

# ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS WESTMORLAND BRANCH CIO

England & Wales · Charity number 1209358

## Details

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**Other names** RSPCA WESTMORLAND BRANCH

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2024-07-31

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

## Contact

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LA9 6BL

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## Activities

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**Objects:** THE OBJECTS OF THE BRANCH ARE TO PROMOTE THE WORK AND OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY, IN PARTICULAR, BUT WITHOUT LIMITATION, IN THE AREA, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICIES OF THE SOCIETY.(THE OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY (AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME) ARE "TO PROMOTE KINDNESS AND TO PREVENT OR SUPPRESS CRUELTY TO ANIMALS".)

**Activities:** Provide a service to the Inspectors and community to rehabilitate and rehome animals in distress. To provide information and welfare advice. Provide welfare assistance to those on benefits for emergency situations. To offer a cat neutering scheme to those on benefits. To provide assistance to wild animals and neuter feral cats where possible.

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Animals
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- Cumbria

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£473,760	£542,458	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
Sarah Halsall-Williams	Chair	2024-05-18
ALAN JULES GREEN		2024-05-18
DEREK BENNETT		2024-05-18
Dr Anne Cleasby		2024-05-18
Elizabeth Dodd		2026-05-30
Leanne Pointon		2026-05-30
Rachel Gawith		2025-05-17
Sarah Teggart		2024-05-18

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# Accounts

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Charity registration number: 1209358

# RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

# RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

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## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	S Halsall-Williams Chair D Bennett Treasurer Dr A Cleasby Mrs L Dodd Ms R Gawith A Green S Teggart
Branch Partnership Manager	Ms R Gawith
Inspectorate	Mr R Melloy Chief Inspector
Senior Management / Leadership Team	Mrs C Lowe, Branch Manager Ms J Stevens, Shop Manager Mrs H Stalker, Animal Rescue and Welfare
Principal Office	The Ruth Pedley Building Beezon Fields Kendal Cumbria LA9 6BL
Charity Registration Number	1209358
Independent Examiner	Stables Thompson & Briscoe Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors Lowther House Lowther Street Kendal LA9 4DX

# RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

## Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025.

### Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	S Halsall-Williams Chair D Bennett Treasurer Dr A Cleasby N Crawford (resigned 17 May 2025) N Darbshire (resigned 22 November 2025) Mrs L Dodd (appointed 27 September 2025) Ms R Gawith (appointed 29 March 2025) A Green S Teggart
Chairman:	S Halsall-Williams Chair
Secretary:	Ms R Gawith (appointed 29 March 2025)
Inspectorate	Mr R Melloy Chief Inspector
Senior Management / Leadership Team:	Mrs C Lowe, Branch Manager Ms J Stevens, Shop Manager Miss G Moody, Shop Manager (resigned 28 February 2025) Mrs H Stalker, Animal Rescue and Welfare Miss K Moran, Fundraising Manager (resigned 31 January 2026)

### Objectives and activities

#### *Objects and aims*

The objects of the Branch are to promote the work and objects of the Society - to promote kindness and to prevent or suppress cruelty to animals by all lawful means – with particular reference to the Branch area, in accordance with the policies of the Society.

#### *Objectives, strategies and activities*

The main aims of the Branch are:-

- ~ To support our local Inspectors by taking in, free of charge, mistreated or abandoned animals. Animals in our care receive veterinary treatment, vaccination, neutering, microchipping and are assessed for rehoming.
- ~ To provide subsidised veterinary treatment for animals which are sick or injured and belong to local people on low incomes.
- ~ To provide subsidised neutering and microchipping of companion animals for those in the Branch area on low incomes.
- ~ To respond to enquiries from the public (both direct and via the Society's national call centre) about animals locally and offer free animal care advice

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Trustees' Report (continued)

#### *Public benefit*

The Trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of our objectives and activities for the year, to ensure they remain focused on our charitable aims, and continue to deliver benefits to the public.

