

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS SURREY EAST BRANCH

England & Wales · Charity number 202280

Details

Other names	RSPCA - SURREY EAST BRANCH, RSPCA -EAST SURREY BRANCH, RSPCA SURREY EAST BRANCH
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1962-01-18
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	RSPCA Surrey East Branch C/O RSPCA Headquarters Parkside Building Chart Way Horsham RH12 1GY
Phone	07394078180
Email	contact_us@rspca-surreyeast.org.uk
Website	https://www.rspca.org.uk/local/surrey-east-branch

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE BRANCH ARE TO PROMOTE THE WORK AND OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY [ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (219099)], WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE AREA OF THE BRANCH, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICIES OF THE SOCIETY.

Activities: Providing accommodation and necessary veterinary care for animals rescued by the RSPCA; including neutering, micro-chipping and care of these animals. Financial assistance to owners who cannot afford to pay for their animals veterinary treatment and/or neutering. Visiting the homes of potential adopters. Supporting the work of regional RSPCA centres

Classification

- **How:** Provides Other Finance, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Animals
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** EAST SURREY.
- Surrey

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£177,893	£124,217	-	-
2023-12-31	£120,532	£57,626	-	-
2022-12-31	£63,295	£32,923	-	-
2021-12-31	£32,788	£18,874	-	-
2020-12-31	£49,669	£37,376	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Richard Osborne	Chair	2020-02-20
Amy Victoria King		2025-10-14
Charlotte Anne Terese Parkes		2024-10-15
Georgina Day		2025-06-10
Kate Caulkin		2022-09-15
SARA KORTENRAY		2011-10-29
Susan Dalton		2017-10-19

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS SURREY EAST BRANCH

England & Wales - Charity number 202280

Accounts



**TRUSTEES REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS
(RSPCA) SURREY EAST BRANCH**

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TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Reference And Administrative Details

CHARITY NUMBER	202280
TRUSTEES	Mr Richard Osborne (Chair) Mrs Kate Caulkin (Vice-Chair) Miss Sara Kortenray Miss Susan Dalton (Treasurer) Mr Ray Ings (resigned 31 December 2024) Mrs Ann Kortenray (resigned 31 December 2024) Mr Jeremy Bassil (resigned March 2024) Mrs Charlotte Parkes (co-opted Trustee November 2024)
PRINCIPAL ADDRESS	RSPCA Surrey East Branch C/O RSPCA Headquarters Parkside Building Chart Way Horsham RH12 1XH
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	David Wheeler FCCA Cheeld Wheeler & Co Chartered Certified Accountants Redhill Chambers 2d High Street Redhill Surrey RH1 1RJ
BANKERS	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ United Trust Bank One Ropemaker Street London EC2Y 9AW Nationwide Building Society Nationwide House Pipers Way Swindon Wiltshire SN38 1NW

Trustees Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

HR CONSULTANTS

Acton Jennings
53 Westfield Road
Wakefield
WF4 6HU

PAYROLL SERVICES

David Wheeler FCCA
Cheeld Wheeler & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
Redhill Chambers
2d High Street
Redhill
Surrey
RH1 1RJ

Structure, Governance And Management

The RSPCA Surrey East charity is constituted as an unincorporated association. The charity operates as a separately registered branch of the National RSPCA subject to its rule for branches (as updated 2012).

Trustees are appointed to the committee by election by the branch members at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) or co-opted during the year by the Trustees at a monthly committee meeting. The committee consists of at least four and not more than fourteen eligible branch members, plus up to three co-opted Trustees (who need not be branch members). The committee may appoint a replacement committee member from eligible branch members to fill any casual vacancy. The committee has three defined officer roles being the Chair, the Treasurer and the Secretary (currently vacant). In addition to these three officer roles the charity also appoints a Vice-Chair at the AGM.

The charity also employs a Branch Manager to deliver the day-to-day operations of the charity, and the Branch Manager has been given limited financial delegations in accordance with our Delegations Matrix.

The charity committee meets regularly, usually on a monthly basis (either in person or virtually), to administer and discharge our obligations and ensure the charity is being managed accordingly.

Trustees Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom accounting standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 of 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 accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in operation.

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 Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the charity rules. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Objectives And Activities

The objectives of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) are to promote kindness and to prevent or suppress cruelty to animals. The objects of the branch are to promote the work and objects of the RSPCA, with particular reference to the local area of the branch, by all lawful means and in accordance with the policies of the RSPCA.

The main objectives of the branch are:

- Providing accommodation and necessary veterinary care for animals rescued by RSPCA Inspectors and RSPCA Animal Rescue Officers;
- Financial assistance to eligible owners who cannot afford to pay the full cost of their animals' veterinary treatments and/or neutering;
- Where necessary, undertaking home visits for potential adopters and follow up post-homing visits;
- Supporting the work of our southeast region RSPCA centres;
- Raising funds to meet the cost of this work – including collections, donations, fundraising events and legacies. Neither the RSPCA nor the Surrey East branch receives any Government funding.

During early 2024, the branch also recruited and employed a new Branch Manager after our previous Branch Manager resigned.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of our objectives and activities at each monthly committee meeting throughout 2024 to ensure they remain focused on our charity's aims and continue to deliver benefits to the public. We have complied with the duty under the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

Advancement Of Animal Welfare

Under the Charities Act 2011, the advancement of animal welfare is recognised as a distinct statutory charitable purpose. This legislation and the Animal Welfare Act 2006 indicate an acceptance by society that 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 regional and local in nature, benefits society at large and also aims to help people in need with the care of their animals. The next section of this report highlights the branch's main activities in 2024 and demonstrates the benefit provided to the public. All our charitable activities focus on promoting kindness and preventing or suppressing cruelty or suffering to animals and are undertaken to further these purposes for the public benefit.

Charitable Activities Pursued For The Public Benefit

We support our local RSPCA Inspectors and Animal Rescue Officers by taking in, where we can, and free of charge, mistreated or abandoned and injured animals or by paying for the temporary boarding of animals whilst they wait to be transferred to an RSPCA centre or rehomed with an adopter or fosterer. The RSPCA Inspectorate (as well as providing education, information and advice) rescues animals in distress and enforces laws against the cruel mistreatment of animals in England and Wales by bringing prosecutions. The work is key to 'the prevention or suppression of cruelty' part of the RSPCA's objects and promotes humane sentiments towards animals, which involves moral benefit to humankind as a whole.

We provide subsidised veterinary treatment for animals which are sick or injured and belong to local people in our branch area on low incomes and state benefits. We do this through a voucher scheme and through the administration of our animal welfare assistance processes and procedures. The work benefits those in our branch area on means-tested state benefits by giving them financial help to obtain care and treatment for companion animals in need of veterinary assistance.

We provide subsidised neutering and microchipping of companion animals in our local branch area for those on state benefits. We do this through a voucher scheme. This work helps to control companion animal populations through neutering and benefits those on means-tested benefits by giving them financial help to neuter and microchip companion animals, thereby promoting and facilitating responsible pet ownership.

We provide and fund, through cat pod rental agreements with the RSPCA Canterbury Branch and the RSPCA Ashford branch, temporary space for cats either rescued by the RSPCA Inspectors or Animal Rescue Officers in our branch area or from the National Society Animal Logistics waiting list. The RSPCA Inspectorate (as well as providing education, information and advice) rescues animals in distress and enforces laws against the cruel mistreatment of animals in England and Wales by bringing prosecutions. The work is key to 'the prevention or suppression of cruelty' part of the RSPCA's objects and promotes humane sentiments towards animals, which involves moral benefit to humankind as a whole.

Animals in our direct or indirect care receive veterinary treatment, vaccinations, neutering, microchipping and are assessed for rehoming suitability. This work helps to control the incidence and spread of disease and suffering within companion animals through vaccinations and neutering.

We help find safe space for, free of charge, lost and injured domestic and wild animals within our branch area. This work benefits our local community (including local authorities) by preventing animals straying and posing a risk to themselves and to people through road traffic accidents.

We respond to enquiries (both directly and via the RSPCA Societies national call centre) from the public about animals in our branch area. The public benefits from knowing that we can intervene to assist animals in need where reported.

We provide volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, operational volunteers, fostering and fundraising. This benefits local people and companies within our branch area by providing the possibility of doing work with or supporting animals, which is both compassionate and rewarding.

Principal Risks And Uncertainties

The Trustees actively review the risks which the branch faces on a regular basis through our risk register, which is monitored at our monthly committee meetings, which covers both operational and financial reviews. The Trustees also examine other less frequent operational and business risks which the branch faces and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the most significant risks, which have been identified as:

- Insufficient Trustees for the branch to continue;
- Insufficient Trustees, Staff and/or volunteers to undertake the activities of the branch including, but not limited to, administration of the AWA and fundraising;
- Non-compliance with applicable regulations/law;
- Significant loss of income;
- Insufficient income generation to sustain activities;
- Loss or reduced reputation

Health And Safety

The Trustees are committed to maintaining high standards of health and safety and have policies and procedures in place which outline how we achieve this. We have further strengthened our policies to ensure we are appropriately managing and mitigating all the risk associated with employing our Branch Manager. These policies are reviewed, at least annually, to ensure that they remain up to date with any applicable changes.

Financial Review

Our branch income for 2024 was £177,893 (2023: £120,532) and our expenditure was £124,217 (2023: £57,626) which resulted in an excess income over expenditure of £53,6756 (2023: £62,906)

In 2024, the branch's income was significantly increased due to the receipt of £100,000 as part of the boundary change between the RSPCA Purley Branch and our branch. We also received a donation of £9,000 from the Magnus Trust. The Trustees would like to state that we are very grateful for this donation.

In November 2024 the Trustees unanimously voted in favour of donating £50,000 to the RSPCA Canterbury Branch to enable them to refurbish (at their cost) and restaff (our donation) their mothballed rabbit unit. This further strengthens our partnership with the Canterbury Branch. These funds were transferred to Canterbury in December 2024.

During 2024, we also received notification from the National Society of three further legacies which are being processed and will now roll over into 2025. Again, the Trustees would like to acknowledge these legacies and thank the donors.

On 31 December 2024 we held reserves of £264,084 (2023: £210,408) of which £75,000 is in restricted funds for the future employment of our Animal Welfare Officer, £74,251 is in

restricted funds following the boundary change with Purley Branch, and £114,833 is in general funds.

Our reserves and investment policy is to hold suitable levels of reserves. We do not knowingly invest in anything which causes harm to animals directly or indirectly.

Reserves Policy

The reserves policy for the National Society is to maintain a level of unrestricted funds, not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets (free reserves) that will enable the charity to ensure continuity of activity and the ability to adjust, in a controlled and measured way, to any significant changes in resources or demands.

The Trustees estimate that an appropriate level of unrestricted reserves for our branch will be three years' running costs. Should no new funds come into our charity, three years is felt to be the length of time needed to react and significantly increase our fundraising activities and therefore a reserve of this level is felt necessary to maintain our current level of activity and support to beneficiaries.

On 31 December 2024, our existing level of unrestricted reserves is 11 months of current expenditure. In 2025, we are expecting the three legacies currently being administered to be paid to the branch. Our new Branch Manager is also planning a number of events for 2025 and has increased our online fundraising capacities. All these should help address this current shortfall in our reserves.

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

In 2024, the RSPCA Surrey East Branch fulfilled its charitable objects are delivering the following primary activities:

- Supporting the RSPCA Inspectorate (Inspectors and AROs);
- Providing financial support to members of the public through our AWA scheme;
- Subsidised neutering and microchipping; and
- Facilitating the rehoming of cats through our cat pods rental agreements.

During 2024, we continued to offer assistance to the Inspectorate and their Animal Collection Team. The assistance offered primarily included covering the cost of temporary private boarding due to the lack of immediate available space in the animal centres run by the RSPCA National Society.

The branch also provides financial support to the Inspectorate by paying for the cost of wild animals who have been hurt and collected by the RSPCA and taken to Wildlife Aid in Leatherhead, Surrey (a charity that specialises in the rehabilitation and release of wildlife). This scheme provides a much needed local solution for the Inspectorate to use to transport injured or sick wildlife, which in turn reduces animal suffering and reduces the travelling time for the Inspectorate (or their volunteers), thus enabling them to spend more time helping other animals in need. We have been operating this scheme for a number of years now and the Trustees would like to thank our colleagues at the RSPCA Guildford and Epsom Branch for their continued administration of this scheme.

In Spring 2024, we also continued our annual litter picking event at the Earlswood Lakes, Redhill, in conjunction with the Great British Spring Clean Campaign. This event helps to promote the protection of wildlife in our branch area from the harm that litter can cause.

In 2024, our animal welfare assistance (AWA) scheme was still our biggest activity to support our local community by helping those on means-tested benefits with the costs of emergency veterinary treatment. During the year, we supported 126 treatments (2023: 118), including 82 dogs, 39 cats, 4 rabbits and 1 guinea pig, who received much-needed veterinary care, which supports our objects.

Through our 4 cat pods that we rent from the RSPCA Canterbury Branch (2) and RSPCA Ashford Branch (2), we have successfully supported the rehoming of 33 cats helping them find loving families and a new future.

To help reduce the risk of unwanted puppies and kittens (both cat and rabbit) within our branch area we neutered 41 animals (2023: 54). This was split between 31 dogs, 7 cats and 3 rabbits. As Cats Protection withdrew their neutering scheme in 2024, we had expected a rise in the number of cats the branch would have to neuter but this does not seem to have occurred.

In 2024, the branch also continued to utilise the quarterly Pets at Home VIP Lifeline voucher scheme, and through this scheme, we bought pet food, bedding and supplies (excluding dog food due to its specialist nature) and donated to the RSPCA Millbrook Animal Centre near Guildford and to the RSPCA Canterbury Branch.

CHAIR'S STATEMENT FOR 2025 RSPCA SURREY EAST BRANCH

This year has been another exciting year for us building on 2024, and we have driven another step change in our Branch and the animal welfare services we provide to our local community, to other RSPCA branches in the Southeast and to the wider National Society.

