

# DARTMOOR SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM (TAVISTOCK)

England & Wales · Charity number 1201527

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2023-01-09

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** Dartmoor Search & Rescue Team  
The Rescue Centre  
Abbey Rise  
Tavistock  
PL19 9FD

**Phone** 07505110601

**Email** [treasurer@dsrt-tavistock.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@dsrt-tavistock.org.uk)

**Website** <https://dsrt-tavistock.org.uk/>

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO SHALL BE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT TO RELIEVE SUFFERING AND DISTRESS AMONGST PERSONS ENDANGERED BY ACCIDENTS, ILLNESS OR NATURAL HAZARDS PRIMARILY WITHIN MOORLAND AREAS, TO ENCOURAGE MOORLAND SAFETY INSTRUCTION AND AWARENESS THROUGH ALL SECTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY AND TO PROVIDE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SECURE AND EFFICIENT SEARCH AND RESCUE OF ANY PERSONS WITHIN THE MOUNTAIN RESCUE ENGLAND AND WALES AREA OF OPERATION.

**Activities:** Dartmoor Search & Rescue Team (Tavistock) provide search & rescue services for the Police and Ambulance services for Dartmoor and the surrounding rural area. The team searches for and recovers missing persons of all ages and circumstances, such as youth groups, the elderly, despondents and those with dementia, and provides first aid and rescue cover for Ten Tors and similar events.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- Cornwall
- Devon
- Plymouth City
- Somerset

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£96,176	£25,476	-	-
2023-12-31	£0	£0	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
Alexander John Batson		2024-04-24
Alistair Lawson Reid OBE		2023-03-29
Emily Petronella Woodhouse		2024-04-24
Guy Austin Balmer		2024-04-24
Rhodri Davey		2024-04-24
Steven Mortimer		2025-03-26
Thomas Oliver Layland		2023-03-29

**DARTMOOR SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM (TAVISTOCK)**

England & Wales - Charity number 1201527

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# Accounts

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# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 - 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

## SECTION A – Reference and administration details

<b>Charity name</b>	Dartmoor Search and Rescue Team (Tavistock)
<b>Registered charity number</b>	1201527
<b>Charity's principal address</b>	The Rescue Centre Abbey Rise Tavistock PL19 9FD

## Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Office (if any)</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>
1	Alistair Reid	Chair	
2	Emily Woodhouse	Secretary	From 1 Apr 24
3	Rhodri Davey	Team Leader	From 1 Apr 24
4	Tom Layland	Treasurer	
5	Paul Johnson	Equipment Officer	
6	Chris Bunney	Fundraising Officer	To Jun 24
7	Alex Batson	Fundraising Officer	From Aug 24
8	Guy Balmer	Training Officer	
9	Paul Hudson	Team Leader	To 1 Apr 24
10	Heather Smyly	Secretary	To 1 Apr 24

## SECTION B – Structure. Governance and Management

### Description of the charity's trusts

<b>Type of governing document</b>	Constitution adopted Nov 2022
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<b>How the charity is constituted</b>	Association consisting of team members and registered as a CIO
<b>Trustee selection methods</b>	Trustees are appointed annually by the members at the Annual General Meeting in March. All trustees wishing to continue must retire and be reappointed on an annual basis.

<b>Additional governance issues</b>
<p>Dartmoor Search and Rescue Team (Tavistock) is formed in association with three other teams on Dartmoor - Ashburton, Plymouth and North Dartmoor. Each is a registered CIO in its own right. It is a member of the Dartmoor Rescue Group, a member of the regional Peninsula Mountain and Cave Rescue Association and one of 48 teams nationally in Mountain Rescue England and Wales.</p> <p>All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.</p>

