

brav⁺ MEDICS

Annual Report *2024*

Bravo Medics is a registered charity in England & Wales (1189780).

Chairman's Welcome



It's great to welcome you to Bravo Medics' annual report, covering our activities of 2024, our fifth year of operation. Our first four years of operation saw Bravo Medics evolve from a small organisation, operating with two responders and second-hand equipment, to an established life-saving organisation for the Bristol and Avon area. Five volunteer consultant responders, each carrying the equivalent of a state-of-the-art Emergency Department to our patients' side – able to provide a whole range of interventions from emergency surgery, to anaesthesia and blood product transfusion.

On founding the organisation, I could never have dreamed of the success it has turned out to be, and this is in no small part due to the grant givers and supporters who have tirelessly helped us along the way – from individuals, to our charity partner BrisDoc Healthcare Services, each and every donation has been carefully targeted at improving patient care, guided by our wonderful Trustees who are now joined by longstanding responder Dr Glyn Thomas.

From a volunteer responder perspective, Dr Matt Thomas has settled into his role and has supported patients both in our operational area, as well as further afield across the South West – due to the travel involved in his professional role. Unfortunately, Dr Mark Tehan, left the team to pursue other professional challenges – we wish him all the best.

Our volunteers continue to strive to improve the 24/7 availability of critical care across our region, and whilst slow progress, we will continue to engage with all local partners to one day make this a reality.

As we move into the new year, 2025 will see big changes in both the charity and clinical side of Bravo Medics. Two of our trustees, Blair Sasada and Freddie Stourton, who have supported us since our foundation are stepping down due to other professional commitments. We wouldn't be where we are without them, and owe them a huge debt of gratitude – thank you. Clinically, we are hoping that 2025 will see us take on our first non-physician responder, a Critical Care Paramedic – he will respond both solo, providing a high-level enhanced care capability, as well as alongside our consultants to form a Critical Care Team.

Thank you for your time reading the report and your ongoing support of our charity.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew Heavyside." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Andrew Heavyside
Chair of Trustees

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Our Mission

To serve the local community and support the local ambulance service in caring for the sickest patients, wherever they become ill or injured.

We do this by providing volunteer doctors, highly trained in critical care and equipped with specialist medical equipment - ‘bringing the Emergency Department to their side.’

Bravo Medics

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

The trustees of Bravo Medics present the annual report, including accounts, of the charity’s activities between 1 January and 31 December 2024. They additionally confirm that they comply with the Charities Act 1993, as amended by the Charities Act 2006 and the Charities SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Charity name | Bravo Medics |
| Charity registration number | 1189780 (Charity Commission of England & Wales) |
| Registered address | Garden Cottage Long Lane Wroughton, Bristol BS40 5SA |
| Board of trustees | Dr Andrew Heavyside (Chair of Trustees) Dr James Tooley Mr Blair Sasada Dr Frederick Stourton Dr Glyn Thomas |
| Clinical Lead | Dr James Tooley |
| Responding Doctors | Dr Andrew Heavyside Dr James Tooley Dr Glyn Thomas Dr Matt Thomas |
| Accounts reviewed by | Mrs Jackie Taylor |
| Registered bank | HSBC 10 Colliers Walk Nailsea, Avon BS48 1RL |

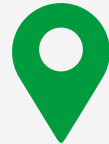
BRAVO MEDICS 2024 IMPACT

Saving lives

We estimate one in every four people we treat could suffer life-changing injuries or die without our intervention



Local demand

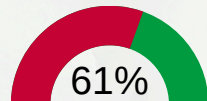


| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Bristol City | 30% of responses |
| North Somerset | 24% of responses |
| South Gloucestershire | 20% of responses |



We remain the only

road based voluntary critical care service to carry powdered blood making transfusions in communities more available

