

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Company Registration No. (England and Wales)

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Ms G Ayub	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
	Ms A R Bentley	(Appointed 4 September 2024)
	Mr J French	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
	Mrs P M Fairclough	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
	Mr A J Freestone	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
	Mrs C J Jonsson	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
	Mrs L O'Boyle	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
	Mrs N Robertson	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
	Mr P Shanks	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
	Mrs Y Tan	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
	Mr J Taylor	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
	Dr D M West	
Charity number (England and Wales)	232253	
Independent examiner	Champion TLL Limited 7-9 Station Road Hesketh Bank Preston Lancashire PR4 6SN	
Bankers	Barclays Bank UK PLC 1 Churchill Place LONDON E14 5HP	

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

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RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 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 RSPCA Branch Rules, 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

Aims and Objectives

The RSPCA Lancashire East Branch is constituted as an unincorporated charitable association and a separately registered branch of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (the Society), subject to its Rules for Branches.

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

General activities for achieving the objectives are the operation of the Animal Centre at Altham near Accrington and an animal rehoming programme.

Achievements and Performance

Review of Activities and Public Benefit

The Trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements for the year to ensure that they remain focused on our charitable aims and continue to benefit the public. We have complied with the duty under the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Under the Charities Act 2011, the advancement of animal welfare is recognised as a distinct statutory charitable purpose. The legislation and the Animal Welfare Act of the same year indicate an acceptance by society that treating living creatures with compassion has a moral benefit for the public as a whole.

The Branch's animal welfare work, although local in nature, benefits society at large. The following section of this report highlights the charity's main activities and demonstrates the benefit provided to the public. All of our charitable activities focus on promoting kindness and preventing or suppressing cruelty to animals and are undertaken to further these purposes for the public benefit.

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission guidance regarding public benefit and are satisfied that the charity has met the requirements as described within this report.

We support our local RSPCA Inspectorate officers by giving priority to accepting those animals most at risk and, following rehabilitation, finding them suitable homes. The Society's Inspectorate rescues animals in distress and enforces laws against the mistreatment of animals in England and Wales by bringing prosecutions. This work is key to the prevention or suppression of cruelty part of the RSPCA objects and promotes humane sentiments towards animals which involve moral benefit to humankind as a whole.

All animals in our care receive veterinary support, vaccination, neutering and microchipping prior to rehoming. This reduces the incidence and spread of disease and helps to control companion animal populations.

We offer free advice on pet care to promote responsible pet ownership and educate the public.

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

To help raise the income needed to support these activities the Branch operated the one charity shop in Burnley.

During 2024 the Branch continued to be an active supporter of the RSPCA's Food Bank appeal providing both donations of food to help pet owners across East Lancashire and the use of storage facilities at the animal centre and in addition made direct donations to a number of local food banks including Maundy Relief.

We offer volunteering opportunities to people from all sectors of the community who wish to support our work in our animal centre and charity shops. Volunteer roles include Trustees, general animal care and socialisation in the kennel environment, dog walking, foster care, retail assistants (in customer facing, stock sorting and distribution roles), volunteer drivers and fundraising roles.

Our volunteers make a significant contribution to the care of the animals, both through direct animal facing roles and by securing vital funds to support the overall operation of the Branch whether through the shops or other fundraising activities.

The Trustees, themselves all volunteers, are most appreciative of the time and dedication of volunteers working in all aspects of the Branch.

Summary of Achievements

Overview

2024 was a year of major change for the Branch when the administration of the Branch returned to local control after over five years in national administration with the election of a new Board of Trustees drawn from amongst the Branch members at the last AGM (26 June 2024).

This report therefore covers a period of transition which saw the outgoing nationally appointed Trustees support the recruitment and induction of the local Trustees and the ongoing development of the Branch under the governance and leadership of the new Board.

Intake & Rehoming

The Branch continues to build on the success of the fostering team and during the course of last year the number of foster carers varied between 25 - 30 volunteers although not all were available at any one time, but their contribution made an invaluable contribution to animal throughput and rehoming. In fact, without the support of such individuals the Branch would not be able to rehabilitate and rehome any cats as there are no suitable cattery facilities at the animal centre.