All Charities in England and Wales must have charitable aims that are for public benefit. Under the Charities Act 2011, the advancement of animal welfare is recognised as a distinct statutory charitable purpose. This legislation and the treating living creatures with compassion has a moral benefit for the public as a whole. Whilst this public benefit is clear, it is sometimes difficult to quantify and must be balanced against any detriment.

The Branch's animal welfare work, although local in nature, benefits society at large, and also aims to help people in need with the care of their animals. The report highlights the Branch's main activities and demonstrates the benefit provided to the public. All our charitable activities, as described in more detail in the following pages of this report, focus on promoting kindness and preventing or suppressing cruelty to animals and are undertaken to further these purposes for the public benefit.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

#### *Use of volunteers*

The Committee would like to thank all volunteers: shop assistants, collectors, dog walkers, fundraisers, animal fosterers, home visitors etc. for all their hard work and support.

#### *Achievements and performance*

2025 has been a significant and transformative year for the Branch, bringing a number of changes that we believe will strengthen and support our future work.

Following the loss of our kennel space in 2024, our involvement with dogs during 2025 was necessarily limited. The final three dogs in our care were transferred to Animal Rescue, and we cared for one additional dog in foster placement. His story is featured later in this report.

Our cat welfare work continued throughout the year. With access to six pen spaces at Animal Rescue, we took in 48 cats during 2025. A total of 55 cats were rehomed, including some remaining in our care from 2024. Sadly, two cats had to be euthanised on welfare grounds.

Despite operational challenges, we were pleased to continue supporting the local community. During the year we:

- Provided welfare assistance to 31 individuals and families
- Neutered 55 feral cats through our Trap, Neuter and Return work
- Assisted with the neutering of 36 owned cats through our cat neutering scheme

We are extremely grateful to all of our fosterers and volunteers whose dedication and support made this work possible.

As we look ahead to 2026, one of our priorities will be to recruit additional dog foster carers to help us rebuild and expand our dog welfare work.

During 2025, two Trustees resigned from the Board: Ms N Darbshire and Mrs N Crawford. We would like to place on record our sincere thanks for their contribution, commitment and support during their time with the Branch.

We were also delighted to welcome two new Trustees, Ms R Gawith and Mrs L Dodd, both of whom bring a wealth of experience and valuable skills to the Board.

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Trustees' Report (continued)

A major focus of the year was the search for suitable premises for a new indoor cattery. In Spring 2025, we identified an industrial unit in Kendal that appeared suitable for conversion and began the process of obtaining planning permission, surveys and legal agreements. However, due to ongoing legal delays, contracts had still not been exchanged by the August Bank Holiday.

Over that weekend, the tenants in the industrial unit opposite the Hall unexpectedly vacated the premises. Following discussions with the landlord, we were offered the opportunity to lease the unit. As a result, we withdrew from the original purchase and restarted the planning and survey process for the new premises. This work was completed in early December, enabling building work to begin in 2026.

During 2025, Animal Rescue also gave notice to terminate our agreement for the use of their cat pens. Once notified, we began winding down our operations accordingly. This directly impacted our intake and rehoming capacity and explains the lower rehoming figures for 2025 compared with previous years.

Alongside our animal welfare work, we continued to engage with the community through a variety of fundraising and educational events. These included coffee mornings, bingo events, clay animal workshops and foraging cookery sessions. Several guest speakers proved particularly popular and are due to return in 2026.

Members of staff also attended the ADCH Conference in Telford, which provided valuable training, insight and networking opportunities. In June, we attended the South Lakes Cat Club Show at the Leisure Centre, helping to promote the Branch and engage with supporters.

We hope to expand our attendance at local events and community activities during 2026 as our volunteer base continues to grow.

Stories from the year.



**Star** Star was a french bulldog that came to us due to unfortunate family circumstances, it was a little bit complicated due to us not having any kennels to have dogs in, but one of our trustees Rachel was incredible and took him on foster. He wasn't an easy dog and didn't like the vets. He had bad ear issues. However, after treatment at Oakhill and Highgate, he was ready for adoption. He found the perfect family who accepted he needed housetraining and learning to walk outside. He has settled in really well.



RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

Trustees' Report (continued)

Panda



This sickly little kitten was found near a hotel. She showed signs of cat flu and was treated at Oakhill. Luckily our foster was available and took her in. Staying in a cattery could have had a negative outcome. After a while she rallied and was ready for adoption. We had some lovely donations to support her in her foster home. She loved some of the scrummy food donated. Her adoption was a great match. She still loves playing with her ball.



Coconut



This picture doesn't show how hard he found it in the cattery. He was quite grumpy, didn't like being there at all. That meant he didn't sell himself when people came to view him. Luckily his new owners saw past that and he is now settled and a different character from that in the cattery as you can see.

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Trustees' Report (continued)

#### Tigger



Tigger was living rough when a new unneutered male came to the street and they competed for territory. Tigger ended up with some wounds, and it was felt although at 10 he had managed, this new dynamic would end up in serious injury, so when we were contacted by the residents, we collected him, neutered him and treated his wounds. After a little recuperation he was adopted by a family who love him to bits and his Mum treats him like a prince.

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Trustees' Report (continued)

2025 was the start of a new beginning for the branch with our new cattery and staff. Updates throughout the year are available on our website, social media and via our newsletters.

#### Financial review

##### *Policy on reserves*

The Branch holds reserves in order that the levels of services provided for animal welfare may be maintained if there should be a reduction in incoming resources.

Reserves in this context mean funds that are available for the Branch's general purposes after all commitments have been met. Tangible fixed assets (buildings, vehicles, furniture and equipment) are not included within reserves but investment assets are. Investment assets (currently the M&G Charibond Charities Fixed Interest Common Investment Fund) are regarded as funds available to the branch and not a tangible fixed asset.

In addition to such "unrestricted reserves" the Branch may also hold additional "restricted reserves"; such reserves represent funds donated for a specific purpose, which cannot be used for anything other than the purpose for which they were donated.

The target level for reserves is calculated as eighteen months expenditure based the total expenditure for the two previous accounting periods. This should ensure at least eighteen months of operations following a drastic financial downturn. The target level for the year 2026 is calculated as follows:

Expenditure for 2024 £377,850  
Expenditure for 2025 £373,376  
Target reserves for 2026 £563,000

The branch currently has £252,032 in free reserves, however £160,000 of that is needed to build the new cattery.

It is the opinion of the Trustees that the existing reserves are sufficient to meet any reduction in incoming resources.

##### *Investment policy and objectives*

As of 31 December 2025, the Branch investment policy was to retain some funds on a cash basis, held in a range of deposit and savings accounts.

The Branch continues to have quick and easy access to its funds in Barclays Bank current accounts, a Barclays Bank deposit account and a CAF Charity Deposit Account. This allows for sufficient cash to meet the ongoing day to day needs of the branch.

The branch has invested in the M&G Charibond Charities Fixed Interest Common Investment Fund which generates substantial quarterly dividends. The value of the fund is dependent on stock market fluctuations and at the 31 December 2025 was valued at £229,181.

The Trustees recognise that this policy should be reviewed on an annual basis following the publication of the audited annual accounts for the previous year, and whenever reserve levels are reviewed.

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Trustees' Report (continued)

#### Financial instruments

##### *Objectives and policies*

The Charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments.

##### *Cash flow risk*

The Charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in economic activity and interest rates. The charity investments are held in M&G Charibonds to minimise investment risk.

##### *Credit risk*

The Charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments.

The Charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The credit risk on liquid funds is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

The Charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

##### *Liquidity risk*

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity uses a mixture of long-term and short-term debt finance.

Further details regarding liquidity risk can be found in the Statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

#### Structure, governance and management

##### *Nature of governing document*

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was founded on the 16 June 1824 and was granted the "Royal" prefix in 1840. The current constitution of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, (the Society), was created with the adoption of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1932. The work of the Society is governed by the RSPCA Act and by the rules of the Society. Membership of the Society is by subscription and may be on a life, annual, ex-officio or junior basis.

An elected Council who, subject to the rules, control the affairs, funds, property and proceedings of the Society manages the Society. They are assisted in the administration of the Society by a central organisation, headquarters and branches.

