

THE NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 227361

Details

Other names	THE NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSE PROTECTION SOCIETY AND SMALLER ANIMALS, BRYSON'S ANIMAL REFUGE, BRYSON'S ANIMAL SHELTER, EIGHTON BANKS ANIMAL REFUGE, NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSE PROTECTION SOCIETY AND SMALLER ANIMALS
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1964-02-14
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Nchps Gallopig Green Road Eighton Banks Gateshead Tyne & Wear NE9 7XA
Phone	01914875858
Email	info@brysons.org.uk
Website	www.brysons.org.uk

Activities

Objects: PROTECTION OF HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS FROM ILL-USAGE, CRUELTY AND SUFFERING BY THE PROVISION AND MAINTENANCE IN OR NEAR GATESHEAD OF AN ANIMAL REFUGE AND SUCH OTHER FACILITIES TO ACHIEVE THAT OBJECT.

Activities: The protection of horses and smaller animals from ill usage, cruelty and suffering by the provision and maintenance of an animal refuge and such other facilities.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Animals
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Gateshead

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£619,878	£408,335	£2,034,568	12
2024-03-31	£508,398	£408,105	£1,823,025	11
2023-03-31	£386,727	£311,288	-	-
2022-03-31	£333,753	£285,426	-	-
2021-03-31	£274,682	£275,170	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Angela Richardson		2022-11-06
CAROLE WATSON		2013-06-19
Catherine Newstead		2026-01-18
JOY DIXON		2011-12-19
JUDITH ANN HALL		
Joe Murphy		2026-01-18
Lesley Chambers		2019-12-01
Valerie Watson		2019-12-01

Accounts

Charity registration number 227361 (England and Wales)

**NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS
PROTECTION SOCIETY**

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mrs J A Hall (Chairperson) Ms J Dixon (Treasurer) Ms C Watson Mrs L Chambers Mrs V Watson Miss A Richardson	
Charity registration	England and Wales	227361
Principal address	Galloping Green Road Eighton Banks Gateshead Tyne and Wear England NE9 7XA	
Auditor	Robson Laidler Accountants Limited Fernwood House Fernwood Road Jesmond Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne and Wear England NE2 1TJ	
Bankers	Lloyds Bank PLC 15 West Street Gateshead Tyne & Wear NE8 1DP	
Solicitors	O'Neill Richmonds Law Firm Ltd 1-2 Lansdowne Terrace East Gosforth Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne & Wear NE3 1HL	

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

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NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Society's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The Society's objects are the "protection of horses and smaller animals from ill-usage, cruelty and suffering by the provision and maintenance in or near Gateshead of an animal refuge and such other facilities to achieve that object".

The aim of the shelter is to rehabilitate and re-home unwanted and abandoned animals which include horses, dogs, cats, rabbits and other small animals. All animals are health checked by our vet when they arrive. They are then neutered, vaccinated and dogs are micro-chipped. Our animals always receive prompt veterinary attention when required. Potential new owners are home-checked before our dogs go into their new homes.

We have a non-euthanasia policy unless the animal is deemed a danger to people or on the advice of our vet. We educate the public and potential owners on the necessity of neutering, micro-chipping and yearly vaccination. New owners know they can always rely on our advice and support.

The policies adopted in furtherance of these objects are set out on pages 10 to 13 of these financial statements and there has been no change in these during the year.

Volunteers

The Society is grateful for the continued work and assistance of volunteers.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Achievements and performance

The Society has continued to carry on its charitable works with £408,335 (2024: £408,105) expended directly for the care of animals. After other expenses, the surplus for the year was £211,543 (2024: £100,293).

Financial review

During the year the Society received total income of £819,878 an increase of 22% over the previous year (2024: £508,398). A substantial source of income for the charity continues to be legacies which this year amounted to £343,568 (2024: £172,132).

At the end of the year the Society had net cash of £1,549,386 (2024: £1,362,678). This represents a position of financial strength to go forward and continue in the Society's aims for the care and protection of animals.

Reserves policy

The level of reserves as at 31 March 2025 has increased to £2,034,568 (2024: £1,823,025). The charity's policy is to aim to have cash reserves equivalent to at least two years' charitable expenditure so that it is not totally reliant on legacies in the short term.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Major risks

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Society is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

The trustees meet on a regular basis to consider the major strategic and operational risks of the Society and act accordingly to mitigate those risks. We are grateful to the local authority who help us with our risk assessment each year.

Plans for future periods

The funds for our work are raised in a variety of ways. We ask for an adoption fee for our animals which goes towards maintaining the care the animals receive.

We also hold many events throughout the year such as monthly book sales and dog walks/shows. The majority of the money for the care of our animals comes to us from donations and legacies.

Going forward, our intention is to continue our work and expand on our fundraising events and build on the care animals receive at this time.

Subsequent to the year end the charity successfully completed the works on the new kennel block and have purchased a new animal ambulance.

The focus for 2025/26 is to upgrade the remainder of the kennels so they are better for the animals and also carry out maintenance on the main building which includes re-pointing by a specialist contractor due to it being a stone building.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The Society was formed in 1947 by the late Mr W J C Bryson and gained charitable status in 1964. The Society's activities are governed by its Charity Commission Scheme Document of 1989, and managed by an executive committee who serve as trustees. The trustees meet on a regular basis to discuss all matters in relation to the running of the charity.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The charity seeks to appoint trustees from among its volunteers and supporters who have demonstrated an interest, and shown some involvement, in the charity's activities. They must have been a member of the society for a year before they can become a trustee.

Organisational structure

The day to day management of the shelter is in the hands of the shelter manager. The charity's strategic and major operational decisions are taken by the board of trustees which meets on at least a monthly basis.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Mrs J A Hall (Chairperson)
Trustee

Date: 7.12.25

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' 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 Society and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Society for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society 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 trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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 Society and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Society for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society 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 trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Northern Counties Horses and Smaller Animals Protection Society (the 'Society') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Society's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the charity, we identified that there were principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations central to the charity's operations as it does have to report to The Charity Commission and, through its daily operations, it must comply with certain health and safety regulations with regard to the general public. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements of the company such as the Charities Act 2011 and UK tax legislation.

Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

Discussions with the trustees and key management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;

Evaluation and testing of the operating effectiveness of management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;

Reviewing relevant trustee meeting minutes;

Testing transactions entered into outside of the company's normal course of business.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

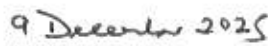
This has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with current Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Robson Laidler Accountants Limited
Statutory Auditor



Fernwood House
Fernwood Road
Jesmond
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
England
NE2 1TJ

Robson Laidler Accountants Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Society by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	3	558,377	444,448
Other trading activities	4	39,858	40,097
Investments	5	21,643	23,853
Total income		<u>619,878</u>	<u>508,398</u>
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	6	408,335	337,715
Other expenditure	10	-	70,390
Total expenditure		<u>408,335</u>	<u>408,105</u>
Net income and movement in funds		211,543	100,293
Reconciliation of funds:			
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		1,823,025	1,722,732
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		<u>2,034,568</u>	<u>1,823,025</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		460,016		459,349
Current assets					
Stocks	12	1,500		1,381	
Debtors	13	42,325		88,025	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,549,386		1,362,678	
		1,593,211		1,452,084	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(18,659)		(88,408)	
Net current assets			1,574,552		1,363,676
Total assets less current liabilities			2,034,568		1,823,025
The funds of the Society					
Unrestricted funds	16		2,034,568		1,823,025
			2,034,568		1,823,025

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 23/11/2025



Mrs J A Hall (Chairperson)
Trustee



Ms J Dixon (Treasurer)
Trustee

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	19		185,653		165,753
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(20,588)		(359,818)	
Investment income received		21,643		23,853	
Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities			1,055		(335,965)
Net cash generated from financing activities			-		-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			186,708		(170,212)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			1,362,678		1,532,890
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			1,549,386		1,362,678

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Northern Counties Horses and Smaller Animals Protection Society is an unincorporated charity registered in England and Wales. The charity's principal address is given in the Legal and Administrative Information within these financial statements.