The development of the fostering scheme continues to be supported by the transfer of cats from the RSPCA Southport, Ormskirk & District Branch animal centre, who have themselves followed the Lancs East example and recruited a foster coordinator of their own.

Last year also saw the Branch take back financial responsibility for the operation of the rabbit unit (in recent years the costs have been generously underwritten by both the RSPCA Crewe, Nantwich & District Branch and the RSPCA Liverpool Branch).

This support and the hard work of the dedicated animal care team under the positive leadership of Jeanette Ainscough (Animal Care Manager) saw the Branch accept 105 animals (53 dogs, 36 cats, 5 rabbits & 11 guinea pigs) into care, the same number of animals as the previous year, albeit a different mix of species with more dogs but fewer cats & rabbits taken into care than in 2023.

Despite the complex nature of the animals for which the Branch is caring, last year saw 92 animals (42 dogs, 33 cats, 7 rabbits & 10 guinea pigs) rehomed.

The Branch continues to have a boarding contract with the neighboring RSPCA Keighley, Craven & Upper Wharfedale Branch and the Lancashire East Trustees are grateful for the contribution this provides towards the operating costs of the animal centre.

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Charity Shops

Last year was a difficult year for the Branch's remaining charity shop.

Having renewed the Burnley shop lease in 2022 the Trustees continued to make good on the lack of repairs and maintenance over the previous 15 years and the costs of such ongoing repairs and maintenance coupled with the disruption to both pedestrian and vehicular traffic due to the Town to Turf road closures seriously impacted shop performance.

Branch Administration & Management

The last year saw the ongoing development of our partnership with the RSPCA Southport, Ormskirk & District Branch. James Stevens (Chief Executive Officer) works in as CEO role across the two branches and is constantly having to rebalance his responsibilities and priorities to ensure both partners are supported.

This has in turn placed more responsibility on the senior management team; Jeanette Aincough (Animal Care Manager), Sue Abraham (Fostering Coordinator), Sam Bowles (Charity Shop Manager) and David Lutkevitch (Business & Administration Manager) all of whom have stepped up to the additional challenges this can present.

Thank You

The Trustees would like to thank all staff and volunteers for their hard work and dedication during 2024 without whom the Branch would not have been able to provide its much needed animal welfare services.

Financial Review

Financial Position

The total incoming resources for the year amounted to £269,009 (2023: £329,532), including legacies and grants of £85,363 (£131,810). Expenditure in the year amounted to £492,170 (£518,377). After realised gains/(losses) of £nil (£nil) the Branch recorded a deficit for the year of £160,161 (deficit of £188,845).

Whilst income again exceeded budget predictions, legacies & grants were down £46,447 (35.2%) on the previous year and shop sales were impacted by the ongoing Town to Turf project in Burnley town centre, in addition the Branch also managed to reduce expenditure by £89,207 (17.2%) over the course of the year.

However, if the Trustees had failed to address the ongoing problems within the retail network over the last two years this would simply have delayed and increased the financial impact on Branch resources and so by completing the work on the Burnley shop it is hoped 2025 will see the shop return to a far healthier and profitable trading position.

The Trustees continue to carefully manage funds and the past year has seen changes introduced to further improve financial reporting across the Branch and ensure the Trustees and senior management are better able to make informed decisions before committing to future spending.

Investment Policy and Objectives

The Branch does not hold sufficient reserves to risk investing in equities. Any surplus reserves are held in a premium account.

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Reserves Policy

The Branch holds reserves in order that its animal welfare services can be maintained should there be a reduction in incoming resources. Reserves are those funds that are freely available for general purposes and are uncommitted.

The Trustees have established a policy of holding unrestricted funds equivalent to at least 12 months of expenditure: based on 2024 expenditure levels this would be £429,170.

As at 31 December 2024 the Branch had cash reserves of £242,142 of which the Trustees had designated £100,000 to cover potential liabilities which would arise if the Branch were to cease operating: such liabilities include staff redundancy costs, charity shop lease and dilapidation costs and other long-term commitments.

