



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day 01	Month 01	Year 2025		Day 31	Month 12	Year 2025

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Merseyside County RAYNET
Other names charity is known by	Merseyside RAYNET
Registered charity number (if any)	1192411
Charity's principal address	90 Plymyard Ave
	Bromborough
	Wirral
Postcode	CH62 6BR

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	Mr S A Wood	Chair / Secretary		
2	Mr L J T Boylan	Treasurer		
3	Mr A Ward			
4	Mr P A Robinson			

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

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

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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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution 19 November 2020 as amended on 15 th April 2023.
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation - Association

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the Annual General Meeting held in April.

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.

Merseyside County RAYNET is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its charity trustees and was first Registered on 19 November 2020.

The **day to day running** of Merseyside RAYNET is overseen by the Merseyside County RAYNET Committee and the Committee seeks the views of all RAYNET members on Merseyside. Full Membership of the Committee is at the discretion of the Committee and is open to persons aged 18 or over, having demonstrable interest in furtherance of the Committee's objects.

Merseyside RAYNET is a member of the Merseyside Local Authorities' Local Resilience Forum (LRF) Telecoms Working Party, and the LRF Voluntary and Faith Sector Forum (V&FSF), through which we plan and coordinate our **services**. RAYNET can also be called upon at any time by any of the emergency services and is an integral part of the Merseyside Resilience Forum Emergency UNITY Plan.

RAYNET members are registered members of RAYNET-UK and are subject to RAYNET-UK codes of conduct. RAYNET-UK also provides members insurance cover for Public Liability and Personal Accident.

Section C

Objectives and activities

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

The objects of the Group are the protection of human life and property for the public benefit, by providing an additional source of communications for emergencies or disasters or the prevention thereof.

We provide a freely accessible Merseyside wide communication system for civil emergencies, search and rescue, and community events.

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)

In planning our **activities** for the year we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Our main purposes and activities are as follows:

(i) To assist the Local Authorities' Resilience Forum, the emergency services, and other organisations involved in rescue services and in protecting human life and property in the event of a local or national emergency, or public event, by supplementing existing communications or providing alternative forms of communications.

(ii) To assist organisations that provide activities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and other leisure time occupations with the object of improving conditions of life, health and wellbeing, and public safety; by supplementing existing communications or providing alternative forms of communications.

(iii) To provide: (a) a team of trained and equipped volunteers/radio operators to undertake the purposes of Merseyside RAYNET; (b) a Merseyside wide PBR Repeater system, and flexible communication facilities, to undertake the purposes of Merseyside RAYNET.

(iv) To promote such other charitable purposes as may from time to time be determined by the Merseyside County RAYNET Committee.

The direct benefits flowing from our organisation's purposes are:

The particular relevance of our role where the communications of the frontline emergency services, and the public, have become compromised such as for instance at major events or emergencies when the mobile phone network fails and/or becomes overloaded.

An improvement in the efficiency and effectiveness of charities, and organisations whose purposes are charitable, in direct pursuit of their objects by the provision of resilient communications and ancillary services.

Event organisers that do not have their own communications expertise or equipment are able to ensure public safety and security at their activities in a flexible, cost effective, and sympathetic way.

A direct public benefit from purpose (i) above, our involvement in supporting the Local Authorities' Resilience Forum, the emergency services, and other organisations involved in rescue services and protecting human life and property, is that the additional capacity, the interoperability our systems offer, and the resilience of our systems enhance the effectiveness of the emergency response and can help provide a more beneficial outcome for members of the community affected. Some of the voluntary emergency responders benefit from relying on our communication systems, either entirely, or as a supplementary resource.

The direct public benefit that flows from purpose (ii) above is the increased efficiency and effectiveness of the community and voluntary groups and organisations that use the facilities, resulting in enhanced outcomes and service delivery, and consequently, improved quality of life for those who benefit from the work of these groups and organisations.

Some of the organisations would be unable to operate their activities, or activities on such a scale, without our support. Therefore an indirect public benefit is increased opportunities to engage in new activities that bring people together, leading to greater social cohesion and fulfilment, enhanced active citizenship, and involvement in community life.

Specifically:

Purpose (iii) above: A direct benefit is that the lead organisation for a community event, and the emergency services in the event of a local emergency, can delegate less urgent/routine activities allowing more of their resources to be deployed to front line more urgent tasks.

Purpose (iv) above: Many of the events we support raise money for specific charities and over the years we have helped to raise millions of pounds for good causes.

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.

All trustees, other members of the Committee, and RAYNET members, give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Throughout 2025 our Merseyside Emergency Area Radio Link (MEARL) Community Repeater System continued to provide 24/7/365 operational communications facilities for Merseyside Search and Rescue as well as standby communications for: St John Ambulance Merseyside; the local authorities; and the voluntary organisations involved in the Merseyside Resilience Forum UNITY Plan.

