

**RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Company Registration No. (England and Wales)

# RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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### Trustees

Mr D Frew  
Mr P Gibson  
Mr R James  
Mrs S James  
Mr P Maguire  
Mr J F Rimmer  
Mr J Trotter  
Mrs R Trotter  
Mr S Watson  
Dr D M West

(Appointed 4 November 2024)

### Charity number (England and Wales)

232258

### Independent examiner

Champion TLL Limited  
7-9 Station Road  
Hesketh Bank  
Preston  
Lancashire  
PR4 6SN

### Bankers

Royal Bank of Scotland PLC  
1 Spinningfields Square  
MANCHESTER  
M3 3AP

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# **RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH**

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# **RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH**

## **TRUSTEES REPORT**

### ***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024***

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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**

The RSPCA Southport, Ormskirk & District 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 Branch animal centre near Southport and an animal rehabilitation & rehoming programme. On occasion we may offer financial assistance towards the cost of veterinary treatment for companion animals where owners are unable to meet the full cost.

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

#### **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, and also aims to help people in need with the care of their animals. 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.

# **RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH**

## **TRUSTEES REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### ***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024***

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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.

To help raise the income needed to support these activities the Branch operated a charity shop in Eastbank Street, Southport.

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 in the local area and the use of storage facilities at the animal centre and in addition made direct donations of pet food to the Southport Food Bank (part of the Trussell Trust) to help support local pet owners who were struggling to feed their pets.

We offer volunteering opportunities to people from all sectors of the community who wish to support our work in our animal centre and charity shop. Volunteer roles include Trusteeship, general animal care, cat socialisation, dog walking, foster care, retail assistants (in both customer facing and stock sorting & distribution roles) 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 shop 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.

#### **Overview**

2024 was once again a challenging year for the Branch which saw changes in personnel including the appointment of a dedicated fostering coordinator, new additions to the Trustee Board and a reduction in animal numbers due in part to the need to train new staff but also the impact of changes to the RSPCA inspectorate's scope of service which resulted in fewer animals being presented to the Branch.

# **RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH**

## **TRUSTEES REPORT (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024***

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### **Intake & Rehoming**

In early March the Branch appointed Lily Dickinson as a dedicated Foster Coordinator to oversee the continued growth and support of the fostering scheme and in this role she has seen a growth in the number of animals placed in foster care whether on short-term foster or on a foster to adopt basis.

This has many benefits both in supporting the rehabilitation of those animals that cannot adapt to the animal centre environment and is also particularly important when seeking to support the development and socialisation of young animals such as puppies and kittens.

The Branch averages 20 animals in foster care at any one time and ended the year with 21 animals (17 dogs and 4 cats) in foster care.

In addition to growing its own foster scheme the Branch has also continued to support the development of the cat fostering scheme at our partner branch, RSPCA Lancashire East Branch.

Despite the hard work of the dedicated animal care team under the leadership of Anne Mitchell (Animal Care Manager) supported by Sophie Hubble (Business Manager); Sophie manages the reception team who act as the first point of contact with potential adopters; the need to train up new staff and reduced availability of suitable animals following changes to the Inspectorate scope of service meant that there was a decrease in the number of animals accepted into care by the Branch during the year down from 435 animals (165 dogs, 270 cats) in 2023 to 292 animals (104 dogs, 188 cats) in 2024, a 32.8% fall in the number of animals admitted.

Despite the complex nature of the animals for which the Branch is caring, last year saw 280 animals (95 dogs, 185 cats) rehomed compared to the 336 animals (126 dogs, 210 cats) rehomed in 2023, a 16.7% fall on the previous year.

The Branch's focus remains supporting those animals rescued by the RSPCA inspectorate and as a consequence it does not normally accept animals direct from the public.

An inevitable consequence of accepting hundreds of sick, injured, abandoned and abused animals is that some cannot be successfully rehabilitated and last year 37 animals sadly had to be euthanased on veterinary or behavioural grounds compared to 36 animals in 2023.

The Branch continues to contract a block of ten cat pens to Cats Protection and the Trustees remain grateful to our partner charity for the contribution this provides towards the operating costs of the animal centre.

Following the termination of the lease by Myerscough Vets last September, the Board have been considering how best to utilise the former veterinary clinic and whether to continue operating this as a veterinary facility or consider redeveloping the building for some other animal welfare purpose.

# **RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH**

## **TRUSTEES REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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#### **Eastbank Street Charity Shop**

Last year was a difficult year for the Eastbank Street shop, which was temporarily closed in October 2024 due to staffing issues.