The Branch therefore had unrestricted/undesignated cash reserves of £142,142 or 4.0 months operating costs, based on the target reserve figure of £429,170. The Trustees regularly review this policy to ensure there are sufficient reserves to meet all liabilities.

Future Plans

Whilst recognising that the shop closure and the associated dilapidations, repairs and refurbishment programme have negatively impacted on Branch finances in the short-term, the previous Board of nationally appointed Trustees have addressed the major financial challenges that faced the charity when they were initially appointed.

The subsequent election in June 2024 of a new Board of Trustees elected from amongst the Branch membership was a major success and the new Board under the leadership of Joy Jonsson (Chair) has been making further strides forward.

Whilst planning permission has been secured for the development of a 13 pen cattery, initial estimates at over £320,000 have proven prohibitive, the project has therefore been put on hold pending a substantial injection of capital funding.

However, despite this initial setback, the new Board has been determined to improve and enhance Branch facilities and has commenced a number of major projects:

- applied for membership of the Association of Dogs & Cats Home (ADCH), the "trade body" for animal rescue charities of which only a handful of RSPCA branches are members. ADCH standards are considered the gold standard for animal welfare provision
- plans to reopen seven additional kennels increasing the operating capacity from 14 to 21 kennels (in November 2021 the national Trustees halved the capacity from 28 to 14 kennels in a bid to stabilise Branch finances)
- developing partnerships with other RSPCA branches in addition to those with the Craven, Liverpool and Southport branches, the Board is in the process of finalising interbranch boarding agreements with both the RSPCA Crewe, Nantwich & District Branch and the RSPCA Cheshire (Altrincham) Branch to help offset some of the costs of reopening mothballed kennels
- seek grant funding to improve the animal centre buildings and infrastructure

In addition to the Branch's animal welfare focus the Trustees continue to monitor income generation including the performance of the Branch retail network and is seeking to extend the lease on the Burnley charity shop.

The Branch used the offer of the Great Harwood Showground as a springboard to develop the RSPCA NW Region Dogs' Day Out, a joint RSPCA event bringing together branches from across the region along with colleagues from the National Society. The first such event ever organised in the NW is planned for Saturday, 5 July, 2025.

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The Branch remains an active member of the North West Animal Group (NWAG) with both Trustee and senior staff involvement in this important partnership which brings together RSPCA branches from across the region. This unique partnership which was established under the leadership of the then Branch Chair Dr David West is now being cited as the model for other regions to follow.

Plans for the redevelopment of the Huncoat area (the local authority's "Huncoat Master Plan") have still to be approved by the Government but if approved will have a long term impact on the Branch and the Trustees continue to monitor the situation and take professional advice on the matter.

Objectives for 2025

- to be approved for membership of the Association of Dogs & Cats Home (ADCH)
- to reopen a further seven mothballed kennels
- to agree interbranch boarding contracts with both the Crewe and Altrincham branches
- to secure grant funding to enhance the animal centre buildings and infrastructure
- to extend the lease on the Burnley charity shop
- to host a successful NW RSPCA Dogs' Day Out event
- to monitor the sustainability of the Branch so it can continue to make a positive impact on local animal welfare provision

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, the RSPCA Branch Rules 2012 (including subsequent amendments), and is an unincorporated charity.

Charity Constitution

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was founded in 1824 and granted the "Royal" prefix by Queen Victoria in 1840. The current constitution of the RSPCA was created with the adoption of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1932.

The work of the Society is governed by the RSPCA Act and by the Rules of the Society. Membership of the Society is by subscription. There have been no changes in the objectives of the Charity since the last annual report.

Organisational Structure

Until the Branch AGM on 26 June, 2024 the Branch was governed by Temporary Trustees appointed by the RSPCA under Society Rule X1.28.

However, a new Board of Trustees, drawn from amongst the Branch membership, was elected at the last AGM (Wednesday, 26 June, 2024) and has since assumed individual and collective responsibility for the management of the Branch and its funds and, subject to overall supervision of the Society, the Trustee Board controls and monitors all operational matters.

The Trustee Board holds regular meetings at which decisions regarding the Branch are made. The day-to-day running of the branch is overseen by the Chief Executive Officer and senior management team with support from the RSPCA's Branch Partnerships Manager.