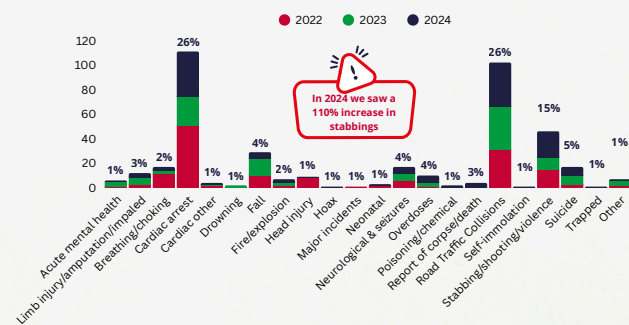


61%
increase

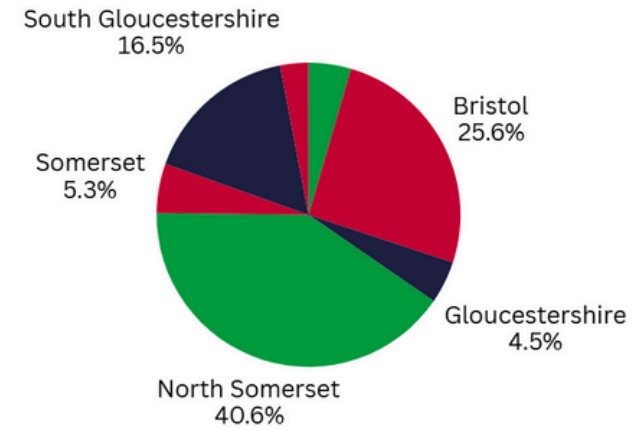
in responses to cardiac arrests since 2023, with an average patient age of 33 years