The combination of falling sales (down 12.2% to the end of September 2024), increased costs (up 20.5%) and the resulting decline in profitability (down 39.4%) prompted the Trustee Board to use the opportunity to review the future viability of the Eastbank Street charity shop.

Before reaching a decision about the future of the shop the Board considered the changing demography of the area and the fact that the move towards a more hospitality based and non-traditional retail model in the immediate area had impacted on the shop's traditional customer base and the potential impact of the ongoing pedestrianisation of the town centre which would channel pedestrian traffic away from the shop.

The Trustees also considered a wider review of the shop operation including changes to both the trading & staffing hours in a bid to further reduce costs, but even with such changes factored into budget forecasts the Board was not convinced that these would yield sufficient long term improvements in the financial performance of the shop.

Therefore in late 2024 the difficult decision was taken to close the shop, sell the premises and reinvest the monies raised into the animal centre and this decision was implemented in the first quarter of 2025.

In closing the shop the Board would like to acknowledge the tremendous efforts of those staff and volunteers that comprised the retail team over many years and in particular thank Sharon Cook (Charity Shop Manager) together with a small but loyal band of volunteers who oversaw the final closure of the shop.

#### **Branch Administration & Management**

The last year saw the ongoing development of our partnership with the RSPCA Lancashire East Branch Branch. James Stevens (Chief Executive Officer) works in his 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: Anne Mitchell (Animal Care Manager) and Sophie Hubble (Business Manager) both 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**

The total incoming resources for the year amounted to £431,045 (2023: £654,652), including legacies and grants of £99,671 (2023: £336,188). Expenditure in the year amounted to £554,181 (2023: £497,673). After realised gains of £nil (2023: £1,417) the Branch recorded a deficit for the year of £123,136 (2023: surplus of £158,396).

Whilst income again exceeded budget predictions, legacies & grants were £236,517 or 70.4% down on the previous year, this fall together with increased operational costs, up £59,508 or 12% on the previous year, resulted in a deficit of £123,136 which was equivalent to 22.2% of operational expenditure for the year.

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.

# **RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH**

## **TRUSTEES REPORT (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024***

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### **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 cash reserves equivalent to at least 18 months of charitable expenditure: based on 2024 expenditure levels this equates to £770,280.

As at 31 December 2024 the Branch had unrestricted cash reserves of £725,691 or 17 months operating costs, based on the target reserve figure. The Trustees regularly review this policy to ensure there are sufficient reserves to meet all liabilities.

### **Plans for Future Periods**

The most immediate objective of the Trustees is for the Branch to once again secure a full five year unconditional licence from the national Society (the animal centre is relicensed every five years with ongoing annual inspections), without a licence the animal centre cannot operate.

The relicensing visit originally scheduled for late 2024 has been deferred until late 2025/early 2026 pending the introduction of new RSPCA licensing conditions.

The Trustees are in the process of completing the repair and refurbishment of the old stable building (aka the Goat Shed) at the front of the property to provide an internal exercise area for rescue dogs. An initial fund of £30,000 has been designated for this task.

To explore the redevelopment of the former MyVets veterinary clinic at the entrance to the site as a dedicated puppy facility and, should this proceed, the relocation of the grooming room into the old puppy block. Obviously these projects are dependent on RSPCA licensing rules, obtaining appropriate local authority planning permission and securing the necessary funds.

Commence the process to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) which offers additional protections to the Branch and the Board of Trustees. Over the next two years the Society is helping support branches wishing to become CIOs by not only making a contribution to the legal costs involved but also working with the Charity Commission to facilitate the process.

Continue to develop partnership working, whether directly with the RSPCA Lancashire East Branch, within the framework of the North West Animal Group (NWAG) or participation in 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.

### **Objectives for 2025**

- to secure a further five year unconditional licence for the Branch animal centre from the national RSPCA
- to complete the refurbishment of the old stable block and its repurposing as an internal dog exercise area
- to explore the redevelopment of the former veterinary clinic as a dedicated puppy unit
- to commence the process to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation
- to continue to develop internal and external partnerships
- to monitor the sustainability of the Branch so it can continue to make a positive impact on local animal welfare provision



# **RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH**

## **TRUSTEES REPORT (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024***

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### **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**

The Branch is governed by a Trustee Board elected annually at the Branch AGM. They have individual and collective responsibility for the management of the Branch and its funds and, subject to overall supervision of the Society, the Trustees control and monitor all operational matters.

The Trustees hold 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.