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Society's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The Society is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in UK sterling which is the functional currency of the Society. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Society has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the Society.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Society is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Society has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Donated facilities and donated professional services are recognised in income at their fair value when their economic benefit is probable, it can be measured reliably and the charity has control over the item. Fair value is determined on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity. For example the amount the charity would be willing to pay in the open market for such facilities and services. A corresponding amount is recognised in expenditure.

Where practicable, gifts in kind donated for distribution to the beneficiaries of the charity are included in stock and donations in the financial statements upon receipt. If it is impracticable to assess the fair value at receipt or if the costs to undertake such a valuation outweigh any benefits, then the fair value is recognised as a component of donations when it is distributed and an equivalent amount recognised as charitable expenditure.

Gifts in kind donated for resale are included at fair value, being the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale. Where estimating the fair value is practicable upon receipt it is recognised in stock and 'Income from other trading activities'. Upon sale, the value of the stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds are recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'. Where it is impracticable to fair value the items due to the volume of low value items they are not recognised in the financial statements until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

Fixed asset gifts in kind are recognised when receivable and are included at fair value. They are not deferred over the life of the asset.

Income from trading activities includes income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the charity. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred.

Investment income earned on the temporary investment of specific borrowings pending their expenditure on qualifying assets is deducted from the borrowing costs eligible for capitalisation.

1.5 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	2% straightline
Fixtures and fittings	15% on reducing balance
Motor vehicles	25% on reducing balance
Kennels, shelters etc	5% on reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Society reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured at the lower of replacement cost and cost.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.10 Financial instruments

The Society has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Society's balance sheet when the Society becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Society's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Taxation

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010.

1.12 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Society is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.13 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Society's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

The following judgements (apart from those involving estimates) have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies that have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements:

The estimated useful lives of tangible fixed assets

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2025 £	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £
Donations and gifts	202,351	267,258
Legacies receivable	343,568	172,132
Other	12,458	5,058
	<u>558,377</u>	<u>444,448</u>
Legacies receivable		
Josephine Sewell	199,290	-
Michael Cunningham	-	71,000
Edna Sutton	33,796	-
Anne Scallon	-	13,622
Melpa Stevens	32,000	-
Miriam Craggs	-	9,000
Lady Elizabeth Hutchinson	-	5,406
Keith Seckington	-	56,591
Linda Hodgson	30,000	-
Margaret Thompson	16,795	-
Other	31,687	16,513
	<u>343,568</u>	<u>172,132</u>

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Receipts from events	8,283	7,183
Receipts from merchandise	31,575	32,914
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Other trading activities	39,858	40,097
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2025 £	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £
Interest receivable	21,643	23,853
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Care of animals and refuge 2025 £	Care of animals and refuge 2024 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	231,773	211,568
Depreciation and impairment	19,921	10,403
Rates and water	2,633	2,571
Insurance	12,599	12,135
Light and heat	15,771	10,999
Telephone	788	821
Printing postage and stationery	1,471	3,299
Sundries	2,552	1,503
Fuel road tax and motor insurance	3,196	3,350
Subscriptions, licences and courses	1,069	197
Animal day to day costs	16,202	12,133
Veterinary fees	73,688	48,525
General maintenance	20,170	13,953
Audit and accountancy	3,672	3,618
Legal and professional fees	2,630	2,640
	<u>408,335</u>	<u>337,715</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	<u>408,335</u>	<u>337,715</u>

Legal and professional fees includes payments to the auditors of £1,548 (2024- £1,800) for payroll services.

7	Net movement in funds	2025 £	2024 £
	The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
	Fees payable for the audit of the charity's financial statements	3,672	3,618
	Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	19,921	10,403
	Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	70,390

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Society during the year.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Animal refuge	12	11
Employment costs	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	216,125	198,501
Social security costs	11,264	9,140
Other pension costs	4,384	3,927
	<u>231,773</u>	<u>211,568</u>

Key management personnel remuneration £32,476 (2024: £29,226).

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

10 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Net loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	70,390

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Fixtures and fittings	Motor vehicles	Kennels, shelters etc	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 April 2024	328,922	15,688	11,240	235,789	591,639
Additions	-	-	-	20,588	20,588
At 31 March 2025	328,922	15,688	11,240	256,377	612,227
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 April 2024	109,273	11,029	10,986	1,002	132,290
Depreciation charged in the year	6,577	699	63	12,582	19,921
At 31 March 2025	115,850	11,728	11,049	13,584	152,211
Carrying amount					
At 31 March 2025	213,072	3,960	191	242,793	460,016
At 31 March 2024	219,649	4,659	254	234,787	459,349

12 Stocks

	2025 £	2024 £
Animal foodstuffs and merchandise	1,500	1,381

13 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	12,458	5,058
Prepayments and accrued income	29,867	82,967
	42,325	88,025

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Other taxation and social security	3,285	2,756
Other creditors	835	1,525
Accruals and deferred income	14,539	84,127
	18,659	88,408

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

15 Retirement benefit schemes

	2025	2024
	£	£
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	4,384	3,927

The Society operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Society in an independently administered fund.

16 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2025 £
General funds	1,823,025	619,878	(408,335)	2,034,568

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2024 £
General funds	1,722,732	508,398	(408,105)	1,823,025

17 Capital commitments

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts contracted for but not provided in the financial statements:		
	2025 £	2024 £
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	203,000	-

18 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

19	Cash generated from operations	2025 £	2024 £
	Surplus for the year	211,543	100,293
	Adjustments for:		
	Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(21,643)	(23,853)
	(Gain)/loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	70,390
	Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	19,921	10,403
	Movements in working capital:		
	(Increase) in stocks	(119)	(40)
	Decrease/(increase) in debtors	45,700	(66,299)
	(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(69,749)	74,859
	Cash generated from operations	<u>185,653</u>	<u>165,753</u>

20 Analysis of changes in net funds

The Society had no material debt during the year.

Accounts

Charity registration number 227361

**NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS
PROTECTION SOCIETY**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mrs J A Hall (Chairperson) Ms J Dixon (Treasurer) Ms C Watson Mrs L Chambers Mrs V Watson Miss A Richardson
Charity number	227361
Principal address	Galloping Green Road Eighton Banks Gateshead Tyne and Wear England NE9 7XA
Auditor	Robson Laidler Accountants Limited Fernwood House Fernwood Road Jesmond Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne and Wear England NE2 1TJ
Bankers	Lloyds Bank PLC 15 West Street Gateshead Tyne & Wear NE8 1DP
Solicitors	O'Neill Richmonds Law Firm Ltd 1-2 Lansdowne Terrace East Gosforth Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne & Wear NE3 1HL

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

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Statement of financial activities	7
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NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Society's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The Society's objects are the "protection of horses and smaller animals from ill-usage, cruelty and suffering by the provision and maintenance in or near Gateshead of an animal refuge and such other facilities to achieve that object".

The aim of the shelter is to rehabilitate and re-home unwanted and abandoned animals which include horses, dogs, cats, rabbits and other small animals. All animals are health checked by our vet when they arrive. They are then neutered, vaccinated and dogs are micro-chipped. Our animals always receive prompt veterinary attention when required. Potential new owners are home-checked before our dogs go into their new homes.

We have a non-euthanasia policy unless the animal is deemed a danger to people or on the advice of our vet. We educate the public and potential owners on the necessity of neutering, micro-chipping and yearly vaccination. New owners know they can always rely on our advice and support.