Conditions and emergencies

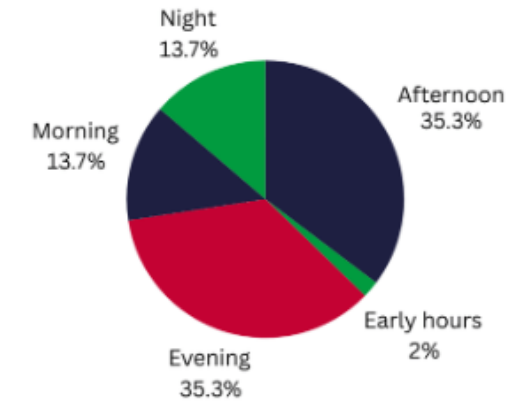
2022-2024 responses



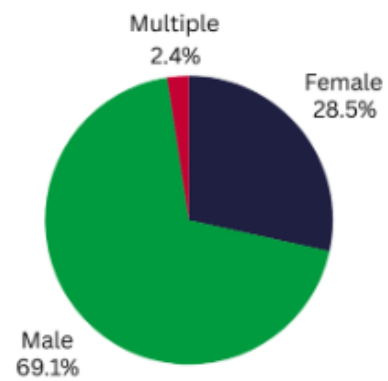
2024 Locations



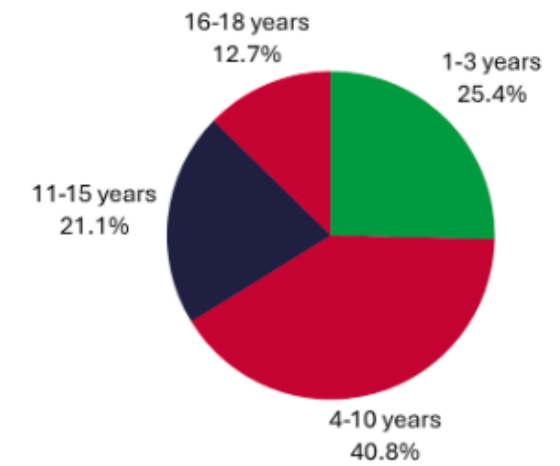
2024 response times



