



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 |October 2022 to 30 September 2023

Charity name: **West Midlands Fire Service Pipe Band**

Charity registration number: **1188218**

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To advance the education and appreciation of the public in music and music performance particularly Scottish Pipe Band music for residents of all ages and backgrounds within the West Midlands and surrounding areas by developing skills and competences, by the presentation of concerts and similar activities and by any means as the trustees in their discretion shall determine.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>We provide opportunities to learn to play the pipes and drums, gain a qualification and take part in competitions to improve skills and confidence.</p> <p>We provide opportunities to play and perform with other musicians in the band, other bands and other groups from a variety of genres.</p> <p>We promote the music genre through playing at community and Fire Service events.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p>The trustees have read the guidance on public benefit and our activities remain open to anyone in the area of benefit.</p> <p>We specifically want those involved to benefit from the improved skills and competence in playing pipes and drums as well as improved health and wellbeing from being a part of a band.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	We have received no grants as yet. We will apply to funders for specific programmes of work as they are identified and developed. We also use community events and performances when possible as

		an opportunity for the band to play in public and occasionally there is a fee for this.
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	None at present.
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	All Band members and Trustees are volunteers. Some band members act as tutors to other band members.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>The band has had a busy year building on the success of last year's recruitment.</p> <p>In February 2023, the band joined with other bands from the Midlands area to perform at the Birmingham Tattoo at the NEC Arena. This was a great opportunity to network with other bands and perform in front of a large audience.</p> <p>In April 2023 the band secured a contract to perform with Andre Rieu as part of his world tour, for one night at the NEC Arena. This was another fantastic opportunity for the band to perform in front of a large audience.</p> <p>Both performances above were an opportunity for developing the members of the band by practising for and taking part in a large performance in front of an audience. This will have contributed to building the confidence of all players who participated and increased the aspirations of our learner members.</p> <p>Looking forward to the next year, we have engaged with the National Piping Centre to be able to offer the Piping and Drumming Qualification Board examinations to our members, offering a progressive framework to measure our progress against.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The year began with the balance of £6,276.34. A fee of £4,100 was paid for the Band, together with other local bands, to play in an Andrew Rieu concert. Expenses during the year have included payments to those bands, travel expenses, instrument consumables and a small amount for administration leaving a balance at the end of the year of £7,374.07.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We do not currently have a reserves policy. We do not employ staff and the cost of ongoing commitments is low. All cash reserves would be applied to activities when required.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£7,374.07 unrestricted
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	No regular sources of funds exist. Grants may be accessed if required and some fees are earned from playing at events.
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Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Risks to the charity are low. A risk assessment which covers, governance, finances, operations, external factors and compliance is reviewed annually.
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g. unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Trustees are appointed for a term of 3 years by a resolution passed at a properly-convened meeting of the charity trustees. West Midlands Fire Service mayu appoint one charity trustee for a period of one year.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	

Other		
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Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	West Midlands Fire Service Pipe Band
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1188218
Charity's principal address	29 School Road Evesham WR11 2PT

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Simon Nicholls	Chairperson		
2	Alastair Jackson	Secretary		
3	Henry Cleaver	Trustee		
4	Thomas Watkins	Trustee		
5	Edward Latimer	Treasurer		Resigned 1.7.23
6				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this	

falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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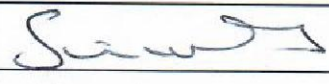
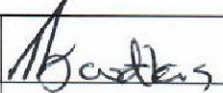
Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Simon Nicholls	Tom Watkins
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	chair	Treasurer

Date 14/11/2023

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE SERVICE PIPE BAND

Registered Charity No. 1188218 Registered on 27/2/20

Annual Accounts 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023

INCOME

	2023	2022
Events	4100.00	0.00
Total income	4100.00	0.00

EXPENDITURE

RSPBA + Competitions	0.00	0.00
Uniform, instruments + consumables	534.95	481.28
Travel expenses	198.00	336.60
Other Bands for contribution to events	2250.00	0.00
Stationery and administration	19.32	19.83
Insurance	0.00	0.00

Total expenditure **3002.27** **837.71**

Surplus/deficit *1097.73* *-837.71*

Opening balance **6276.34** **7114.05**

Closing balance **7374.07** **6276.34**

Represented by:

Current account 7374.07 6276.34

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have examined the records, bank statements and invoices/receipts for West Midlands Fire Service Pipe Band for the financial year 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023. In my opinion, the figures above are a true representation of those transactions.

Signed



Sally Bateman
79 Witherford Way, Birmingham B29 4AN

Date 13th Nov 2023

Signed on behalf of the Board of
Trustees



Date 14th Nov 2023