



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date Period end date
From 01 04 23 To 31 03 24

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name Happy Hooves Riding for Disabled Group

Other names charity is known by HHRDA Group

Registered charity number (if any) 1189349 (wef 04.05.20)

Charity's principal address The Classroom, Happy Hooves Riding Centre,
Ivy House, Skelton Wood End,
Penrith, Cumbria

Postcode CA11 9UB

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	Vicky Bowman	HHRDA Group Chairperson	N/A	
2	Toni Holland	HHRDA Group Trustee	N/A	
3	Sue Butler	HHRDA Group Trustee	N/A	
4	Alison Machell	HHRDA Group Secretary	N/A	
5	Sarah Dadley	HHRDA Group Trustee	N/A	
6	Emily Atherton	HHRDA Group Trustee	Joined February 2024	
7	Jo Allinson	HHRDA Group Trustee	Joined February 2024	

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
N/A	N/A

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
N/A		

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

N/A

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document

(eg. trust deed, constitution)

HHRDA is subject to a governing document, entitled "Constitution of the Happy Hooves RDA (Riding for the Disabled) Association, incorporating Carriage Driving".

Additionally, HHRDA and Happy Hooves Riding Centre (HHRC) share a Service Level Agreement (SLA), whereby the assets used by HHRDA are provided from Happy Hooves Riding Centre (HHRC).

How the charity is constituted

(eg. trust, association, company)

HHRDA is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), and applied for Charity Commission status, which was granted 04.05.20. HHRDA Group is a community interest organisation and a member of the Riding for the Disabled (RDA) association.

Trustee selection methods

(eg. appointed by, elected by)

Trustees are elected and voted in by HHRDA Group Trustees.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

In brief:

All policies and procedures are subject to a bi-annual review, to ensure they are complete and pertinent to HHRDA Group. All are based on RDA guidance, and use RDA templates, as applicable. Occasionally our policies are shared (for audit purposes) with professional bodies (such as the British Horse Society (BHS)), and any feedback is gratefully received.

HHRDA Group maintains a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Happy Hooves Riding Centre (HHRC), through which all assets (horses, tack, mechanical horse, arena, and amenities) are provided.

Apart from the SLA with HHRC, HHRDA Group closely follows RDA guidance, and the Chairperson maintains a professional relationship with county RDA advisors and representatives.

A number of Risk Assessments are in place to cover operations relating to HHRDA Group. A Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery (BCDR) Plan also exists. The Trustees believe that risk mitigation and management is key, including lessons-learned exercises where applicable. Documentation is reviewed and revised annually, or when an event occurs.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objectives of the HHRDA Group remain as follows:

HHRDA Group understands that not all disabilities are visible, and plans to make horses and horse-riding an activity available for all, giving everyone the opportunity to experience the magic of horses, to help address mental health issues brought about by a variety of factors.

The aim is to operate a top-class equine facility for Cumbria, providing a variety of equine experiences to adults, young people, groups and individuals. HHRDA Group will offer a diverse range of ridden and non-ridden activities for pleasure, health and wellbeing, developing confidence, and educational life skills, using recognised equine disciplines, and associated activities.

HHRDA Group operates in partnership with HHRC, which is recognised as an alternative education provider for young people who are not in employment or training, through the BHS Changing Lives programme. Jointly, HHRDA Group will work with the community and other partners broaden the accessibility of HHRDA Group to more people, and ensure that everyone involved benefits from the magic of horses.

Through fund-raising (events, grants and activities) HHRDA Group plans a targeted, phased improvement of facilities to create a more accessible and modern facility for a wider range of clients. Therefore, initial funding applications will be targeted towards specific tack, hats and amenities, as suggested by RDA guidance.

Additionally, HHRDA Group wishes to offer those most in need, the opportunity to access these facilities at discounted rates.

At all times, funding is carefully monitored and managed – as explained in Section D.

The HHRDA Group Trustees are fully conversant with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and can confirm that:

- The 'benefit' aspect will be realised in the way HHRDA Group can help those suffering mental health issues, anxiety, confidence issues etc., by giving access to horses, horse riding and associated activities.
- The 'public' aspect will be realised when the section of the public (as detailed above) will benefit from HHRDA Groups' provision of horse related activities, to alleviate adverse symptoms and create an environment for mental health improvements for all those who attend HHRDA Group sessions.

The HHRDA Group Trustees and those connected to HHRC (who will provide the assets for the HHRDA Group to operate), are all committed to facilitating sessions to bring about potentially life-changing outcomes for deserving individuals, whilst at the same time, adhering to the guidance provided by the Charity Commission.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The management of the funds has been consistent, with regular review by the Trustees.

Any income or investment realised, is re-invested into HHRDA Group, to facilitate growth and development in accordance with the objectives above, to better benefit the HHRDA Group clients.

HHRDA Group is reliant on a core team of HHRC staff and a group of volunteers who are trained in accordance with RDA guidelines as coaches or volunteers, obtaining the official 'Green Card'.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the min achievements of the charity during the year

After a major delay (spanning the two previous years' reports), and significant uncertainty, HHRC finally relocated to new premises on 1st September 2023, as can be seen by the address at the head of this report. The premises required much work and investment, and are still a work-in-progress in some areas.

Once settled, HHRDA made a significant effort to restart the efforts to 'get off the ground', and held the annual general meeting (AGM) in January 2024.

At the AGM, two new Trustees were voted in to replace Chris Henderson, who resigned in April 2023, and Steph Bradley who resigned December 2023. Therefore Jo Allinson and Emily Atherton were added to the Trustee Group with effect from January 2024. Jo is a key member of HHRC staff, and a qualified RDA Coach.

In May 2024, representatives from the central RDA visited HHRDA and declared themselves to be content with progress to date. They inspected the documentation and assessed a coaching session, and left feeling happy that HHRDA could continue.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

HHRDA Group holds £2000 in reserve for unexpected costs such as repairs to equipment or contributions to vets bills. This reserve will be reviewed by the trustees at regular intervals and adjusted as necessary. This reserve will only be used for unforeseen costs that the trustees have agreed needs to be paid for by the charity.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

There are no funds in deficit.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

NTR

Section F

Other optional information


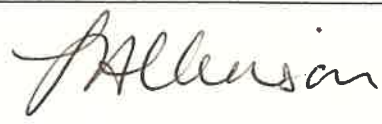
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Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Alison Machell	Jo Allinson
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	HHRDA Group Secretary	HHRDA Group Trustee
Date	24.01.25	

Happy Hooves RDA Group