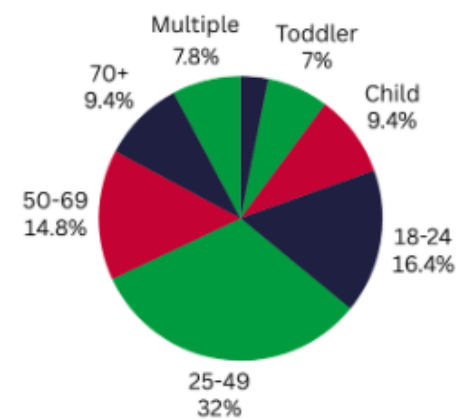
2024 patient gender



Paediatric response ages



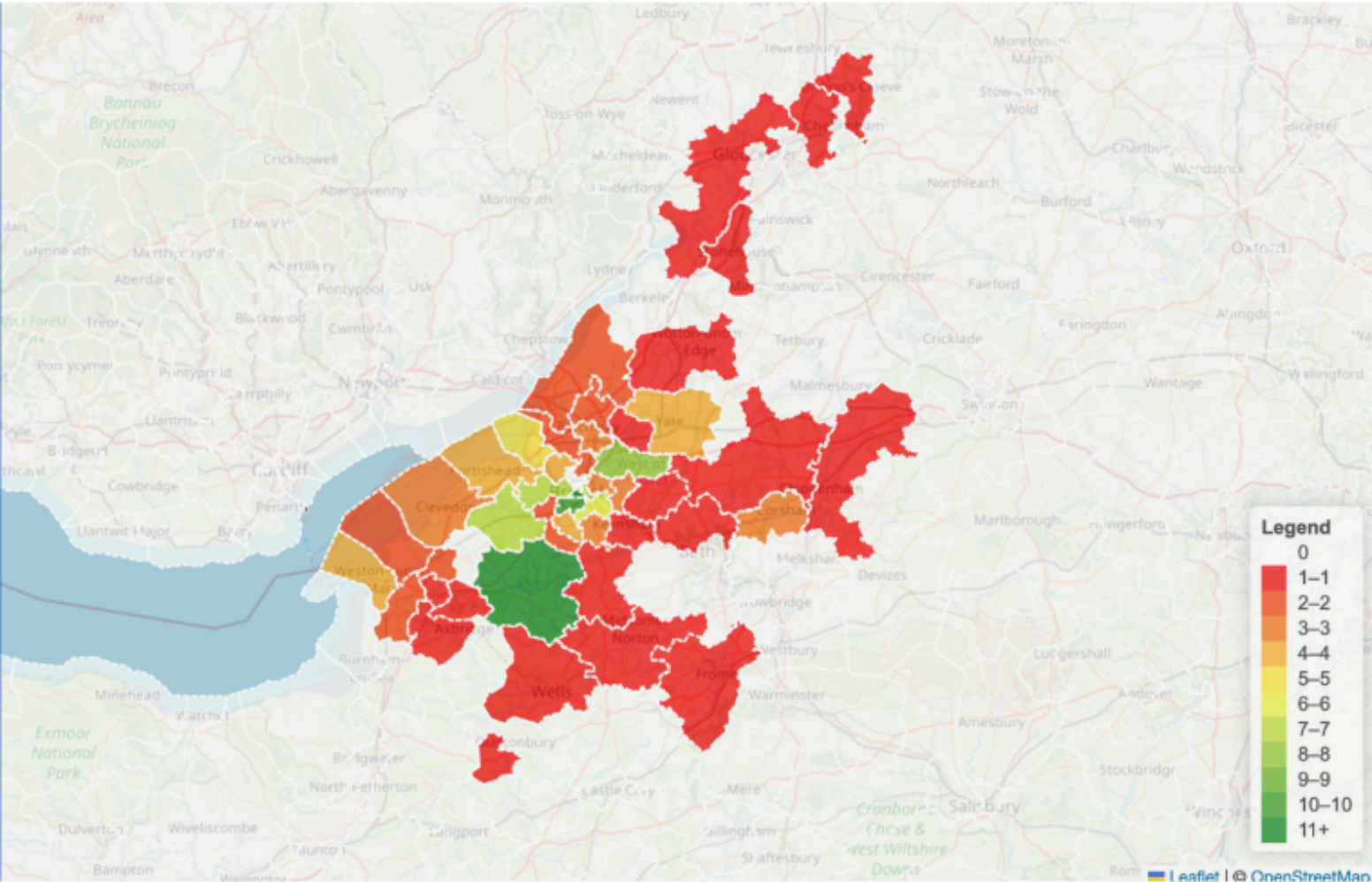
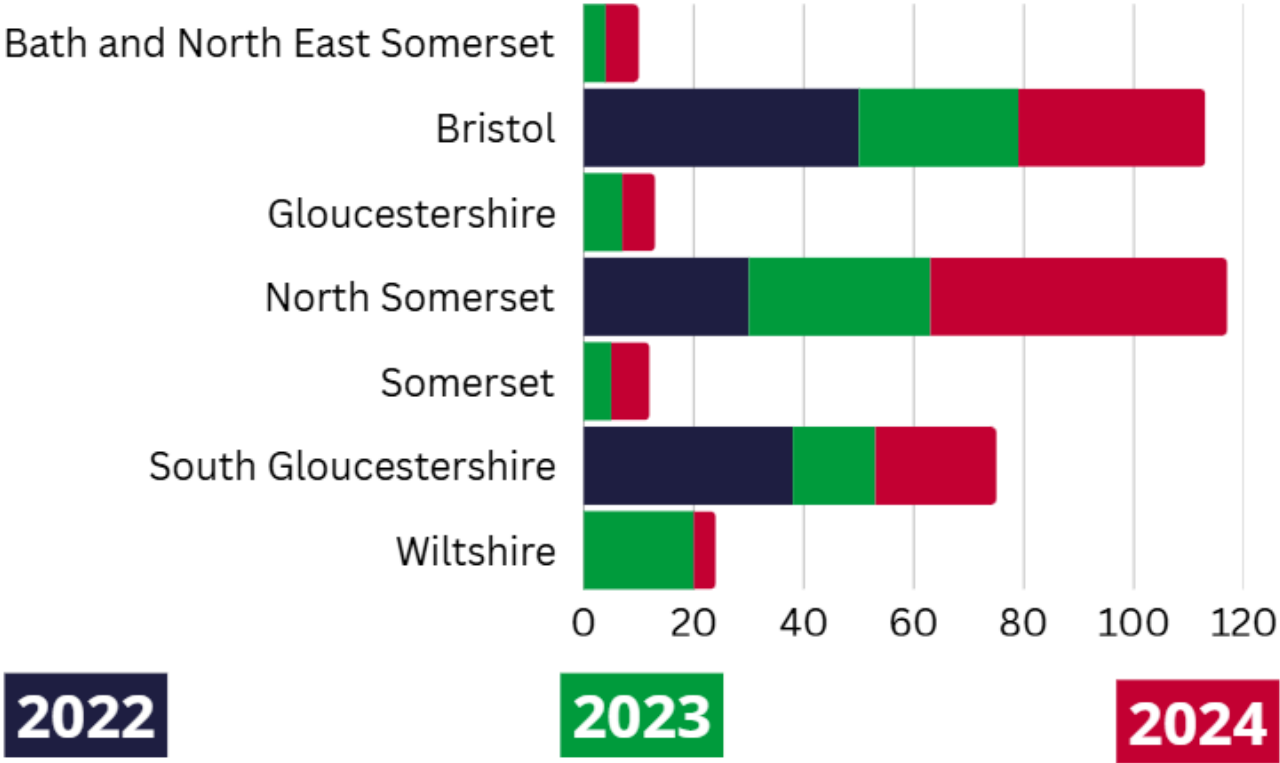
2024 patient ages