Our year didn't start how we would have hoped. In last year's statement I spoke about Keeley resigning at the end of 2023. So, this meant that we had to shift our focus onto recruiting our new Branch Manager in the first quarter of 2024. I'd like to thank Kate Caulkin and Sara Kortenray for their support in ensuring we had a very successful recruitment campaign after which we appointed Berny Simcox, who joined the team in May 2024. Since joining Berny has helped the Trustees transform our operations and services which I will talk about later.

In April 2024 Jeremy Bassil sadly resigned as a Trustee from the Board. I'd like to thank Jeremy for his help while he was with the Branch, and I wish him all the best for his future endeavours.

At the same time the Branch were in continued negotiations with the National Society, the RSPCA South London Branch and the RSPCA Purley Branch due to the Purley Branch Trustees making the difficult decision to dissolve their Branch. Ultimately it led to the agreement of a boundary change between the RSPCA Purley Branch and the RSPCA Surrey East Branch in July 2024 and I'd like to thank Sarah Piggott and her Branch Partnership team for their support in administering this change. I'd also like to take this opportunity to formally welcome our new members who transferred to the Surrey East Branch as part of our boundary change.

We also continued with the process of the Branch becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation "CIO" throughout 2024. We were not one of the "pilot" Branches so for most of the year this involved attending training events and workshops as the National Society better understood the process and amended the agreements based on the learning under the pilots.

Outside the Branch we saw significant challenges with the National Society and the RSPCA Assured scheme this year. A group of animal welfare activists had carried out secret filming on RSPCA Assured farms which they said showed breaches of legal standards and regulations at around 40 farms. This discovery led to widespread criticism, protestor marches and requests from prominent RSPCA members such as Chris Packman and Brian May to suspend the scheme and from a coalition of organisations for the Scheme to be scrapped immediately.

In September 2024 famous Queen guitarist Brian May announced his resignation from his position as the RSPCA Vice President and sadly this was followed in December 2024 by the joint resignation of the President Chris Packham and the Vice President Caroline Lucas MP citing further concerns about the scheme and the organisation's response.

The National Society did respond by launching an investigation and sending inspectors into over 200 farms. This led to two members being removed and five being sanctioned. They launched an independent investigation carried out by Crowe who published their report in October 2024 stating that "the scheme was operating effectively to assure animal welfare on member farms.

This shockwave and the impact on the public's confidence in the RSPCA was hard for me to watch but I am sure that under new leadership the Society will adapt and emerge stronger for the future.

Now back to our Branch and back to our journey through 2024. If I look back at the year and consider our biggest achievements which I believe have had the greatest impact on animal welfare and on the professionalism of the Branch I would pick these initiatives.

Our cat rehoming work. We have continued to maximise the opportunity our 4 cat pens with the Canterbury Branch and Ashford Branches give us to help our feline friends successfully rehoming 33 cats in 2024. Being able to give these special companions new and improved lives in loving homes certainly motivates me and is why I feel privileged to be in this position.

Our new and improved Branch website. As a committee, we decided that to continue to grow we needed to increase our presence and engagement in this digital age, so we have invested in a new branch website. I believe our amazing new website will allow us to better interact with our community and supporters to raise awareness of what we do and raise much needed funds. We have also better utilised our Facebook and Instagram accounts.

Our new Rabbit Unit Partnership. In the Autumn the committee made the decision to partner up again with the RSPCA Canterbury Branch and we donated £50,000. This was to allow them to restaff their Rabbit Unit which they sadly had to mothball a few years earlier. This exciting new partnership will mean both branches can help care for and rehome countless rabbits in need.

Our continued Animal Welfare Assistance (AWA) Scheme. In 2024 we have given much needed support and help to pet owners in our Branch area with unexpected and unaffordable vet bills. Our AWA scheme is an important service we offer, and with the help of Berny, we have transformed its operation, which will ensure that we can continue to help our community for years to come.

In November 2024, I was very pleased and excited to be able to welcome our new Trustee, Charlotte Parkes, who was co-opted into the committee and has since become our new Treasurer. At this point I'd like to thank Susan Dalton for all her hard work and dedication over the last 7 years I have been here in delivering this critical officer role for the Branch, and to thank Charlotte for taking over and I look forward to working with you.

The year ended how it started with very mixed emotions. December 2024 saw the dual resignation of our two longest standing Trustees Ray Ings and Annie Kortenray. I can say that their resignations were received with both sadness and happiness. I do consider Ray to be Mr RSPCA, having worked with the charity for over 40 years, 17 of which as Chair of this Branch. Ray has made the enviable decision to immigrate to Canada in 2025 and we will all miss him. I'd like to thank Ray for his true dedication to animal welfare and wish him all the best with his next adventure. Annie decided that after 14 years with the Branch it was the right time to step down. Annie started all those years ago shaking tins and organising tea and cake events. Personally, I will really miss her guidance and challenge but would like to thank her too for her dedication and passion for animal welfare. I'm pleased that Annie will continue with the Branch as a volunteer.

Reflecting back, I'd like to recognise the huge impact that Berny has already had on this Branch. Berny has not only helped us with our new external facing initiatives and our AWA but has also helped us with the less glamorous internal tasks such as streamlining our

processes, reorganising our records and updating our policies and systems. This sometimes feels like a thankless task, but I'd like to say,

"Thank you, Berny"

I normally do this first, but finally, I would like to recognise and thank all my fellow Trustees, Kate, Sara, Susan and Charlotte for your time, your ideas, your passion and your trust. I'm confident that with your help, in 2025 we will achieve even more!



Richard Osborne
Chair
RSPCA Surrey East Branch

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO TRUSTEES OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS SURREY EAST BRANCH

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) Surrey East Branch for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity trustees of the Branch 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 Branch's accounts as required 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 Examiners Statement

I have completed my examination. I can confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Branch as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- That the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- That the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than the 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 not come across any 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.



David Wheeler
David Wheeler - Independent Examiner

David Wheeler FCCA
Cheeld Wheeler & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
Redhill Chambers
2d High Street
Redhill
Surrey
RH1 1RJ

Dated: 6 June 2025

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
		£	£	£	£
INCOME					
Donations and voluntary income	2	61,170	74,251	135,421	74,102
Income of other activities	3	-	35,000	35,000	43,219
Investment income	4	7,472	0	7,472	3,211
TOTAL INCOME		68,642	109,251	177,893	120,532
EXPENDITURE					
Costs of raising funds	5	4,771	0	4,771	59
Charitable activities	6	100,760	0	100,760	46,104
Governance costs	7	18,686	0	18,686	11,463
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		124,217	0	124,217	57,626
NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR		-55,575	109,251	53,676	62,906
RECONCILIATION FUNDS					
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1 JANUARY 2024		170,408	40,000	210,408	147,502
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024		114,833	149,251	264,084	210,408

BALANCE SHEET 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors and Prepayments		22	58
Accrued Income		2,226	1,448
Cash at Bank		266,366	212,846
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		268,614	214,532
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year - Sundry creditors and accruals		4,530	3,944
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
Net Assets		264,084	210,408
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY	10		
General accumulated fund		114,833	170,408
Restricted fund		149,251	40,000
TOTAL FUNDS		264,084	210,408

ON BEHALF OF THE CHARITY:


Richard Osborne (Chair)



Charlotte Parkes (Treasurer)

Approved by the Charity on 4 June 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102, the Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice (Charity SORP), the Charities Act 2011 and applicable United Kingdom accounting standards.

The particular accounting policies adopted are described below and are consistent with our previous years approach unless otherwise stated.

Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.
- Lifeline vouchers received from Pets at Home are included as income when spent, with the accompanying expenditure are included.
- Membership subscriptions are accounted for when received.
- Donated services can be included at the value to the Charity where this can be quantified. The value of the services provided by the volunteers has not been included in these accounts.
- Investment income is included when received.
- Incoming resources from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.
- Legacies are accounted for when the funds are received.
- Grant income is treated as income in the year it is received.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability in incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- costs of generating funds comprise costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.
- 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 including the salary costs of the Branch Manager.
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the independent examiner fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.
- Equipment costs are treated as expenditure in the year they are incurred and no depreciation is applied.

These notes form part of the financial statements

- Salary costs - the RSPCA Surrey East Branch employed one part time member of staff, our Branch Manager, from May 2024 to the end of this reporting period. The Branch Manager is still employed. During 2024, the total amount spent on salary costs was £17,250 and £1,310 was paid on Employers National Insurance).
- Pension costs - the cost of providing retirement pensions and related benefits for the Branch Manager is charged to expenses over the periods of the employees employment and during this 2024 reporting period totalled £826.

Fund Accounting

- Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Committee for particular purposes.
- Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

		2024	2023
		£	£
2	DONATIONS AND VOLUNTARY INCOME		
	Door to door collection (share from NS HQ)	21,816	23,094
	Donations	13,242	1,616
	Legacies	0	49,040
	Membership	363	352
	Other	100,001	0
	TOTAL	135,422	74,102
3	INCOME FROM OTHER ACTIVITIES		
	Fundraising events	0	219
	Grant for Animal Welfare Officer - restricted income	35,000	40,000
	Grants from other branches	0	2,400
	Grants from other organisations	0	600
	TOTAL	35,000	43,219
4	INVESTMENT INCOME		

	Bank interest	7,472	3,211
	TOTAL	7,472	3,211
5	EXPENDITURE ON FUNDRAISING EVENTS		
	Fundraising costs	4,771	59
	TOTAL	4,771	59
6	CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURE		
	Veterinary fees and microchips (excl. foster animals), homeless animal costs, wildlife care and provision of support for Inspectors and AROs	44,233	29,044
	Insurance	463	216
	Branch contribution to regional fund and legacy processing costs	6,064	13,599
	Donations to other charities	50,000	3,245
	TOTAL	100,760	46,104
7	GOVERNANCE COSTS		
	Independent examiners fee	900	900
	Annual General Meeting (AGM)	135	110
	Volunteer Travel and Expenses	153	0
	Printing, stationery, telephone and postage	152	778
	Data protection fee	35	35
	Bank charges	61	60
	Staff costs	17,250	9,580
	TOTAL	18,686	11,463

2. Trustee Remuneration & Related Party Transactions

No members of the management committee received any remuneration during 2024.

No Trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during 2024.

The notes form part of these financial statements

The Branch complies with the Branch Rules as issued by the National Society and has a number of related financial transactions with this organisation. The Trustees Ann Kortenray and Sara Kortenray are mother and daughter. Sara is a signatory to our bank accounts, but Ann Kortenray is not.

3. Employee Remuneration and Pension

The RSPCA Surrey East Branch employs one part time member of staff as our Branch Manager who earns less than £60k. A NEST defined contribution pension scheme is in place for this employee.

4. Volunteers

The RSPCA Surrey East Branch would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the volunteers who have helped the branch this year which included running our bookcase at the Redhill train station, providing artwork and publicity materials, providing support to keep our social media updated and supporting us with our annual litter pick.

5. Taxation

As a charity, the RSPCA Surrey East Branch benefits from various exemptions to taxation afforded by the tax legislation and is therefore not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions. Recovery is made from receipts under Gift Aid. Expenditure subject to VAT which is not recoverable by the Branch is shown inclusive of VAT.

6. Movement in funds

The table below shows the movement of funds held by the Branch up to 31 December 2024.

	At 1 January 2024	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds - general	170,408	68,642	124,217	0	114,833
Restricted fund AWO	40,000	35,000	0	0	75,000
Restricted funds - Boundary Change	0	74,251			74,251

Total Funds	210,408	177,893	124,217	0	264,084
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The notes form part of these financial statements

7. Summary of funds as at 31 December 2024

The table below shows the summary of funds held by the Branch as at 31 December 2024.

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Debtors	22	0	22
Accrued Income	2,226	0	2,226
Cash at Bank	117,115	149,251	266,366
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	119,364	149,251	268,615
Creditors	4,530	0	4,530
TOTAL FUNDS	114,833	149,251	264,084

The notes form part of these financial statements

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS SURREY EAST BRANCH

England & Wales - Charity number 202280

Accounts



RSPCA Surrey East Branch
Registered Charity No. 202280

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

FOR THE

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO
ANIMALS SURREY EAST BRANCH**

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER
2023**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

CHARITY NUMBER: 202280

TRUSTEES: Mr G Barford (Resigned June 2023)
Mr J Bassil (Co-opted from August 2023 and resigned March 2024)
Mrs K Caulkin (Vice-Chair)
Miss S Dalton (Treasurer)
Mr R Ings
Mrs A Kortenray (Membership Secretary)
Miss S Kortenray (Secretary)
Mr R Osborne (Chair)

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS: RSPCA Surrey East Branch
C/O RSPCA Headquarters
Parkside Building
Chart Way
Horsham
RH12 1XH

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER: David Wheeler FCCA
Cheeld Wheeler & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
Redhill Chambers
2d High Street
Redhill
Surrey
RH1 1RJ

BANKERS: CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent, ME19 4JQ

United Trust Bank
One Ropemaker Street
London, EC2Y 9AW

Nationwide Building Society
Nationwide House
Pipers Way
Swindon
Wiltshire, SN38 1NW

HR Consultants Acton Jennings
53 Westfield Road

Wakefield
WF4 6HU

Payroll Services

Three Counties Payroll
Unit 14, Elgar Business Centre
Moseley Road
Hallow
Worcester
WR2 6NJ

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity is constituted as an unincorporated association. The charity operates as a separately registered branch of the National RSPCA subject to its rules for branches (as updated in 2012).

Trustees are appointed to the committee by election by branch members at the Annual General Meeting. The committee consists of at least five and not more than fourteen eligible branch members, plus up to three co-opted members (who need not be branch members). The committee may appoint a replacement committee member from eligible branch members to fill any casual vacancy. Induction and training is provided by the RSPCA.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 judgments 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 accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in operation.

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 Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the charity rules. They 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.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals are to promote kindness and to prevent or suppress cruelty to animals. The objects of the branch are to promote the work and objects of the RSPCA, with particular reference to the local area of the branch, by all lawful means and in accordance with the policies of the RSPCA.

The main activities of the branch are:

- Providing accommodation and necessary veterinary care for animals rescued by RSPCA Inspectors and RSPCA Animal Rescue Officers;
- Financial assistance to eligible owners who cannot afford to pay the full cost of their animals' veterinary treatment and/or neutering;
- Undertaking home visits for potential adopters and post-homing visits;
- Supporting the work of regional RSPCA centers;
- Raising funds to meet the cost of this work – collections, donations and legacies. The RSPCA receives no government funding.