The RSPCA Westmorland Branch (the Branch), was an unincorporated charitable association and a separately registered Branch of the Society using the charity registration number 232236. On 18 May 2024 RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO was registered with the Charity Commission (registered charity number 1209358) and all trustees became trustees of the new organisation. Operations transferred to the new Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 1 October 2024. The charity operates as an autonomous branch of the National RSPCA subject to its rules for Branches. As there was no change in operations just the type of charity these accounts have been prepared using merger accounting.

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Trustees' Report (continued)

#### *Recruitment and appointment of trustees*

Trustees are sourced from current members and the wider community. A non member has to be a member for three months before they can be elected as a Trustee. A vetting process takes place including confirming their willingness to act and establishing they are not barred from acting.

#### *Induction and training of trustees*

A new Trustee who is not already a volunteer would complete the volunteer induction process and then continue into following the guidance notes for Trustees.

#### *Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration*

The branch manager is the key management personnel. The trustees set remuneration for all staff, including key management, at Branch meetings.

#### *Organisational structure*

The Branch is governed by a Committee, who are Trustees of the Branch, elected at the AGM. They have individual and collective "responsibility" for the management of the Branch and its funds. The Trustees hold meetings which are minuted, at least every two months at which decisions are made. The day to day running of the Branch is delegated to the Branch Manager.

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 18 April 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

.....  
D Bennett Treasurer  
Trustee

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO for the year ended 31 December 2025.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of RSPCA Westmorland Branch 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 RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO'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

Since RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

.....  
James Mason ACA  
ICAEW

Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors  
Lowther House  
Lowther Street  
Kendal  
LA9 4DX

6 May 2026

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	275,190	6,000	281,190	56,378
Charitable activities	3	2,720	-	2,720	19,573
Other trading activities	4	155,466	-	155,466	179,281
Investment income	5	<u>40,384</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>40,384</u>	<u>33,126</u>
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>473,760</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>479,760</u>	<u>288,358</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	(138,381)	(6,000)	(144,381)	(168,402)
Charitable activities	7	<u>(210,315)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(210,315)</u>	<u>(209,448)</u>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<u>(348,696)</u>	<u>(6,000)</u>	<u>(354,696)</u>	<u>(377,850)</u>
Gains/losses on investment assets		<u>17,093</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,093</u>	<u>(7,139)</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		142,157	-	142,157	(96,631)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>698,530</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>698,530</u>	<u>795,161</u>
Total funds carried forward	20	<u><u>840,687</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>840,687</u></u>	<u><u>698,530</u></u>

All the charity's activities in last year were unrestricted.

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2024 is shown in note 20.

RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO  
(Registration number: 1209358)  
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	397,131	323,457
Investments	15	<u>409,181</u>	<u>347,088</u>
		<u>806,312</u>	<u>670,545</u>
Current assets			
Stocks	16	1,528	1,421
Debtors	17	26,656	7,559
Cash at bank and in hand	18	<u>50,082</u>	<u>25,231</u>
		78,266	34,211
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	19	<u>(43,891)</u>	<u>(6,226)</u>
Net current assets		<u>34,375</u>	<u>27,985</u>
Net assets		<u>840,687</u>	<u>698,530</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>840,687</u>	<u>698,530</u>
Total funds	20	<u>840,687</u>	<u>698,530</u>

The financial statements on pages 12 to 30 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 18 April 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

.....  
D Bennett Treasurer  
Trustee

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

#### 1 Accounting policies

##### Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

##### Basis of preparation

RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The charity became a CIO in the year, changing from an unincorporated charity. As the trustees and operations remained the same and the change was purely to the legal structure the charity has used merger accounting to present these accounts. In effect the accounts reflect the operations of the charity as if there had been no change combining the unincorporated charity accounts (including comparatives) and the CIO accounts from 1 October 2024.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling and rounded to the nearest £.

##### Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

##### Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

##### *Donations and legacies*

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

##### *Grants receivable*

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

##### *Donated services and facilities*

Where services or facilities are provided to the Charity as a donation that would normally be purchased from our suppliers, this benefit is included in the financial statements at its fair value unless its fair value cannot be reliably measured, then at the cost to the donor or the resale value of goods that are to be sold.

