



# TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

## WAGS RETIRED POLICE DOGS

Charity No: 1186608

[WWW.WAGSRETIREDPOLICEDOGS.CO.UK](http://WWW.WAGSRETIREDPOLICEDOGS.CO.UK)



**TRUSTEES (@31<sup>st</sup> March 2024):**

<b>Chair:</b>	Adam WEAL
<b>Vice Chair/ Events support:</b>	Trish PARKER
<b>Secretary:</b>	Deborah RUMMING-HARRIS
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Chloe WILTSHIRE
<b>Media Support:</b>	Emma YOUNG
<b>Trustee:</b>	Ashleigh GUY
<b>Trustee:</b>	Megan HALDANE
<b>Trustee:</b>	Graham HEATHFIELD
<b>Trustee:</b>	Becca RYALLS

<b>CHARITY NUMBER:</b>	1186608
<b>REGISTERED ADDRESS:</b>	4 Stradbroke Avenue, St George, BS5 8PH
<b>BANK:</b>	Lloyds Bank, 25 Gresham Street, EC2V 7HN
<b>WEBSITE DESIGNER:</b>	David CRITCHLEY
<b>CHARITY INSURANCE:</b>	Zurich Charity & Events Insurance
<b>FUNDRAISER REGULATOR:</b>	Membership in place
<b>GAMBLING ACT LICENCE:</b>	Wiltshire Council, Trowbridge, BA14 8JN
<b>INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:</b>	Lynda Edwards

# **PURPOSE, STRUCTURE & GOVERNANCE**

## **CHARITY PURPOSE**

WAGS Retired Police Dogs is a registered charity, number 1186608. WAGS (Wiltshire, Avon, Gloucestershire & Somerset) Retired Police Dogs Charity purpose is:

***“To promote human behaviour towards Retired Police Dogs by providing financial assistance to the owners of Retired Police Dogs who have charge of animals that are in need to appropriate care and attention by reasons of sickness, poor circumstances or ill-use”***

WAGS provides financial assistance to pay the veterinary fees for emergency and on-going treatment and for medication, to ensure the Retired Police Dogs remain healthy and happy in retirement. Vet’s fees can run into thousands of pounds to treat some conditions and owners may be forced with deciding on the dog’s future based on the financial costs. It is very difficult for them to obtain pet insurance for the Retired Dogs due to the nature of protection work and the fact they may retire with existing conditions which require on-going expensive medication or further operations. WAGS provides financial assistance to ensure the treatment decisions are based only on the dog’s welfare needs and not based on cost.

## **STRUCTURE**

The complete financial income to achieve our charity purpose is generated solely by fundraising. We attend events to collect donations and sell merchandise to raise income.

We receive regular monthly direct debit donations from supporters. We sell merchandise on our website online shop to raise income. We receive donations through JustGiving, PayPal Giving Fund, Facebook Charitable Giving, Easy Fundraising and Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) donations.

New Trustees are appointed by the existing Trustees and serve a term of 12 months, after which they may put themselves forward for re-appointment. Our Charity Commission Model Constitution requires a minimum of three Trustees with no maximum number of Trustees. On appointment, new Trustees sign the Charity Commission Trustee Eligibility Declaration form agreeing to the giving of their time and expertise. All new Trustees will receive a formal induction to the charity, including an initial meeting with the Chair and existing Trustees. The grant making policy powers and responsibilities of the Trustee board are fully explained to them. All Trustees give their time freely and no Trustee remuneration is paid. For this financial year, expenses have only been claimed by the Chair, Adam WEAL.

## **TYPE OF GOVERNING DOCUMENT**

Charity Commission Model Constitution – Adopted 27 June 2019  
Amended 20th November 2019

## **OBJECTIVES and GRANT MAKING POLICY OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the charity are to provide financial assistance to the owners of Retired Police Dogs who have charge of animals that need appropriate care and attention by reason of sickness, poor circumstances or ill-use. The Trustees have determined that the priorities for financial funding are:

- Retired Police Dogs that need urgent immediate lifesaving veterinary treatment (e.g. surgery, hospitalisation etc...)
- Retired Police Dogs that need veterinary investigations to determine the cause of their illness (e.g. MRI/CT scans, blood tests, biopsies etc...)
- Retired Police Dogs that require treatment of illnesses or injuries (e.g. cancer, bladder/eye infections, upset stomach, skin allergies, injuries to legs/back/ears etc...)
- Retired Police dogs that require on-going medical drug treatments and or hydrotherapy or chiropractor sessions as prescribed by the vets, to help prolong the life and to improve the quality of life for the Retired Police Dog