Mission Map



2022-2024 Locations





Clinical Lead's Report

Our Volunteer Doctors and Their Impact

Our doctors generously volunteer their time during their free hours. As a result, every time we increase the number of responders, our capacity to respond improves—especially overnight when other critical care resources are scarce in our region.

Comprehensive Patient Care

Throughout the year, we have successfully treated a diverse range of patients across an extensive area, particularly during night-time hours. The critical care expertise and multidisciplinary nature of our team make us a highly valued resource for the ambulance service.

Maintaining Response Rates

In addition to providing essential critical care services for the broader region, I am thrilled that we continue to achieve a high first-on-scene rate. This success is largely due to our ability to respond directly from our homes in the areas we serve, equipped with emergency supplies and medications stored in our own vehicles.

Future Plans for Improvement

Looking ahead to 2025, we aim to reassess our kit bags and the deployment of equipment at the scene. As the volume of gear we carry has increased, managing it all effectively with our current bag system has become more challenging.

In addition, we hope to recruit a specialist paramedic trained in critical care. This addition will enhance our ability to offer a full spectrum of critical care treatments, which often necessitate more than a solo responder.

Objectives & Activities

Objectives

Bravo Medics' main objective is to save lives in the community by providing equipment, training, and financial support to Critical Care Healthcare Professionals who respond to emergencies in their area at the request of the local ambulance service.

In our fourth year, we increased our resilience as a charity, and this has continued through our fifth year of operations. We are now a reliable and constant form of support to our local ambulance service and the local population it serves, and a financially secure organisation prepared for the future in an ever more financially uncertain world.

Bravo Medics is built on the ethos of providing a life-saving service to the local communities of its responders. The charity's activities are designed to further that goal. All decisions made by the trustees are done so with due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Achievements and performance

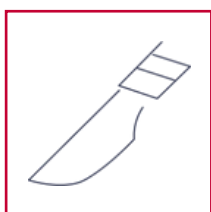
Ultimately, our performance is measured by the number of people we treat and the lives we save. Every incident to which we are dispatched is critical, and the people involved are at an immediate risk of losing their lives. We deliver gold standard critical care. In 2019, the BMJ stated that pre-hospital care provided by critical care teams was associated with an increased chance of survival at 30 days when compared with care provided by ambulance clinicians (Maddock et al, 2020).

Our work is also cost-effective: We can provide hospital-level critical care, potentially including emergency surgery, to a patient for a similar anaesthesia and cost to an NHS GP appointment.

Our support after treatment is not only informative but can aid people's recovery. Providing information—in some cases when people have no memory—can help people understand what happened so they can focus on their recovery.

References Maddock A, Corfield AR, Donald MJ, et al Prehospital critical care is associated with increased survival in adult trauma patients in Scotland *Emergency Medicine Journal* 2020;37:141-145.

What We Offer Patients



Life Saving Surgical Procedures including Open Heart Surgery

A limited number of our patients have conditions that necessitate immediate surgical intervention on-site to preserve their lives. All our clinicians are trained to perform procedures to alleviate a pneumothorax (collapsed lung) or to place a tracheostomy to aid in breathing. Additionally, our volunteer doctors are equipped to carry out open-heart surgery if a patient's heart has ceased beating due to a penetrating chest injury, such as stab wounds. Our team regularly practices these skills to ensure they can be executed reliably during emergencies.



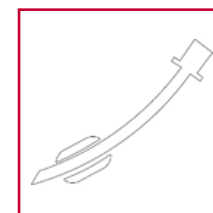
Sedation

Occasionally, it becomes essential to carry out uncomfortable procedures that must be done immediately, rather than waiting for the patient to reach a hospital. These procedures can cause considerable pain, such as realigning and splinting severely fractured bones or rescuing individuals trapped in vehicle wreckage. Bravo Medics are equipped to administer powerful sedative medications that alleviate pain and anxiety during these interventions, while ensuring patient safety with our advanced monitoring technology.



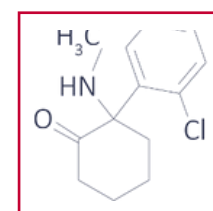
Consultant Level Decision Making

Bravo Medics' volunteer clinicians possess extensive experience gained from years of training and practice in both hospital settings and pre-hospital environments. This expertise enables them to operate beyond standard guidelines, ensuring that each patient receives care customized to their unique situation. We continually learn from each case we encounter, as they are assessed through our clinical governance and case review process, which guarantees that we provide safe and consistent care.



Pre-Hospital Emergency Anaesthesia

The most critically ill patients sometimes require a medically induced coma to protect their lungs from the aspiration of vomit, ensure adequate blood oxygen levels or minimise further brain damage following a head injury or stroke. Traditionally, this procedure was only performed by anaesthetists and intensive care doctors within a hospital setting. However, every Bravo Medics doctor is trained to administer anaesthesia in emergency situations, whether on the roadside or at a patient's home. This training optimizes patient care and mitigates risks during transport to the hospital.



Advanced Pain Relief

One limitation the ambulance service often faces is the ability to provide effective pain relief to patients, especially children. Bravo Medics clinicians can enhance patient comfort on the scene by administering more potent pain relief options. This may involve employing ultrasound techniques to numb the nerves connected to an injured area, a procedure known as regional anaesthesia. Typically, this is conducted in the operating theatre by skilled anaesthetists.