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (continued)

#### *Investment income*

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

#### *Expenditure*

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

#### *Raising funds*

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

#### *Charitable activities*

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

#### *Support costs*

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

#### *Governance costs*

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

#### *Taxation*

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### *Tangible fixed assets*

Individual fixed assets costing £250.00 or more are initially recorded at cost.

#### *Depreciation and amortisation*

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (continued)

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Land and buildings	2% straight line
Short leasehold property	4% straight line
Shop fittings	20% straight line
Office fixtures and fittings	15% straight line
Plant and machinery	15% straight line
Branch van	20% straight line

#### Investment properties

Investment property is carried at fair value, derived from the current market prices for comparable real estate determined annually by external valuers. The valuers use observable market prices, adjusted if necessary for any difference in the nature, location or condition of the specific asset. Changes in fair value are recognised in profit or loss.

#### Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

#### Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO).

Donated goods are not valued for inclusion in stock due to the difficulty of attributing a fair value. Instead donated goods are recorded as income once sold.

#### Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (continued)

#### Trade creditors

are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

#### Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

#### Financial instruments

##### *Classification*

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (continued)

#### *Recognition and measurement*

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (continued)

#### 2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds		Total 2025	Total 2024
	General	Restricted funds		
	£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies;				
Collections, appeals and donations	29,130	-	29,130	40,004
Legacies and bequests	232,126	-	232,126	-
Gift aid reclaimed	13,197	-	13,197	16,164
Grants, including capital grants;				
Grants from other charities	600	6,000	6,600	-
Subscriptions	137	-	137	210
	<u>275,190</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>281,190</u>	<u>56,378</u>

#### 3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds		Total 2025	Total 2024
	General			
	£		£	£
Animal adoptions	2,720		2,720	9,675
Case charge	-		-	9,898
	<u>2,720</u>		<u>2,720</u>	<u>19,573</u>

#### 4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds		Total 2025	Total 2024
	General			
	£		£	£
Trading income - RSPCA shops;				
Sales of donated goods under gift aid		41,537	41,537	57,330
Sales of donated goods		96,807	96,807	95,772
Sales of goods and services		5,132	5,132	10,951
Other trading income		676	676	1,621
Events and other support income;				
Events		9,720	9,720	12,115
Pet Insurance Commission		1,594	1,594	1,492
		<u>155,466</u>	<u>155,466</u>	<u>179,281</u>

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (continued)

#### 5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	General £	£	£
Interest receivable on bank deposits	1,147	1,147	262
Other income from fixed asset investments	10,954	10,954	9,445
Income from rents	28,283	28,283	23,419
	40,384	40,384	33,126

#### 6 Expenditure on raising funds

##### a) Costs of generating donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	General £	£	£
Marketing and publicity	2,496	2,496	3,228
Note	2,496	2,496	3,228

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (continued)

#### b) Costs of trading activities

		Unrestricted funds		Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
	Note	General £	Restricted funds £		
Costs of goods sold		6,229	-	6,229	5,145
Depreciation, amortisation and other similar costs		7,386	-	7,386	2,329
Consumables		1,962	-	1,962	2,046
Hire of other assets (Operating leases)		4,365	-	4,365	3,521
Motor expenses		211	-	211	735
Rent		28,958	-	28,958	24,903
Rates and waste		3,841	-	3,841	4,333
Water rates		-	-	-	765
Light, heat and power		4,152	-	4,152	6,825
Insurance		390	-	390	283
Repairs and renewals		5,085	-	5,085	2,329
Rebranding		-	6,000	6,000	-
Telephone and fax		3,011	-	3,011	3,225
Printing, postage and stationery		103	-	103	376
Shop professional fees		584	-	584	-
Commission		3,946	-	3,946	3,662
Staff costs	8	65,662	-	65,662	104,697
		<u>135,885</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>141,885</u>	<u>165,174</u>

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (continued)

	Direct costs £	Total 2025 £
Costs of generating donations and legacies	2,496	2,496
Costs of trading activities	141,885	141,885
	144,381	144,381