The policies adopted in furtherance of these objects are set out on pages 10 to 13 of these financial statements and there has been no change in these during the year.

Public benefit

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Society should undertake.

Volunteers

The Society is grateful for the continued work and assistance of volunteers.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Achievements and performance

Significant activities and achievements against objectives

The Society has continued to carry on its charitable works with £408,105 (2023: £311,288) expended directly for the care of animals. After other expenses, the surplus for the year was £100,293 (2023: £75,439).

Financial review

During the year the Society received total income of £508,398 an increase of 31% over the previous year (2023: £386,727). A substantial source of income for the charity continues to be legacies which this year amounted to £172,132 (2023: £164,870).

At the end of the year the Society had net cash of £1,362,678 (2023: £1,532,890). This represents a position of financial strength to go forward and continue in the Society's aims for the care and protection of animals.

Reserves policy

The level of reserves as at 31 March 2024 has increased to £1,823,025 (2023: £1,722,732). The charity's policy is to aim to have cash reserves equivalent to at least two years' charitable expenditure so that it is not totally reliant on legacies in the short term.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Major risks

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Society is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

The trustees meet on a regular basis to consider the major strategic and operational risks of the Society and act accordingly to mitigate those risks. We are grateful to the local authority who help us with our risk assessment each year.

Plans for future periods

The funds for our work are raised in a variety of ways. We ask for an adoption fee for our animals which goes towards maintaining the care the animals receive.

We also hold many events throughout the year such as monthly book sales and dog walks/shows. The majority of the money for the care of our animals comes to us from donations and legacies.

Going forward, our intention is to continue our work and expand on our fundraising events and build on the care animals receive at this time.

The new cattery and stables projects have now been completed during the year.

The kennel block which is used for the smaller dogs is in need of replacement and it is our intention to have this replaced with a more efficient block of kennels which we are hoping to have completed in 2025.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The Society was formed in 1947 by the late Mr W J C Bryson and gained charitable status in 1964. The Society's activities are governed by its Charity Commission Scheme Document of 1989, and managed by an executive committee who serve as trustees. The trustees meet on a regular basis to discuss all matters in relation to the running of the charity.

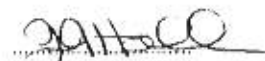
Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The charity seeks to appoint trustees from among its volunteers and supporters who have demonstrated an interest, and shown some involvement, in the charity's activities. They must have been a member of the society for a year before they can become a trustee.

Organisational structure

The day to day management of the shelter is in the hands of the shelter manager. The charity's strategic and major operational decisions are taken by the board of trustees which meets on at least a monthly basis.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Mrs J A Hall (Chairperson)

Trustee

Date: 12.12.24

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' 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 Society and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Society for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society 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 trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Northern Counties Horses and Smaller Animals Protection Society (the 'Society') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Society's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the charity, we identified that there were principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations central to the charity's operations as it does have to report to The Charity Commission and, through its daily operations, it must comply with certain health and safety regulations with regard to the general public. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements of the company such as the Charities Act 2011 and UK tax legislation.

Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

Discussions with the trustees and key management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;

Evaluation and testing of the operating effectiveness of management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;

Reviewing relevant trustee meeting minutes;

Testing transactions entered into outside of the company's normal course of business.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

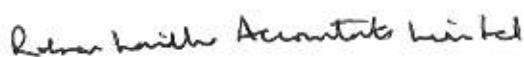
Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

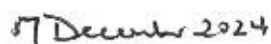
This has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with current Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Robson Laidler Accountants Limited
Statutory Auditor



Fernwood House
Fernwood Road
Jesmond
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
England
NE2 1TJ

Robson Laidler Accountants Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Society by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	3	444,448	349,654
Other trading activities	4	40,097	34,152
Investments	5	23,853	2,921
Total income		508,398	386,727
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	6	337,715	311,288
Other expenditure	10	70,390	-
Total expenditure		408,105	311,288
Net income and movement in funds		100,293	75,439
Reconciliation of funds:			
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		1,722,732	1,647,293
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		1,823,025	1,722,732

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

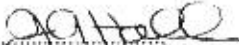
NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		459,349		180,324
Current assets					
Stocks	12	1,381		1,341	
Debtors	13	88,025		21,726	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,362,678		1,532,890	
		1,452,084		1,555,957	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(88,408)		(13,549)	
Net current assets			1,363,676		1,542,408
Total assets less current liabilities			1,823,025		1,722,732
The funds of the Society					
Unrestricted funds	16		1,823,025		1,722,732
			1,823,025		1,722,732

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 12.12.24


 Mrs J A Hall (Chairperson)
 Trustee


 Ms J Dixon (Treasurer)
 Trustee

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	18		165,753		74,995
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(359,816)		-	
Investment income received		23,853		2,921	
Net cash (used in)/generated from investing activities			(335,965)		2,921
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents			(170,212)		77,916
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			1,532,890		1,454,974
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			<u>1,362,678</u>		<u>1,532,890</u>

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

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

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Northern Counties Horses and Smaller Animals Protection Society is an unincorporated charity registered in England and Wales. The charity's principal address is given in the Legal and Administrative Information within these financial statements.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Society's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The Society is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in UK sterling which is the functional currency of the Society. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Society has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the Society.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Society is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Society has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Donated facilities and donated professional services are recognised in income at their fair value when their economic benefit is probable, it can be measured reliably and the charity has control over the item. Fair value is determined on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity. For example the amount the charity would be willing to pay in the open market for such facilities and services. A corresponding amount is recognised in expenditure.

Where practicable, gifts in kind donated for distribution to the beneficiaries of the charity are included in stock and donations in the financial statements upon receipt. If it is impracticable to assess the fair value at receipt or if the costs to undertake such a valuation outweigh any benefits, then the fair value is recognised as a component of donations when it is distributed and an equivalent amount recognised as charitable expenditure.

Gifts in kind donated for resale are included at fair value, being the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale. Where estimating the fair value is practicable upon receipt it is recognised in stock and 'Income from other trading activities'. Upon sale, the value of the stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds are recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'. Where it is impracticable to fair value the items due to the volume of low value items they are not recognised in the financial statements until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

Fixed asset gifts in kind are recognised when receivable and are included at fair value. They are not deferred over the life of the asset.

Income from trading activities includes income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the charity. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred.

Investment income earned on the temporary investment of specific borrowings pending their expenditure on qualifying assets is deducted from the borrowing costs eligible for capitalisation.

1.5 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	2% straightline
Fixtures and fittings	15% on reducing balance
Motor vehicles	25% on reducing balance
Kennels, shelters etc	5% on reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Society reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured at the lower of replacement cost and cost.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 Financial instruments

The Society has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Society's balance sheet when the Society becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Society's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Taxation

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010.

1.12 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Society is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.13 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Society's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

The following judgements (apart from those involving estimates) have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies that have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements:

The estimated useful lives of tangible fixed assets

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £
Donations and gifts	267,258	179,427
Legacies receivable	172,132	164,870
Other	5,058	5,357
	<u>444,448</u>	<u>349,654</u>
Legacies receivable		
Keith Benzie	-	33,187
Michael Cunningham	71,000	-
Anne Scallon	13,622	112,000
Hilary Petticrew	-	15,276
Miriam Craggs	9,000	-
Lady Elizabeth Hutchinson	5,406	-
Keith Seckington	56,591	-
Other	16,513	4,407
	<u>172,132</u>	<u>164,870</u>

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Receipts from events	7,183	4,788
Receipts from merchandise	32,914	29,364
	<u>40,097</u>	<u>34,152</u>
Other trading activities		

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £
Interest receivable	23,853	2,921

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Care of animals and refuge 2024 £	Care of animals and refuge 2023 £
Direct costs	211,568	187,062
Staff costs	10,403	7,604
Depreciation and impairment	2,571	1,087
Rates and water	12,135	10,734
Insurance	10,999	8,602
Light and heat	821	706
Telephone	3,299	2,514
Printing postage and stationery	1,503	1,853
Sundries	3,350	2,929
Fuel road tax and motor insurance	197	80
Subscriptions licenses and courses	12,133	14,050
Animal day to day costs	48,525	47,221
Veterinary fees	13,953	17,150
General maintenance	3,618	3,444
Audit and accountancy	2,640	6,252
Legal and professional fees		
	<u>337,715</u>	<u>311,288</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	<u>337,715</u>	<u>311,288</u>

Legal and professional fees includes payments to the auditors of £1,800 (2023- £1,613) for payroll services.

