



CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH



ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending 31st December 2020

Registered Charity No.232262

STATUTORY STATEMENT OF PUBLIC BENEFIT BY THE TRUSTEES

The RSPCA Cumbria North & East Branch is an unincorporated charitable association and separately registered branch of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, carrying out its direct animal welfare in the area of north and east Cumbria.

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

We have complied with the duty under the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

The Branch's animal welfare work, though local in nature, helps people in need to care for their animals, and has a moral benefit for society at large by promoting kindness and preventing or suppressing cruelty to animals. We provide subsidised veterinary treatment for animals and belong to local people on low incomes. We do this mainly through the Branch Clinic and with vouchers towards private veterinary treatment.

This work benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to obtain care for companion animals in need of veterinary treatment.

We provide subsidised neutering of companion animals for those in the Branch area on low incomes through the Branch Clinic.

This work helps to control the dog and cat population through neutering and benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to neuter their companion animals. It benefits the general public as a whole by promoting responsible pet ownership.

We support the RSPCA Inspectorate by taking in, free of charge, mistreated or abandoned companion animals, providing any veterinary treatment necessary, through the Branch Clinic.

The Society's Inspectorate rescue 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 of cruelty' part of the RSPCA's objectives and promotes humane sentiments towards animals which has a moral benefit for the general public as a whole.

We rehome animals in need, at low cost, to people willing and able to have a companion animal.

Our policy to charge a reasonable adoption fee aims to highlight the personal and financial commitment of pet ownership. It would not be in the interest of animals, and therefore fall outside our objectives, to rehome to those who could not afford them.

We provide volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, volunteering and fundraising.

This benefits local people by providing the possibility of doing work which is compassionate and rewarding.

The following Trustees' report gives greater detail on how, and the extent to which, this 'public benefit' has been achieved during 2020.

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH & EAST BRANCH

Registered Charity No. 232262

Branch Centre and Veterinary Clinic

28 Close Street

Carlisle

Cumbria CA1 2HB

ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ending 31st December 2020

Board of Trustees

Hon. Chairman (vacant)

Hon Treasurer Mrs S Smith

Hon. Secretary Mrs A Armstrong

Miss L. Carruthers

Mrs S. Graham

Mrs L. Morrow

Mrs K Richardson

Mr. B. Smith

Auditors: Lamont Pridmore

Bank: NatWest Carlisle

Consulting Veterinary Surgeons: Craig Robinson Vets Ltd.

The Trustees Annual Report for 2020.

The report this year will be brief, but we hope comprehensive enough to demonstrate that during this global pandemic, the animal welfare work we carried was as comprehensive as it could be under Covid Restrictions and Covid safety measures.

The work of the branch clinic

The clinic had to close at the end of March along with the national lockdown because, although we were considered by the government as essential workers, it became unsafe - we could not continue in a covid secure manner. Clinic clients and members of the public were informed by notices on the door and by the telephone answer phone message on how to obtain veterinary treatment for their pets. The branch mobile was also manned, *at all times*, to offer welfare assistance and advice, referring callers to the appropriate agencies regarding injured wildlife etc, and to the National Control Centre in cases of allegations of cruelty and neglect or abandonment. The secretary, in her role as clinic manager, dealt with calls from previously registered clients needing ongoing treatment for their pets, or needing treatment for new conditions or urgent operations, by liaising with our consulting veterinary surgeons and arranging Covid safe appointments for them down at the vets' premises. Members of the public who had not previously been to the clinic and who were eligible for subsidised veterinary treatment were also referred for a consultation with our consulting vets and any essential treatment. With the very much appreciated assistance and cooperation from our consulting vets, Craig Robinsons Vets Ltd, we were able to continue to provide our usual clinic service.

Our vets also continued to neuter dogs and cats through our welfare neutering programme (which is part of our remit, as a charity and expressed in our 'Statutory Public Benefit Statement' to promote responsible pet ownership) but also as they saw it as a welfare issue, to prevent a future 'explosion' of unwanted pets, particularly cats.