<b>SECTION C – Objectives and activities</b>
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<b>Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document</b>	The objective of the Team is to relieve suffering and distress amongst persons endangered by accidents or natural hazards primarily within moorland areas and to provide arrangements for the secure and efficient search and rescue of any person or persons so endangered and to encourage moorland safety instruction and awareness through all sections of the community.
<b>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)</b>	Our services are entirely voluntary and in particular demand in situations where weather conditions are poor, the location of a missing person is unknown, or where injury or other cause makes someone vulnerable to the deterioration of their health.. Team members are highly trained in a variety of skills including search techniques, navigation, first aid, swift water rescue, rope rescue, radio operation and working with helicopters. Individual search teams are coordinated through a team leader who is in constant radio contact with the controller coordinating the search effort. We work closely with the police who initiate calls to us in situations where our services may be required as well as with the Ambulance service and other emergency response forces. The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the commission's public benefit guidance.

## SECTION D – Achievements and Performance

<b>Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year</b>	<p>2024 saw a slight increase in operational activity compared to 2023. In total the team responded to 44 call outs either on its own or in support of other teams. As ever the majority of callouts were for casualties with lower limb injuries. The team also supported the high profile evacuation of a significant part of Plymouth following the discovery of unexploded ordinance. The team continued to support significant events in the local community eg, The 10 Tors, Abbots Way walk.</p> <p>Turnover of personnel within the team was normal. We lost some experience but badged 4 of the previous year’s trainee intake. A fifth will pass once a long term injury has healed. 6 trainees were taken on at the end of 2024 and all are progressing well. Of particular note was the change of Team Leader - Paul Hudson handing over the baton after 15 years in charge.</p> <p>The team completed the purchase and conversion of a new control vehicle. This was made much more difficult by poor quality workmanship by the primary contractor. That he subsequently closed business meant some loss of funding as additional material and expertise to rectify his errors were required. Much of team time was spent in making the necessary adjustments. We do finally have a vehicle that is now fit for purpose. We have reviewed our process for such projects and will be taking the lessons forward for the replacement of our aging landrover fleet.</p> <p>The team continues to be well supported locally and the trustees are alert to any issues that enhance or potentially detract from our excellent reputation. Fundraising remains buoyant but there is no cause for complacency.</p>
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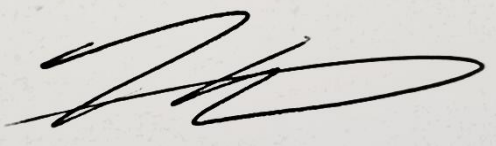
## SECTION E – Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	The charity has a reserve account which is used to build up the level of funding necessary to ensure the charity's sustainability and provide funds for long term projects.
Details of any funds materially in deficit	None

**SECTION F - Declaration**

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

**Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees**

<b>Signatures</b>		
<b>Full Name</b>	Emily Woodhouse	Tom Layland
<b>Position</b>	Equipment Officer	Treasurer
<b>Date</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	30 <sup>th</sup> October 2025



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Dartmoor Search and Rescue Team (Tavistock)

1201527

**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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations	7,725	-	-	7,725	-
Fundraising	1,891	-	-	1,891	-
Charitable activities	1,062	-	-	1,062	-
Investments	1	-	-	1	-
Grants	-	1,000	-	1,000	-
Trading Activities	475	-	-	475	-
Transfer from unincorporated charity	73,607	7,205	-	80,812	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>84,761</b>	<b>8,205</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>92,966</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>84,761</b>	<b>8,205</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>92,966</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Support costs	24,871	605	-	25,476	-
Correction of brought forward error	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>24,871</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,476</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>24,871</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,476</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>59,890</b>	<b>7,600</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>67,490</b>	<b>-</b>
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>59,890</b>	<b>7,600</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>67,490</b>	<b>-</b>

**Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period**

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>			
Natwest current account	39,861	7,600	-
Natwest business reserve account	20,001	-	-
Petty cash	28	-	-
<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>59,890</b>	<b>7,600</b>	<b>-</b>

(agree balances with receipts and payments accounts/)