7	Net movement in funds	2024 £	2023 £
	The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
	Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	10,403	7,604
	Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	<u>70,390</u>	<u>-</u>

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Society during the year.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Animal refuge	11	12

Employment costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	198,501	176,931
Social security costs	9,140	7,237
Other pension costs	3,927	2,894
	211,568	187,062

Key management personnel remuneration £29,226 (2023: £26,526).

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

10 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Net loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	70,390	-

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Kennels, shelters etc £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 April 2023	313,974	14,982	11,240	42,116	382,312
Additions	123,323	706	-	235,789	359,818
Disposals	(108,375)	-	-	(42,116)	(150,491)
At 31 March 2024	328,922	15,688	11,240	235,789	591,639
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 April 2023	145,739	10,204	10,902	35,143	201,988
Depreciation charged in the year	6,562	825	84	2,932	10,403
Eliminated in respect of disposals	(43,028)	-	-	(37,073)	(80,101)
At 31 March 2024	109,273	11,029	10,986	1,002	132,290
Carrying amount					
At 31 March 2024	219,649	4,659	254	234,787	459,349
At 31 March 2023	168,235	4,778	338	6,973	180,324

12 Stocks

	2024 £	2023 £
Animal foodstuffs and merchandise	1,381	1,341

13 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	5,058	10,791
Prepayments and accrued income	82,967	10,935
	88,025	21,726

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other taxation and social security	2,756	2,368
Other creditors	1,525	1,571
Accruals and deferred income	84,127	9,610
	<u>88,408</u>	<u>13,549</u>

15 Retirement benefit schemes

	2024 £	2023 £
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	<u>3,927</u>	<u>2,894</u>

The Society operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Society in an independently administered fund.

16 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2024 £
General funds	<u>1,722,732</u>	<u>508,398</u>	<u>(408,105)</u>	<u>1,823,025</u>
Previous year:				
	At 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2023 £
General funds	<u>1,647,293</u>	<u>386,727</u>	<u>(311,288)</u>	<u>1,722,732</u>

17 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

18	Cash generated from operations	2024 £	2023 £
	Surplus for the year	100,293	75,439
	Adjustments for:		
	Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(23,853)	(2,921)
	Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	70,390	-
	Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	10,403	7,604
	Movements in working capital:		
	(Increase) in stocks	(40)	(39)
	(Increase) in debtors	(66,299)	(7,580)
	Increase in creditors	74,859	2,492
	Cash generated from operations	165,753	74,995

19 Analysis of changes in net funds

The Society had no material debt during the year.

Accounts

Charity registration number 227361

**NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS
PROTECTION SOCIETY**

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mrs J A Hall (Chairperson) Ms J Dixon (Treasurer) Ms C Watson Mrs L Chambers Mrs V Watson Miss A Richardson (Appointed 6 November 2022)
Charity number	227361
Principal address	Galloping Green Road Eighton Banks Gateshead Tyne and Wear England NE9 7XA
Auditor	Robson Laidler Accountants Limited Fernwood House Fernwood Road Jesmond Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne and Wear England NE2 1TJ
Bankers	Lloyds Bank PLC 15 West Street Gateshead Tyne & Wear NE8 1DP
Solicitors	O'Neill Richmonds Law Firm Ltd 1-2 Lansdowne Terrace East Gosforth Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne & Wear NE3 1HL

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

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NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Society's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The Society's objects are the "protection of horses and smaller animals from ill-usage, cruelty and suffering by the provision and maintenance in or near Gateshead of an animal refuge and such other facilities to achieve that object".

The aim of the shelter is to rehabilitate and re-home unwanted and abandoned animals which include horses, dogs, cats, rabbits and other small animals. All animals are health checked by our vet when they arrive. They are then neutered, vaccinated and dogs are micro-chipped. Our animals always receive prompt veterinary attention when required. Potential new owners are home-checked before our dogs go into their new homes.

We have a non-euthanasia policy unless the animal is deemed a danger to people or on the advice of our vet. We educate the public and potential owners on the necessity of neutering, micro-chipping and yearly vaccination. Now owners know they can always rely on our advice and support.

The policies adopted in furtherance of these objects are set out on pages 10 to 13 of these financial statements and there has been no change in these during the year.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Society should undertake.

The Society is grateful for the continued work and assistance of volunteers.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Achievements and performance

The Society has continued to carry on its charitable works with £311,288 (2022: £285,426) expended directly for the care of animals. After other expenses, the surplus for the year was £75,439 (2022: £48,327).

Financial review

During the year the Society received total income of £386,727 an increase of 16% over the previous year (2022: £333,753). A substantial source of income for the charity continues to be legacies which this year amounted to £164,870 (2022: £138,309).

At the end of the year the Society had net cash of £1,532,890 (2022: £1,454,974). This represents a position of financial strength to go forward and continue in the Society's aims for the care and protection of animals.

The level of reserves as at 31 March 2023 has increased to £1,722,732 (2022: £1,647,293). The charity's policy is to aim to have cash reserves equivalent to at least two years' charitable expenditure so that it is not totally reliant on legacies in the short term.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Society is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

The trustees meet on a regular basis to consider the major strategic and operational risks of the Society and act accordingly to mitigate those risks. We are grateful to the local authority who help us with our risk assessment each year.

Plans for future periods

The funds for our work are raised in a variety of ways. We ask for an adoption fee for our animals which goes towards maintaining the care the animals receive.

We also hold many events throughout the year such as monthly book sales and dog walks/shows. The majority of the money for the care of our animals comes to us from donations and legacies.

Going forward, our intention is to continue our work and expand on our fundraising events and build on the care animals receive at this time.

Cattery

The cattery we have has served us well but is now showing its age and our aim is to replace the existing cattery. The new cattery will have disabled access and will give visitors the opportunity to spend time with our cats to get to know them before any adoptions take place. Planning permission is expected in December 2023 and hopefully contractors will start the work in the middle of January 2024.

Stables

Our wooden stables took a battering in the storms of a few years ago and we lost most of the roof. After an inspection of the stables it was found that the wood was starting to rot so we are planning to replace the block with a more durable building. The work commenced in October 2023 and is scheduled to be completed by Christmas weather permitting.

These will be our main projects for 2023/2024.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The Society was formed in 1947 by the late Mr W J C Bryson and gained charitable status in 1964. The Society's activities are governed by its Charity Commission Scheme Document of 1989, and managed by an executive committee who serve as trustees. The trustees meet on a regular basis to discuss all matters in relation to the running of the charity.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs J A Hall (Chairperson)

Ms J Dixon (Treasurer)

Ms C Watson

Mrs L Chambers

Mrs V Watson

Miss A Richardson

(Appointed 6 November 2022)

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' 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 Society and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Society for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society 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 trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Mrs J A Hall (Chairperson)

Trustee

Date: 7.12.2023

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Northern Counties Horses and Smaller Animals Protection Society (the 'Society') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Society's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the company, we identified that there were principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations central to the charity's operations as it does have to report to The Charity Commission and, through its daily operations, it must comply with certain health and safety regulations with regard to the general public. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements of the company such as the Charities Act 2011 and UK tax legislation.

Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

Discussions with the trustees and key management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;

Evaluation and testing of the operating effectiveness of management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;

Reviewing relevant trustee meeting minutes;

Testing transactions entered into outside of the company's normal course of business.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with current Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Robson Laidler Accountants Limited

Robson Laidler Accountants Limited
Statutory Auditor

12 December 2023

Fernwood House
Fernwood Road
Jesmond
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
England
NE2 1TJ

Robson Laidler Accountants Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Society by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	3	349,654	291,893
Other trading activities	4	34,152	41,683
Investments	5	2,921	177
Total income		386,727	333,753
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	6	311,288	285,426
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds		75,439	48,327
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		1,647,293	1,598,966
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		1,722,732	1,647,293

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		180,324		187,928
Current assets					
Stocks	10	1,341		1,302	
Debtors	11	21,726		14,146	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,532,890		1,454,974	
		<u>1,555,957</u>		<u>1,470,422</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(13,549)</u>		<u>(11,057)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>1,542,408</u>		<u>1,459,365</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u><u>1,722,732</u></u>		<u><u>1,647,293</u></u>
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds - general			<u>1,722,732</u>		<u>1,647,293</u>
			<u><u>1,722,732</u></u>		<u><u>1,647,293</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 7.12.2023



Mrs J A Hall (Chairperson)
Trustee



Ms J Dixon (Treasurer)
Trustee

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	14		74,995		61,257
Investing activities					
Investment income received		2,921		177	
Net cash generated from investing activities			2,921		177
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			77,916		61,434
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			1,454,974		1,393,540
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			<u>1,532,890</u>		<u>1,454,974</u>

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Northern Counties Horses and Smaller Animals Protection Society is an unincorporated charity registered in England and Wales. The charity's principal address is given in the Legal and Administrative Information within these financial statements.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Society's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The Society is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in UK sterling which is the functional currency of the Society. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Society has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the Society.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Society is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Society has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Donated facilities and donated professional services are recognised in income at their fair value when their economic benefit is probable, it can be measured reliably and the charity has control over the item. Fair value is determined on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity. For example the amount the charity would be willing to pay in the open market for such facilities and services. A corresponding amount is recognised in expenditure.

Where practicable, gifts in kind donated for distribution to the beneficiaries of the charity are included in stock and donations in the financial statements upon receipt. If it is impracticable to assess the fair value at receipt or if the costs to undertake such a valuation outweigh any benefits, then the fair value is recognised as a component of donations when it is distributed and an equivalent amount recognised as charitable expenditure.

Gifts in kind donated for resale are included at fair value, being the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale. Where estimating the fair value is practicable upon receipt it is recognised in stock and 'Income from other trading activities'. Upon sale, the value of the stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds are recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'. Where it is impracticable to fair value the items due to the volume of low value items they are not recognised in the financial statements until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

Fixed asset gifts in kind are recognised when receivable and are included at fair value. They are not deferred over the life of the asset.

Income from trading activities includes income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the charity. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred.

Investment income earned on the temporary investment of specific borrowings pending their expenditure on qualifying assets is deducted from the borrowing costs eligible for capitalisation.

1.5 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	2% straightline
Fixtures and fittings	15% on reducing balance
Motor vehicles	25% on reducing balance
Kennels, shelters etc	5% on reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Society reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured at the lower of replacement cost and cost.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 Financial instruments

The Society has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Society's balance sheet when the Society becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Society's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Taxation

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010.

1.12 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Society is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.13 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Society's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

The following judgements (apart from those involving estimates) have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies that have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements:

The estimated useful lives of tangible fixed assets

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £
Donations and gifts	179,427	149,763
Legacies receivable	164,870	138,309
Other	5,357	3,821
	<u>349,654</u>	<u>291,893</u>
Legacies receivable		
Keith Bonzie	33,187	-
June Rutland	2,000	-
Thelma Cass	2,000	-
Anne Scallon	112,000	-
Hilary Petticrew	15,276	-
Vera Lane	106	-
Kenneth M Barrow & Co Solicitors	301	-
Keith Seckington	-	50,000
Norma Ross	-	30,000
Raymond Weedy	-	25,870
Other	-	32,439
	<u>164,870</u>	<u>138,309</u>

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £
Receipts from events	4,788	4,805
Receipts from merchandise	29,364	36,878
Other trading activities	<u>34,152</u>	<u>41,683</u>

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £
Interest receivable	2,921	177

6 Charitable activities

	Care of animals and refuge 2023 £	Care of animals and refuge 2022 £
Staff costs	187,062	167,562
Depreciation and impairment	7,604	7,810
Rates and water	1,087	1,843
Insurance	10,734	10,111
Light and heat	8,602	14,450
Telephone	706	959
Printing postage and stationery	2,514	2,918
Sundries	1,853	869
Fuel road tax and motor insurance	2,929	3,007
Subscriptions licences and courses	80	518
Animal day to day costs	14,050	10,317
Veterinary fees	47,221	39,373
General maintenance	17,150	19,731
Audit and accountancy	3,444	3,264
Legal and professional fees	6,252	2,694
	311,288	285,426
	311,288	285,426

Legal and professional fees includes payments to the auditors of £1,613 (2022- £1,484) for payroll services.

7 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Society during the year.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

8 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Animal refuge	12	10

Employment costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	176,931	158,779
Social security costs	7,237	6,266
Other pension costs	2,894	2,517
	<u>187,062</u>	<u>167,562</u>

Key management personnel remuneration £26,526 (2022 £24,876).

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Kennels, shelters etc £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 April 2022	313,974	14,982	11,240	42,116	382,312
At 31 March 2023	313,974	14,982	11,240	42,116	382,312
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 April 2022	139,458	9,361	10,789	34,776	194,384
Depreciation charged in the year	6,281	843	113	367	7,604
At 31 March 2023	145,739	10,204	10,902	35,143	201,988
Carrying amount					
At 31 March 2023	168,235	4,778	338	6,973	180,324
At 31 March 2022	174,516	5,621	451	7,340	187,928

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

10 Stocks	2023	2022
	£	£
Animal foodstuffs and merchandise	1,341	1,302
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
11 Debtors	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	10,791	3,821
Prepayments and accrued income	10,935	10,325
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	21,726	14,146
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2023	2022
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	2,368	2,237
Other creditors	1,571	1,119
Accruals and deferred income	9,610	7,701
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	13,549	11,057
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
13 Related party transactions		
There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).		
14 Cash generated from operations	2023	2022
	£	£
Surplus for the year	75,439	48,327
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(2,921)	(177)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	7,604	7,810
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in stocks	(39)	(38)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(7,580)	3,369
Increase in creditors	2,492	1,966
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Cash generated from operations	74,995	61,257
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
15 Analysis of changes in net funds		
The Society had no debt during the year.		

Accounts

**NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS
PROTECTION SOCIETY**

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mrs J A Hall (Chairperson) Ms J Dixon (Treasurer) Ms C Watson Mrs L Chambers Mrs V Watson
Charity number	227361
Principal address	Galloping Green Road Eighton Banks Gateshead Tyne and Wear England NE9 7XA
Auditor	Robson Laidler Accountants Limited Fernwood House Fernwood Road Jesmond Newcastle Upon Tyne Tyne and Wear England NE2 1TJ
Bankers	Lloyds Bank PLC 15 West Street Gateshead Tyne & Wear NE8 1DP
Solicitors	O'Neill Richmonds Law Firm Ltd 1-2 Lansdowne Terrace East Gosforth Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne & Wear NE3 1HL

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

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NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Society's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The Society's objects are the "protection of horses and smaller animals from ill-usage, cruelty and suffering by the provision and maintenance in or near Gateshead of an animal refuge and such other facilities to achieve that object".