The clinic was able to reopen in July with strengthened Covid safety measures in place and guided by advice and following regulations/recommendations from the National Society, Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, UK Government, which, with reference to local Covid levels as well, meant in a limited capacity.

However, we were still able to refer to our consulting vets' practice those animals needing urgent treatment and who we had been unable to see during a clinic session.

Rescue and Rehoming Work.

This side of our work was probably most affected by Covid restrictions, as other 'agencies' (besides the branch) had their own restrictions to work to, for example, the RSPCA national society inspectors, other rescue societies, and the private boarding facility where we keep our cats for rehoming. The branch rehoming coordinator worked, *at all times*, to the regulations laid down by the national society and respected those of the cattery. Rehoming had to be put on hold for a long period as visits to the cattery to choose a cat was not an option. When brought to our attention, cats in need were still taken in -social distancing honed to an art as stray cats and kittens were caught, abandoned cats or cats whose owners could no longer take care of them, picked up and transferred to the cattery in a Covid safe manner. Once rehoming was allowed, this meant virtual home visits to assess a home's suitability for a particular cat, with cats having to 'sell' themselves by looking cute on photographs or videos sent to potential new owners. We therefore had to rely heavily on expertise of the owners of the cattery as to the nature of the cats as we could not visit to assess that ourselves. Nevertheless, 35 vulnerable cats and kittens were taken in and rehomed in 2020, including three deaf white cats.

Income generation

At the beginning of the year we received several funeral collections but once the country was locked down any fund raising events from which we may have benefitted were obviously cancelled, with one exception. In July we received a donation from the pupils of Irthington Primary school, as one of the two charities they had been fundraising for during the school year.

Treasurers Report

Thanks to a large legacy several years ago and prudent management of our resources the branch finances are still healthy. The two paid members of staff were furloughed for the time the clinic had to close, which helped with expenditure, but that was offset by a considerable quantity of the clinic's medicines going out of date and having to be disposed of, and by us having to keep cats longer in the cattery. A full set of accounts will be available for members and attendees at the AGM to be held in December (2021)

And finally, "Thank you"

We could not have carried on this year without *all* the staff at Craig Robinson Vets Ltd. Although they had to manage Covid restrictions and find a Covid safe way to be able to see their own private clients, they always agreed to see the animals we referred to them.

To the cattery owners who, as we outlined above, still agreed to take in cats for us and had much more of a role this year in socialising the cats as well as taking them to the vets for us, when required.

To Graham Carter who, while we saw less of him this year, we knew he would offer what assistance the national society's Covid restrictions allowed, if asked.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

Contents

1	Statement of Financial Activities
2	Balance Sheet
3	Notes to the Accounts
5	Independent Examiners' Report to the Trustees

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

	Note	£ Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	£ Total Funds 2020	£ Total Funds 2019
<u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u>					
FROM GENERATED FUNDS					
Voluntary Income	1	63,998		63,998	33,438
Investment Income	2	641		641	1,056
FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	3	13,636		13,636	14,191
		0			
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		78,276	0	78,276	48,685
<u>RESOURCES EXPENDED</u>					
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	4	64,964		64,964	98,993
ALLOCATION OF SUPPORT COSTS	5	43,148	0	43,148	6,794
GOVERNANCE COSTS	6	0		0	780
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		108,112	0	108,112	106,567
Net incoming resources		(29,837)	0	(29,837)	(57,882)
Gain (Losses) on investments	7	(248)		(248)	718
Transfers between funds					
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		-30,085	0	-30,085	(57,164)
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1st January 2020		315,403	0	315,403	372,567
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31st December 2020		285,318	0	285,318	315,403