	Direct costs £	Total 2024 £
Costs of generating donations and legacies	3,228	3,228
Costs of trading activities	165,174	165,174
	168,402	168,402

#### 7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Veterinary supplies	2,565	2,565	6,319
Veterinary costs (Exc homing)	8,386	8,386	9,696
Veterinary costs (homing)	4,964	4,964	8,941
Boarding cats	14,027	14,027	20,630
Boarding dogs	82	82	24,678
Other Animal Welfare costs	18,594	18,594	13,518
Support costs	139,144	139,144	122,145
Governance costs	22,553	22,553	3,521
	210,315	210,315	209,448

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2025 £	2024 £
Veterinary supplies	2,565	-	2,565	6,319
Veterinary costs (Exc homing)	8,386	-	8,386	9,696
Veterinary costs (homing)	4,964	-	4,964	8,941
Boarding cats	14,027	-	14,027	20,630
Boarding dogs	82	-	82	24,678
Other costs	18,594	139,144	157,738	135,663
	48,618	139,144	187,762	205,927

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (continued)

#### 8 Analysis of governance and support costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>Animal Welfare costs:</b>		
Professional fees	5,797	8,116
Rent	1,600	-
Repairs and renewals	7,147	1,498
Printing, postage, telephone and stationery	655	258
Motor expenses	1,667	1,558
Travel and subsistence	-	359
Depreciation of motor vehicles	1,729	1,729
Staff and volunteer clothing	-	-
	18,594	13,518
<b>Other Support Costs:</b>		
Wages and salaries	99,790	91,974
Staff training	124	2,265
Rates and waste	525	429
Water rates	1,669	1,017
Light, heat and power	2,938	3,415
Insurance	4,042	1,104
Repairs and renewals	11,512	6,224
Telephone and computer costs	1,031	-
Printing, postage and stationery	885	4,718
Branch contribution	551	551
Motor expenses	1,201	3,537
Travel and subsistence	608	469
VAT Annual Adjustment	3,889	(701)
Sundry expenses	1,081	69
Depreciation of freehold property	6,657	6,657
Depreciation of plant and machinery	345	417
Depreciation of fixtures and fittings	2,295	-
Loss on disposal of tangible assets held for charity's own use	-	-
	139,144	122,145

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (continued)

#### Governance costs

	Unrestricted General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Independent examiner fees			
Examination of the financial statements and preparation of accounts	3,120	3,120	1,800
Other fees paid to examiners	1,841	1,841	-
Legal fees	17,422	17,422	1,468
Other governance costs	170	170	253
	22,553	22,553	3,521

#### 9 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year include:

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation of fixed assets	18,412	11,132

#### 10 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

A Green

£Nil (2024: £99) of expenses were reimbursed to A Green during the year.

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (continued)

#### 11 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	159,565	181,554
Social security costs	1,280	8,983
Pension costs	4,607	5,204
Other staff costs	124	3,195
	165,576	198,936

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2025 No	2024 No
Administration	4	3
Shop staff	4	8
	8	11

8 (2024 - 10) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £10,750 (2024 - £12,757).

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year

#### 12 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2025 £	2024 £
Examination of the financial statements	3,120	1,800

#### 13 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (continued)

#### 14 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 January 2025	332,866	37,484	18,530	388,880
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>92,086</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>92,086</u>
At 31 December 2025	<u>332,866</u>	<u>129,570</u>	<u>18,530</u>	<u>480,966</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 January 2025	25,478	28,201	11,744	65,423
Charge for the year	<u>6,657</u>	<u>9,593</u>	<u>2,162</u>	<u>18,412</u>
At 31 December 2025	<u>32,135</u>	<u>37,794</u>	<u>13,906</u>	<u>83,835</u>
<b>Net book value</b>				
At 31 December 2025	<u>300,731</u>	<u>91,776</u>	<u>4,624</u>	<u>397,131</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>307,388</u>	<u>9,283</u>	<u>6,786</u>	<u>323,457</u>

#### 15 Fixed asset investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Investment properties	180,000	180,000
Other investments	<u>229,181</u>	<u>167,088</u>
	<u>409,181</u>	<u>347,088</u>

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (continued)

#### Investment properties

	Investment properties £
Cost or Valuation	
At 1 January 2025	<u>180,000</u>
Provision	
At 31 December 2025	<u>-</u>
Net book value	
At 31 December 2025	<u>180,000</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>180,000</u>

The property left to the charity was valued by Farrell Heyworth, Estate Agents, at £135,000 on an open market value basis at 31 December 2020. Following renovation works in 2023 the property was revalued at £180,000.