	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>			
Details	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			
Details		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			
Details		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			
Details		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	TOM LYLANDS	4/11/2025

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF DARTMOOR SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM (TAVISTOCK)**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Dartmoor Search and Rescue Team (Tavistock) (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the Charity 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Mr J P Foxwell FCCA FCIE  
independent-examiner.net

12 Hillbourne Road, Poole, BH17 7JB

Date: 8 November 2025

**DARTMOOR SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM (TAVISTOCK)**

England & Wales - Charity number 1201527

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# Accounts

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# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 - 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

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<b>Registered charity number</b>	1201527
<b>Charity's principal address</b>	The Rescue Centre Abbey Rise Tavistock PL19 9FD

## Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Office (if any)</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>
1	Mark Schofield	Chair	
2	Heather Smyly	Secretary	
3	Paul Hudson	Team Leader	
4	Tom Layland	Treasurer	29th March 23 - 31st December 23
5	Paul Johnson	Equipment Officer	
6	Chris Bunney	Fundraising Officer	29th March 23 - 31st December 23
7	Steve Mortimer	Treasurer	1st January 23 - 29th March 23
8	Al Reid	Training Officer	
9			
10			

## SECTION B – Structure, Governance and Management

### Description of the charity's trusts

<b>Type of governing document</b>	Constitution adopted 29th March 2004
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<b>How the charity is constituted</b>	Association consisting of team members
<b>Trustee selection methods</b>	Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually by the members at the Annual General Meeting in March

<b>Additional governance issues</b>
<p>Dartmoor Search and Rescue Team (Tavistock) is one of four teams in the Dartmoor Rescue Group, a member of the regional Peninsula Mountain and Cave Rescue Association and one of 48 teams nationally in Mountain Rescue England and Wales.</p> <p>All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.</p>

<b>SECTION C – Objectives and activities</b>
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<b>Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document</b>	The objective of the Team is to relieve suffering and distress amongst persons endangered by accidents or natural hazards primarily within moorland areas and to provide arrangements for the secure and efficient search and rescue of any person or persons so endangered and to encourage moorland safety instruction and awareness through all sections of the community.
<b>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)</b>	Our services are entirely voluntary and in particular demand in situations where weather conditions are poor and the location of the missing person is unknown. Team members are highly trained in a variety of skills including search techniques, navigation, first aid, swift water rescue, radio operation and working with helicopters. Individual search teams are coordinated through a team leader who is in constant radio contact with the controller coordinating the search effort. We work closely with the police who initiate calls to us in situations where our services may be required. The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the commission's public benefit guidance.

## SECTION D – Achievements and Performance

<b>Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year</b>	<p>2023/4 was a pretty ‘normal’ year after the freneticism of previous ones. Operationally call outs were perhaps a little low, we completed ongoing projects or moved them along the path completion, we remain financially sound -though no cause for complacency- and we continued to upgrade and improve our skills sets, equipment and procedures.</p> <p>There was significant turnover of personnel within the team. Three of the new intake from Jan 23 have been badged and we are completely confident the fourth will do so soon. As ever we had a difficult job sifting through and assessing some quality candidates to join the team. We have taken the unusual step of taking on 8 trainees. They have settled in well and we look forward to supporting their progression into the team.</p> <p>We are pleased to record that the Garage project has been completed, with thanks to all involved. There is some follow up work required on the painted floor but plans for that are in hand. It is great news too that we have a new control vehicle to put in our new garage. This has proved to be something of a Herculean task and we owe a great deal of gratitude to those involved.</p>
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## SECTION E – Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	The charity has a reserve account which is used to build up the level of funding necessary to ensure the charity's sustainability and provide funds for long term projects.
Details of any funds materially in deficit	None

## SECTION F - Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signatures</b>		
<b>Full Name</b>	Emily Woodhouse	Tom Layland
<b>Position</b>	Secretary	Treasurer
<b>Date</b>	27th October 2024	27th October 2024