The aim of the shelter is to rehabilitate and re-home unwanted and abandoned animals which include horses, dogs, cats, rabbits and other small animals. All animals are health checked by our vet when they arrive. They are then neutered, vaccinated and dogs are micro-chipped. Our animals always receive prompt veterinary attention when required. Potential new owners are home-checked before our dogs go into their new homes.

We have a non-euthanasia policy unless the animal is deemed a danger to people or on the advice of our vet. We educate the public and potential owners on the necessity of neutering, micro-chipping and yearly vaccination. New owners know they can always rely on our advice and support.

The policies adopted in furtherance of these objects are set out on page 10 to 13 of these financial statements and there has been no change in these during the year.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Society should undertake.

The Society is grateful for the continued work and assistance of volunteers.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Achievements and performance

The Society has continued to carry on its charitable works with £285,426 (2021: £275,170) expended directly for the care of animals. After other expenses, the surplus for the year was £48,327 (2021: £488 deficit).

Financial review

During the year the Society received total income of £333,753 an increase of 22% over the previous year (2021: £274,682). A substantial source of income for the charity continues to be legacies which this year amounted to £138,309 (2021: £97,924).

At the end of the year the Society had net cash of £1,454,974 (2021: £1,393,540). This represents a position of financial strength to go forward and continue in the Society's aims for the care and protection of animals.

The level of reserves as at 31 March 2022 has increased to £1,647,293 (2021: £1,598,966). The charity's policy is to aim to have cash reserves equivalent to at least two years' charitable expenditure so that it is not totally reliant on legacies in the short term.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Society is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

The trustees meet on a regular basis to consider the major strategic and operational risks of the Society and act accordingly to mitigate those risks. We are grateful to the local authority who help us with our risk assessment each year.

Plans for future periods

The funds for our work are raised in a variety of ways. We ask for an adoption fee for our animals which goes towards maintaining the care the animals receive.

We also hold many events throughout the year such as monthly book sales and dog walks/shows. The majority of the money for the care of our animals comes to us from donations and legacies.

Going forward, our intention is to continue our work and expand on our fundraising events and build on the care animals receive at this time.

Cattery

The cattery we have has served us well but is now showing its age and our aim is to replace the existing cattery. The new cattery will have disabled access and will give visitors the opportunity to spend time with our cats to get to know them before any adoptions take place. If all goes well with planning consent and contractors we will be starting the work as early as possible in 2023.

Stables

Our wooden stables took a battering in the storms this year and we lost most of the roof. After an inspection of the stables it was found that the wood was starting to rot so we are planning to replace the block with a more durable building. This is planned for Spring 2023.

These will be our main projects for 2023.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The Society was formed in 1947 by the late Mr W J C Bryson and gained charitable status in 1964. The Society's activities are governed by its Charity Commission Scheme Document of 1989, and managed by an executive committee who serve as trustees. The trustees meet on a regular basis to discuss all matters in relation to the running of the charity.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs J A Hall (Chairperson)

Ms J Dixon (Treasurer)

Ms C Watson

Mrs L Chambers

Mrs V Watson

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' 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 Society and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Society for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society 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 trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Mrs J A Hall (Chairperson)

Trustee

9 November 2022

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Northern Counties Horses and Smaller Animals Protection Society (the 'Society') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Society's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the company, we identified that there were principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations central to the charity's operations as it does have to report to The Charity Commission and, through its daily operations, it must comply with certain health and safety regulations with regard to the general public. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements of the company such as the Charities Act 2011 and UK tax legislation.

Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

Discussions with the trustees and key management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;

Evaluation and testing of the operating effectiveness of management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;

Reviewing relevant trustee meeting minutes;

Testing transactions entered into outside of the company's normal course of business.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with current Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Robson Laidler Accountants Limited
Statutory Auditor

14 November 2022

Fernwood House
Fernwood Road
Jesmond
Newcastle Upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
England
NE2 1TJ

Robson Laidler Accountants Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Society by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £
<u>Income from:</u>			
Donations and legacies	3	291,893	253,519
Other trading activities	4	41,683	20,670
Investments	5	177	493
Total income		<u>333,753</u>	<u>274,682</u>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>			
Charitable activities	6	<u>285,426</u>	<u>275,170</u>
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds		48,327	(488)
Fund balances at 1 April 2021		<u>1,598,966</u>	<u>1,599,454</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2022		<u><u>1,647,293</u></u>	<u><u>1,598,966</u></u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		187,928		195,738
Current assets					
Stocks	10	1,302		1,264	
Debtors	11	14,146		17,515	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,454,974		1,393,540	
		<u>1,470,422</u>		<u>1,412,319</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(11,057)</u>		<u>(9,091)</u>	
Net current assets			1,459,365		1,403,228
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>1,647,293</u>		<u>1,598,966</u>
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds - general			1,647,293		1,598,966
			<u>1,647,293</u>		<u>1,598,966</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 13 November 2022

Mrs J A Hall (Chairperson)
Trustee

Ms J Dixon (Treasurer)
Trustee

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	14		61,257		1,969
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-		(2,439)	
Investment income received		177		493	
Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities			177		(1,946)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			61,434		23
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			1,393,540		1,393,517
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			1,454,974		1,393,540

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Northern Counties Horses and Smaller Animals Protection Society is an unincorporated charity registered in England and Wales. The charity's principal address is given in the Legal and Administrative Information within these financial statements.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Society's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The Society is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in UK sterling, which is the functional currency of the Society. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Society has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the Society.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Society is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Society has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Donated facilities and donated professional services are recognised in income at their fair value when their economic benefit is probable, it can be measured reliably and the charity has control over the item. Fair value is determined on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity. For example the amount the charity would be willing to pay in the open market for such facilities and services. A corresponding amount is recognised in expenditure.

Where practicable, gifts in kind donated for distribution to the beneficiaries of the charity are included in stock and donations in the financial statements upon receipt. If it is impracticable to assess the fair value at receipt or if the costs to undertake such a valuation outweigh any benefits, then the fair value is recognised as a component of donations when it is distributed and an equivalent amount recognised as charitable expenditure.

Gifts in kind donated for resale are included at fair value, being the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale. Where estimating the fair value is practicable upon receipt it is recognised in stock and 'Income from other trading activities'. Upon sale, the value of the stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds are recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'. Where it is impracticable to fair value the items due to the volume of low value items they are not recognised in the financial statements until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

Fixed asset gifts in kind are recognised when receivable and are included at fair value. They are not deferred over the life of the asset.

Income from trading activities includes income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the charity. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred.

Investment income earned on the temporary investment of specific borrowings pending their expenditure on qualifying assets is deducted from the borrowing costs eligible for capitalisation.

1.5 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	2% straightline
Fixtures and fittings	15% on reducing balance
Motor vehicles	25% on reducing balance
Kennels, shelters etc	5% on reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Society reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured at the lower of replacement cost and cost.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 Financial instruments

The Society has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Society's balance sheet when the Society becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Society's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Taxation

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010.