#### Other investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 January 2025	167,088	167,088
Revaluation	17,093	17,093
Additions	125,000	125,000
Disposals	<u>(80,000)</u>	<u>(80,000)</u>
At 31 December 2025	<u>229,181</u>	<u>229,181</u>
Net book value		
At 31 December 2025	<u>229,181</u>	<u>229,181</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>167,088</u>	<u>167,088</u>

#### 16 Stock

	2025 £	2024 £
Stocks	<u>1,528</u>	<u>1,421</u>

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (continued)

#### 17 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	1,439	1,052
Prepayments	515	527
VAT recoverable	14,702	5,980
Other debtors	10,000	-
	26,656	7,559

#### 18 Cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash on hand	1,565	5,307
Cash at bank	14,103	9,869
Short-term deposits	34,414	10,055
	50,082	25,231

#### 19 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	24,129	2,453
Other taxation and social security	4,615	2,272
Accruals	15,147	1,501
	43,891	6,226

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (continued)

#### 20 Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2025 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2025 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
<i>General</i>						
General unrestricted funds	195,073	473,760	(330,285)	(252,085)	17,093	103,556
<i>Designated</i>						
Investment property	180,000	-	-	-	-	180,000
Fixed asset fund	323,457	-	(18,411)	92,085	-	397,131
Cattery Build	-	-	-	160,000	-	160,000
	<u>503,457</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(18,411)</u>	<u>252,085</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>737,131</u>
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>698,530</b>	<b>473,760</b>	<b>(348,696)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,093</b>	<b>840,687</b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
RSPCA rebranding	-	6,000	(6,000)	-	-	-
<b>Total funds</b>	<u><b>698,530</b></u>	<u><b>479,760</b></u>	<u><b>(354,696)</b></u>	<u><b>-</b></u>	<u><b>17,093</b></u>	<u><b>840,687</b></u>

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
<i>General</i>					
General unrestricted funds	280,573	288,358	(366,719)	(7,139)	195,073
<i>Designated</i>					
Investment property	180,000	-	-	-	180,000
Fixed asset fund	334,588	-	(11,131)	-	323,457
	<u>514,588</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(11,131)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>503,457</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u><b>795,161</b></u>	<u><b>288,358</b></u>	<u><b>(377,850)</b></u>	<u><b>(7,139)</b></u>	<u><b>698,530</b></u>

## RSPCA Westmorland Branch CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025 (continued)

#### 21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds		Total funds at
	General	Designated	31 December
	£	£	2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	397,131	397,131
Fixed asset investments	69,181	340,000	409,181
Current assets	78,266	-	78,266
Current liabilities	<u>(43,891)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(43,891)</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>	<u><u>103,556</u></u>	<u><u>737,131</u></u>	<u><u>840,687</u></u>
	Unrestricted funds	Designated	Total funds at
	General	£	31 December
	£	£	2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	323,457	323,457
Fixed asset investments	167,088	180,000	347,088
Current assets	34,211	-	34,211
Current liabilities	<u>(6,226)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(6,226)</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>	<u><u>195,073</u></u>	<u><u>503,457</u></u>	<u><u>698,530</u></u>

#### 22 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

#### 23 Operating lease commitments

##### Property leases

The lease commitments were as follows:

	Note	2024 £	2024 £
Lease payments due within one year		41,400	12,000
Lease payments due between one and five years		<u>140,400</u>	<u>36,000</u>
		<u><u>181,800</u></u>	<u><u>48,000</u></u>