During 2023, we employed a Branch Manager from May 2023. This is the first member of staff employed by the branch.

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. We have complied with the duty under the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

ADVANCEMENT OF ANIMAL WELFARE

Under the Charities Act 2011, the advancement of animal welfare is recognised as a distinct statutory charitable purpose. This legislation and the Animal Welfare Act 2006 indicate an acceptance by society that 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 next section of this report highlights the Branch's main activities and demonstrates the benefit provided to the public. All our charitable activities focus on promoting kindness and preventing or suppressing cruelty or suffering to animals and are undertaken to further these purposes for the public benefit.

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES PURSUED FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

We support our local RSPCA Inspectors by taking in, where we can, and free of charge, mistreated or abandoned and injured animals. The RSPCA Inspectorate (as well as providing education, information and advice) rescues animals in distress and enforces laws against the cruel mistreatment of animals in England and Wales by bringing prosecutions. This work is key to 'the prevention or suppression of cruelty' part of the RSPCA objects, and promotes humane sentiments towards animals which involves moral benefit to humankind as a whole.

We provide subsidised veterinary treatment for animals which are sick or injured and belong to local people on low incomes. We do this through a voucher scheme. This work benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to obtain care for companion animals in need of veterinary treatment.

We provide subsidised neutering and microchipping of companion animals for those in the Branch area on low incomes. We do this by a voucher scheme. This work helps to control companion animal populations through neutering and benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to neuter and microchip companion animals, thereby promoting responsible pet ownership.

Animals in our care receive veterinary treatment, vaccination, neutering, microchipping and are assessed for rehoming. This work helps to control the incidence and spread of disease and suffering through vaccination and neutering.

We take in, free of charge, lost and injured animals. This work benefits our local community (including local authorities) by preventing animals straying and posing a risk to themselves and to people through road traffic accidents.

We respond to enquiries (both direct and via the society's national call centre) from the public about animals locally. The public benefits from knowing that we can intervene to assist animals in need.

We provide volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, fostering and fundraising. This benefits local people and companies by providing the possibility of doing work which is compassionate and rewarding.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The trustees actively review the risks which the branch faces on a regular basis through regular meetings of the trustees which cover operational and financial reviews. The trustees also examine other operational and business risks which the branch faces and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks, which have been identified as:

- Insufficient Trustees for the branch to continue
- Insufficient trustee/staff/volunteers to undertake the activities of the branch including fund raising
- Non-compliance with regulations
- Loss of income
- Insufficient income generation
- Loss/reduced reputation

HEALTH & SAFETY

We are committed to maintaining high standards of health and safety and have a policy in place which outlines the ways in which we will achieve this. This policy is reviewed regularly to take account of changes.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Our income was £120,532 (2022: £63,295) and our expenditure £57,626 (2022: £32,923) resulting in an excess of income over expenditure of £62,906 (2022: £30,372).

In 2023, the Branch's income was significantly increased due to the receipt of £49,040 from a legacy, and we are very grateful for being remembered in this way by Mr Philip Reginald Ralphs.

At 31st December 2023 we held reserves of £210,408, (2022: £147,503), of which £40,000 is in restricted funds and £170,408 in general funds.

Our reserves and investment policy is to hold a suitable level of reserves. We do not knowingly invest in anything which causes harm to animals.

RESERVES POLICY

The reserves policy of the society is to maintain a level of unrestricted funds, not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets (free reserves), that will enable the charity to ensure a continuity of activity and the ability to adjust, in a measured way, to any significant changes in resources.

The trustees estimate that an appropriate level of unrestricted reserves will be three years running costs. Should no new funds come into the charity, three years is felt to be the length of time needed to significantly increase our fundraising and therefore a reserve of this level is felt necessary to maintain our current level of support to beneficiaries.

Our existing level of unrestricted reserves is 2 years 11.5 months of expenditure.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVED THIS REPORT ON 14 MAY 2024



.....
R Osborne – Honorary Chairman

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

The main ways in which RSPCA Surrey East fulfils its charitable objects are by supporting the Inspectorate and providing financial assistance for members of the public within the branch area to subsidise neutering and veterinary treatment. Up until June 2023, we also provided pet food to local food banks to help those who are struggling with the cost of living.

During 2023, we offered assistance to the Inspectorate and Animal Collection Team on seven occasions (2022: 13) of which four were taken up. The assistance offered included covering the cost of temporary private boarding due to lack of capacity in the animal centres run by the RSPCA National Society. The branch also provides support to the Inspectors by funding the cost of animals collected by the RSPCA and taken to Wildlife Aid in Leatherhead, (a charity which specialises in the rehabilitation and release of wildlife). This project provides a local solution of where to take injured and sick wildlife which reduces the suffering to the animals and also reduces the travelling time of the Inspectors and Animal Collection Officer, so enabling them to help more animals in need. We are very grateful to our colleagues at RSPCA Guildford and Epsom for providing the administration for the scheme. In 2023, the branch spent £50 (2022: £1,317) on this project. The reduction in support is due to changing priorities introduced by RSPCA National Society in relation to the collection of wildlife.

We also promote the protection of wildlife from harm by taking part in an annual litter pick at Earlswood Lakes in conjunction with the Great British Spring Clean.

To help reduce the risk of unwanted puppies and kittens (both cat and rabbit), the branch neutered 54 animals (2022:23) during the year. This was split between 32 dogs, 19 cats and 3 rabbits. As a rule during 2023, the branch did not support the cost of neutering cats as such cases are referred to Cats Protection who are the experts for caring for cat welfare needs although during the year we did neuter 19 cats. This policy has changed in 2024, as the Cats Protection have withdrawn their subsidised neutering scheme.

The biggest area of support currently provided by the branch is to help those on means tested benefits within our branch area with the cost of emergency veterinary treatment. During the year, the branch helped 118 treatments for animals (2022: 93) (69 dogs, 45 cats and 2 other types of animals) to receive much needed veterinary care.

Between June 2020-2023, the branch has supported the local foodbanks by offering a supply of cat and dog food as required by the individual banks, delivered to their doors within the time frame requested. Unfortunately, this service ceased in June 2023 due to the Trustee who ran this project stepping down as a Trustee. However, we do hope that we can restart the project soon. This project was made possible through the very generous grant of £499.65 from the Katherine Martin Trust and VIP Lifelines vouchers which were received from Pets at Home. Through these two sources, the branch donated £840.65 (2022: £1302) worth of pet food. The foodbanks themselves believe that the support prevented the surrender or

abandonment of a number of pets that would have been brought on by a lack of household funds to pay for their meals.

The branch also supports the other work of the RSPCA by the supply of pet food to Milbrook animal centre and facilitating the purchase of a new floor at Leybourne Animal Centre.

Chair's Statement for 2023

As has become customary I'd like to start my Chair's report by collectively thanking all my fellow Trustees for another year of commitment, hard work, and enthusiasm for animal welfare. I recognise and appreciate the support provided by my colleagues to me and each other. Especially as the last 12 months have seen changes to the world around us which have negatively impacted our animal friends. Two that immediately spring to mind are the new war in Israel and the UK ban on XL Bully dogs. I'm glad to say that these challenges have been met with a steely determination from everyone who believes in a world where all animals are respected and treated with kindness.

First year with our new Branch Manager

- Improved our website/communication
- Improved our AWA processes
- Pulled together our new cat boarding agreement with RSPCA Ashford and RSPCA Canterbury
- Developed our new Trustee, volunteer, and staff Induction Packs

The Branch Manager made a real difference this year but sadly resigned due to making the decision to move to Scotland with their family. We have embarked on a new recruitment campaign to find a replacement and hope to have someone in post by late May/early June. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing branch manager for all their hard work and recognise how much their help and support has moved our Branch forward.

I'd like to thank Kate Caulkin, my Vice-Chair, for her unwavering guidance and support to the Branch Manager and fulfilling the line manager role required. With this being the first year of our Branch Manager role there has been a lot to work through. I'd also like to thank Kate for being my counsel and sounding board for my ideas and helping me shape my thoughts for the future of our Branch.

I'd also like to show my appreciation for our Honorary Treasurer, Susan Dalton, who not only had to deliver her usual treasurer duties throughout the year but supported the Branch with administering the payroll, pension, and other financial activities for our Branch Manager role.

Despite our recruitment efforts we continue to operate without a permanent Branch Secretary on the Board, and I would therefore like to recognise the continued selflessness, hard work and diligence from both Sara Kortenray and Annie Kortenray to temporarily cover the duties and activities required for this role.

This year we finally signed the Grant Agreement with the National Society to release the £75,000 left to the Surrey East Branch by the Friends of South Godstone. This means we can now move forward with the recruitment of our new Animal Welfare Officer role in 2024 once we have become a CIO.

The Surrey East Branch voted to be one of the “early adopters” of the new CIO status which will provide the branch with greater clarity of the Society rules and how we conduct ourselves as well as removing the personal liability on the Trustees and therefore making the role more attractive and with less risk. I hope we will have become a CIO by the middle of 2024.

We also welcomed a new volunteer, Georgina Day, to the branch. Georgie already volunteers for Wildlife Aid Foundation in Leatherhead and is looking to expand her network. Georgie is a successful Senior Project Manager with an IT background, and we are working with her to help create our Digital Strategy and better digital content to engage with our community.

Sadly, at the AGM last June, after a dedicated service to the Branch Graham Barford decided to step down as a Trustee. I'd like to thank Graham for all his support over the years and for volunteering with Ray Ings to administer and deliver support to our local Food Banks throughout the pandemic. I know this selflessness from Graham helped a huge number of families look after their pets at an incredibly difficult time for us all.

In the Autumn the Trustees were approached by the RSPCA Purley, Caterham, and District Branch about a potential merger. The Purley Branch are looking to dissolve their Branch, but Trustees voted against a full merger and instead we have negotiated with the Purley Branch to enact a boundary change to adopt the north Surrey area back into the Surrey East Branch area. The Surrey East Branch have worked hard with the Purley Branch, the South London Branch, and the National Society to protect animal welfare in the area of the dissolving Branch. The South London Branch have decided to merge with the remaining Purley Branch area and I'm looking to building a close relationship with the South London Branch going forward.

The Branch continues to support the inspectorate and provide AWA to our community. This year we have helped 173 animals and given £29,044 in financial assistance to ensure we protect the welfare of animals. Our Branch Manager has ensured that we are able to provide a better, more timely service to our community. I'd like to thank Ray Ings for continuing to act as the Branch's Animal Welfare Advocate offering expert advice to the Branch Manager or his fellow Trustees and also for his role as our Branch Representative to the South-East Regional Board. I also like to recognise Ray's wider role in 2023 as the Vice-Chair of the South-East Regional Board.

Our Branch has continued to receive excellent advice and guidance from our National Society's Branch Partnership team and especially Sarah Piggott as our Senior Branch Partnership Manager.

The trustees were very sad to hear the news that Ellie Unmack passed away peacefully at her home on Sunday, 5 February. Ellie had a tremendous passion for animal welfare and was deeply involved with the branch for many years serving at different times as Chair and Treasurer. She also served on the RSPCA National Council. She was dedicated, incredibly hard working, and would go from manning collecting boxes to going home to care for case

horses that local inspectors had brought to her. In recognition of her dedication to animal welfare, Ellie was awarded the Queen Victoria Silver Award in the RSPCA 2018 Honour's list.

Looking forward in early 2024 it is planned that all the Trustees locked themselves in a room for a day to discuss our vision, our mission, our strategic priorities for 2024, our ambitions and our values. All these will create our strategy for the Branch and I'm looking forward to being able to present these at our next AGM.

Finally, I'll end my Chair's statement with two closing remarks:

- I'm proud of our achievements
- I'm confident over our future

Richard Osborne
Chair
Surrey East Branch

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO TRUSTEES OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS SURREY EAST BRANCH

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Surrey East Branch for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Branch 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 Branch's accounts as required 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 Branch as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. That accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. That accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than the 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.


David Wheeler

David Wheeler - Independent Examiner

David Wheeler FCCA
Cheeld Wheeler & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
Redhill Chambers
2d High Street
Redhill
Surrey
RH1 1RJ

Dated: 24 May 2024

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

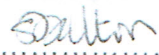
	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2022
				£	£
INCOME					
Donations and voluntary income	2	34,202	40,000	74,202	62,112
Income from other activities	3	43,218	0	43,218	213
Investment income	4	3,211	0	3,211	970
TOTAL INCOME		80,532	40,000	120,532	63,295
EXPENDITURE					
Costs of raising funds	5	59	0	59	0
Charitable activities	6	46,104	0	46,104	31,689
Governance costs	7	11,463	0	11,463	1,235
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		57,626	0	57,626	32,924
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR		22,905	40,000	62,905	30,372
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1 JANUARY 2023		147,503	0	147,503	117,131
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023		170,408	40,000	210,408	147,503

**BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Notes	2023	2022
		£	£
CURRENT ASSETS:			
Debtors		58	324
Accrued income		1448	802
Cash at bank		212,846	148,630
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		214,532	149,756
CURRENT LIABILITIES:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year			
Sundry creditors and accruals		3,944	2,252
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
NET ASSETS		210,408	147,503
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY:			
General accumulated fund	10	170,408	147,503
Restricted fund		40,000	0
TOTAL FUNDS		210,408	147,503

ON BEHALF OF THE CHARITY:


.....
R Osborne


.....
S Dalton

Approved by the Charity on 14 May 2024

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and are in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice (Charity SORP FRS102), the Charities Act 2011 and applicable United Kingdom accounting standards.

The particular accounting policies adopted are described below and are consistent with previous years unless otherwise stated.

The society constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.
- Lifeline Vouchers received from Pets at Home are included as income when spent, with the accompanying expenditure also included.
- Membership subscriptions are accounted for when received.
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the Charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.
- Investment income is included when received.
- Incoming resources from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.
- Legacies are accounted for when the funds are received.
- Grant income is treated as income in the year it is received.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.