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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

Ms G Ayub	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
Ms A R Bentley	(Appointed 4 September 2024)
Mr J French	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
Mrs P M Fairclough	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
Mr A J Freestone	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
Mrs C J Jonsson	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
Mr J A Kilner	(Appointed 26 April 2024 and resigned 10 March 2025)
Mrs L O'Boyle	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
Mrs N Robertson	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
Mr P Shanks	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
Mrs Y Tan	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
Mr J Taylor	(Appointed 26 June 2024)
Dr D M West	
Ms A Corbishley	(Resigned 26 June 2024)
Mr P Maguire	(Resigned 26 June 2024)
Ms G A Miles	(Resigned 26 June 2024)

On 26th June 2024 the branch was moved out of National Administration back in to Local Trusteeship. Those trustees that are noted above as having resigned on 26th June served under the National Administration and those appointed on that date are the Local Trusteeship which will take the branch forward. Dr David West served under National Administration and continues as a Local Trustee.

Risk Management

Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the Branch is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The Trustees actively examine the major risks which the branch faces on a regular basis. These cover operational and financial reviews to ensure systems are in place to mitigate and manage exposure to significant risks.

Key Management Personnel

During the year, the Trustees, delegated the day-to-day responsibility for the running of the charity to the following Senior Management Team (SMT):

- James Stevens, Chief Executive Officer
- Jeanette Ainscough, Animal Centre Manager
- Sue Abraham, Fostering Coordinator
- Sam Bowles, Burnley Charity Shop Manager
- David Lutkevitch, Business & Administration Manager

The Trustees and SMT were supported by the following branch support staff from the National Society:

- Denise McCabe, Branch Partnership Manager (Interim Head of Branch Partnerships from 24 March 2025)

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on 15 May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Mrs C J Jonsson

Trustee

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of RSPCA Lancashire East Branch (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, the independent examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the relevant version of the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) 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. I understand that this has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act 2011.
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a true and fair view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Champion TLL Limited

P Bell ACCA

7-9 Station Road

Hesketh Bank

Preston

Lancashire

PR4 6SN

Date: 15/05/25

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

		Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Notes							
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	3	130,094	-	130,094	172,149	-	172,149
Charitable activities	4	70,823	-	70,823	80,966	-	80,966
Other trading activities	5	64,336	-	64,336	71,740	-	71,740
Investments	6	3,756	-	3,756	4,337	-	4,337
Other income	7	-	-	-	340	-	340
Total income		<u>269,009</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>269,009</u>	<u>329,532</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>329,532</u>
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	8	20,537	-	20,537	27,811	-	27,811
Charitable activities	9	408,633	-	408,633	490,566	-	490,566
Total expenditure		<u>429,170</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>429,170</u>	<u>518,377</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>518,377</u>
Net expenditure		(160,161)	-	(160,161)	(188,845)	-	(188,845)
Transfers between funds		(10,959)	10,959	-	90,648	(90,648)	-
Net movement in funds	12	(171,120)	10,959	(160,161)	(98,197)	(90,648)	(188,845)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 January 2024		<u>279,653</u>	<u>341,671</u>	<u>621,324</u>	<u>377,850</u>	<u>432,319</u>	<u>810,169</u>
Fund balances at 31 December 2024		<u>108,533</u>	<u>352,630</u>	<u>461,163</u>	<u>279,653</u>	<u>341,671</u>	<u>621,324</u>

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

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	16		252,630		256,212
Current assets					
Debtors	17	48,128		67,355	
Cash at bank and in hand		242,142		338,527	
		<u>290,270</u>		<u>405,882</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	<u>(81,737)</u>		<u>(40,770)</u>	
Net current assets			208,533		365,112
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>461,163</u>		<u>621,324</u>
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds - general	21	108,533		279,653	
Unrestricted funds - designated	20	352,630		341,671	
		<u>461,163</u>		<u>621,324</u>	

The financial statements were approved by the Trustee Board on 15 May 2025



Mrs C J Jonsson
Trustee

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charlty Information

RSPCA Lancashire East Branch is a local branch of the national RSPCA organisation. It is controlled by it's governing document which is the RSPCA branch rules and is an unincorporated charity.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "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)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a statement of cash flows.

