

## **Trustees Annual Report 2024 (CC)**

Berkshire Lowland Search and Rescue (BLSAR), is a group of volunteers, about 70 strong, who support Thames Valley Police in searching for, and rescuing vulnerable missing people, mainly in Berkshire. These individuals are likely to be depressed or suicidal, living with dementia, or suffering from poor mental health. As part of a national organisation, Lowland Rescue, our members are trained to national standards which allows them to support teams in surrounding counties to undertake searches, and further afield when required. The training and resources of the team allow us to deploy searchers on foot, on or in the water including the use of sonar, and the use of drones (RPAS). Once the missing person has been found members of the team have been trained to provide a high level of medical care.

The training and resources also allow us to support Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service (RBFRS) with water searches and provision of RPAS capability. In the past the team have assisted RBFRS with evacuation of homes in flood affected areas. We are also able to support other statutory agencies such as local authorities. Support has included the deployment of sand bags, and during the COVID crisis, the administration of vaccines.

BLSAR relies on several different funding streams to provide the necessary finances to keep the team running. These streams include: payment for services provided such as marshalling and first aid cover at events such as the Bracknell Half Marathon and Wokingham Fireworks; donations from members of the public through bucket collections and money raised by families who have benefitted from searches conducted by the team; we have also been successful with several grant applications which have financed capital for new equipment and vehicles.

The money raised is predominantly spent on the running costs of the team which currently runs at about £25,000 to £30,000 per annum. Purchasing of new, and replacement, equipment means that the team can provide the

services as mentioned above. The team are currently in the process of trying to locate a new base where vehicles and equipment can be stored. To this end a proportion of the team income has been ring fenced for any work that maybe required to make premises serviceable for our needs.

# Berkshire Lowland Search & Rescue (BLSAR)

Toutley Depot, Forest Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG40 5QP

treasurer@BerkshireRescue.org.uk    www.BerkshireRescue.org.uk    Tel: 0300 321 0384

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## **ACCOUNTS**

### **FOR THE 12-MONTH PERIOD**

### **1 APRIL 2023 – 31 MARCH 2024**

**Charity No: 1202260**

## Section A Receipts and payments (12 months)

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	12 month ended 31/03/2023 to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Training Courses and Event Services	8,243	-	-	8,243	-
Grants and Donations	24,516	5,408	-	29,924	-
Merchandise and Equipment Sales	671	-	-	671	-
Team reimbursements	1,013	-	-	1,013	-
Merger of Charities	129,714	2,627	-	132,341	-
Other income	826	-	-	826	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>164,983</b>	<b>8,035</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>173,017</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>164,983</b>	<b>8,035</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>173,017</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Departmental Operations except Fundraising	15,499	2,627	-	18,125	-
Fleet upkeep & fuel	3,239	-	-	3,239	-
Training	3,455	-	-	3,455	-
Insurance & Affiliation	6,635	-	-	6,635	-
HQ Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Misc/Admin	140	-	-	140	-
Cost of Courses and Event Services	40	-	-	40	-
Fundraising Costs	109	-	-	109	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>29,117</b>	<b>2,627</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,743</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
Titan Stretcher	4,858	-	-	4,858	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>4,858</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,858</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>33,975</b>	<b>2,627</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>36,601</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net of receipts /(payments)</b>	<b>131,008</b>	<b>5,408</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>136,416</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>131,008</b>	<b>5,408</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>136,416</b>	<b>-</b>



## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the 12m period

[illegible]

\*The restricted funds relate to:

	Opening Balance	Received	Spent	Closing Balance
1: TVP Police and Crime Commissioner - SARMAN	£ 20.00	£ -	£ 20.00	£ -
2: Morrisons Foundation - Sonar	£ 2,607.54		£ 2,607.54	£ -
3: Nurture Holdings - Equipment	£ -	£ 2,408.36		£ 2,408.36
4: Berkshire Community Foundation - Defibs		£ 3,000.00		£ 3,000.00
				£ -
				£ -
Total	£ 2,627.54	£ 5,408.36	£ 2,627.54	£ 5,408.36

Signed by the treasurer and one trustee on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date Approved
	Nick McLean	30/05/24
	Adam Waller	20/05/2024



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Berkshire Lowland Search and Rescue CIO

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 March 2024

Charity no  
(if any)

1202260

Set out on pages

1 – 4

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/03/2024**.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the CIO, 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:

21<sup>st</sup> May 2024

Name:

Karl Cantwell

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

Address:

16 Canada Road

Erith

DA8 2HE

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**



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	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>164,983</b>	<b>8,035</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>173,017</b>	<b>-</b>
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