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2020

	Note	£ Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	£ Total Funds 2020	£ Total Funds 2019
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Fixed Assets	10	8,051		8,051	10,064
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock		20		20	20
Debtors		155		155	1,811
Investments	7	6,560		6,560	6,808
Cash at Bank & in Hand	9	270,532		270,532	296,700
		<u>277,267</u>	0	<u>277,267</u>	<u>305,339</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Sundry Creditors				0	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>277,267</u>	0	<u>277,267</u>	<u>305,339</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		285,318	0	285,318	315,403
NET ASSETS		<u>285,318</u>	0	<u>285,318</u>	<u>315,403</u>
FUNDS					
Undesignated Funds		285,318		285,318	315,403
Designated Funds					
Restricted Funds		0		0	0
		<u>285,318</u>		<u>285,318</u>	<u>315,403</u>

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
1 VOLUNTARY INCOME	Unrestricted	
General Donations/Fundraising		18
Legacies	34,307	1,127
Grants (assisted neutering grant)	0	0
Collection Boxes	90	170
Pet insurance	0	0
National scheme entitlement (door to door)	25,173	26,739
Donations and subscriptions	1,677	905
V A T Recovered	0	4,478
Furlough Grant	2,751	
	63,998	33,438
2 INVESTMENT INCOME		
Standard Chartered	394	394
Nat West Bank	247	663
	641	1,056
3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		
Contribution to Animal treatments	13,636	14,191
TOTAL	78,276	48,685
4 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURE		
Boarding and Rehoming Fees	18,216	23,116
Rent & Utilities	3,722	4,682
Clinic Insurance		0
Stationery and postage	1,939	1,441
Telephone	1,841	1,697
Van expenses	1,562	382
Clinic Repairs	717	1,971
Clinic costs - security, cleaning, sundries	82	34
Clinic admin & support	13,682	13,381
Vet consultations & fees	16,285	34,213
Advertising, publicity and appeals	482	1,446
Drugs and medicine	6,437	16,629
Contribution to HQ Appeal Fund		
	64,964	98,993
5 ALLOCATION OF SUPPORT COSTS	2020 £	2019 £
Branch contribution to Head Office inc support for other branches	40,173	3,308
Bank charges	962	970
Depreciation	2,013	2,516
	43,148	6,794
6 GOVERNANCE COSTS		
Independent Examiner Fees	0	780
TOTAL	108112.46	106567.1
Total of Receipts over payments (payments over receipts)	(29,837)	(57,882)

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020 (cont)

7 INVESTMENTS

	2020 Value £	Cost £	2019 Value
£5,340 £1 Standard Chartered Plc 7 .375% Pref Stock Non-Cum Irred Preference Shares	6,560	5,868	6,808
	<u>6,560</u>	<u>5,868</u>	<u>6,808</u>

8 Clinic Income & Expenditure

	2020 £	2019 £
Income for year	41,218	47,558
Expenditure for year	<u>44,070</u>	<u>72,111</u>
Excess of Income (Expenditure) for year	<u>(2,852)</u>	<u>(24,554)</u>

9 Cash at Bank

	2020 £	2019 £
Balance on Deposit Account with the Nat. West Bank Plc, English Street, Carlisle	260,198	295,951
Current Account	<u>10,334</u>	<u>749</u>
	<u>270,532</u>	<u>296,700</u>

10 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	IT Equip £	Fixtures etc £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
Costs to 1st January 2020	7,910	3,853	15,893	27,656
Additions during year	0		0	0
Less Original cost of disposals during year			0	0
Costs to 31st December 2020	<u>7,910</u>	<u>3,853</u>	<u>15,893</u>	<u>27,656</u>
Depreciation to 1st January 2020	6,120	3,715	7,757	17,592
Less Depreciation on assets disposed of during year			0	0
Charge for year	<u>358</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>1,627</u>	<u>2,013</u>
Depreciation to 31st December 2020	<u>6,478</u>	<u>3,743</u>	<u>9,384</u>	<u>19,605</u>
NET BOOK VALUE 31st December 2020	<u>1,432</u>	<u>110</u>	<u>6,509</u>	<u>8,051</u>
NET BOOK VALUE 31st December 2019	<u>1,790</u>	<u>138</u>	<u>8,136</u>	<u>10,064</u>