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 charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. 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 charity 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 charity.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity 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.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity 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.

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, 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 classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Support costs

Since the majority of activities/costs relate to the sole charitable activity heading all support costs have been allocated to the charitable activity and as such a separate analysis or allocation basis for support costs is not required.

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% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	10% on cost
Computers	25% reducing balance
Motor vehicles	25% 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 charity 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 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.

1.9 Financial instruments

The charity 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 charity's balance sheet when the charity 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.

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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 charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Taxation

The Charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

1.11 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 charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.12 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 charity'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.

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Donations and gifts	44,731	40,339
Legacies	64,098	72,847
Grants	21,265	58,963
	<u>130,094</u>	<u>172,149</u>
Grants		
RSPCA HQ	21,265	22,984
Liverpool branch	-	35,000
RSPCA Regional Board	-	979
	<u>21,265</u>	<u>58,963</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	Animal centre 2024 £	Animal centre 2023 £
Sale of goods	4,135	3,901
Services provided under contract	64,988	75,405
Charitable rental income	1,700	1,660
	<u>70,823</u>	<u>80,966</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	<u>70,823</u>	<u>80,966</u>

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Fundraising events	2,275	4,439
Shop income	62,061	67,301
Other trading activities	<u>64,336</u>	<u>71,740</u>

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Interest receivable	3,756	4,337

7 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Net gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	340

8 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Trading costs		
Operating charity shops	20,537	27,811

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

9 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Animal care 2024 £	Animal care 2023 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	293,492	300,111
Depreciation and impairment	11,684	12,892
Animal Food	12,053	7,747
Insurance	4,552	5,173
Light and Heat	14,660	10,299
Telephone	2,220	1,928
Postage and Stationary	2,975	2,433
Van Expenses	1,746	3,374
Sundries	7,162	7,031
Travel Expenses	1,898	2,041
Cleaning and Pest Control	12,143	13,074
Repairs	11,076	93,183
Vet Fees	15,804	15,615
Rates and water	5,087	1,875
Bank charges and interest	2,564	1,545
	<u>399,116</u>	<u>478,321</u>
Share of support and governance costs (see note 11)		
Governance	9,517	12,245
	<u>408,633</u>	<u>490,566</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	<u>408,633</u>	<u>490,566</u>

10 Animal care

Animal care
Sale of goods

11 Support costs allocated to activities

	Animal care 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Governance	<u>9,517</u>	<u>12,245</u>

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

11 Support costs allocated to activities (Continued)

	2024	2023
	£	£
Governance costs comprise:		
Legal and professional	4,725	6,886
Independent examiners' fee	3,250	3,245
Bookkeeping	1,542	2,114
	<u>9,517</u>	<u>12,245</u>

12 Net movement in funds

	2024	2023
	£	£

The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):

Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements	-	-
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	11,684	12,892
Loss/(profit) on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	(340)
	<u>-</u>	<u>(340)</u>

13 Trustees

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

14 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Total	<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>

	2024	2023
	£	£
Employment costs		
Wages and salaries	287,973	294,925
Other pension costs	5,519	5,186
	<u>293,492</u>	<u>300,111</u>

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

15 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

16 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Fixtures and fittings	Computers	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 January 2024	345,032	59,588	16,324	36,803	457,747
Additions	-	7,525	577	-	8,102
At 31 December 2024	345,032	67,113	16,901	36,803	465,849
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 January 2024	105,243	56,645	15,623	24,024	201,535
Depreciation charged in the year	6,890	1,277	378	3,139	11,684
At 31 December 2024	112,133	57,922	16,001	27,163	213,219
Carrying amount					
At 31 December 2024	232,899	9,191	900	9,640	252,630
At 31 December 2023	239,789	2,943	701	12,779	256,212

17 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	5,186	11,682
Other debtors	309	11,928
Prepayments and accrued income	42,633	43,745
	48,128	67,355

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	10,304	8,403
Other creditors	1,086	2,924
Accruals and deferred income	70,347	29,443
	81,737	40,770

Included in deferred income is an amount of £40,000 received from RSPCA Liverpool during 2024. This is linked to expenditure taking place during the 2025 year.