Drugs & Treatments Normally Only Available in Hospital

We provide medications that are not typically found on standard ambulances, which are utilized to address the following conditions:

- Seizures resistant to initial treatment
- Eclampsia (seizures that may occur during late pregnancy)
- Asthma
- Severe sepsis
- Life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias (irregular electrical activity affecting the heart)
- Cardiac arrest

Structure, Governance & Management

Governance and Management

The trustees hold the primary responsibility for overseeing and managing the charity, in alignment with the duties outlined below. They volunteer their time without receiving any financial compensation or benefits. The trustees convene at least three times a year, either virtually or in person.

Bravo Medics acts on behalf of the South West Ambulance Service Trust and operates under the umbrella of BASICS South West, adhering to the organizational requirements of both entities.

Oversight of clinical activities is entrusted to the Clinical Lead, who is a member of the board of trustees. During the recorded period, this position was held by Dr. James Tooley. Clinical activities are regularly reviewed in collaboration with other BASICS schemes within the BASICS South West framework to ensure the delivery of high-quality care. The appointment of responding doctors is managed by the Clinical Lead, pending approval from BASICS South West.

Appointment of new trustees

Every trustee shall be appointed by the current trustees for a term of three years, following a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

In the appointment of charity trustees, they must consider the necessary skills and experience required for the effective administration of the CIO.

The Clinical Lead is also invited to serve as a trustee. This individual must be a full clinical member of Bravo Medics and typically holds a consultant level position (or an equivalent post-CCT level). The charity trustees will appoint the Clinical Lead based on recommendations from the clinical members of the organization and the outgoing Clinical Lead, who will advise on the most suitable candidate for the role.



Responsibilities of the Trustees

The Trustees are required to carry out their roles in alignment with the constitution of the CIO and applicable laws, particularly focusing on the preparation of an annual report and financial statements.

The Charity trustees are responsible for managing the affairs of the CIO and may exercise all powers necessary for that purpose. Each Charity trustee has the following duties:

- To exercise their powers and fulfill their functions as a trustee of the CIO in a manner they reasonably believe will most effectively advance the purposes of the CIO.
- To perform those functions with appropriate care and skill under the circumstances, particularly considering: Any special knowledge or experience they possess or claim to have; and if acting as a Charity trustee of the CIO within a business or professional context, any specific knowledge or experience that would be expected of a person in that line of work.

Fundraising

Events and Challenges

A number of people embarked on challenges to raise funds for Bravo Medics, some in memory of loved ones and others to celebrate the work we do. We extend our most sincere thanks to everyone who supported our work in this way.

Businesses

We would like to thank BrisDoc Healthcare Services for their ongoing partnership with Bravo Medics and provided gifts in kind which further enabled us to achieve our mission.

Donations

In 2024, we received several donations from individuals towards our work. We would like to thank each and every donor for their generosity.

We receive no government funding and continue to rely on donations to fund our life-saving work, so we are very appreciative of any gift, no matter the size.

Trusts and Foundations

We received a variety of grants from trusts and foundations towards our work and would like to thank everyone who awarded Bravo Medics a grant.

How We Spent Donations

Approximately 70p in £1 donated was spent on supporting people in the community.



Fundraising Regulator

Bravo Medics is registered with the Fundraising Regulator. We are pleased to report that the charity received no complaints in 2024.

Looking Forward

Bravo Medics is currently developing its fundraising strategy to ensure a balanced, sustainable income portfolio. The charity welcomes support from the community and potential partnership approaches.

Financial Review

Treasurer's comments

2024 was a good year for Bravo, as we moved from a year of capital spending and growth to a period of stability. Grant income was again a large source of income but this was directed more towards operational and running costs rather than expanding. We were able to expand our reserve fund and acquire some replacement LUCAS compression devices as well, setting us up well for the future.

This will be my last annual report as treasurer and as a trustee of Bravo medics as I hand over in 2025. I am hugely proud of the work we have done in setting up the charity and getting it to the state that we have. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been instrumental in this process.

Dr Frederick Stourton

Summary of year aims

The charity's financial aims over the fifth year of operation, as laid out in our annual report for 2023, were as follows:

- Maintain current stability,
- Build reserves to prepare for any further expansion
- Plan for future expenditure including renewing equipment.