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

Ms B M Brand	(Resigned 23 February 2024)
Ms A Corbishley	(Resigned 10 July 2024)
Mr D Frew	
Mr P Gibson	
Mr R James	
Mrs S James	
Mr P Maguire	(Appointed 4 November 2024)
Mr J F Rimmer	
Mr J Trotter	
Mrs R Trotter	
Mr S Watson	
Dr D M West	

# **RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH**

## **TRUSTEES REPORT (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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### **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
- Sophie Hubble - Business Manager
- Anne Mitchell - Animal Care Manager
- Beverley Fawcett - Charity Shop Manager (resigned: 22 October 2024)

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

- Denise McCabe, Branch Partnership Manager

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on 9 June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Dr DM West  
**Trustee**

# RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of RSPCA Southport, Ormskirk and District 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 ACCA, 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: 9 JUNE 2025

# RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	117,887	351,883	-	351,883
Charitable activities	4	194,433	155,791	-	155,791
Other trading activities	5	106,763	140,010	-	140,010
Investments	6	11,962	6,968	-	6,968
<b>Total income</b>		<b>431,045</b>	<b>654,652</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>654,652</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	7	40,661	39,955	-	39,955
Charitable activities	8	513,520	454,718	3,000	457,718
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>554,181</b>	<b>494,673</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>497,673</b>
<b>Net gains on investments</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,417</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,417</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds</b>		<b>(123,136)</b>	<b>161,396</b>	<b>(3,000)</b>	<b>158,396</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Fund balances at 1 January 2024		2,379,217	2,217,821	3,000	2,220,821
<b>Fund balances at 31 December 2024</b>		<b>2,256,081</b>	<b>2,379,217</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,379,217</b>

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

# RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	14		1,430,083		1,454,146
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stocks	15	-		395	
Debtors	16	130,234		323,161	
Cash at bank and in hand		725,691		623,968	
		855,925		947,524	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	17	(29,927)		(22,453)	
Net current assets			825,998		925,071
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			2,256,081		2,379,217
<b>Income funds</b>					
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Fixed asset funds	19	1,430,083		1,454,146	
General unrestricted funds		825,998		925,071	
			2,256,081		2,379,217
			2,256,081		2,379,217

The financial statements were approved by the Trustee Board Trustees on 9 June 2025

Mr P Maguire  
Trustee

Dr D M West  
Trustee

# RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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#### 1 Accounting policies

##### Charity information

RSPCA Southport, Ormskirk and District Branch is an unincorporated Charity registered with the Charity Commission.

##### 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" ("FRS 102") 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)" (effective 1 January 2019). 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 £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 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 SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT 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.

#### 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	25% reducing balance
Motor vehicles	25% on cost

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 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 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.

# RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

##### 1.10 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.

##### **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.

##### 1.11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

##### 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 charity 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.



# RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

### 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.

### 3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations and gifts	16,216	10,543
Legacies receivable	99,171	335,194
Grants	500	994
Donated goods and services	2,000	2,000
Gift aid donations and tax refunds	-	3,152
	<u>117,887</u>	<u>351,883</u>

### 4 Income from charitable activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Adoption and re-homing	46,335	51,455
Boarding and neutering	148,098	104,336
	<u>194,433</u>	<u>155,791</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>		
Unrestricted funds	<u>194,433</u>	<u>155,791</u>

# RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

### 5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Fundraising events and collections	26,250	32,098
Shop income	55,119	82,067
Lease rental income	22,854	24,131
Commissions received	2,540	1,714
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Other trading activities	106,763	140,010
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

### 6 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Interest receivable	11,962	6,968
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

### 7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
<b>Fundraising and publicity</b>		
Other fundraising costs	2,515	3,152
Staff costs	33,961	33,390
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	36,476	36,542
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Trading costs</b>		
Operating charity shops	4,185	3,413
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Total costs	40,661	39,955
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

# RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

### 8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Animal welfare 2024 £	Animal welfare 2023 £
<b>Direct costs</b>		
Staff costs	337,753	304,912
Depreciation and impairment	43,053	38,554
Rates and water	6,117	5,540
Insurance	-	1,673
Shelter electricity	32,626	23,035
Telephone	2,976	2,385
Sundry	5,474	3,745
Vehicle expenses and insurance	2,673	1,180
Shelter repairs	19,436	15,681
Vets fees and pharmaceuticals	13,862	12,677
Shelter food and inoculations	7,155	4,001
Protective clothing	954	1,394
Cleaning, waste and pest control	13,317	16,762
Hire charges	8,917	8,181
Bank charges	1,614	1,635
Notional costs of donated goods	2,000	2,000
Bookkeeping and accountancy	11,142	9,912
	<u>509,069</u>	<u>453,267</u>
<b>Share of support and governance costs (see note 9)</b>		
Governance	4,451	4,451
	<u>513,520</u>	<u>457,718</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>		
Unrestricted funds	513,520	454,718
Restricted funds	-	3,000
	<u>513,520</u>	<u>457,718</u>