The notes form part of these financial statements

- 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 including the salary costs of the Branch Manager.
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the independent examiner fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.
- Equipment costs are treated as expenditure in the year they are incurred and no depreciation is applied.
- Salary costs – RSPCA Surrey East employed one part time member of staff from May 2023 (until February 2024). During 2023, the total amount spent on salary was £8,165 and £301 was paid on Employer's national insurance.
- Pension Costs – The cost of providing retirement pensions and related benefits is charged to expenses over the periods of the employee's employment and during 2023 totalled £115.

Fund accounting

- Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Committee for particular purposes.
- Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	2023	2022
	£	£
2 DONATIONS AND VOLUNTARY INCOME		
Collections and boxes	0	210
Door to door collections (share from HQ)	23,094	23,218
Donations	1,616	2,735
Legacies	49,040	35,500
Membership	352	449
	74,102	62,112
3 INCOME FROM OTHER ACTIVITIES		
Fundraising events	219	196
Commission from pet insurance sales	0	17
Grant for Animal welfare officer – restricted income	40,000	0
Grants from other branches	2,400	0
Grants from other organisations	600	0
	0	0
	43,219	213
4 INVESTMENT INCOME		
Bank interest	3,211	970
	3,211	970
5 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS		
Fundraising costs	59	0
	59	0
6 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURE		
Veterinary fees and microchips (excluding foster animals), homeless animal costs, wildlife care, and provision of support for Inspectors and Rescue Officers	29,044	23,422
Fostering	0	1,589
Insurance	216	943
Branch contribution to regional fund and legacy processing costs	13,599	2,428
Donations to other charities	3,245	3,306
	46,104	31,689

The notes form part of these financial statements

7	GOVERNANCE COSTS		
	Independent examiner's fee	900	840
	Annual General Meeting	110	99
	Printing, stationery, telephone & postage	778	180
	Data protection fee	35	35
	Bank charges	60	81
	Staff costs	9,580	0
		12,243	1,235

2 TRUSTEE REMUNERATION & RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No members of the management committee received any remuneration during the year.

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

The Branch complies with the Branch Rules as issued by the National Society and has a number of related financial transactions with this organisation. The Trustees Ann Korttenray and Sara Korttenray are mother and daughter. Sara Korttenray is a signatory on the bank accounts, but Ann Korttenray is not.

Related party transactions have included:

- £40,000 received from the National Society of the RSPCA as a grant to use to employ an Animal Welfare Officer.

3 EMPLOYEE REMUNERATION AND PENSION

RSPCA Surrey East employs one part time member of staff who earns less than £60k. A NEST defined contribution pension scheme is in place.

4. VOLUNTEERS

RSPCA Surrey East are very grateful to the volunteers who helped the branch this year which included running our bookcase, providing art work and publicity materials and supporting us at our annual litter pick.

The notes form part of these financial statements

5. TAXATION

As a charity, the society benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is therefore not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions. Recovery is made from receipts under Gift Aid. Expenditure subject to VAT which is not recoverable by the Branch is shown inclusive of the VAT.

6 MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS

	At 1 January 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted fund - General	147,503	80,532	57,626	0	170,408
Restricted fund - AWO	0	40,000	0	0	40,000
Total funds	<u>147,503</u>	<u>120,532</u>	<u>57,626</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>210,408</u>

7 SUMMARY OF FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	TOTAL £
Debtors	58	-	58
Accrued income	1,448	-	1,448
Cash at bank	172,846	40,000	212,846
	<u>174,352</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>214,846</u>
Creditors	(3,944)	-	(3,944)
Total funds	<u>170,408</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>210,408</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS SURREY EAST BRANCH

England & Wales - Charity number 202280

Accounts



RSPCA Surrey East Branch
Registered Charity No. 202280

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

FOR THE

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO
ANIMALS SURREY EAST BRANCH**

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

CHARITY NUMBER: 202280

TRUSTEES: Mr G Barford
Mrs K Caulkin (Co-opted from 15 September 2022)
Miss S Dalton (Treasurer)
Mr R Ings
Mrs A Kortenray (Membership Secretary)
Miss S Kortenray (Secretary)
Mr R Osborne (Chair)
Mr I Thomas (Until 3 October 2022)
Mrs C Young (Until 31 October 2022)

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS: RSPCA Surrey East Branch
C/O RSPCA Headquarters
Parkside Building
Chart Way
HORSHAM
RH12 1GY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER: David Wheeler FCCA
Cheeld Wheeler & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
Redhill Chambers
2d High Street
Redhill
Surrey
RH1 1RJ

BANKERS: CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent, ME19 4JQ

United Trust Bank
One Ropemaker Street
London, EC2Y 9AW
Nationwide Building Society
Nationwide House
Pipers Way
Swindon
Wiltshire, SN38 1NW

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity is constituted as an unincorporated association. The charity operates as a separately registered branch of the National RSPCA subject to its rules for branches (as updated in 2012).

Trustees are appointed to the committee by election by branch members at the Annual General Meeting. The committee consists of at least five and not more than fourteen eligible branch members, plus up to three co-opted members (who need not be branch members). The committee may appoint a replacement committee member from eligible branch members to fill any casual vacancy. Induction and training is provided by the RSPCA.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 judgments 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 accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in operation.

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 Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the charity rules. They 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.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals are to promote kindness and to prevent or suppress cruelty to animals. The objects of the branch are to promote the work and objects of the RSPCA, with particular reference to the local area of the branch, by all lawful means and in accordance with the policies of the RSPCA.

The main activities of the branch are:

- Providing accommodation and necessary veterinary care for animals rescued by RSPCA Inspectors and RSPCA Animal Rescue Officers;
- Financial assistance to eligible owners who cannot afford to pay the full cost of their animals' veterinary treatment and/or neutering;
- Undertaking home visits for potential adopters and post-homing visits;
- Supporting the work of regional RSPCA centres;
- Raising funds to meet the cost of this work – collections, donations and legacies. The RSPCA receives no government funding.

During 2022, we employed no staff and rely entirely on volunteers to do this work.

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. We have complied with the duty under the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

ADVANCEMENT OF ANIMAL WELFARE

Under the Charities Act 2011, the advancement of animal welfare is recognised as a distinct statutory charitable purpose. This legislation and the Animal Welfare Act 2006 indicate an acceptance by society that 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 next section of this report highlights the Branch's main activities and demonstrates the benefit provided to the public. All our charitable activities focus on promoting kindness and

preventing or suppressing cruelty or suffering to animals and are undertaken to further these purposes for the public benefit.

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES PURSUED FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

We support our local RSPCA Inspectors by taking in, where we can, and free of charge, mistreated or abandoned and injured animals. The RSPCA Inspectorate (as well as providing education, information and advice) rescues animals in distress and enforces laws against the cruel mistreatment of animals in England and Wales by bringing prosecutions. This work is key to 'the prevention or suppression of cruelty' part of the RSPCA objects, and promotes humane sentiments towards animals which involves moral benefit to humankind as a whole.

We provide subsidised veterinary treatment for animals which are sick or injured and belong to local people on low incomes. We do this through a voucher scheme. This work benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to obtain care for companion animals in need of veterinary treatment.

We provide subsidised neutering and microchipping of companion animals for those in the Branch area on low incomes. We do this by a voucher scheme. This work helps to control companion animal populations through neutering and benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to neuter and microchip companion animals, thereby promoting responsible pet ownership.

Animals in our care receive veterinary treatment, vaccination, neutering, microchipping and are assessed for rehoming. This work helps to control the incidence and spread of disease and suffering through vaccination and neutering.

We take in, free of charge, lost and injured animals. This work benefits our local community (including local authorities) by preventing animals straying and posing a risk to themselves and to people through road traffic accidents.

We respond to enquiries (both direct and via the society's national call centre) from the public about animals locally. The public benefits from knowing that we can intervene to assist animals in need.

We provide volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, fostering and fundraising. This benefits local people and companies by providing the possibility of doing work which is compassionate and rewarding.

We provide support for local foodbanks by way of regular donations of pet food. This work benefits our local community by alleviating hardship.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The trustees actively review the risks which the branch faces on a regular basis through regular meetings of the trustees which cover operational and financial reviews. The trustees also examine other operational and business risks which the branch faces and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks, which have been identified as:

- Insufficient funds to fulfil our charitable purposes including loss of funds from the “Door to Door” collection
- Loss of reputation through error or fraud
- Loss of income through error or fraud (including investment performance)
- Insufficient trustees for the Branch to continue
- Insufficient trustees and volunteers for key activities

HEALTH & SAFETY

We are committed to maintaining high standards of health and safety and have a policy in place which outlines the ways in which we will achieve this. This policy is reviewed regularly to take account of changes.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Our income was £63,295 (2021: £32,788) and our expenditure £32,923 (2021: £18,874) resulting in an excess of income over expenditure of £30,372 (2021: £13,914).

In 2022, the Branch’s income was significantly increased due to the receipt of £35,500 from four legacies and we are very grateful to those who decided to remember us in this way.

We currently hold reserves of £147,503 (2021: £117,131).


Our reserves and investment policy is to hold a suitable level of reserves. We do not knowingly invest in anything which causes harm to animals.

RESERVES POLICY

The reserves policy of the society is to maintain a level of unrestricted funds, not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets (free reserves), that will enable the charity to ensure a continuity of activity and the ability to adjust, in a measured way, to any significant changes in resources.

The trustees estimate that an appropriate reserve will be three years running costs. Should no new funds come into the charity, three years is felt to be the length of time needed to significantly increase our fundraising and therefore a reserve of this level is felt necessary to maintain our current level of support to beneficiaries. Our existing level of reserves is 4.5 years.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVED THIS REPORT ON 18 MAY 2023


.....
R Osborne – Honorary Chairman

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

The main ways in which RSPCA Surrey East fulfils its charitable objects are by supporting the Inspectorate, providing financial assistance for members of the public within the branch area to subsidise neutering and veterinary treatment and by providing pet food to local food banks to help those who are struggling with the cost of living.

During 2022, we offered assistance to the Inspectorate and Animal Collection Team on thirteen occasions of which five were taken up. The assistance offered included covering the cost of temporary private boarding due to lack of capacity in the animal centres run by the RSPCA National Society. The branch also provides support to the Inspectors by funding the cost of Wildlife Aid in Leatherhead, (a charity which specialises in the rehabilitation and release of wildlife) taking in animals collected by the RSPCA. In 2022, the branch spent £917 on this project which allowed for 16 animals to be treated and cared for at Wildlife Aid. This project provides a local solution of where to take injured and sick wildlife which reduces the suffering to the animals and also reduces the travelling time of the Inspectors and Animal Collection Officer, so enabling them to help more animals in need. We are very grateful to our colleagues at RSPCA Guildford and Epsom for providing the administration for the scheme.

We also aim to protect wildlife from harm by taking part in an annual litter pick in conjunction with the Great British Spring Clean.

To help reduce the risk of unwanted puppies and kittens (both cat and rabbit), the branch neutered 23 animals during the year. This was split between 19 dogs and 1 rabbit. As a rule, the branch does not support the cost of neutering cats as such cases are referred to Cats Protection who are the experts for caring for cat welfare needs.

The biggest area of support currently provided by the branch is to help those on means tested benefits within our branch area with the cost of emergency veterinary treatment. During the year, the branch helped 93 treatments for animals (64 dogs, 26 cats and 3 rabbits) to receive much needed veterinary care.

Since June 2020, the branch has been supporting the local foodbanks. Trustees were able to offer a supply of cat and dog food as required by the individual banks, delivered to their doors within the time frame requested, every week of the year. This was made possible by the remainder of the gift of dog and cat food which had been received from the manufacturer and stored at Leybourne and surplus donations received by RSPCA Brighton Branch and by the continuing VIP Lifelines vouchers which were received from Pets at Home. Through the Lifeline vouchers the branch donated £1306 worth of pet food *but this was significantly supplemented by surplus food donations at Leybourne and Brighton.* The foodbanks themselves believe that the support prevented the surrender or abandonment of a number of pets that would have been brought on by a lack of household funds to pay for their meals. During 2022 and 2023, the National Society has seen the benefits of food banks to support the animals of those suffering the effects of the cost of living crisis but also the RSPCA themselves, as otherwise we would have faced the need to take in and support most of the animals. Trustees wish to

acknowledge the invaluable assistance of the Senior Branch Partnership Manager, and the generosity of Pets at Home.

In response to the tragic situation for both humans and pets as a result of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the trustees decided to donate £2000 to Four Paws, an animal welfare organisation which was working to support the evacuation of pets and reuniting them with their owners during this very difficult time.

Chair's Statement for 2022

I would like to start my Chair's report by thanking my fellow Trustees for all their dedication and hard work over the last 12 months but also thanking them for their belief and trust in our vision and how we collectively want to move the Branch forward to provide improved animal welfare within our area. I continue to be inspired and energised by their passion and commitment.

As a committee we have seen changes throughout the last 12 months. Both Iain Thomas and Clare Young resigned last Autumn due to personal commitments that meant they were not able to give the Trustee role the dedication it requires. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank both Iain and Clare for their support over the years and wish them all the best for the future. We continued to operate without a permanent Secretary, but both Sara and Ann Kortenray have covered the Secretary duties for which I'm very thankful.

We welcomed a new Trustee, Kate Caulkin, in September 2022. Kate is the People and Operational Management Insights Director at the National Audit Office (NAO) and brings a wealth of experience to the committee and addressed a skills gap identified by our Trustee skills audit conducted last year. Kate is now our Vice Chair and going forward is responsible for supporting me in recruiting new Trustees, among other things.

In June 2022 the committee agreed as part of our growth plan to incorporate the Trustees which allows for contracts to be signed by two Trustees on behalf of the Trustee body. The Charity Commission confirmed on 6 April 2023 that we are now incorporated. Following our incorporation, the Surrey East Branch are now in the position to restart conversations with the National Society to sign the Grant Agreement drafted last Summer to release the £75,000 set aside by the Friends of South Godstone (FoSG). This will enable the Branch to proceed with the recruitment of our Animal Welfare Officer (AWO) later in the year. I very much look forward to working with the committee, as well as others, to recruit and welcome this key role.

