



# Lowland Rescue Oxfordshire (1186548)

## Trustees Annual Report

**August 2024-July 2025**

### 1. Objectives and Activities

Lowland Rescue Oxfordshire exists to provide **specialist search and rescue support** to Thames Valley Police, local authorities, and partner emergency services. Our charitable purpose is the **preservation of life** through the deployment of trained volunteers, specialist search teams, and technical resources to locate vulnerable missing persons across Oxfordshire and surrounding counties.

To achieve this, we:

- Maintain a fully trained, on-call volunteer search team available 24/7
- Provide specialist capabilities including search management, foot teams, water search, drone operations, medical support, and technical search equipment
- Deliver training programmes to ensure operational readiness and safety
- Work collaboratively with police, other emergency services, and other Lowland Rescue teams
- Engage with the community to promote safety, awareness, and volunteer recruitment

All activities are undertaken to advance public safety and wellbeing, in line with our charitable objectives.

### 2. Public Benefit Statement

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Lowland Rescue Oxfordshire provides a **free, life-saving emergency service** to the public. Our work directly benefits vulnerable individuals who are missing or at risk, as well as their families, the wider community, and statutory emergency services. The service is delivered entirely by trained volunteers and funded through donations, grants, and community support.



### 3. Achievements and Performance (2025)

2025 was a year of significant operational activity and organisational development. Key achievements include:

#### Operational Response

- Responded to **60** callouts for the emergency services
- Deployed **944** volunteer hours on live incidents
- Supported neighbouring Lowland Rescue teams on cross-border searches
- Expanded our operational capability with additional drone pilots and search technicians

#### Training and Skills Development

- Delivered **weekly training sessions** covering a range of areas including navigation, search skills, first aid, casualty care, water safety, and search management
- Qualified **a new intake of** operational search technicians

#### Equipment and Infrastructure

- Acquired new and replacement search equipment including a new drone, helmets and other PPE
- Upgraded our vehicles to improve on-scene coordination including a new router
- Improved digital systems for callout management with the implementation of a new mapping system.

#### Community Engagement

- Delivered talks, demonstrations, and raised awareness at local events
- Strengthened partnerships with local councils and the emergency services
- Increased public awareness of our work through social media and outreach

### 4. Financial Review

Lowland Rescue Oxfordshire remains financially stable due to careful management and strong community support.

#### Income

Income was generated through:

- Public donations



- Local authority and community grants
- Fundraising events

## **Expenditure**

Expenditure focused on:

- Operational equipment and maintenance
- Training and accreditation costs
- Vehicle running costs
- Insurance and compliance

The charity holds reserves in line with its financial management policy (1.5 times annual running costs) to ensure continuity of service and the ability to respond to unexpected operational needs.

## **5. Structure, Governance, and Management**

Lowland Rescue Oxfordshire is a registered charity governed by a board of trustees who oversee strategy, compliance, safeguarding, and financial stewardship.

Key governance points:

- Trustees meet regularly to review operations, risk, and financial performance
- All operational members are volunteers and receive no remuneration
- A full range of policies exist in the organisation and are regularly reviewed
- The charity maintains full compliance with Lowland Rescue national standards and works closely with Thames Valley Police under an existing Memorandum of Understanding

## **6. Risk Management**

The trustees maintain a risk register covering operational, financial, and governance risks. Key mitigations include:

- Mandatory training and competency assessments
- Regular equipment checks and maintenance
- Insurance coverage appropriate to operational activities
- Financial controls and dual-authorisation processes
- Safeguarding and data-protection policies



## **7. Plans for the Future (2026 and beyond)**

Looking ahead, Lowland Rescue Oxfordshire aims to:

- Expand operational capacity with additional trained volunteers
- Invest in new technology to enhance search effectiveness
- Strengthen partnerships with emergency services and local authorities
- Improve training facilities and storage infrastructure
- Increase community engagement and fundraising resilience

Our focus remains on delivering a professional, reliable, and compassionate service to the people of Oxfordshire.



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Lowland Rescue Oxfordshire

1186548

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

01/08/2024

To

31/07/2025

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations	20,746	-	-	20,746	22,720
Grants	500	16,625	-	17,125	31,288
Payments	8,239	-	-	8,239	7,560
Investment	1,203	135	-	1,338	1,059
Fundraising Events	4,258	-	-	4,258	-
Mantime	7,900	-	-	7,900	6,075
VAT recovered via VAT126	6,112	-	-	6,112	5,282
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>48,958.00</b>	<b>16,760</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>65,718</b>	<b>73,984</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
Sale of assets	-	-	-	-	200
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>48,958</b>	<b>16,760</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>65,718</b>	<b>74,184</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Subscriptions	2,245	1,120	-	3,365	3,402
Insurance	7,085	4,242	-	11,327	11,442
Vehicles and Storage	1,410	335	-	1,745	1,769
Repairs	4,502	3,254	-	7,756	3,580
Fundraising	1,412	-	-	1,412	40
Consumables and Other	7,695	2,517	-	10,212	9,573
Training	2,843	3,495	-	6,338	8,900
VAT on expenditures	6,719	-	-	6,719	5,508
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>33,911</b>	<b>14,963</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>48,874</b>	<b>44,214</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
Equipment purchase	13,375	2,355	-	15,730	9,752
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>13,375</b>	<b>2,355</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,730</b>	<b>9,752</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>47,286</b>	<b>17,318</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>64,604</b>	<b>53,966</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>1,672</b>	<b>- 558</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,114</b>	<b>20,218</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>56,570</b>	<b>11,449</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>68,019</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>58,242</b>	<b>10,891</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>69,133</b>	<b>20,218</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Current Account	12,454	-	-
	Restricted Funds Account	-	10,891	-
	Ringfenced Funds Account	4,152	-	-
	Strategic Reserve Account	1	-	-
	Term Deposit Account	40,855	-	-
	Paypal Account	780	-	-
	Cash	-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>58,242</b>	<b>10,891</b>	<b>-</b>
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))		OK	OK	OK
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	VAT refund owed by HMRC	1,558	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>				
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>				
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>				

  

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Ford Transit Incident Control Vehicle	Restricted	-	-
Ford Transit Custom Incident Support Vehicle	Restricted	-	-
Toyota Hilux Water Incident Vehicle	Restricted	-	-
Various Search & Rescue assets	Unrestricted	-	-
Various Search & Rescue assets	Restricted	-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

  

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval



David Woodgate

10 May 2026





Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name  
Lowland Rescue Oxfordshire

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 July 2025

Charity no  
(if any)

1186548

Set out on pages

1-2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 07 / 2024.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

B Judd

Date:

12/03/26

Name:

Beverly Judd

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

Chartered Accountant (ACCA)

Address:

47 Besselsleigh Road

Wootton, Abingdon

OX13 6DW



Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.