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS
CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH TRUST

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st December 2020, which are set out on pages 1 to 4.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Act) and Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011);

to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and

to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

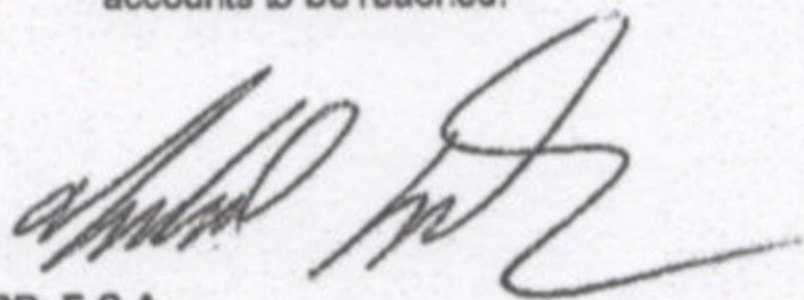
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and the seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a true and fair view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with s130 of the 2011 Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act and the regulations made thereunder have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



M UPWARD F.C.A.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT
LAMONT PRIDMORE
31 LONSDALE STREET

CARLISLE

1st December 2021

Structure, Governance & Management

Cumbria North and East branch has as its governing document, the National Society's Branch Rules (amended in 2006). In this branch the trustees are in effect committee members. They are appointed at the Annual General Meeting by polling over 50% of the vote in a secret ballot, which takes place at the AGM, by those eligible to vote under RSPCA rules.

All eligible branch members are sent a nomination form with the notice calling the annual general meeting, enabling them to put themselves forward for election, if proposed and seconded by a member of the branch. Non branch members can also be co-opted to the committee and subsequently act as trustees. The maximum number of elected committee members is 14 and 3 co-options are allowed in any one year. All trustees are asked to sign a 'Declaration of Willingness to Serve as a Trustee' and appraised of the duties and responsibilities of Trusteeship. Induction to policies & procedures for, and training of trustees is undertaken by the Branch Support Specialist.

The organisational structure of the branch is that of three executive officers, the honorary chairman, treasurer and secretary, appointed by ballot, at a meeting held directly after the AGM, to make day to day decisions in the running of the Branch. Any major policy decisions are put to the committee for ratification. The committee meets two monthly.

The branch has specific risk management procedures in place which are always being re-evaluated, and we are continuously working towards new policies and procedures.

The secretary is also responsible for the administration of the Branch Clinic.

The branch has a Re-homing Co-ordinator for cats, who liaises directly with the private boarding catteries where the cats are kept, awaiting re-homing, visiting regularly to check on their general health and wellbeing, obtaining veterinary treatment, if necessary. The Re-homing Co-ordinator, places these animals in suitable new homes, after carrying out a home visit to assess the homes' suitability for the animal chosen and also carry out post-homing checks .

The Fund Raising co-ordinator arranges fund raising ventures the branch undertakes itself.

Cumbria North and East Branch is connected to the wider RSPCA network by a Trustee attending the Midland and North Regional Board meetings and of course the National Society, under whose guidelines the branch operates. The RSPCA's Chief Vet, as well as licensing the Branch Veterinary Clinic, updates the branch on new veterinary medicine guidelines and provides recommendations as to 'best practice'. Contact with the RSPCA Inspectorate is maintained through the RSPCA National Control Centre and on a 'face to face' basis when an animal signed over to the RSPCA is taken into Branch care.



RSPCA

CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST

Clinic and Branch Administrative Centre
28 Close Street, Carlisle, CA1 2HB
Email: rspca.carlisle@btconnect.com

Clinic Landline: 01228 512893
Clinic Mobile: 07718 065995
Rehoming Mobile: 07487 582405

OPENING HOURS
Monday, Wednesday & Friday
1pm-2pm

Registered Charity No. 232262

National Website:
www.rspca.org.uk