The amount of Retired Police Dogs that can be supported by the charity is necessarily limited to the amount of funds that are available for distribution annually

The total number of Retired Police Dogs that may require financial assistance within Wiltshire, Avon, Gloucestershire and Somerset is currently 46. It is anticipated that over the forthcoming financial year additional dogs may retire from service, increasing the number of Retired Police Dogs who may require financial assistance although this may be offset by the unfortunate death of some dogs. Some working dogs may also retire suddenly (earlier than expected) due to illness or injury.

The Trustees are aware that just one or two dogs alone could require all our charity funds (e.g. cruciate ligaments, hip operations, spinal surgery etc...). Such operations could require financial assistance between £5,000 and £15,000. An MRI scan for a dog is currently priced at c£2,000 just to establish the cause of the problem before treatment or surgery is commenced.

Fundraising and the promotion of our charity is at the forefront of the Trustees objectives to ensure we can raise enough funds going forward into the next financial year. These dogs do an incredible job serving the communities, saving lives and catching criminals. The WAGS Trustees want to do all they can to ensure the funds are available to support all the Retired Police Dogs from Wiltshire, Avon, Gloucestershire and Somerset.

## **GRANT MAKING POLICY SUMMARY**

The Charity Trustees have a grant making policy. A grant is defined as the financial award WAGS makes from its funds to support the owners of retired police dogs from Wiltshire, Avon, Gloucestershire and Somerset in line with our charitable purpose defined in our governing document.

A beneficiary is a person who has taken over legal ownership of a retired police dog from Wiltshire, Avon & Somerset and Gloucestershire Constabularies only. This can either be a police dog handler who has taken over the ownership of the dog (or dogs) they have been working with or a member of the public who has taken ownership of a retired police dog (or dogs) from one of the forces listed above.

A beneficiary must complete our Application for Financial Assistance Form and send it via email to [wagsretiredpolicedogs@gmail.com](mailto:wagsretiredpolicedogs@gmail.com). They must provide written proof that the dog they are seeking veterinary financial support for was a serving police dog with either Wiltshire, Avon & Somerset or Gloucestershire Constabularies. They sign and confirm that the dog is not currently insured and attach the relevant copies of the treatment and breakdown of financial costings from the veterinary surgery. The Trustees award grants to owners subject to the financial funds available at the time. Each application for financial assistance is considered on its own merits. The Trustees will carry out sufficient due diligence to ensure the requests meet both our charitable purpose and the priorities for support detailed above in our Objectives.

The Trustees will award 100% of all financial claims if the funds available at the time are above £25,000. As soon as funds fall below £25,000, the percentage of the grant issued will be at the Trustee's discretion and their decision is final. If funds do fall below £25,000 and a large application is made, the Trustees will make an emergency appeal through the JustGiving Fundraising Platform (and/or similar), and/or seek urgent grant funding.

It is the Trustees' aim to ensure the active fundraising and the seeking of support grants continues throughout the year to allow WAGS to continue to pay 100% of all grants, ensuring the Retired Police Dogs live happy healthy lives in their well-earned retirement.

### **Trustees with Retired Police Dogs**

Currently there are no registered Trustees who own Retired Police Dogs.

During the financial year 2023/24 3 payments we made in respect of dogs owned by trustees.

Where a present or future Trustee is an owner of a Retired Police Dog, they are subject to the ***Trustees with Retired Police Dogs Official Agreement August 2022***

A copy of the policy is available on request

Full consultation was carried out with the charity commission regarding this agreement and approval obtained.

### **DECLARATION OF GRANT AMOUNTS AWARDED TO TRUSTEES WITH RETIRED POLICE DOGS**

During this financial year: -

£563.29 has been paid to Mr Simon Goodwin for Retired Police Dog Boris veterinary fees.

£484.52 has been paid to Mr Simon Goodwin for Retired Police Dog Fozzy veterinary fees.

£7,837.87 has been paid to Miss Claire Todd for Retired Police Dog Stella veterinary fees.