This brings me onto the next item of good news. In December 2022 the committee also agreed to recruit a part-time Branch Manager. This new role was seen as pivotal to enable our growth plan and ensure we have all the necessary building blocks in place to recruit our AWO as well as improve our engagement with our community and our fundraising activities. It was recognised that the Trustees, as volunteers and with other jobs, did not have the necessary free time to drive us forward and therefore we need to employ a resource. I'd like to give particular thanks to Kate and to Susan Dalton for their support in pulling together the necessary documents and contracts to support this new role. The recruitment started in 2023. I'd also like to thank Susan for her continued

commitment in our Treasurer role.

Throughout the year the Branch has continued to support food banks in the area. Our Trustees Graham Barford and Ray Ings have travelled far and wide to both Leybourne and Brighton Animal Centres to collect pet food and deliver this on a regular basis to those in need. We continued to receive vouchers from Pets at Home VIP lifeline scheme worth £1306 and we would like to extend your thanks and gratitude. As described in our Charitable Activities section this has made a huge difference to many lives. I'm very proud of what we have achieved here, and I thank both Graham and Ray to dedicating their free time and occasional storage.

Also as outlined in our Charitable Activities section the Branch continues to help and support animal welfare. Across our collaboration with Wildlife Aid, our neutering scheme and our animal welfare assistance programme, we have assisted in over 100 cases of animals in need this year. This is our core activity and I know is why I and my fellow Trustees became involved with the RSPCA and the Surrey East Branch. The Animal Welfare Assistance scheme has been administered by the Trustees on a weekly rota basis. Following a review in early Summer 2022 we the committee decided to divide this role amongst the Trustees. We continued to receive a high level of requests with some seeking financial support into the £000s. I'd like to thank my fellow Trustees for dealing with these requests with compassion and empathy whilst ensuring that as a committee we stick to our funding allocation.

The Branch has also recognised the need for greater collaboration amongst the RSPCA branches as well as other complimentary animal welfare organisations. We have recently created new arrangements with the East Surrey Cats Protection which allows us to communicate and support each other with requests for support for cat welfare. We have also engaged with both the Guildford and Epsom Branch and the North Sussex and Brighton Branch to strengthen our relationship and as Chair I will attend the North Sussex and Brighton Branch meetings on a six-monthly basis to identify and develop initiatives that improve our collective service to animal welfare.

I'd like 2023 to be our year of growth, as I have already described we will be recruiting both a new Branch Manager and a new Animal Welfare Officer. As well as this we want to recruit three new Trustees to the Board to address other skills gaps, such as communication and marketing experience and legal experience. With the support of our Branch Manager, we will also be rebuilding our fostering and rehoming network. This will enable us to increase our support to the Inspectorate by taking and placing unwanted animals and creating more space within our holistic care system.

As well as thanking all my fellow Trustees for their unwavering commitment, challenge and new ideas I'd like to extend my gratitude and thanks to Sarah Piggott, Senior

Branch Partnership Manager, for her continued support, dedication and calm guidance when I have needed it. Finally, as Chair, I will continue to work with my Trustees, our new staff, National Society representatives and the wider community to ensure that Surrey East Branch remains resilient for today but also grows for the future demands whatever they may be.

Richard Osborne
Chair
Surrey East Branch

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO TRUSTEES OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS SURREY EAST BRANCH

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Surrey East Branch for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Branch 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 Branch's accounts as required 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 Branch as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. That accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. That accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than the 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.


David Wheeler

David Wheeler - Independent Examiner

David Wheeler FCCA
Cheeld Wheeler & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
Redhill Chambers
2d High Street
Redhill
Surrey
RH1 1RJ

Dated: 18th May 2023


**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**


	Notes	2022	2021
		£	£
INCOME			
Donations and voluntary income	2	62,112	26,808
Income from other activities	3	213	5,635
Investment income	4	970	345
TOTAL INCOME		63,295	32,788
EXPENDITURE			
Costs of raising funds	5	0	2
Charitable activities	6	31,688	17,947
Governance costs	7	1,235	925
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		32,923	18,874
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR		30,372	13,914
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1 JANUARY		117,131	103,217
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER		147,503	117,131

BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022	2021
		£	£
CURRENT ASSETS:			
Debtors and Prepayments		324	292
Accrued income		802	420
Cash at bank		148,630	118,928
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		149,756	119,640
CURRENT LIABILITIES:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year			
Sundry creditors and accruals		2,253	2,509
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
NET ASSETS		147,503	117,131
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY:			
General accumulated fund	10	147,503	117,131
TOTAL FUNDS		147,503	117,131

ON BEHALF OF THE CHARITY:


.....
R Osborne


.....
S Dalton
Approved by the Charity on 18 May 2023

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and are in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice (Charity SORP FRS102), the Charities Act 2011 and applicable United Kingdom accounting standards.

The particular accounting policies adopted are described below and are consistent with previous years unless otherwise stated.

The society constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.
- Lifeline Vouchers received from Pets at Home are included as income when spent, with the accompanying expenditure also included.
- Membership subscriptions are accounted for when received.
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the Charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.
- Investment income is included when received.
- Incoming resources from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.
- Legacies are accounted for when the funds are received.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.

The notes form part of these financial statements

- 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.
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the independent examiner fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

Fund accounting

- Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Management Committee for particular purposes.
- Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	2022	2021
	£	£
2 DONATIONS AND VOLUNTARY INCOME		
Collections and boxes	210	0
Door to door collections (share from HQ)	23,218	24,134
Donations	2,735	2,300
Legacies	35,500	0
Membership	449	374
	62,112	26,808
3 INCOME FROM OTHER ACTIVITIES		
Fundraising events	196	122
Sale of donated goods	0	63
Adoption fees	0	0
Commission from pet insurance sales	17	15
Return of un-used grant to RSPCA South Godstone	0	0
Return of unused Branch Emergency Fund donation	0	5,435
	213	5,635
4 INVESTMENT INCOME		
Bank interest	970	345
	970	345
5 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS		
Fundraising costs	0	2
	0	2
6 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURE		
Veterinary fees and microchips (excluding foster animals), homeless animal costs, wildlife care, and provision of support for Inspectors and Rescue Officers	23,422	14,255
Fostering	1,589	0
Insurance	943	524
Branch contribution to regional fund and legacy processing costs	2,428	1,378
Donations to other charities	3,306	1,790
	31,688	17,947

The notes form part of these financial statements

7 GOVERNANCE COSTS		
Independent examiner's fee	840	720

Annual General Meeting	99	74
Printing, stationery, telephone & postage	180	0
Data protection fee	35	35
Bank charges	81	96
	1,235	925

2 TRUSTEE REMUNERATION & RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No members of the management committee received any remuneration during the year.

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year except for one trustee who made purchases of £64.71 (2021: £44.42).

The Branch complies with the Branch Rules as issued by the National Society and has a number of related financial transactions with this organisation. Clare Young was also employed by the RSPCA National Society.

The Trustees Ann Kortenray and Sara Kortenray are mother and daughter. Sara Kortenray is a signatory on the bank accounts, but Ann Kortenray is not.

Related party transactions have included:

- £5,435.45 repaid from our donation to the Branch Emergency Fund which closed in 2021 and remaining funds were redistributed pro-rata to the original contribution.

3 TAXATION

As a charity, the society benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is therefore not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions. Recovery is made from receipts under Gift Aid. Expenditure subject to VAT which is not recoverable by the Branch is shown inclusive of the VAT.

The notes form part of these financial statements

4 MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS

	At 1 January 2022	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resource s	Transfers	At 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	117,131	63,295	32,923	0	147,503
Total funds	<u>117,131</u>	<u>63,295</u>	<u>32,923</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>147,503</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS SURREY EAST BRANCH

England & Wales - Charity number 202280

Accounts



RSPCA Surrey East Branch
Registered Charity No. 202280

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

FOR THE

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO
ANIMALS SURREY EAST BRANCH**

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

CHARITY NUMBER: 202280

TRUSTEES: Mr G Barford
Miss S Dalton (Treasurer)
Mr R Ings
Mrs A Kortenray (Membership Secretary)
Miss S Kortenray
Mr R Osborne (Vice Chair until 26 August; Chair - 26 August onwards)
Mr I Thomas (Chair until 26 August; Secretary - 26 August onwards)
Mrs C Young (Co-opted Vice Chair - 26 August onwards)

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS: 1 Pondfield Road
Rudgwick
Horsham
RH12 3EN

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER: David Wheeler FCCA
Cheeld Wheeler & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
Goodman House
13a West Street
Reigate
Surrey, RH2 9BL

BANKERS: CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent, ME19 4JQ

United Trust Bank
One Ropemaker Street
London, EC2Y 9AW

Nationwide Building Society
Nationwide House
Pipers Way
Swindon
Wiltshire, SN38 1NW

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity is constituted as an unincorporated association. The charity operates as a separately registered branch of the National RSPCA subject to its rules for branches (as updated in 2012).

Trustees are appointed to the committee by election by branch members at the Annual General Meeting. The committee consists of at least five and not more than fourteen eligible branch members, plus up to three co-opted members (who need not be branch members). The committee may appoint a replacement committee member from eligible branch members to fill any casual vacancy. Induction and training is provided by the RSPCA.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 judgments 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 accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in operation.

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 Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the charity rules. They 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.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals are to promote kindness and to prevent or suppress cruelty to animals. The objects of the branch are to promote the work and objects of the RSPCA, with particular reference to the local area of the branch, by all lawful means and in accordance with the policies of the RSPCA.

The main activities of the branch are:

- Providing accommodation and necessary veterinary care for animals rescued by RSPCA Inspectors and RSPCA Animal Rescue Officers;
- Financial assistance to eligible owners who cannot afford to pay the full cost of their animals' veterinary treatment and/or neutering;
- Undertaking home visits for potential adopters and post-homing visits;
- Supporting the work of regional RSPCA centres;
- Raising funds to meet the cost of this work – collections, donations and legacies. The RSPCA receives no government funding.

We employ no staff and rely entirely on volunteers to do this work.

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. We have complied with the duty under the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

ADVANCEMENT OF ANIMAL WELFARE

Under the Charities Act 2011, the advancement of animal welfare is recognised as a distinct statutory charitable purpose. This legislation and the Animal Welfare Act 2006 indicate an acceptance by society that 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 next section of this report highlights the Branch's main activities and demonstrates the benefit provided to the public. All our charitable activities focus on promoting kindness and preventing or suppressing cruelty to animals and are undertaken to further these purposes for the public benefit.

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES PURSUED FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

We support our local RSPCA Inspectors by taking in, where we can, and free of charge, mistreated or abandoned and injured animals. The RSPCA Inspectorate (as well as providing education, information and advice) rescues animals in distress and enforces laws against the cruel mistreatment of animals in England and Wales by bringing prosecutions. This work is key to 'the prevention or suppression of cruelty' part of the RSPCA objects, and promotes humane sentiments towards animals which involves moral benefit to humankind as a whole.

We provide subsidised veterinary treatment for animals which are sick or injured and belong to local people on low incomes. We do this through a voucher scheme. This work benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to obtain care for companion animals in need of veterinary treatment.

We provide subsidised neutering and microchipping of companion animals for those in the Branch area on low incomes. We also provide a subsidised scheme for the neutering of Bull Breed Dogs. We do this by a voucher scheme. This work helps to control companion animal populations through neutering and benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to neuter and microchip companion animals, thereby promoting responsible pet ownership.

Animals in our care receive veterinary treatment, vaccination, neutering, microchipping and are assessed for rehoming. This work helps to control the incidence and spread of disease and suffering through vaccination and neutering.

We take in, free of charge, lost and injured animals. This work benefits our local community (including local authorities) by preventing animals straying and posing a risk to themselves and to people through road traffic accidents.

We respond to enquiries (both direct and via the society's national call centre) from the public about animals locally. The public benefits from knowing that we can intervene to assist animals in need.

We provide volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, fostering and fundraising. This benefits local people and companies by providing the possibility of doing work which is compassionate and rewarding.

We provide support for local foodbanks by way of regular donations of pet food. This work benefits our local community by alleviating hardship.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The trustees actively review the risks which the branch faces on a regular basis through regular meetings of the trustees which cover operational and financial reviews. The trustees also examine other operational and business risks which the branch faces and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks, which have been identified as:

- Insufficient funds to fulfil our charitable purposes including loss of funds from the “Door to Door” collection
- Loss of reputation through error or fraud
- Loss of income through error or fraud (including investment performance)
- Insufficient Trustees for the Branch to continue
- Insufficient volunteers for fundraising activities

HEALTH & SAFETY

We are committed to maintaining high standards of health and safety and have a policy in place which outlines the ways in which we will achieve this. This policy is reviewed regularly to take account of changes.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Our income was £32,788 (2020: £49,669) and our expenditure £18,874 (2020: £37,376) resulting in an excess of income over expenditure of £13,914 (2020: £12,293).

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, a significant expenditure in 2020 included the donation of our income from the National Society Door to Door scheme to a Branch Emergency Fund which was established by the National Society to help struggling branches that were in danger of closing due to the financial effects of the pandemic. In 2021, the Branch Emergency Fund was closed and remaining funds redistributed pro-rata to the original contribution. We therefore received a repayment of £5,435.45.

We currently hold reserves of £117,131 (2020: £103,217).

Our reserves and investment policy is to hold a suitable level of reserves. We do not knowingly invest in anything which causes harm to animals.

RESERVES POLICY

The reserves policy of the society is to maintain a level of unrestricted funds, not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets (free reserves), that will enable the charity to ensure a continuity of activity and the ability to adjust, in a measured way, to any significant changes in resources.

The trustees estimate that an appropriate reserve will be three years running costs. Should no new funds come into the charity, three years is felt to be the length of time needed to significantly increase our fundraising and therefore a reserve of this level is felt necessary to maintain our current level of support to beneficiaries. Our existing level of reserves is 6.3 years.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVED THIS REPORT ON 28 APRIL 2022


.....
R Osborne – Honorary Chairman

FOODBANK PROJECT

The activity in support of the local foodbanks in the RSPCA East Surrey area, which had started in June 2020, continued throughout the whole of 2021. The pandemic seriously affected the operation, but the need for the continuing support was made very clear by the foodbanks themselves.

Trustees were able to offer a supply of cat, dog and small animal food as required by the individual banks, delivered to their doors within the time frame requested, every week for the entire year.