### 9 Support costs allocated to activities

	Animal welfare 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Governance	<u>4,451</u>	<u>4,451</u>

# RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

### 9 Support costs allocated to activities (Continued)

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Governance costs comprise:</b>		
NW Region Branch	551	551
Independent Examiner Fees	3,900	3,900
	<u>4,451</u>	<u>4,451</u>

### 10 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	3,900	3,900
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	43,053	38,554
	<u>43,053</u>	<u>38,554</u>

### 11 Trustees

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

Trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st December 2023 amounted to £Nil (2022: £Nil).

### 12 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
	<u>20</u>	<u>16</u>

Employment costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	340,482	310,486
Social security costs	25,116	22,480
Other pension costs	6,116	5,336
	<u>371,714</u>	<u>338,302</u>

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

# RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

#### 13 Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Gains/(losses) arising on:		
Revaluation of investments	-	1,417

#### 14 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 January 2024	2,037,931	51,653	7,500	2,097,084
Additions	-	-	18,990	18,990
At 31 December 2024	2,037,931	51,653	26,490	2,116,074
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>				
At 1 January 2024	586,777	48,661	7,500	642,938
Depreciation charged in the year	37,557	748	4,748	43,053
At 31 December 2024	624,334	49,409	12,248	685,991
<b>Carrying amount</b>				
At 31 December 2024	1,413,597	2,244	14,242	1,430,083
At 31 December 2023	1,451,154	2,992	-	1,454,146

The carrying value of land included in land and buildings comprises:

	2024 £	2023 £
Freehold	160,057	160,057

#### 15 Stocks

	2024 £	2023 £
Raw materials and consumables	-	395

# RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

#### 16 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
Trade debtors	29,826	27,247
Other debtors	92,967	293,304
Prepayments and accrued income	7,441	2,610
	<u>130,234</u>	<u>323,161</u>

Included within other debtors are legacy debtors of £92,967 (2023: £293,304 legacy debtor).

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	3,887	5,553
Trade creditors	13,209	7,756
Other creditors	4,700	3,910
Accruals and deferred income	8,131	5,234
	<u>29,927</u>	<u>22,453</u>

#### 18 Retirement benefit schemes

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>Defined contribution schemes</b>		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	<u>6,116</u>	<u>5,336</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.

#### 19 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise of the unexpended income which is not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how it 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	Gains and losses	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed asset fund	1,454,146	18,990	(43,053)	-	1,430,083
General funds	925,071	412,055	(511,128)	-	825,998
	<u>2,379,217</u>	<u>431,045</u>	<u>(554,181)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,256,081</u>

# RSPCA SOUTHPORT, ORMSKIRK AND DISTRICT BRANCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

#### 19 Unrestricted funds

(Continued)

Previous year:	At 1 January 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed asset fund	1,492,700	-	(38,554)	-	1,454,146
General funds	725,121	654,652	(456,119)	1,417	925,071
	<u>2,217,821</u>	<u>654,652</u>	<u>(494,673)</u>	<u>1,417</u>	<u>2,379,217</u>

#### 20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Fund balances at 31 December 2024 are represented by:				
Tangible assets	1,430,083	1,454,146	-	1,454,146
Current assets/(liabilities)	825,998	925,071	-	925,071
	<u>2,256,081</u>	<u>2,379,217</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,379,217</u>

The fixed assets fund represents non-liquid funds which are equivalent to the net book value of fixed assets as shown in note 14 to the Accounts.

The Trustees consider that a prudent level of free funds would be approximately £770,280, which would allow the Charity to continue to deliver its charitable activities without further income for at least one and a half years. The current free funds stand at £825,998 of which unrestricted cash reserves total £725,691 or 17 months operating costs as shown on the Balance Sheet.

#### 21 Related party transactions

During the year the charity entered into the following transactions with related parties:

RSPCA National Society £21,816 (Door-to-Door Collection)  
RSPCA National Society £148,098 (Boarding fees)  
RSPCA National Society £223 (Pharmaceutical recharges)