving, Giftaid and Easy Fundraising.

# 8%

Sale of Merchandise and Donated Goods

21% of the overall income for the charity came from rehoming fees. Fees are charged at £55 for a single ferret or £50 per ferret if adopting multiple at the same time. The total income from rehoming was £3031.

# 4%

Shows, Events and Stalls (including in store events)

Show takings, stalls and events raised £561, 4% of the overall income for the Charity.

We raised £1178 (8%) from the sale of merchandise, including food, ferret oil, harnesses, hammocks, donated equipment, Christmas cards, hoodies, microchipping, etc...

# 23%

Vouchers, Grants and Other

Vouchers and grants raised £3318 (23%)

# 90%

Direct Charitable  
Expenses

# £18,041

## Direct Expenses Breakdown

# %1.5

Bedding, Lino, etc...  
£229

# %0.5

Volunteer Expenses  
£95.70

# 36%

Food, Bedding, Blankets,  
Oil, Treats, Meat,  
Suppliments, Special  
Dietary Food  
£6492

# 1%

Merchandise  
£179



# 21%

Vets Neutering  
£3812



# 40%

Vets General  
Treatment  
£7233



# 0%

Microchips  
£0



# 10%

Overheads

# £1894

Overheads Breakdown

# 16%

£299

Repairs and Renewals  
including the new  
building, tools, hutches,  
etc...

# 63%

£1198

General Expenses  
including stationary,  
bank charges and  
postage.

# 16%

£303

Show and Event costs

# 5%

£94

Marketing including  
web costs

# Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our volunteering team who have continued to support the development of the rescue.

Our Trustees, both old and new, who have supported the rescue manager and helped to develop the charity.

Our foster carers, who have supported the rescue to increase capacity to take in the increased demand for space for the endless line of incoming ferrets.

Our volunteers who help to transport ferrets to the vets for vaccinations, who search for hours for the missing frightened and abandoned pets, who share, like and comment on social media posts.

Our grant funders, who have helped financially.

A big thank you to everyone who has supported us through the Pets At Home VIP Scheme. We receive vouchers to spend in store which really helps with costs.

Our Vets and Vet nurses at Wrights Vets and Sore Paws for their dedication and hard work, especially our vet Kerida Shook who has given so much of their time to the ferrets.

Our donors who contribute regularly every month and for the one off donors, every penny helps us to rescue ferrets.

Our rehomers who give rescued ferrets a second chance at happiness.

Thank you to every supporter, donor and friend that have been a real support to us over the past year.

Without your support and care we would often find it very difficult to continue. Thank you all for helping us to make this year a success.

Thank you all for your continued Support!



**Little Paws Ferret Rescue**  
[www.littlepawsferretrescue.co.uk](http://www.littlepawsferretrescue.co.uk)  
[littlepawsferretrescue@gmail.com](mailto:littlepawsferretrescue@gmail.com)



# Little Paws Ferret Rescue CIO

## Profit and Loss Report

01 April, 2023 - 31 March, 2024

Sales		
4000 - Sales - Merchandise	547.82	
4001 - Sales - Hoodies	58.02	
4002 - Sales - Donated equipment (cages, etc..)	438.00	
4003 - Sales - Microchipping	12.00	
4004 - Sales - Ferret Oil	122.00	
4007 - Sales - Show Takings (class entries, food, etc...)	561.33	
4010 - Income - Rehoming Fees	3,031.23	
4011 - Income - Donations	4,365.56	
4013 - Income - Direct Donations for Treatments	1,000.00	
4014 - Income - Facebook Donations	518.38	
4015 - Income - Paypal Giving Donations	120.00	
4020 - Income - Easy Fundraising	50.54	
4021 - Charitable Grants	3,000.00	
4023 - Gift Aid	413.63	
4900 - Other income	317.66	
	<b>Total Sales</b>	<b>£14,556.17</b>

Direct Expenses		
5000 - Cost of Sales - Merchandise	178.62	
5020 - Cost of Sales - Food, Meat, Shavings	6,382.58	
5021 - Cost of Sales - Bedding, Lino, Etc...	229.25	
5030 - Cost of Sales - Vet Bills (Spay and Neuter)	3,812.44	
5031 - Cost of Sales - Vets Bills (general treatments)	7,233.28	
5035 - Cost of Sales - Volunteer Expenses	95.70	

5060 - Other Direct Expenses	109.08	
	<b>Total Direct Expenses</b>	<b>£18,040.95</b>
	<b>GROSS PROFIT / LOSS</b>	<b>-£3,484.78</b>
<b>Overheads</b>		
5080 - Show and Event Direct Expenses	235.78	
5082 - Show and Event Direct Expenses - Rosettes and Trophies	67.25	
7300 - Vehicle Fuel	20.01	
7540 - Website Fees	93.60	
7800 - Repairs and Renewals	298.74	
7810 - Cleaning	11.00	
7901 - Paypal Fees	20.07	
8200 - General Expenses	1,147.57	
	<b>Total Overheads</b>	<b>£1,894.02</b>
	<b>NET PROFIT / LOSS</b>	<b>-£5,378.80</b>

# Balance Sheet

## Little Paws Ferret Rescue CIO

### Balance Sheet Report

To: 31 March, 2024

#### ASSETS

##### Fixed Assets

Total Fixed Assets £0.00

##### Current Assets

1100 - Trade Debtors	303.57
1200 - Bank Account	3,593.74
1220 - Petty Cash	918.85
1230 - Paypal	1,544.71
1240 - Paypal Giving	12.52

Total Current Assets £6,373.39

#### LIABILITIES

##### Current Liabilities

2100 - Trade Creditors	1,864.99
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Total Current Liabilities £1,864.90

##### Future Liabilities

Total Future Liabilities £0.00

TOTAL LIABILITIES £2,783.84

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<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>£2,670.70</b>
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<b>EQUITY</b>
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Net Profit / Loss	2,670.70
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<i>Net Profit / Loss (prior year(s))</i>	8,049.50
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<i>Net Profit / Loss (current year)</i>	-5,378.80
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<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>£2,670.70</b>
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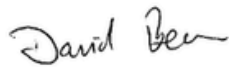
**Little Paws Ferret Rescue CIO**

Accounts reviewed by independent auditor David Beavis on 25th March 2026

**Summary of Financial Accounts for year ended 31st March 2024**

(1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024)

The accounts of Little Paws Ferret Rescue CIO, which are held on Sage software, have been checked and verified. The bank balance of £3,593.74 as at 31st March 2024 is confirmed as correct. In my opinion the CIO continues to be a going concern and should continue to trade for the foreseeable future. In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me any cause for concern. I believe that the requirement to keep proper accounting records and to prepare proper year end accounts has been fully met.



David Beavis CIA  
Independent Auditor  
12th March 2025

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