This was made possible by the remainder of the gift of dog and cat food which had been received from the manufacturer and stored at Leybourne, and by the continuing VIP Lifelines vouchers which were received from Pets at Home. It is no longer possible to estimate the value of the petfood distributed during the year, but it was significantly greater than the previous half-year of operation, which had been assessed as having a retail value of nearly £2,200. The foodbanks themselves believe that the support prevented the surrender or abandonment of a number of pets that would have been brought on by a lack of household funds to pay for their meals. So it may well be that the project was beneficial not only to local folk affected by the crisis and their animals, but ultimately to the RSPCA themselves as we would have faced the need to take in and support most of the animals so affected.

Demand for petfood for the foodbanks was entirely unpredictable, no two weeks bringing the same needs. Supply of foodstuff remained a problem throughout the year, as did the question of storage, but the problems were not allowed to interrupt the support.

Trustees wish to acknowledge the invaluable assistance of the Branch Partnership Manager, and the generosity of Pets at Home.

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT FOR 2021 RSPCA SURREY EAST BRANCH

Whilst I was voted in as the new Chair at the August AGM this report also covers the period when Iain Thomas was Chair of the Branch. Iain provided much needed stability to the board and drove numerous initiatives to improve the administration of the Branch. Iain decided to step down as Chair as he moved to Wales in the year and felt that he could no longer dedicate the level of time and effort required to be Chair. He wanted to stay as a Trustee which the committee welcomed. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Iain for his vision, passion and hard work as Chair and his continued support as a Trustee.

I think it is fair to say that 2021 continued where 2020 left and has been another 12 months of changes, uncertainty, and challenges for the Branch. The country, our communities and the Branch continued to find their way through the restrictions and live with covid. We continued to operate throughout the year through virtual monthly committee meetings however we look forward to 2022 when we will hope to meet through a blend of virtual and face to face meetings.

Our trustees remain our biggest asset however we lost a valuable Trustee and our Secretary, Clare Firmager, in July. Clare decided that she wanted to prioritise other commitments and it was with sadness as well as best wishes that we said goodbye. I'd like to take this opportunity to also thank Clare for her input, experience, and support. Unfortunately, we have continued through the rest of the year without a permanent Secretary and with one less Trustee. I will make it my priority in 2022 to attract new Trustees to the Branch and build our skills and experience for the future.

The Branch have continued to drive the exploration of employing an Animal Welfare Officer (AWO) throughout the year. Iain and I presented our AWO proposal to a group of the Friends of South Godstone (FoSG) Trustees in August seeking agreement that our request that they set aside £75,000 from the FoSG funds to help pay for our AWO was put to the full Board. I'm proud to say that in December it was verbally confirmed that our request had been put to the full Board, as well as senior representatives from the National Society, at their final "closing" AGM and that they unanimously voted in favour. We would subsequently receive written confirmation from the National Society. We look forward to receiving these funds in 2022 and recruiting our new AWO which I hope to have in place by the end of 2022.

South Godstone continued to play a part in our lives through 2021. I believe the full effects of its closure have yet to materialise, but I feel that our AWO will help to mitigate the impact and ensure the Branch continue to provide support to our Inspectors and animal welfare in our area.

During the year we also received the news that the National Society Headquarters in Southwater, West Sussex would be sold and that the RSPCA would be looking for a new home. For me this felt like it had the potential to be a seismic shift within the RSPCA but we continue to work with and support the National Society and look forward to hearing about the next steps.

Throughout the year the Branch have continued to deliver our foodbank project. Our Trustees diligently deliver pet food to participating foodbanks on a weekly/fortnightly basis and I'd like to thank them for their passion and dedication. We have received further vouchers from the Pets at Home VIP Lifelines scheme totalling over £1,700 and the Trustees and I are very grateful and extend our thanks.

We have continued to receive requests from members of the public for financial support with vet bills with some being for considerable sums. It is clear that some owners have bought pets when their financial situation was not stable enough which is a worrying trend. Our Animal Welfare Advocate has tirelessly dealt with these requests with compassion but has had to balance the support we can offer with the funds we have available. This has meant that we were not always able to offer the level of support needed or that we wanted to give which at times has been a distressing situation. I'd like to recognise this and thank my Trustees, especially Ray Ings, for their continued dedication to the welfare of animals.

Within the year the Branch also decided to combine with the Guildford and Epsom Branch to support our Inspectors in dealing with wildlife in our Branch area. Our Inspectors have highlighted to the Trustees that the uncertainty about how to deal with wildlife rescued in our Branch area has created issues. To address this, we engaged with the Guildford and Epsom Branch and now fund wildlife treatment costs billed by Wildlife Aid in Leatherhead for animals collected in our Branch area, and confirmed to the Inspectors that they could use this facility.

As I have described this year has been a challenge, but we have faced up to it with a resilient positivity and I would like to not only express my heartfelt thank you to all my Trustees for their support, energy, and when necessary, scrutiny but also to Sarah Piggott, our Branch Partnership Manager, for her professionalism, advice, and commitment despite her busy schedule.

Looking forward to 2022 I'm excited about the possibilities for the Branch and I will work with my fellow Trustees to continue to provide an essential service to our Inspectors and our animal friends as well build our committee with new Trustees, recruit our AWO and expand our service to our community.

Richard Osborne
Chair – Surrey East Branch

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO TRUSTEES OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS SURREY EAST BRANCH

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Surrey East Branch for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Branch 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 Branch's accounts as required 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 Branch as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. That accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. That accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than the 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.



David Wheeler

David Wheeler - Independent Examiner

David Wheeler FCCA
Cheeld Wheeler & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
Goodman House
13a West Street
Reigate
Surrey
RH2 9BL

Dated: 13 May 2022

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	Notes	<u>2021</u> £	<u>2020</u> £
INCOME			
Donations and voluntary income	2	26,808	27,785
Income from other activities	3	5,635	20,950
Investment income	4	345	934
TOTAL INCOME		<u>32,788</u>	<u>49,669</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Costs of raising funds	5	2	73
Charitable activities	6	17,947	36,404
Governance costs	7	925	899
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>18,874</u>	<u>37,376</u>
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR		13,914	12,293
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1 JANUARY 2021		<u>103,217</u>	<u>90,924</u>
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021		<u>117,131</u>	<u>103,217</u>

**BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2021**

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
CURRENT ASSETS:			
Debtors and Prepayments		292	588
Accrued income		420	727
Cash at bank		118,928	103,102
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		119,640	104,417
CURRENT LIABILITIES:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year			
Sundry creditors and accruals		<u>2,509</u>	<u>1,200</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS:			
NET ASSETS		117,131	103,217
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY:			
General accumulated fund	10	117,131	103,217
TOTAL FUNDS		117,131	103,217

ON BEHALF OF THE CHARITY:



 R Osborne



 S Dalton
 Approved by the Charity on 28 April 2022

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and are in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice (Charity SORP FRS102), the Charities Act 2011 and applicable United Kingdom accounting standards.

The particular accounting policies adopted are described below and are consistent with previous years unless otherwise stated.

The society constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.
- Membership subscriptions are accounted for when received.
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the Charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.
- Investment income is included when received.
- Incoming resources from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.
- Legacies are accounted for when the funds are received.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.
- 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.

The notes form part of these financial statements

- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the independent examiner fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

Fund accounting

- Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Management Committee for particular purposes.
- Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	2021 £	2020 £
2 DONATIONS AND VOLUNTARY INCOME		
Collections and boxes	-	122
Door to door collections (share from HQ)	24,134	25,173
Donations	2,300	2,117
Membership	374	373
	<u>26,808</u>	<u>27,785</u>
3 INCOME FROM OTHER ACTIVITIES		
Fundraising	122	810
Sale of donated goods	63	-
Adoption fees	-	140
Commission from pet insurance sales	15	-
Return of South Godstone grant	-	20,000
Return of unused Branch Emergency Fund donation	5,435	-
	<u>5,635</u>	<u>20,950</u>
4 INVESTMENT INCOME		
Bank interest	345	934
	<u>345</u>	<u>934</u>
5 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS		
Fundraising costs	2	73
	<u>2</u>	<u>73</u>
6 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURE		
Veterinary fees and microchips (excluding foster animals), homeless animal costs, and provision of equipment for Inspectors	14,255	8,981
Fostering	-	487
Insurance	524	524
Branch contribution to regional fund	1,378	551
Donations to other charities	1,790	25,861
	<u>17,947</u>	<u>36,404</u>
7 GOVERNANCE COSTS		
Independent examiner's fee	720	720
Annual General Meeting	74	75
Printing, stationery, telephone & postage	-	9
Data protection fee	35	35
Bank charges	96	60
	<u>925</u>	<u>899</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

8 TRUSTEE REMUNERATION & RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No members of the management committee received any remuneration during the year.

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year except for one trustee who made purchases of £44.42 (2020: £63).

The Branch complies with the Branch Rules as issued by the National Society and has a number of related financial transactions with this organisation. Clare Young was also employed by the RSPCA National Society.

The Trustees Ann Kortenray and Sara Kortenray are mother and daughter. Sara Kortenray is a signatory on the bank accounts, but Ann Kortenray is not.

Related party transactions have included:

- £5,435.45 repaid from our donation to the Branch Emergency Fund which closed in 2021 and remaining funds were redistributed pro-rata to the original contribution.

9 TAXATION

As a charity, the society benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is therefore not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions. Recovery is made from receipts under Gift Aid. Expenditure subject to VAT which is not recoverable by the Branch is shown inclusive of the VAT.

The notes form part of these financial statements

10 MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS

	At 1 January 2021 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>103,217</u>	<u>32,788</u>	<u>18,874</u>	-	<u>117,131</u>
Total funds	<u>103,217</u>	<u>32,788</u>	<u>18,874</u>	-	<u>117,131</u>

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ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS SURREY EAST BRANCH

England & Wales - Charity number 202280

Accounts



RSPCA Surrey East Branch
Registered Charity No. 202280

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

FOR THE

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO
ANIMALS SURREY EAST BRANCH**

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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TRUSTEES: Mr G Barford
Miss S Dalton (Treasurer)
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Mr R Ings (Chair – until 19 November)
Mrs A Kortzenray (Membership Secretary)
Miss S Kortzenray (Secretary - until 19 November)
Mr R Osborne (Vice Chair – 19 November onwards)
Mr I Thomas (Chair – 19 November onwards)
Mrs C Young

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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 next section of this report highlights the Branch's main activities and demonstrates the benefit provided to the public. All our charitable activities focus on promoting kindness and preventing or suppressing cruelty to animals and are undertaken to further these purposes for the public benefit.

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES PURSUED FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

We support our local RSPCA Inspectors by taking in, where we can, and free of charge, mistreated or abandoned and injured animals. The RSPCA Inspectorate (as well as providing education, information and advice) rescues animals in distress and enforces laws against the cruel mistreatment of animals in England and Wales by bringing prosecutions. This work is key to 'the prevention or suppression of cruelty' part of the RSPCA objects, and promotes humane sentiments towards animals which involves moral benefit to humankind as a whole.

We provide subsidised veterinary treatment for animals which are sick or injured and belong to local people on low incomes. We do this through a voucher scheme. This work benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to obtain care for companion animals in need of veterinary treatment.

We provide subsidised neutering and microchipping of companion animals for those in the Branch area on low incomes. We also provide a subsidised scheme for the neutering of Bull Breed Dogs. We do this by a voucher scheme. This work helps to control companion animal populations through neutering and benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to neuter and microchip companion animals, thereby promoting responsible pet ownership.

Animals in our care receive veterinary treatment, vaccination, neutering, microchipping and are assessed for rehoming. This work helps to control the incidence and spread of disease and suffering through vaccination and neutering.

We take in, free of charge, lost and injured animals. This work benefits our local community (including local authorities) by preventing animals straying and posing a risk to themselves and to people through road traffic accidents.

We respond to enquiries (both direct and via the society's national call centre) from the public about animals locally. The public benefits from knowing that we can intervene to assist animals in need.

We provide volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, fostering and fundraising. This benefits local people and companies by providing the possibility of doing work which is compassionate and rewarding.

We provide support for local foodbanks by way of regular donations of pet food. This work benefits our local community by alleviating hardship.

We undertake litter picking within the Branch area. Not only does this protect animals from harmful rubbish, it benefits the local community by improving the area for those people using the space.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The trustees actively review the risks which the branch faces on a regular basis through regular meetings of the trustees which cover operational and financial reviews. The trustees also examine other operational and business risks which the branch faces and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks, which have been identified as:

- Insufficient funds to fulfil our charitable purposes including loss of funds from the "Door to Door" collection
- Loss of reputation through error or fraud
- Loss of income through error or fraud (including investment performance)
- Insufficient Trustees for the Branch to continue
- Insufficient volunteers for fundraising activities

HEALTH & SAFETY

We are committed to maintaining high standards of health and safety and have a policy in place which outlines the ways in which we will achieve this. This policy is reviewed regularly to take account of changes.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Our income was £49,669 (2019: £30,850) and our expenditure £37,376 (2019: £34,800) resulting in an excess of income over expenditure of £12,293 (2019: £3,950).

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, a significant expenditure this year included the donation of our income from the National Society Door to Door scheme to a Branch Emergency Fund which was established by the National Society to help struggling branches that were in danger of closing due to the financial effects of the pandemic. The surplus for this year resulted from repayment to the Branch of a £20,000 grant we made to the South Godstone Animal Centre (further details are provided later in this document). If this grant had not been repaid, our accounts would show a deficit this year.

We currently hold reserves of £103,217 (2019: £90,924).

Our reserves and investment policy is to hold a suitable level of reserves. We do not knowingly invest in anything which causes harm to animals.

RESERVES POLICY

The reserves policy of the society is to maintain a level of unrestricted funds, not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets (free reserves), that will enable the charity to ensure a continuity of activity and the ability to adjust, in a measured way, to any significant changes in resources.