## **FINANCIAL GRANTS 2023/24**

During this financial year the WAGS Trustees have awarded grants to all owners of Retired Police Dogs that have applied for financial assistance from our Charity. The medical conditions of the Retired Police Dogs who have needed surgery and on-going medication are listed below:

<b>APRIL 2023-MARCH 2024</b>	
<b>Payments Made</b>	
<b>RPD EXPENDITURE</b>	
BARNEY/TODD	£464.10
BORIS/GOODWIN	£563.29
CHARLEY/DOUGHTY	£2,124.89
DIXIE/WALKER	£4,386.75
ELLA/FORD	£421.54
FOZZY/GOODWIN	£484.52
FRED/WARRY	£317.61
HEIDI/WARRY	£1,075.37
HOLLY/SHIELDS	£392.19
LACEY/MANSELL	£446.76
LEIA/WHEELER	£101.28
MAX/DOUGHTY	£863.50
NAPIER/WONG	£109.49
SOLO/GOZNA	£201.24
STELLA/TODD	£7,837.87
<b>TOTAL RPD EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£19,790.40</b>

## **ACTIVITIES**

The continued support of the public in making donations, enabled the Charity to award grants covering the veterinary fees of the 16 Retired Police Dogs who needed our assistance this financial year. We have achieved our charity purpose by being able to support these amazing Retired Police Dogs.

### **NEW TRUSTEES:**

This year we have welcomed two new Trustees: Megan HALDANE and Deborah RUMMING-HARRIS. Both bring different skills and knowledge to the charity, and we are grateful to them for joining us.



### **WAGS VOLUNTEER SCHEME**

We an average of 33 volunteers during the year 2023/24. We are so pleased to have their support at fundraising events. Their help at events and with general fundraising is making an huge difference to the money we are raising to support the Retired Police Dogs. We are now able to attend more events across Wiltshire, Avon, Gloucestershire and Somerset.

Our volunteers' ranged in age from 21 years to 69 years and every one of them bring a vast array of skills and knowledge to our Charity. The Trustees are proud of all our volunteers from across the communities, so many dog lovers who are now committed to helping us to continue to achieve our charity purpose.

Trish Parker, our Volunteer Coordinator, says 'We have had a fantastic season of events. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers we are able to attend more events which, in turn, raise the vital funds we need to support our retired dogs.



### **WAGS ONLINE RAFFLE**

Online raffles have been held via social media (Facebook and Instagram) in both October and December 2023 to raise money for WAGS. This has included a donated personalised photoshoot with the owner and dog, as well as a bundle of WAGS merchandise.

### **RESERVES POLICY**

As detailed above, as our Charity grows the Trustees' aim to build reserves in unrestricted funds to ensure the Charity can support all the Retired Police Dogs of Wiltshire, Avon, Gloucestershire and Somerset.

### **PLANS FOR THE FUTURE**

The Trustees will be applying for additional grant funding from other Companies and Trusts in the next financial year.

WAGS volunteers will continue to assist Trustees' by attending more community fundraising events within the next financial year, providing more opportunities to raise the Charity profile and collect more vital donations. Trustees' and volunteers also attend community talks (e.g. WI, Lions, Probus etc...) to give talks and raise money for WAGS.

Our 3-year Strategy document, published last year, is due to be updated in 2025.



## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

Our charity is entirely reliant on donations received through fundraising.

As stated on page 4 of this report, the total number of Retired Police Dogs that may require financial assistance within Wiltshire, Avon, Gloucestershire and Somerset is 46.

It is predicted that the number of Retired Police Dogs in the WAGS area will rise in 2024/25.

The total income raised this year from both unrestricted and restricted funds for this financial year was £37,534, 5% down on the previous year (restricted funds are funds to be used in accordance with specific restrictions).

The total expenditure for this financial year was £35,223, 2% down on the previous year.

The total surplus for this financial year was £2,310, 34% down on the previous year.

At the end of this financial year the charity has total cash assets of £41,504, 6% up on the previous year.

## **TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards. The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires 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 incoming resources and applications of resources of the Charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to: -

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ascertain to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed.

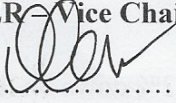
They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Charity and financial information included on the Charity's website.