Events supported in 2025 included:

- June: Annual MOD Exercise Blue Ham. A practical exercise communicating with Air Cadets and their supervising Officers. Maintaining awareness of MOD's protocols and procedures.
- June: Wirral Endurance Horse Ride – as well as supporting a local community charity this allowed us to practice collating and passing event situation reports and management information. Our support involved setting up specialist Amateur Radio equipment, as well as our MEARL Private Business Radio licenced system in difficult terrain.
- June: Provided management and safety coms support along the route for the Rainford Walking Day Parade with an emphasis on safety in the wake of the Liverpool Football homecoming Parade incident.
- July: Provided management and safety coms support along the route of the Wirral Coastal Walk and enabled rehearsal of providing portable wide area radio coverage.
- September to coincide with the National Alert Exercise we broadcast an immediate associated follow up mock Merseyside Situation report and checked reception and call-in from various locations across Merseyside.

Our Mobile Communications Vehicle (MCV) is housed at Bromborough Fire Station. It is in the process of being given has a facelift as it is now mainly used for recruitment and publicity purposes; although it still provides the final backup mobile communications resource for the MRF Emergency Plan.

As a direct result of the focus on Societal Resilience of HMGovernment's PREPARE Campaign we have:

- Further progressed plans to expand the MEARL System to include resilient call out and communications facilities for the Resilience Forum Voluntary and Faith Sector Members, and have upgraded our MEARL Repeaters to dual analogue and digital DMR; and
- Continued to develop our plans for Community Information Points and support for Community Hubs as part of the Merseyside Resilience Forum's response to HMGovernment's the 2023-03-24 National Power Outage LRF Planning Guidance v3-1
- Taken the lead role in advising and coordination the MRF Resilience Group other partners in reviewing their own resilience capabilities, and updating them, as a result of the findings of HMGovernment's Exercise mighty Oak.

Throughout 2025 RAYNET has continued to attend: (i) the Merseyside Resilience Forum Telecoms Working Group alongside the blue light and other Category 1 and 2 Responders; and (ii) the Merseyside Community Resilience Working Group where we have a key place providing expertise regarding communications.

Our membership remains relatively stable.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Cash at the bank at 31/12/2025 was £4121 in unrestricted funds. The main financial risk to the charity is loss of funding from the Local Authorities and reduced donations.

Sufficient funds are held to cover each 12 month operational programme costs in the event of a loss of income and to meet any unforeseen expenditure that may occur.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable

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.

Our principal source of funds this year has again been the regular annual grant of £1575 from the Merseyside Local Authorities. Income from the usual community and charitable events that we provide services for returned to normal levels again this year. The cash reserves at the financial year end remain approximately the same as the previous year end despite some increased expenditure. The MRF has promised financial support next year for our EmCom project.

The major expenditure this year has again been the running and upkeep of the Mobile Control Vehicle, upkeep of the MEARL Repeaters, and our OFCOM area wide repeater radio licence.

We will continue to support charitable and community events during 2026; not just to assist their own charitable aims but to keep and develop our existing skills, and as a source of income through donations received from the event organisers.

Section F

Other optional information

Future Plans

Roll out of the EmCom Project in consultation with the MRF lead Officer.

Purchase and commission the MEARL kit for the JCC and provide induction training.

In collaboration with the Merseyside Resilience Forum Community Resilience Working Group we will support other voluntary agencies regarding alternative call-out procedures and ongoing communications in the event of a sudden immediate power outage – particularly in respect of the effect of the rolling out of the replacement of the PSTN phone network with digital optical fibre now re-scheduled to end in 2027.

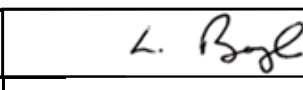
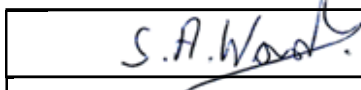
Section G

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)

Stanley Alexander Wood

Lee James Thomas Boylan

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Secretary

Treasurer

Date

31/12//2025



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Merseyside County RAYNET

No (if any)
1192411

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01/01/2025

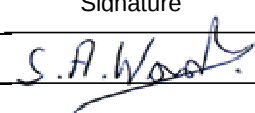
To

Period end date
31/12/2025

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					
Events	350	-	-	350	925
Grants	1,575	-	-	1,575	1,575
From Groups to County	33	-	-	33	-
Misc Income	100	-	-	100	-
Donation Ref FT8900 St Helens	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	2,058	-	-	2,058	2,500
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	2,058	-	-	2,058	2,500
A3 Payments					
Vehicle Insurance, Tax, MOT	822	-	-	822	807
MCV Running Costs	534	-	-	534	32
OFCOM Licence	250	-	-	250	250
Payments to Groups	818	-	-	818	-
Insurance	56	-	-	56	225
Misc Expenditure	87	-	-	87	145
EmCom Project Radios	-	-	-	-	728
Equipment	84	-	-	84	433
Payment on behalf of Liverpool Group	-	-	-	-	27
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	2,651	-	-	2,651	2,647
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	2,651	-	-	2,651	2,647
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 593	-	-	- 593	- 147
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	4,714	-	-	4,714	4,754
Cash funds this year end	4,121	-	-	4,121	4,607

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	Bank Balance	4,121	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	4,121	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	n/a	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	n/a		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	n/a		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	n/a		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Stanley Alexander Wood	09/07/2026	