The trustees estimate that an appropriate reserve will be three years running costs. Should no new funds come into the charity, three years is felt to be the length of time needed to significantly increase our fundraising and therefore a reserve of this level is felt necessary to maintain our current level of support to beneficiaries. Our existing level of reserves is 2.8 years.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVED THIS REPORT ON 17 JUNE 2021


.....
I Thomas – Honorary Chairman

NEW PROJECTS IN 2020

Foodbank Project

We began our foodbank project in June 2020 after a manufacturer gifted dog and cat food to the national RSPCA which was intended exclusively for the support of foodbanks. Supplies were stored at Leybourne Animal Centre, and we decided to also use the free vouchers we received from the Pets at Home VIP Club scheme to fund this project.

All local foodbanks were approached and offered our support. We deliver pet food to the participating foodbanks on a weekly basis, in accordance with their requests. In the period from June 2020 to December 2020, nearly 700 tins of dog food and nearly 40 large bags of dried cat food were delivered to the foodbanks. Over £1,200 worth of pet food was purchased from Pets at Home using their VIP vouchers and was distributed to the foodbanks.

This was made possible by the generosity of Purina Petfood and of Pets at Home; the Trustees are most grateful to both companies.

Despite the problems of the lockdown, the Trustees intend to continue this support and have various plans to develop and extend this Project.

FORMER CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT FOR 2020 RSPCA SURREY EAST BRANCH

Although this is titled the Chair's Report, I am no longer the branch Chair having stepped down late last year having served the branch in that position for 17 years but will remain on the committee with the new title of Animal Welfare Coordinator. The branch now has a new Chair, Iain Thomas, and Iain brings much needed IT skills. As I had been Chair for the lion's share of 2020 it has fallen to me to write the report.

It would be fair to say that reporting on a year like 2020 presents its own unique challenges. The world was sent reeling from the effects of a global pandemic the likes of which have not been seen since the so called 'Spanish Flu' that killed millions a century ago. This has had a profound effect on just about every aspect of society. Charities have been particularly hard hit with demands on their services increasing at a time when income generation has been hard to come by. Some 'front line' charities have had the safety net of government support and have been able to draw from a charity support fund. Despite being designated as a front-line charity because of the work of RSPCA inspectors effectively doing the work of the state when it comes to enforcing the criminal law, the Government made it clear that there will be no financial help for animal welfare. This despite the fact that it has been estimated by the University of Lincoln that pet ownership saves the NHS some £2.4 billion every year. In contrast the French Government put 20 million Euros aside for animal welfare during the pandemic one of the reasons given was the critical role pets had played in people's lives during the pandemic.

Lack of any government support did not help the already fragile finances of the National RSPCA and significant cuts were made in the National Society's spending commitments in order to protect its future sustainability. Some difficult decisions had to be made and as a result some 20% of the National Society's staff were made redundant, and for the first time this included inspectors. Of particular relevance to the branch was the closing of the RSPCA South Godstone Centre. This centre had been operating since the 60's and had acquired an excellent local reputation. It had one of the best rehoming records in the country and specialised in looking after long-term and cruelty case animals. The committee did all we could to explore ways of keeping the centre open but all to no avail. The closing of South Godstone in the heart of our branch area was a huge blow and a sad loss of dedicated staff. At this point in time the future of the site is not clear, but it is likely that it will be sold at some time in the future.

Due to the effects of the pandemic, the full effects of the closure of South Godstone are yet to be felt. There has been an increase in pet ownership as more people have time at home but how that pans out when this is not the case is something that has many animal charities worried. This could very well be the calm before the storm.

As well as a number of staff changes at the National Society, there is also a new structure to support branches. We were lucky to retain the services of Sarah Pigott whose job title changed from Branch Support Specialist to Branch Partnership Manager. The nature of the job also changed as Sarah now has many more branches to deal with so inevitably cannot give the same level of support as she has been able to in the past. There is currently a review of branch governance to bring it up-to-date with modern practice. It is important however that the result recognises the real world that RSPCA branches have to deal with.

The year saw unprecedented restrictions on branch activities and that included the committee who had to meet virtually rather than in person. Many projects have had to be put on hold until there is more certainty regarding freedom of movement. One of these is the possibility of the branch having its own Animal Welfare Officer. Scope for fundraising has been extremely limited and the branch's policy of ensuring that we have reserves for a 'rainy day' has proven to be a prudent one. Despite this, the branch responded positively to an appeal from RSPCA HQ for contributions to an emergency fund for struggling branches that were in danger of closing due to the financial effects of the pandemic. Particularly branches that have their own centres or clinics, but depend on income from charity shops that had dried up overnight. One new project that we did engage in was providing pet food to foodbanks. This project involved a number of committee members and more detail was given earlier in this report.

Support for our inspectors and local animal welfare work has continued seamlessly despite the pandemic. With some vets operating restricted opening hours in the first lockdown, requests for help from pet owners in the first half of the year were down on the same time the previous year. However, there was certainly an uptick in requests for financial assistance for vet bills in the last half of the year and some of the requests have been for considerable sums. This is a trend which has continued into 2021. We have had to balance the amount of help we can give against retaining sufficient funds to help others in the future at time of such uncertain income. At times it can be quite a stressful balancing act.

We provided financial welfare assistance for the veterinary care of 26 dogs and 23 cats. A number of these involved dental problems and this is something that the committee is keen to publicise as dental decay in cats and dogs is largely preventable with some simple and inexpensive measures. Earlier veterinary intervention is also cost effective. We provided financial help for the neutering of four dogs and three cats.

After the first lockdown we were able to rehome two cats from one of our foster homes and have had video footage of the cats from the new owner that show that they have settled in well.

We also managed to do pre home check visits for 13 cats and 5 dogs but since the first lockdown no further pre-home checks have been possible. Adoptions have still occurred, but this has been done with the centres themselves doing virtual home checks. It is not known if and when branch involvement in pre (and post) home checks will resume.

Following the branch AGM in 2020 Sara Kortenray, our governance expert, stepped down as Branch Secretary but remains on the committee. Sara has been replaced by Clare Firmager as the new Branch Secretary. As mentioned previously, Iain Thomas is now Branch Chair, and in a newly created post Richard Osborne is the Vice Chair. We were also able to get special derogation for Clare Young to be a committee member even though she is a member of staff at the National Society. These new members will give renewed energy to the committee and we are all eager to see an end to restrictions so we can get on and develop the branch to its full potential. I'd like to thank my fellow committee members for their support during what proved to be a very different and atypical year that brought its own unique challenges.

This massively damaging and deadly pandemic occurred as a direct result of our broken and exploitative relationship with nature. Whereas at this time the exact pathway of this virus to humans is not fully understood there is a scientific consensus that the likely original host was a wild living bat species. They infected a proximal intermediary species and a combination of intensive farming and live animal markets with poor hygiene and highly stressful conditions for the captive animals created the perfect environment for the spread of a respiratory zoonotic disease in the form of Covid 19. Whether lessons will be learnt to stop such a pandemic ever happening again is not certain.

Raymond Ings

Chair (to 19 November 2020) and Animal Welfare Assistance Co-ordinator

ANNUAL REPORT 2020 FROM THE RSPCA SURREY INSPECTORATE TEAM

I am pleased to present the 2020 annual report for the Surrey group.

Surrey Group statistics for 2020:

Due to the group restructure in October, the following statistics are only for the three months from October to December.

In that three-month period, the team attended 374 incidents. Of those, three became potential prosecution investigations and case files were submitted. Two 'Improvement Notices' were also issued to owners.

Surrey Group news:



2020 has seen many changes, arrivals and departures within the team.

In March, Inspector Derek Wilkins said goodbye to the RSPCA after nearly 40 years' dedicated service. Derek retired once before in 2017, but missed the work too much and so he returned to our group again last year. However this 'farewell' appears to be final, and so we would like to thank Derek for all his hard work over the years and wish him well for his retirement.

Congratulations to Inspector Pete Yarde who successfully completed his Trainee Inspector course in March. Pete has settled very well into his new role, and is rising to the new challenges and responsibilities it brings. Pete's dedication to the cause of animal welfare is clear. Whilst on holiday, Pete noticed a swan with fishing line around her leg. Even with no equipment to hand, Pete managed to catch the swan and he and his wife carried it to a local vet who helped with the removal of the line. The vets kept hold of the swan to await a transfer to a local swan rescue.



In April, we were delighted to welcome Inspector Liz Wheeler back into the Surrey team. Liz previously worked as an Inspector in the Surrey area, and she brings with her many years of valuable experience and knowledge.



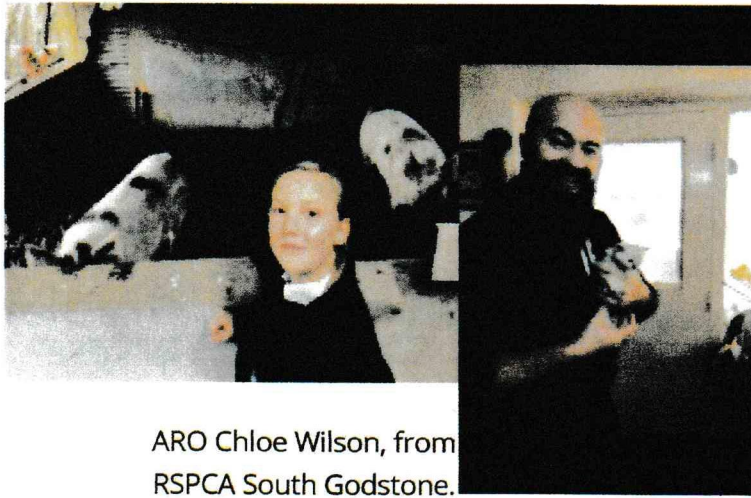
On 18th May, Inspector Leanna Hone gave birth to a beautiful baby girl Seren Esme Hone. Our huge congratulations to Leanna and Carl, and we wish the whole family much happiness for the future. Leanna will be rejoining us again next year after her maternity leave finishes. We are all very much looking forward to having

her back with us.

October 2020 saw huge changes throughout the whole RSPCA, and we had to deal with the sad departure of many valued colleagues from the Society.

In Surrey, we said goodbye to Animal Collection Officers Jayne Jones and Tasha Clarke. We thank them both for all of their hard work, and they will be greatly missed. We, of course, wish them all the very best for the future.

However, October also brought us happier news.



ARO Chloe Wilson, from RSPCA South Godstone.

Our former Animal Collection Officer, Louis Horton, was successful in his application for the new position of Trainee Animal Rescue Officer (ARO). We were also pleased to welcome a brand new team member, Trainee

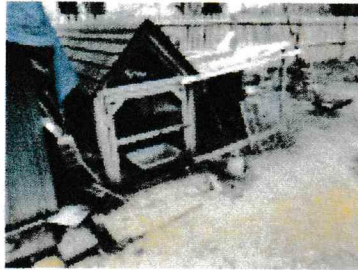
Both Chloe and Louis began their 5-week intensive ARO training in November. They successfully completed the course, and in December they rejoined the team to begin their field training. We are delighted to have both of them working with us, and we wish Louis and Chloe all the very best in their new roles.

Due to the new group boundaries introduced in October, we said 'farewell' to Inspector Becky Timberlake and Animal Rescue Officer Carl Hone, both of whom left the Surrey team and joined the Thames Valley group. Whilst we were sad to lose them as team members, they are still very much part of the RSPCA family.

Happily, Inspector Andrew Kirby (previously in the Sussex group) and Inspector Sandy Barlow (previously in the Berkshire group) arrived in our team to help fill the vacancies. We are very pleased to have two such dedicated and experienced officers working with us.

On a personal note, I would also like to thank Sandy for accepting the vacant position of Deputy Chief Inspector and for providing so much support to both myself and the whole group.

Surrey Group work: our Investigations



Inspectors Nat Kitchin, Lauren Evans, Becky Timberlake, Jo Bowling, and Animal Collection Officer Tasha Clarke all assisted with a complex multi-bird complaint in Camberley. The birds included ducks, guinea fowl, a turkey, geese, chickens and peacocks, all of which were being kept

in poor conditions. A warning notice was issued to the owner about improving conditions and he agreed to sign over eighteen of the birds. Upon returning at a later date to check conditions for the remaining birds, Inspectors were happy with the improvements made. The signed over birds were distributed amongst the Hillingdon branch and RSPCA Millbrook, and some even went to stay with an officer in the Surrey group. A great team effort all round.



Inspector Jo Bowling was called to check some struggling ponies in Hillingdon. As the only access to the field was through a tall, locked gate, the Police and then Fire & Rescue were asked to attend to facilitate entry. On examination, one pony had chronic diarrhoea and was

removed from the field and taken to a private equine boarding establishment. The pony was placed on fluids, but very sadly she then went on to develop severe colic and had to be put to sleep.

An unhappy outcome and, as is sadly often the case with these types of situations, the owner was never found. However, this is another good example of the type of multi-agency working upon which we rely.



Inspector Natalie Kitchin investigated an incident in

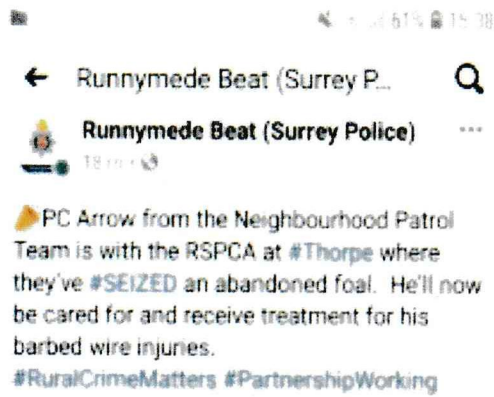
Leatherhead involving a cat in a poor bodily condition. The cat had an untreated cancerous mouth tumour. The owner was issued with an RSPCA Caution as a result of his failure to address

his cat's obviously deteriorating health. Sadly, by

the

time Nat became involved the tumour was untreatable and "Fat the cat" had to be euthanased. Another unhappy outcome, and a further example of the type of neglect officers routinely face.

Animal Collection Officer Louis Horton attended an



incident in Redhill. A member of the public was horrified to discover a dog which appeared to have been thrown over her fence into her garden. The dog, which Louis christened 'Paddy', had lots of old scarring around his face as well as a significant wound under his chin. Louis took him to an emergency vet for treatment, and then Paddy was moved to RSPCA Millbrook. He proved to be a lovely dog and was soon rehomed.