**APPROVED BY THE TRUSTEES ON 2<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER 2024 AND SIGNED ON THEIR BEHALF BY:**

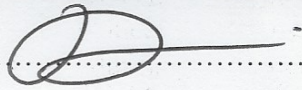
**Graham HEATHFIELD – Chair and Trustee**

Signed..........Date. 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024

**Patricia PARKER – Vice Chair and Trustee**

Signed..........Date. 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024

**Deborah RUMMING-HARRIS – Secretary and Trustee**

Signed..........Date. 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

The accounts have been prepared in line with the Charity Commission regulations. WAGS Retired Police Dogs is a small, non-company charity and has a gross income of below £250,000 during the financial year. The trustees have prepared Receipts and Payments accounts in line with the Charity Commission requirements

**Independent  
examiner's  
statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn 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:**  **Date:**

**Name:**

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

**Address:**



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES



Charity Name

WAGS RETIRED POLICE DOGS - 1186608

No (if any)

1186608

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

Period start date  
1ST APRIL 2023

To

Period end date  
31ST MARCH 2024

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
AMAZON/CAF/EASY FUNDRAISING/GO FUNDRAISE	1,724	3,000	-	4,724	
ANIMAL AFFAIRS DONATIONS	750		-	750	
AVON & SOMERSET POLICE DONATIONS	500		-	500	
COMPANY DONATIONS	1,900			1,900	
EVENT/MERCHANDISE/CASH & CHEQUE DONATIONS	7,928		-	7,928	
FUNDRAISING OTHER	1,027	60	-	1,087	
INTEREST ON INSTANT ACCESS SAVINGS	239	11	-	250	
INTEREST ON 32 DAY NOTICE	135			135	
JUST GIVING FUNDRAISING DONATIONS	7,938	3,742		11,681	
MONTHLY DIRECT DEBIT DONATIONS	2,628			2,628	
ONLINE RAFFLE DONATIONS	36			36	
PAYPAL MERCHANDISE/DONATIONS	4,355			4,355	
REFUND	60			60	
WILTSHIRE PCC	1,500			1,500	
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>30,720</b>	<b>6,814</b>		<b>37,534</b>	
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
<b>N/A</b>	-	-	-	-	

	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-

<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>30,720</b>	<b>6,814</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>37,534</b>	<b>-</b>
-----------------------	---------------	--------------	----------	---------------	----------

### A3 Payments

AWARDED GRANTS TO RETIRED POLICE DOG OWNERS	12,955	6,835	-	19,790	
CHARITY INSURANCE/RAFFLE LICENCE	370	-	-	370	
EVENT FEES	640			640	
JUST GIVING FEES	446	-	-	446	
POSTAGE & PACKAGING 'DROP & GO' POST OFFICE	825		-	825	
VOLUNTEER TRAINING EVENT HIRE & EXPENSES	433			433	
WAGS PERSONALISED MERCH & STOCK ORDER	12,237		-	12,237	
WAGS VOLUNTEER PERSONALISED UNIFORM		482	-	482	
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>27,906</b>	<b>7,317</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>35,223</b>	

<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
N/A	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

<b>Total payments</b>	<b>27,906</b>	<b>7,317</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>35,223</b>	<b>-</b>
-----------------------	---------------	--------------	----------	---------------	----------

<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>2,814</b>	<b>- 504</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,310</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>			<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>2,814</b>	<b>- 504</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>37,534</b>	<b>-</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 £
B1 Cash funds	BANK TREASURERS ACCOUNT	£ 7,394.74		-
	BANK INSTANT ACCESS SAVINGS	£ 20,801.61	-	-
	RESTRICTED FUNDS A/C		£ 3,173.39	
	32 DAY NOTICE A/C	£ 10,134.81	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>38,331</b>	<b>3,173</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	Agreement Error	OK
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	N/A	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	N/A		-	-
			-	-
			-	-

**B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use**

		-	-
		-	-
Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
2X WAGS GAZEBOS & ACCESSORIES	RESTRICTED		
STOCK OF PERSONALISED MERCHANDISE	UNRESTRICTED		-
ELMO MASCOT COSTUME	RESTRICTED		-
VOLUNTEER CLOTHING	RESTRICTED		-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

**B5 Liabilities**

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

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
C Wiltshire	CHLOE WILTSHIRE	05/11/2024

**Independent  
examiner's  
statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn 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:**

L Edwards

**Date:**

5/11/2024

**Name:**

Lynda Edwards

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

**Address:**

Appt 47, Monaveen, 115 Peckham Chase, Chichester, PO20 3BD.