



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 06/04/2024 Period start date to 07/04/2025 Period end date

Charity name: The David Ellis Charity

Charity registration number: 1192363

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	Further such charitable purposes as are exclusively charitable according to the laws of England and Wales for the benefit of veterans living in, or visiting Dorset, as the trustees may from time to time determine, in particular but not exclusively by providing support and funding to other organisations furthering such purposes. For the objects clause, 'veterans' are defined as anyone who has served for at least one day in His Majesty's armed forces (regular or reserve) or merchant mariners who have seen duty on legally defined operations, and is a 'service leaver', as defined by His Majesty's government.
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	1. The prevention or relief of poverty, by providing grants, items or services for veterans in need who are living in Dorset. 2. The advancement of health and the saving of lives, by providing financial and well-being advice, counselling, and social, recreational, and leisure-time facilities in a social environment, to encourage self-help and peer-to-peer support among veterans who live in, or are visiting, Dorset. 3. The relief of veterans in need by reason of age, ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage by providing advice, counselling, grants and provision of items to encourage self-dependency in partnership with veterans who live in Dorset. 4. The provision of facilities for recreation and leisure-time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the intention of improving the condition of life, by providing a fulfilling, calming and safe environment, where peer-to-peer support and self-dependency is encouraged by and for veterans living in, or visiting Dorset.

		5. The social relief, resettlement and rehabilitation of veterans under a disability or deprivation by providing counselling, advice, and a fulfilling, calming, and A safe environment, where peer-to-peer support and self-reliance are encouraged, for veterans living in Dorset. 6. The promotion of mental health improvement of veterans by providing counselling, advice, and a fulfilling, calming and safe environment, where peer-to-peer support and self-dependency are encouraged for veterans living in, or visiting Dorset.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	All trustees have regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit and have complied with the guidance when exercising powers or duties as under the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	The David Ellis Charity awards grants to support the well-being, development, and resilience of the Armed Forces community. Funding is available for individuals and organisations whose needs and projects align with the charity's mission. This includes support for well-being, education and training, community engagement, and hardship relief. All applications are assessed fairly and transparently based on criteria such as evidence of need, impact, value for money, and alignment with the charity's objectives. Grants must be used solely for their approved purposes, and monitoring and evaluation are required to ensure accountability and positive outcomes.
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	1. Between March 2024 and March 2025, volunteers made an extraordinary contribution to The David Ellis Charity, strengthening every aspect of its work and expanding the support available to the Armed Forces community. Throughout the year, volunteer fitness instructors delivered free weekly classes that helped veterans, serving personnel, and families improve their physical and mental well-being. These sessions became a consistent and valued part of the charity's wellbeing offer, providing

		accessible support to those who benefit most from structured activity and community connection. 2. More than twenty volunteers dedicated their time to major sporting and community events across Dorset. Their involvement was central to the smooth running of the athletes' village at the Ironmnan Weymouth 70.3 event, where they provided logistical support, welfare assistance, and a welcoming presence for participants, receiving a donation of £300 for the charity. Volunteers also played a vital role in the Weymouth Half Marathon receiving a £200 donation, the Bustinskin triathlon series and the Dorset Strongman competition, contributing to marshalling, safety, athlete support, and event setup. Their presence ensured that each event operated safely and professionally, while also raising the charity's profile within the wider community. 3. Beyond these flagship events, volunteers supported a wide range of additional activities, including local wellbeing walks, community gatherings, and charity-led social and training initiatives. They assisted with operational tasks, event coordination, and participant engagement, helping the charity deliver high-quality support and outreach throughout the year. 4. Collectively, volunteers contributed hundreds of hours of service, demonstrating exceptional commitment and significantly increasing the charity's capacity to serve the Armed Forces community. Their dedication not only enabled the charity to deliver more activities and events but also strengthened its reputation as a trusted, community-driven organisation. The impact of their work between March 2024 and March 2025 has been profound, and the charity's achievements during this period would not have been possible without their generosity, energy, and unwavering support.
Other		1. The David Ellis Charity's volunteers successfully completed an accredited archery instructors' course, enabling the charity to introduce archery as a brand-new free activity for its community programme. This new offer expands the charity's commitment to providing accessible, engaging opportunities for veterans, serving personnel, and their families. 2. The charity launched a weekly two-hour veterans' drop-in session for the Dorset veteran community, offering free tea, coffee, and a welcoming space for peer-to-peer