At the end of the period, the Charity held £53,573, split between restricted and unrestricted funds. This includes an operational reserve fund of £10,000 to deal with unexpected costs.

Principal funding sources

The charity's main source of income was grant applications, raising £85,215 over the period. Other income came through online fundraising via various means. Total income for the year was £85,661.

Significant financial events

No significant financial events occurred over the accounting period

Reserves policy

The reserve was expanded to £10,000 over the course of 2024. This means that the charity could comfortably absorb unexpected costs, and could also contribute to setup for a new responder and be replenished in due course.

Investment policy and objectives

The charity has no long term investments at present.

Liabilities

As of the 31st of December 2024, the charity had no outstanding liabilities.

Plans for future periods

There are no current concerns over the charity's ability to operate as a going concern. Over the next year, the charity will aim to maintain its current stability and expand the number of responders, as well as handing over to a new trustee team.

Preparation of accounts

As a CIO with an income of under £250,000, the accounts were prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charities SORP. These were then reviewed by Mrs Jackie Taylor.

Exemptions from disclosure

The Charity reports no exemptions from disclosure.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others.

The Charity does not act as a custodian trustee, nor do any of its individual trustees.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Bravo Medics

1189780

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------|----|------------|
| For the period from | 01/01/2024 | To | 31/12/2024 |
|---------------------|------------|----|------------|

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 £ |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A1 Receipts | | | | | |
| Fundraising - Easyfundraising | 130 | - | - | 130 | - |
| Fundraising - Online | 315 | - | - | 315 | - |
| Grant income | 29,772 | 55,443 | - | 85,215 | - |
| Sub total (Gross income for AR) | 30,218 | 55,443 | - | 85,661 | - |
| A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table). | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total receipts | 30,218 | 55,443 | - | 85,661 | - |
| A3 Payments | | | | | |
| Core - Accounting and Finance | 69 | - | - | 69 | - |
| Core - Fundraising | 6,317 | 2,106 | - | 8,423 | - |
| Core - Publicity | 343 | 711 | - | 1,054 | - |
| Core - Regulatory | 662 | - | - | 662 | - |
| Operational - Insurance | 3,136 | - | - | 3,136 | - |
| Operational - Equipment maintenance | 163 | 1,830 | - | 1,993 | - |
| Operational - Equipment purchase | 2,999 | 22,569 | - | 25,568 | - |
| Operational - Vehicle fitting and maintenance | - | 436 | - | 436 | - |
| Sub total | 13,689 | 27,652 | - | 41,341 | - |
| A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table) | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total payments | 13,689 | 27,652 | - | 41,341 | - |
| Net of receipts/(payments) | 16,529 | 27,791 | - | 44,320 | - |
| A5 Transfers between funds | - | - | - | - | - |
| A6 Cash funds last year end | 8,973 | 280 | - | 9,253 | - |
| Cash funds this year end | 25,502 | 28,071 | - | 53,573 | - |

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 | Active Unrestricted Funds | 15,502 | - | - |
| | Active Grants total | | 28,071 | - |
| | Reserve Fund | 10,000 | - | - |
| | Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) | 25,502 | 28,071 | - |
| | | OK | OK | OK |
| B2 Other monetary assets | Details | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| B3 Investment assets | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| B5 Liabilities | 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 | |
| | | Frederick Stourton | 13/07/2025 | |



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Bravo Medics

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1189780

Set out on pages

20 and 21

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2024.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of 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 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 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.

Signed:

Date:

29/10/2025

Name:

Jacqueline Taylor

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

FCA

Address:

Holly Tree Lodge, Hockley Lane

Stoke Poges

Buckinghamshire, SL2 4QE

“Without your
attendance that
night, I wouldn’t be
here - thank you.”

The first patient given LyoPlas by Bravo Medics.



bravomedics.org



[bravomedics](https://twitter.com/bravomedics)



[BravoMedicsUK](https://www.facebook.com/BravoMedicsUK)



[BravoMedicsUK](https://www.instagram.com/BravoMedicsUK)

Garden Cottage
Long Lane
Bristol BS40 5SA
0117 287 0199



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

Bravo Medics is a registered charity in England & Wales (1189780).