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

19 Retirement benefit schemes

	2024	2023
Defined contribution schemes	£	£
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	<u>5,519</u>	<u>5,186</u>

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

20 Unrestricted funds - designated

These are unrestricted funds which are material to the charity's activities.

	At 1 January 2024	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£
Designated funds	85,459	14,541	100,000
Fixed Assets	<u>256,212</u>	<u>(3,582)</u>	<u>252,630</u>
	<u>341,671</u>	<u>10,959</u>	<u>352,630</u>
 Previous year:	 At 1 January 2023	 Transfers	 At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£
Designated funds	180,000	(94,541)	85,459
Fixed Assets	<u>252,319</u>	<u>3,893</u>	<u>256,212</u>
	<u>432,319</u>	<u>(90,648)</u>	<u>341,671</u>

Funds transfers represent amounts spent from General Funds during the year that relate to the Designated Funds.

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

21 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 January 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated fixed assets	256,212	-	-	(3,582)	252,630
Designated fund	85,459	-	-	14,541	100,000
General funds	279,653	269,009	(429,170)	(10,959)	108,533
	<u>621,324</u>	<u>269,009</u>	<u>(429,170)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>461,163</u>
Previous year:	At 1 January 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated fixed assets	252,319	-	-	3,893	256,212
Designated fund	180,000	-	-	(94,541)	85,459
General funds	377,850	329,532	(518,377)	90,648	279,653
	<u>810,169</u>	<u>329,532</u>	<u>(518,377)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>621,324</u>

An unrestricted designated fund has been created to represent the net book value of the fixed assets (some of which are transferred from the restricted funds) which represents monies already spent but still showing as part of the fund balance (represented by fixed assets) due to the accounting treatment but not representing liquid funds that are available. The transfer between funds represents the movement of the net book value taken from general funds.

A further designated fund of £100,000 is held to cover the potential liabilities which would arise if the Branch were to cease operating: such liabilities include staff redundancy costs, charity shop lease and dilapidation costs, and other long-term commitments.

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

22 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2024 £	Total 2024 £
At 31 December 2024:			
Tangible assets	-	252,630	252,630
Current assets/(liabilities)	108,533	100,000	208,533
	<u>108,533</u>	<u>352,630</u>	<u>461,163</u>
	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2023 £	Total 2023 £
At 31 December 2023:			
Tangible assets	-	256,212	256,212
Current assets/(liabilities)	279,653	85,459	365,112
	<u>279,653</u>	<u>341,671</u>	<u>621,324</u>

23 Related party transactions

RSPCA LANCASHIRE EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

23 Related party transactions

(Continued)

Transactions with related parties

The branch is a member of the RSPCA National legacy scheme under which the national society administer the legacies left to the branch for a nominal fee of 2.5%. Legacies shown in these accounts are gross of the 2.5% deducted by the national society. The amount received through this scheme during the year was £64,098 (2023: £72,847).

The branch also transacts with the national society by providing boarding services to animals rescued by the national society in their region. The amount charged to RSPCA national for these services in the year amount to £31,855 (2023: £38,391). The balance outstanding at the year end is £4,917 (2023: £2,145) and is shown in Trade Debtors.

The branch purchase items of medical equipment and other items from the national society. The amount charged by the national society in the year amounted to £NIL (2023: £6,619). The balance owing at the year end is £NIL (2023: £3,914) and is shown in Trade Creditors.

During the year the branch also invoiced the RSPCA Keighley, Craven & Upper Wharfedale Branch for boarding services. The amounts invoiced in the year amounted to £21,900. The balance outstanding at the year end is £157 (2023: £6,587) and is shown in Trade Debtors.

The branch would also like to bring attention to the following amounts received in the year:

During the period 1 January to 31 December, 2024 the following related party transactions were received by the Branch.

The RSPCA National Society

- £21,265 (2023: £22,984) - Door-to-Door Fundraising Grant

The RSPCA Liverpool Branch

- £40,000 (2023: £35,000) - This amount has been included in deferred income as per note 18 and will be released to income in the coming year.