		support. The session provides a relaxed environment where local veterans and their families can connect, share experiences, and access informal wellbeing support. 3. The David Ellis Charity delivered a schools-enrichment session at Dorchester Middle School, where its volunteers led a tailored Pilates class for pupils. The activity introduced young people to the charity's wellbeing work while promoting the wider support it offers to children from the Armed Forces community. The session provided a fun, engaging way for students to experience the charity's approach to physical activity and community connection. 4. Volunteers from The David Ellis Charity supported a community fundraiser to help repair the roof at the Portland Islanders Youth and Community Centre by running an outdoor fitness activity stand for local families. Their presence added energy, engagement, and a fun physical-activity element to the event, attracting more visitors and encouraging donations. By contributing their time and skills, the volunteers helped boost the fundraiser's overall impact and strengthened collaboration between local charities working to support the community.
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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	The David Ellis Charity has established itself as a highly active and community-centred organisation dedicated to improving the lives of military veterans, serving personnel, and their families across Dorset. Its achievements reflect a consistent commitment to health, well-being, social inclusion, and practical support for the Armed Forces community. 1. A major achievement of the charity is its extensive programme of free recreational, leisure, and wellbeing activities, which directly advance health and improve quality of life for beneficiaries. The charity delivers regular exercise classes, wellbeing sessions, and social activities across multiple community venues in Dorset, providing safe, supportive environments where veterans and families can build resilience, reduce isolation, and strengthen peer-to-peer connections. This work aligns with the charity's core purpose of advancing health and improving lives through recreation, social welfare, education, and training.

		The charity's long-running health and wellbeing programme has expanded over time, with classes delivered at locations at Dorchester Rugby Club, The Prince of Wales School, Redlands Leisure & Community Park, and Osprey Leisure Centre. These activities have supported not only veterans but also NHS and care staff, widening the charity's reach and reducing barriers to participation during a period of rising living costs. 2. The charity also strengthened its formal commitment to the Armed Forces community by signing the Armed Forces Covenant on 21 August 2024, confirming its pledge to support serving personnel, veterans, reservists, and military families. This public commitment reinforced the charity's values and its role as an Armed Forces-friendly organisation. 3. Between April 2024 and April 2025, The David Ellis Charity reached an important milestone in its mission to support the Armed Forces community. For the first time, the charity was able to award a direct financial grant to assist a seriously ill veteran who was struggling to pay rent and facing the very real risk of homelessness. This support was made possible because the charity had strengthened its governance, built a stable financial base, and formalised its grant-making policy. These developments meant the trustees were able to respond quickly and responsibly when the veteran's situation was brought to their attention. The grant provided immediate relief at a critical moment, preventing the veteran from losing their home while they were managing significant health challenges. The charity not only protected the veteran's housing stability but also helped reduce the wider social and health impacts that homelessness would have caused. This first grant marks a meaningful evolution in the charity's work: moving beyond wellbeing activities alone and into direct welfare support for vulnerable veterans. It sets a precedent for future assistance and reinforces the charity's role as a trusted, responsive source of help for those who have served. 4. The David Ellis Charity delivered its first formal training programme supporting veterans, serving armed forces and families to gain recognised qualifications. A two-day Outdoor First Aid training course for veterans, military spouses, and a cadet instructor, gave participants nationally
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		recognised skills for use in real-world emergencies. The programme strengthened confidence, employability, and community resilience by equipping attendees with practical, life-saving knowledge they can use in both volunteer roles and everyday situations. This investment in training directly supports the Armed Forces community by building capability, enhancing wellbeing, and empowering individuals to play an active role in keeping others safe. 5. Volunteers from The David Ellis Charity delivered the first Mini-Medics enrichment club at The Prince of Wales School, giving primary school pupils a hands-on introduction to essential first-aid skills. The after-school sessions showcased the charity's commitment to supporting young people with practical life skills while helping pupils understand how the charity serves the wider community.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	1. Strengthening Health, Wellbeing, and Social Support for the Armed Forces Community Deliver a wide range of free weekly fitness and wellbeing classes. Introduce a weekly two-hour Veterans' Drop-In to further enhance support by offering free refreshments and a safe, informal space for peer-to-peer engagement and early-intervention wellbeing assistance. 2. Expanding the Charity's Activity Offer Through Volunteer Training and Skills Development Volunteers complete accredited CPD and instructor training, enabling the charity to launch new free activities for beneficiaries. Deliver a formal training programme with nationally recognised qualifications equipping veterans, spouses, and serving armed forces with skills that enhance confidence, employability, and community resilience. 3. Enhancing Community Engagement and Youth Development. Strengthen the charity's outreach by delivering enrichment activities in local schools that introduce pupils to wellbeing, and the charity's wider mission. 4. Supporting Local Events and Strengthening Civic Participation. Support to community events across Dorset to raise the charity's profile, and expand the charity's community presence.
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		5. Contributing to Wider Community Benefit and Cross-Charity Collaboration Strengthen local partnerships by supporting fundraisers that increase public engagement and help boost charity donations. 6. Advancing the Charity's Governance, Values, and Strategic Commitments Reinforce the charity's commitment to the Armed Forces community by signing the Armed Forces Covenant. Honour the charity's Covenant pledge by helping veterans experiencing financial hardship.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	The charity's fundraising activities performed strongly against the objectives set for the year, with volunteers playing a central role in securing income, increasing visibility, and strengthening community partnerships. Through participation in local events, fundraising activities, including Ironman Weymouth 70.3 the Weymouth Half Marathon, and the Islanders Community Centre fundraiser, volunteers helped generate £1500 in donations while providing essential operational support that reinforced the charity's reputation for professionalism and community service. Fundraising activities successfully aligned with the charity's aim to diversify income sources through community engagement rather than traditional fundraising campaigns. By embedding fundraising within service-driven volunteering, the charity strengthened relationships with event organisers, increased public recognition, and demonstrated value to partner organisations. Volunteers also supported the delivery of key charitable objectives, enabling the charity to provide training courses such as First Aid qualifications for veterans, spouses, and local cadet instructors. These activities expanded the charity's programme of free wellbeing and recreational opportunities, directly benefiting the Armed Forces community. Volunteers helped sustain enrichment activities in local schools, including Pilates sessions and Mini-Medics first-aid clubs, strengthening youth engagement and life-skills education for Armed Forces children. Crucially, the charity's strengthened financial position, supported in part by community-based fundraising, enabled trustees to award the organisation's first direct welfare grant to a seriously ill veteran at risk of homelessness. This intervention demonstrated the charity's growing capability to provide urgent, life-changing support alongside its wellbeing programmes.

