



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025

**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 together 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 voluntary 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 and busy schedule. All learners are making excellent progress.</p> <p>In February 2025, the band joined with other bands from the Midlands area to perform at the Birmingham Tattoo at the NEC Arena. This was a fantastic opportunity to network with other bands and perform in front of a large audience. Some of the pipers performing at this event were performing in public for the first time.</p> <p>In July we performed at the Oakengates Carnival, taking part in the marching parade. This was the first time the band has performed at this event and we look forward to returning again in the future.</p> <p>Looking forward to the next year, we are participating in the Oakengates Town Remembrance Day Parade in November 2024 and have already arranged several performances in 2026.</p> <p>Tuition and band practice continues to run weekly at West Midlands Fire Service HQ in Birmingham, who provide the room free of charge. We currently have 12 band members.</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 a balance of £6,878.86. Income for the year was £1,075 for playing in public events. Expenses during the year were £425.31 leaving a balance at the end of the year of £7,528.55. Expenses included instrument consumables and uniform items, insurance, cost of events and administration costs.
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	£7,528.55 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.
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	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.

any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees		West Midlands Fire Service may appoint one charity trustee for a period of one year.
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### 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		

### 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		



<b>Director name</b>		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	

### **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)**

<b>Type of adviser</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>
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#### **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**

<b>Signature(s)</b>		
<b>Full name(s)</b>	SIMON JOHN NICHOLAS	
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	CHAIR.	
<b>Date</b>	7/11/25	