Inspectors Lauren Evans and Nat Kitchen attended a location in Thorpe involving an abandoned, emaciated foal. A vet advised that the foal needed to be removed immediately from the field for treatment. The police attended to seize the pony, and it was then taken to a boarding facility. Sadly, it was too late for this foal and it didn't survive. Unfortunately, the foal was not microchipped and so the owner could not be traced. It is one of the most frustrating aspects of the job that sometimes no-one can be held accountable for an animal's suffering.

Write a comment



Inspector Lauren Evans secured a conviction against a horse owner in Merstham. The owner was found guilty of the neglect of her two horses. They were found to have had their feet trimmed inappropriately, leaving them with mechanical laminitis. The horses also had signs of chronic laminitis. The owner was given a 16-week prison sentence, suspended for 18 months, a ten-year disqualification from keeping equines and ordered to pay £1,900 in court



costs.

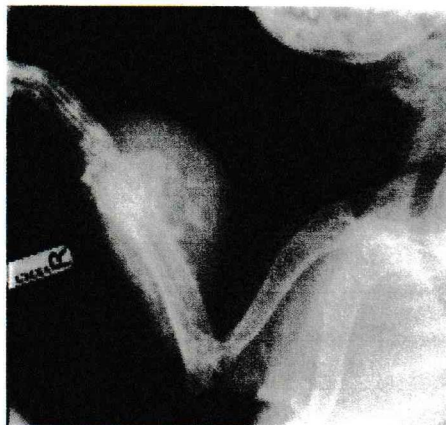
The vet found that laminitis had been evident as an active and painful disease process, with the period of suffering for both horses present for a prolonged period.

Sadly one of the horses had to be euthanised as there was no way of alleviating her suffering, but the other horse responded well to her treatment and was later transferred to an equine rescue charity.

A dog owner in West Drayton pleaded guilty to an offence of causing unnecessary suffering to a pitbull terrier type bitch, known as Missy, by failing to provide veterinary attention in respect of a tumour on the dog's leg. The dog had been brought in to a vet practice in Hillingdon. The vet contacted the RSPCA as the dog was unable to move because of the pain, and her leg was swollen to between six and eight times its normal size.

X-rays later showed a huge growth on her front right leg which had become ulcerated. The vet found that Missy's leg was broken and that she'd have been suffering for at least three weeks. Sadly, the decision was made to put Missy to sleep.

Inspector Jo Bowling launched an investigation and was able to track down and interview the owner. She was sentenced to a 12-week prison sentence, suspended for one year, and 25 rehabilitation activity requirement days. She was also ordered to pay costs of £450 and was disqualified from keeping all animals (except fish) for two years.



A filly, since christened Georgie, was just a year old when she was discovered in a field in Redhill by a passer-by. Georgie had a deep, open wound on her leg. Inspector Andrew Kirby rushed to the location to find her, and was shocked to see the extent of her injury, which appeared to have been caused by barbed wire.

The RSPCA's Senior Equine Clinician, Roxane Kirton, said: "Georgie's injuries are very severe - when she was found by Andrew, her little leg was extremely swollen and the lacerations from the barbed wire were dirty and infected, and had cut her so deep that her tissue and tendons were exposed."

Thankfully, we found her just in time and Georgie spent many weeks at a specialist equine veterinary hospital where staff worked tirelessly to provide her with essential treatment for her severe injury.

An owner has yet to come forward to claim her, so it appears likely that Georgie was abandoned by her owners.

Georgie has now left the veterinary hospital and is being cared for at a special private boarding stables to continue her rehabilitation, and we are confident that she can then be rehomed.

The lengthy treatment for Georgie has, and continues to be costly. Fortunately, a special Project Fund was set up to assist with these costs. All of the team would like to express our thanks to Roxane Kirton for her amazing help and expert advice throughout the course of this incident.

Inspector Liz Wheeler attended an incident in Chertsey involving five chickens which had been abandoned at the side of the road without food or water.

Two of the chickens were taken by RSPCA Millbrook, and the other lucky three are now at Liz's own home!

Sadly, there was no way of finding out who had dumped these chickens, and the owner was never traced.



[Surrey Group work: our Collections and Rescues](#)

Following the lockdown in March, our local animal centre RSPCA Millbrook was closed to the public. To facilitate the essential work of continuing to rehome their animals, the Surrey Inspectorate team threw themselves into the task of delivering Millbrook's animals for adoption in a safe way. Over 90 animals were collected by the team and taken to very grateful new owners, including cats, guinea pigs, budgies, rabbits, ferrets, gerbils and rats. These are some photos of delighted owners receiving their new pets from our officers.



Animal Collection Officer Louis Horton was called to assist with a complex rescue of a pony that had fallen down a cesspit in Guildford. The pony had been down there for around three hours by the time Louis arrived. Fire & Rescue were called to assist, and a local vet came to sedate the pony. Fire & Rescue managed to get a hydraulic crane with a sling attached into the pit.

After several hours' hard work, the pony was lifted out uninjured. The vet was happy the pony could be left with his owners, who were given appropriate advice about ongoing care. Another great example of partnership working.

It is a sad fact that discarded fishing tackle often causes injuries to birds and mammals living around our waterways. Animal Welfare Officer Carl Hone was called to this coot on the Thames in Kingston which had become entangled in fishing line, hook and a decoy. The bird was unable to fly or swim properly and finally became caught in reeds at the side of the

river. Carl took the bird to Swan Support who managed to remove all the line and the bird was released safely back on the Thames.

Inspector Pete Yarde was called to a cow in Horley which had become stuck in mud up to her chest. Pete called in Sussex Fire & Rescue, and a local vet also attended. The cow was finally dug out and lifted away, and was able to be released unharmed.

As an example of the large variety of work officers are expected to deal with, Deputy Chief Inspector Sandy Barlow was called to deal with seven large "piranhas". The owner was in ill health and was no longer able to cope. Sandy arranged for the fish to go to a specialised aquatics centre, and ACO Jayne Jones, ably assisted by Andrew from RSPCA Millbrook, collected them the following day.

After a closer inspection the fish were found to be 'Black bar silver dollar fish'. They are a distant cousin of the piranha and are native to Peru and Columbia.

Animal Welfare Officer Carl Hone was called to Guildford to head up the water rescue team for a pony surrounded by fast flowing rivers. The pony was stranded on a patch of land already partly-submerged. The water team swam out to the pony and once caught were able to encourage the pony to swim back over the river to dry land. The rescue was successful and once on dry land the pony, nicknamed Jemima Puddleduck, was transferred to private boarding. The owner has not been traced.

Here are just a few of the many examples where our local Branches have assisted our officers in their work.

The Surrey Woking & District Branch came to the rescue of Inspector Jo Bowling when she received a call from a gentleman whose elderly mother (living in West End) had suddenly passed away, leaving behind her cat and 3 chickens. The Branch kindly agreed they could take the animals and arranged their collection.

The Hants & Surrey Branch stepped in to help with a multi-cat operation in Yateley. Not only did they assist by supplying neutering vouchers, but they also agreed to take on some of the more difficult cats for potential rehoming.

The Hillingdon, Slough, Windsor, Kingston & District Branch provided assistance to Inspectors Lauren Evans and Jo Bowling. They were called to assist an owner who was struggling with his sixteen dogs. All the dogs seen were in good health, however they had started fighting amongst themselves and the owner was being forced to keep various "packs" segregated. He agreed to reduce numbers, and ACO Jayne Jones and a driver

from Hillingdon Branch attended the location and collected eight of the dogs. They were taken back to the Hillingdon branch for rehoming.

The Surrey East Branch kindly stepped in to help pay boarding costs for a stray / abandoned cockerel in their area. Sadly, this type of incident involving cockerels is not uncommon as they are still used by some owners for fighting.

The Guildford & Epsom District Branch very kindly agreed to pay for an owl, which had been struck by a car, to go to The Wildlife Aid Foundation in Leatherhead. The owl was treated and later released.

Surrey Group "thank-you's"

As you will see from many of the incidents described above, our work is very much a team effort. So we would like to thank all of our local Branches for their help and assistance, whether by providing funding for a welfare issue or by taking in animals for our officers. We also rely on the invaluable support provided by our own animal centres and hospitals, and particular thanks is owed to RSPCA Millbrook, RSPCA South Godstone and RSPCA Putney Animal Hospital, all of whom have helped us out so much during the year. The closure of three local centres used often by our team (RSPCA Putney Animal Hospital, RSPCA South Godstone and RSPCA Lockwood) was felt very strongly by our officers, and I know they would like to wish all the staff the very best for the future.

We also work closely with other agencies and charitable organisations to secure the welfare and care each animal deserves. Our particular thanks go to all the local Police and Fire & Rescue teams, and to all of the veterinary practices who have so ably assisted our work throughout 2020. We really could not undertake the work we do without this support.

Finally, I would like to extend my personal thanks to all of the Surrey officers who have continued to work with such commitment during what has undoubtedly been an extremely difficult and challenging year. The pandemic has dramatically changed much of what we do (including the overnight closure of the National Control Centre in April) and has caused great anxiety and concern. Some officers have had cancelled wedding plans and holidays, and all of them have faced anxieties and concerns in relation to the pandemic. However, every one of them has continued to be out there on the front line dealing with animal welfare issues and rescuing animals in need. I would like to express my sincere and heartfelt thanks for their amazing professionalism and dedication shown by every single member of the team.

Rob Jackson

Chief Inspector - Surrey Group

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO TRUSTEES OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY
FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS SURREY EAST BRANCH**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Surrey East Branch for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Branch 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 Branch's accounts as required 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 Branch as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. That accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. That accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than the 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.


David Wheeler

David Wheeler - Independent Examiner

David Wheeler FCCA
Cheeld Wheeler & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
Goodman House
13a West Street
Reigate
Surrey
RH2 9BL

Dated: 31 July 2021


**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Notes	<u>2020</u> £	<u>2019</u> £
INCOME			
Donations and voluntary income	2	27,785	28,726
Income from other activities	3	20,950	955
Investment income	4	934	1,169
TOTAL INCOME		<u>49,669</u>	<u>30,850</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Costs of raising funds	5	73	82
Charitable activities	6	36,404	33,735
Governance costs	7	899	983
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>37,376</u>	<u>34,800</u>
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR		12,293	(3,950)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1 JANUARY 2020		90,924	94,874
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020		<u>103,217</u>	<u>90,924</u>


BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	2020	2019
		£	£
CURRENT ASSETS:			
Debtors and Prepayments		588	801
Accrued income		727	926
Cash at bank		103,101	90,157
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		104,416	91,884
CURRENT LIABILITIES:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year			
Sundry creditors and accruals		<u>1,200</u>	<u>960</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS:			
NET ASSETS		103,217	90,924
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY:			
General accumulated fund	10	103,217	90,924
TOTAL FUNDS		103,217	90,924

ON BEHALF OF THE CHARITY:



 I Thomas



 S Dalton
 Approved by the Charity on 17 June 2021

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and are in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice (Charity SORP FRS102), the Charities Act 2011 and applicable United Kingdom accounting standards.

The particular accounting policies adopted are described below and are consistent with previous years unless otherwise stated.

The society constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.
- Membership subscriptions are accounted for when received.
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the Charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.
- Investment income is included when received.
- Incoming resources from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.
- Legacies are accounted for when the funds are received.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.
- 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.

The notes form part of these financial statements

- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the independent examiner fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

Fund accounting

- Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Management Committee for particular purposes.
- Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	2020	2019
	£	£
2 DONATIONS AND VOLUNTARY INCOME		
Collections and boxes	122	386
Door to door collections (share from HQ)	25,173	26,739
Donations	2,117	1,087
Membership	373	514
	<u>27,785</u>	<u>28,726</u>
3 INCOME FROM OTHER ACTIVITIES		
Fundraising	810	908
Adoption fees	140	-
Commission from pet insurance sales	-	48
Return of South Godstone grant	20,000	-
	<u>20,950</u>	<u>956</u>
4 INVESTMENT INCOME		
Bank interest	934	1,169
	<u>934</u>	<u>1,169</u>
5 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS		
Fundraising costs	73	82
	<u>73</u>	<u>82</u>
6 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURE		
Veterinary fees and microchips (excluding foster animals), homeless animal costs, and provision of equipment for Inspectors	8,981	8,205
Fostering	487	-
Insurance	524	524
Branch contribution to regional fund	551	22,050
Donations to other charities	25,861	2,956
	<u>36,404</u>	<u>33,735</u>
7 GOVERNANCE COSTS		
Independent examiner's fee	720	720
Annual General Meeting	75	129
Printing, stationery, telephone & postage	9	40
Data protection fee	35	35
Bank charges	60	60
	<u>899</u>	<u>983</u>

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8 TRUSTEE REMUNERATION & RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No members of the management committee received any remuneration during the year.

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year except for one trustee who made a purchase of £63 (2019 - Nil).

The Branch complies with the Branch Rules as issued by the National Society and has a number of related financial transactions with this organisation. Clare Young was also employed by the RSPCA National Society.

The Trustees Ann Kortenray and Sara Kortenray are mother and daughter. Sara Kortenray is a signatory on the bank accounts, but Ann Kortenray is not.

Related party transactions have included:

- £24,622 donated to the Branch Emergency Fund which was established by the National Society to help struggling branches that were in danger of closing due to the financial effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- £17.65 paid to Chichester Branch for Christmas e-cards artwork.
- £100 income from Croydon Branch towards a large vet bill for a cat.
- In 2018 a grant of £20,000 was made to RSPCA South Godstone for the building of a Dog Socialisation Cabin. This was not built due to the construction company folding. No money exchanged hands with the contractor. The terms of the grant allowed for this money to be repaid to the branch if the animal centre at South Godstone ceased to operate. Following the sad closure of the South Godstone Animal Centre in 2020, the grant was repaid in full.

9 TAXATION

As a charity, the society benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is therefore not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions. Recovery is made from receipts under Gift Aid. The Branch is also able to partially recover VAT. Expenditure subject to VAT which is not recoverable by the Branch is shown inclusive of the VAT.

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10 MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS

	At 1 January 2020 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2020 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>90,924</u>	<u>49,669</u>	<u>37,376</u>	-	<u>103,217</u>
Total funds	<u>90,924</u>	<u>49,669</u>	<u>37,376</u>	=	<u>103,217</u>

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