		Overall, the charity's activities met their objectives by generating income, deepening community ties, and enabling the charity to deliver meaningful, practical support to beneficiaries throughout the year.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	The charity's investment performance met its objectives by maintaining a stable financial position that supported the delivery of core services and enabled responsible growth in charitable activity. Although the charity does not operate a complex investment portfolio, it continued to manage its reserves prudently, ensuring that funds were held securely and used in line with its low-risk investment approach. This careful stewardship allowed the charity to sustain free wellbeing activities, deliver training programmes, and respond to urgent welfare needs, including awarding a grant to prevent a seriously ill veteran from becoming homeless. Overall, the charity's financial management ensured that resources were protected, expenditure remained aligned with charitable purposes, and the organisation was able to expand its impact without compromising financial stability.
Other		N/A

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Funds in the bank as of 06/04/2025 was £3812 in unrestricted funds.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	For this financial year, maintaining reserves equivalent to six months of operating costs is considered essential. This level of reserve ensures the charity can meet its regular financial commitments and provide immediate assistance to veterans in line with its core activities, including the ongoing funding of weekly fitness classes and other support services.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£2000
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	Given the strong cash position of the charity, it is perceived with confidence that it will exist for the foreseeable future.

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	The principal financial risk to the charity is the potential reduction in grant funding and donated income. To mitigate this, the charity maintains reserves sufficient to cover core operational costs in the event of an income shortfall, as well as to meet any unforeseen or emergency expenditure that may arise.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Given the charity's current cash position and stable financial management, the trustees are satisfied that there is no material uncertainty regarding the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.
Other		N/A

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation whose only voting members are its charity trustees.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g., unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO - FOUNDATION Registered 17 Nov 2020 as amended on 05 Feb 2021
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	Appointment of charity trustees: Every trustee must be appointed for up to a maximum term of five years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

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 trustees will ensure that every newly appointed trustee receives, on or before taking up their role: • A copy of the current version of the charity's constitution. • A copy of the CIO's most recent Trustees' Annual Report and Statement of Accounts. • A copy of the Trustees' Management Guidance, including the Equality, Diversity and Respect Policy, the Grant-Making Policy, and the Trustees' Code of Conduct. • Copies of previous meeting minutes and any other relevant governance documents necessary to support effective induction
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	N/A
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	N/A
Other		N/A

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Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	The David Ellis Charity
Other name the charity uses	n/a
Registered charity number	1192363
Charity's principal address	13 Earl Close Dorchester Dorset DT11DY

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	Nicholas Harper	Chair	12/09/19	
2	Ray Stent	Secretary	19/09/19	
3	Mark Bradbury	Trustee	05/12/24	
4	Natalie Newton	Trustee	20/10/22	
5	Jeanette Croft	Trustee	16/02/23	

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

[illegible]

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

[illegible]

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Bank	NatWest	135 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3UR

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

N/A

Other optional information

N/A

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)	NICHOLAS HARPER	MARK BRADBURY
Position (eg. Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR OF TRUSTEES	TRUSTEE
Date	26-01-2026	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
THE DAVID ELLIS CHARITY

No (if any)
1192363

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
07/04/2024

To

Period end date
06/04/2025

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Fundraising	1,500	-	-	1,500	-
Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Donations	1,679	-	-	1,679	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	3,179	-	-	3,179	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	3,179	-	-	3,179	-
A3 Payments					
Expenses	707	-	-	707	-
Hall Hire	3,797	-	-	3,797	-
Grants	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	5,504	-	-	5,504	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	5,504	-	-	5,504	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 2,325	-	-	- 2,325	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	- 2,325	-	-	- 2,325	-

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	Cash in Bank	3,812	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	3,812	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
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 liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Nicholas Harper (Chair)	26-01-2026
	Mark Bradbury (Trustee)	26-01-2026