1.12 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Society is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.13 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Society's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

The following judgements (apart from those involving estimates) have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies that have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements:

The estimated useful lives of tangible fixed assets

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £
Donations and gifts	149,763	147,552
Legacies receivable	138,309	97,924
Gift aid	3,821	8,043
	<u>291,893</u>	<u>253,519</u>
Legacies receivable		
Raymond Weedy	25,870	-
Norma Ross	30,000	-
Olive Milligan	5,000	-
Catherine Ternent	5,000	-
Barbara Hargreaves	5,760	-
Judith Angela Dixon	6,679	-
Edna Sutton	10,000	-
Keith Seckington	50,000	-
Other	-	97,924
	<u>138,309</u>	<u>97,924</u>

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £
Receipts from events	4,805	340
Receipts from merchandise	36,878	20,330
Other trading activities	<u>41,683</u>	<u>20,670</u>

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £
Interest receivable	177	493

6 Charitable activities

	Care of animals and refuge 2022 £	Care of animals and refuge 2021 £
Staff costs	167,562	167,202
Depreciation and impairment	7,810	7,830
Rates and water	1,843	2,118
Insurance	10,111	8,781
Light and heat	14,450	10,841
Telephone	959	820
Printing postage and stationery	2,918	2,172
Sundries	869	594
Fuel road tax and motor insurance	3,007	2,574
Subscriptions licences and courses	518	332
Animal day to day costs	10,317	8,889
Veterinary fees	39,373	36,593
General maintenance	19,731	14,361
Audit and accountancy	3,264	3,000
Legal and professional fees	2,694	9,063
	285,426	275,170
	285,426	275,170

Legal and professional fees includes payments to the auditors of £1,484 (2021- £1,484) for payroll services.

7 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Society during the year.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

8 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Animal refuge	10	10
Employment costs	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	158,779	158,361
Social security costs	6,266	6,278
Other pension costs	2,517	2,563
	167,562	167,202

Key management personnel remuneration £24,876 (2021 £23,769).

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Kennels, shelters etc £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 April 2021	313,974	14,982	11,240	42,116	382,312
At 31 March 2022	313,974	14,982	11,240	42,116	382,312
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 April 2021	133,177	8,369	10,638	34,390	186,574
Depreciation charged in the year	6,281	992	151	386	7,810
At 31 March 2022	139,458	9,361	10,789	34,776	194,384
Carrying amount					
At 31 March 2022	174,516	5,621	451	7,340	187,928
At 31 March 2021	180,797	6,613	602	7,726	195,738

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

10 Stocks	2022	2021
	£	£
Animal foodstuffs and merchandise	1,302	1,264
11 Debtors	2022	2021
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	3,821	8,043
Prepayments and accrued income	10,325	9,472
	14,146	17,515
12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2022	2021
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	2,237	2,086
Other creditors	1,119	661
Accruals and deferred income	7,701	6,344
	11,057	9,091
13 Related party transactions		
There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2021 - none).		
14 Cash generated from operations	2022	2021
	£	£
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	48,327	(488)
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(177)	(493)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	7,810	7,830
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in stocks	(38)	(36)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	3,369	(2,655)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	1,966	(2,189)
Cash generated from operations	61,257	1,969
15 Analysis of changes in net funds		
The Society had no debt during the year.		

Accounts

**NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS
PROTECTION SOCIETY**

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mrs JA Hall (Acting Chairperson) Ms J Dixon (Treasurer) Ms C Watson Mrs L Chambers Mrs V Watson
Charity number	227361
Principal address	Galloping Green Road Eighton Banks Gateshead Tyne and Wear England NE9 7XA
Auditor	Robson Laidler Accountants Limited Fernwood House Fernwood Road Jesmond Newcastle Upon Tyne Tyne and Wear England NE2 1TJ
Bankers	Lloyds Bank PLC 15 West Street Gateshead Tyne & Wear NE8 1DP
Solicitors	O'Neill Richmonds Law Firm Ltd 1-2 Lansdowne Terrace East Gosforth Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne & Wear NE3 1HL

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

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NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Society's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The Society's objects are the "protection of horses and smaller animals from ill-usage, cruelty and suffering by the provision and maintenance in or near Gateshead of an animal refuge and such other facilities to achieve that object".

The aim of the shelter is to rehabilitate and re-home unwanted and abandoned animals which include horses, dogs, cats, rabbits and other small animals. All animals are health checked by our vet when they arrive. They are then neutered, vaccinated and dogs are micro-chipped. Our animals always receive prompt veterinary attention when required. Potential new owners are home-checked before our dogs go into their new homes.

We have a non-euthanasia policy unless the animal is deemed a danger to people or on the advice of our vet. We educate the public and potential owners on the necessity of neutering, micro-chipping and yearly vaccination. New owners know they can always rely on our advice and support.

The policies adopted in furtherance of these objects are set out on page 10 to 12 of these financial statements and there has been no change in these during the year.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Society should undertake.

The Society is grateful for the continued work and assistance of volunteers.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Achievements and performance

The Society has continued to carry on its charitable works with £275,170 (2020: £271,919) expended directly for the care of animals. After other expenses, the deficit for the year was £488 (2020: £250,957 surplus).

Financial review

During the year the Society received total income of £274,682 a decrease of 47% over the previous year (2020: £522,876). A substantial source of income for the charity continues to be legacies which this year amounted to £97,924 (2020: £291,962).

At the end of the year the Society had net cash of £1,393,540 (2020: £1,393,517). This represents a position of financial strength to go forward and continue in the Society's aims for the care and protection of animals.

The level of reserves as at 31 March 2021 has increased to £1,598,966 (2020: £1,599,454). The charity's policy is to aim to have cash reserves equivalent to at least two years' charitable expenditure so that it is not totally reliant on legacies in the short term.

The trustees has assessed the major risks to which the Society is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The funds for our work are raised in a variety of ways. We ask for an adoption fee for our animals which goes towards maintaining the care the animals receive.

We also hold many events throughout the year such as monthly book sales and dog walks/shows. The majority of the money for the care of our animals comes to us from donations and legacies.

Going forward, our intention is to continue our work and expand on our fundraising events and build on the care animals receive at this time.

COVID-19 has had a big impact on our fundraising activities as we have been unable to carry out any fundraising since March 2020. This has had an impact on the finances of the shelter but we have been overwhelmed by the support we have received from people who have made donations to us during this difficult time for everyone. With COVID-19 restrictions easing we hope to resume our fundraising in 2022 bigger and better.

During this time we have kept all staff employed as we felt it important that the animals in our care received the best possible attention especially during the early months when we had no volunteers to help. It did keep the staff busy and fit walking all the dogs.

The new cattery is on hold at present due to COVID-19 but we are still planning to go ahead with it when the time is right.

Risk assessment

The trustees meet on a regular basis to consider the major strategic and operational risks of the Society and act accordingly to mitigate those risks. We are grateful to the local authority who help us with our risk assessment each year.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The Society was formed in 1947 by the late Mr W J C Bryson and gained charitable status in 1964. The Society's activities are governed by its Charity Commission Scheme Document of 1989, and managed by an executive committee who serve as trustees. The trustees meet on a regular basis to discuss all matters in relation to the running of the charity.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs JA Hall (Acting Chairperson)

Mrs F Stewart

(Resigned 1 December 2020)

Ms J Dixon (Treasurer)

Ms C Watson

Mrs L Chambers

Mrs V Watson

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' 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 Society and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Society for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society 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 trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Mrs JA Hall (Acting Chairperson)

Trustee

Dated: 14.11.2021

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Northern Counties Horses and Smaller Animals Protection Society (the 'Society') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Society's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the company, we identified that there were principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations central to the charity's operations as it does have to report to The Charity Commission and, through its daily operations, it must comply with certain health and safety regulations with regard to the general public. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements of the company such as the Charities Act 2011 and UK tax legislation.

Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

Discussions with the trustees and key management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;

Evaluation and testing of the operating effectiveness of management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;

Reviewing relevant trustee meeting minutes;

Testing transactions entered into outside of the company's normal course of business.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with current Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Robson Laidler Accountants Limited

24 November 2021

Statutory Auditor

Fernwood House
Fernwood Road
Jesmond
Newcastle Upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
England
NE2 1TJ

Robson Laidler Accountants Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Society by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £
<u>Income from:</u>			
Donations and legacies	3	253,519	464,757
Other trading activities	4	20,670	57,304
Investments	5	493	815
Total income		274,682	522,876
<u>Expenditure on:</u>			
Charitable activities	6	275,170	271,919
Net (expenditure)/income for the year/ Net movement in funds		(488)	250,957
Fund balances at 1 April 2020		1,599,454	1,348,497
Fund balances at 31 March 2021		1,598,966	1,599,454

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

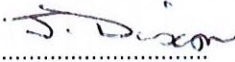
BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		195,738		201,129
Current assets					
Stocks	10	1,264		1,228	
Debtors	11	17,515		14,860	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,393,540		1,393,517	
		<u>1,412,319</u>		<u>1,409,605</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(9,091)</u>		<u>(11,280)</u>	
Net current assets			1,403,228		1,398,325
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>1,598,966</u>		<u>1,599,454</u>
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds - general			1,598,966		1,599,454
			<u>1,598,966</u>		<u>1,599,454</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 31/10/2021


Mrs JA Hall (Acting Chairperson)
Trustee


Ms J Dixon (Treasurer)
Trustee

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	16		1,969		275,769
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(2,439)		-	
Investment income received		493		815	
Net cash (used in)/generated from investing activities			(1,946)		815
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			23		276,584
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			1,393,517		1,116,933
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			<u>1,393,540</u>		<u>1,393,517</u>

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Northern Counties Horses and Smaller Animals Protection Society is an unincorporated charity registered in England and Wales. The charity's principal address is given in the Legal and Administrative Information within these financial statements.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Society's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The Society is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Society. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Society has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the Society.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Society is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Society has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Donated facilities and donated professional services are recognised in income at their fair value when their economic benefit is probable, it can be measured reliably and the charity has control over the item. Fair value is determined on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity. For example the amount the charity would be willing to pay in the open market for such facilities and services. A corresponding amount is recognised in expenditure.

Where practicable, gifts in kind donated for distribution to the beneficiaries of the charity are included in stock and donations in the financial statements upon receipt. If it is impracticable to assess the fair value at receipt or if the costs to undertake such a valuation outweigh any benefits, then the fair value is recognised as a component of donations when it is distributed and an equivalent amount recognised as charitable expenditure.

Gifts in kind donated for resale are included at fair value, being the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale. Where estimating the fair value is practicable upon receipt it is recognised in stock and 'Income from other trading activities'. Upon sale, the value of the stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds are recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'. Where it is impracticable to fair value the items due to the volume of low value items they are not recognised in the financial statements until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

Fixed asset gifts in kind are recognised when receivable and are included at fair value. They are not deferred over the life of the asset.

Income from trading activities includes income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the charity. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred.

Investment income earned on the temporary investment of specific borrowings pending their expenditure on qualifying assets is deducted from the borrowing costs eligible for capitalisation.

1.5 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	2% straight line basis
Fixtures and fittings	15% on reducing balance
Motor vehicles	25% on reducing balance
Kennels, shelters etc	5% on reducing balance

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Society reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured at the lower of replacement cost and cost.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 Financial instruments

The Society has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Society's balance sheet when the Society becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Society's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Taxation

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010.

1.12 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Society is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.13 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Society's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

The following judgements (apart from those involving estimates) have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies that have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements:

The estimated useful lives of tangible fixed assets

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £	Unrestricted funds general 2020 £
Donations and gifts	147,552	166,201
Legacies receivable	97,924	291,962
Gift aid	8,043	6,594
	<u>253,519</u>	<u>464,757</u>

The following amounts were receivable by the Society for bequests etc made during the year:-

	2021 £
Alexander George Burness	687
Brian Stewart Cowey	1,000
Mrs W M Wade	4,538
Patricia Clarke Kent	500
Dorothy Greig Henderson	1,285
Elizabeth Mary Bradley	11,304
George Robson	2,534
Judith Angela Dixon	50,000
Mary Wilson	<u>26,076</u>
	<u>97,924</u>

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £	Unrestricted funds general 2020 £
Receipts from events	340	36,722
Receipts from merchandise	20,330	20,582
Other trading activities	<u>20,670</u>	<u>57,304</u>

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £	Unrestricted funds general 2020 £
Interest receivable	493	815

6 Charitable activities

	Care of animals and refuge 2021 £	Care of animals and refuge 2020 £
Staff costs	167,202	165,552
Depreciation and impairment	7,830	7,884
Rates and water	2,118	2,167
Insurance	8,781	8,276
Light and heat	10,841	12,339
Telephone	820	598
Printing postage and stationery	2,172	3,468
Sundries	594	3,681
Fuel road tax and motor insurance	2,574	2,615
Subscriptions licences and courses	332	78
Animal day to day costs	8,889	9,096
Veterinary fees	36,593	38,595
General maintenance	14,361	11,207
Audit and accountancy	3,000	2,952
Legal and professional fees	9,063	3,411
	<u>275,170</u>	<u>271,919</u>
	<u>275,170</u>	<u>271,919</u>

Legal and professional fees includes payments to the auditors of £1,484 (2020- £1,484) for payroll services.

7 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Society during the year.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

8 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Animal refuge	11	11
Employment costs	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	158,361	156,800
Social security costs	6,278	6,404
Other pension costs	2,563	2,348
	<u>167,202</u>	<u>165,552</u>

Key management personnel remuneration £23,769 (2020 : £22,422)

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Kennels, shelters etc £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 April 2020	313,974	12,543	11,240	42,116	379,873
Additions	-	2,439	-	-	2,439
At 31 March 2021	<u>313,974</u>	<u>14,982</u>	<u>11,240</u>	<u>42,116</u>	<u>382,312</u>
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 April 2020	126,896	7,428	10,437	33,983	178,744
Depreciation charged in the year	6,281	941	201	407	7,830
At 31 March 2021	<u>133,177</u>	<u>8,369</u>	<u>10,638</u>	<u>34,390</u>	<u>186,574</u>
Carrying amount					
At 31 March 2021	<u>180,797</u>	<u>6,613</u>	<u>602</u>	<u>7,726</u>	<u>195,738</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>187,078</u>	<u>5,115</u>	<u>803</u>	<u>8,133</u>	<u>201,129</u>

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

10 Stocks	2021	2020
	£	£
Animal foodstuffs and merchandise	1,264	1,228
	<u>1,264</u>	<u>1,228</u>
11 Debtors	2021	2020
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Other debtors	8,043	6,594
Prepayments and accrued income	9,472	8,266
	<u>17,515</u>	<u>14,860</u>
12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2021	2020
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	2,086	2,051
Other creditors	661	458
Accruals and deferred income	6,344	8,771
	<u>9,091</u>	<u>11,280</u>

13 Events after the reporting date

Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) measures introduced in March 2020, and the subsequent restrictions imposed, the shelter has been forced to close to members of the public for varying periods since the year end with a consequent impact on the charity's fundraising activities.

14 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2020 - none).

15 Contingent assets

As at 31 March 2021, the charity had been notified of one legacy, the value of which is uncertain as it involves the sale of a property. One potential property sale has fallen through and the property is currently on the market with an estimated selling price of £64,000. As at the date of approval of the financial statements, no further information had been received and so this legacy has not been accrued.

NORTHERN COUNTIES HORSES AND SMALLER ANIMALS PROTECTION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

16 Cash generated from operations	2021 £	2020 £
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(488)	250,957
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(493)	(815)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	7,830	7,884
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in stocks	(36)	(36)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(2,655)	14,573
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(2,189)	3,206
Cash generated from operations	1,969	275,769
17 Analysis of changes in net funds		
The Society had no debt during the year.		