

Charity registration number: 264794

The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England)

Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 October 2021

The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England)

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The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England)

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	David Warden - Chairman Ian Thompson - Secretary Paul Aitken-Fell - Training Officer
Other Officers	Tracy Cokill - Treasurer
Principal Office	7, Old Godley Lane Shibden Halifax West Yorkshire HX3 6XQ
Charity Registration Number	264794
Independent Examiner	Angela Riley FCA Chartered Accountant AKR Associates Limited Lower Making Place Farm 6 Soyland Town Road Sowerby Bridge HX6 4NB

The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England)

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 October 2021.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The governing document of the charity is the constitution which it adopted 13 October 1972. This has subsequently been amended, most recently in 2017.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees were appointed by election at the Annual General Meeting. They are unpaid.

Organisational structure

During the period covered by this report The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England) was an unincorporated charity. It registered as a charity on 7 November 1972.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The objective of the charity is to train air-scenting dog teams to assist for the public benefit, the police, mountain rescue teams, and any other organisation involved with search and rescue of persons missing or overdue in situations which benefit from the use of air-scenting dogs. The charity is based in England but may operate throughout England, Scotland and Wales.

Public benefit

In the furtherance of the charitable objects, the principal activities of the charity are:-

- To develop and enhance the training of search dogs, through a graded system of assessment against set criteria;
- To promote the use and effective deployment of air-scenting search dogs in England, and other parts of the British Isles as required;
- To promote methods and techniques related to the training and assessment of air-scenting search dogs to other organisations;
- To hold regular training courses throughout the year for dog teams at all stages of development;
- To provide an assessment service in order to test and verify the ability of dog teams to reach an operational standard, including in adverse conditions;
- To liaise with any like-minded organisations;
- To raise funds to promote, develop and enhance the work of the association.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England)

Trustees' Report

Achievements and performance

The association continued to train dogs and handlers for use when required, primarily by police forces and mountain rescue teams. The impact of Covid 19 remained, with national training and assessment being disrupted, but with pressure starting to ease. The training process continued to be locally focussed and assessment was undertaken at regional level rather than national, to minimise travel and to ease group accommodation constraints. In the coming year it is anticipated that the number of graded dog teams will increase due to clearing a backlog created by Covid 19 restrictions.

The numbers of trainees and dog teams passing assessment has largely been maintained. The number of graded handlers and dogs was 27 with 25 dogs in training and 6 unregistered puppies. Two graded dogs were lost during the year, due to one retirement and one canine medical fatality.

It is pleasing to see that the current cohort of trainees is reducing the age profile of dog handlers. The previous change in the nature of calls for assistance by mountain rescue teams continued, with an increase in minor injuries in easily accessible 'hotspots'.

We continued to see requests for dog teams to assist the police in the search for vulnerable missing persons in semi-rural settings. The number of dog callouts to 31/10/21 was 116 requiring 696 dog team hours.

In 2021 the use of drones by the statutory services for search work increased, but this is seen as another tool to enhance the effectiveness of combined search efforts, rather than replacing handlers and dogs on the ground.

Financial review

In the year to 31 October 2021 the charity's income was £35,727 (2020 - £24,510), expenditure was £24,009 (2020 - £28,425). This year there was no restricted fund income. Restricted funds of £13,902 were brought forward of which £8,044 (2020 - £9,207) was spent during the year to 31 October 2021 and £5,858 is carried forward unspent to next year. Unrestricted funds at 31 October 2021 totalled £331,318 (2020 - £311,556).

Policy on reserves

As the majority of income is from donations and legacies, the charity cannot guarantee its annual income and therefore needs to hold sufficient reserves to cope with shortfalls. The training of search and rescue dogs is long (generally 2-3 years) and once started needs to continue to its proper conclusion. With an average of 30 dogs and a working life (from grading to retirement) of about 8 years the process of training new dogs to ensure succession is continuous.

The trustees consider that the reserves are at an acceptable level to be able to provide continuity for the next four years.

The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England)

Trustees' Report

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 27.07.22 and signed on its behalf by:



David Warden - Chairman
Trustee

The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England)

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England) for the year ended 31 October 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England)'s accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England) as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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


Angela Riley FCA
Chartered Accountant

AKR Associates Limited
Lower Making Place Farm
6 Soyland Town Road
Sowerby Bridge
HX6 4NB

Date: 27 July 2022

The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England)

Receipts and Payments account for the Year Ended 31 October 2021

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2	33,703	-	33,703
Charitable activities	3	1,951	-	1,951
Investment income		73	-	73
Total income		<u>35,727</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,727</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	4	<u>(15,965)</u>	<u>(8,044)</u>	<u>(24,009)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(15,965)</u>	<u>(8,044)</u>	<u>(24,009)</u>
Net movement in funds		19,762	(8,044)	11,718
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>311,556</u>	<u>13,902</u>	<u>325,458</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>331,318</u>	<u>5,858</u>	<u>337,176</u>

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2	5,486	16,979	22,465
Charitable activities	3	1,687	-	1,687
Investment income		358	-	358
Total income		<u>7,531</u>	<u>16,979</u>	<u>24,510</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	4	<u>(19,218)</u>	<u>(9,207)</u>	<u>(28,425)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(19,218)</u>	<u>(9,207)</u>	<u>(28,425)</u>
Net movement in funds		(11,687)	7,772	(3,915)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>323,243</u>	<u>6,130</u>	<u>329,373</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>311,556</u>	<u>13,902</u>	<u>325,458</u>

The notes on pages 8 to 9 form an integral part of these financial statements.
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The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England)

(Registration number: 264794)

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 October 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	337,176	325,458
Funds of the charity:		
Restricted	5,858	13,902
Unrestricted income funds	331,318	311,556
Total funds	337,176	325,458

The financial statements on pages 6 to 9 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on **27-07-22** and signed on their behalf by:


David Warden - Chairman
Trustee


Tracy Cokill - Treasurer

The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2021

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis, as permitted under the Charities Act 2011 for unincorporated charities with a turnover of under £250,000.

Basis of preparation

Receipts, payments, assets and liabilities are recognised at transaction value.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds represent the accumulated funds of the charity that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use, and are thus available in the furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are income items whose use is restricted to a particular purpose and where the funds must be used in a reasonable period from their receipt.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are either small in value or are in effect consumables and hence are written off in the year in which they are bought.

2 Income from donations and legacies

Restricted funds comprise a development grant of £16,979 from UKSAR, of which £13,902, unspent at 31 October 2020, is brought forward. A further £8,044 of this grant was spent in the current year with £5,858 still unspent at 31 October 2021. Due to Covid 19 restrictions this grant period has been extended until March 2022.

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from individuals	31,999	-	31,999
Grants, including capital grants;			
Government grants	1,704	-	1,704
Total for 2021	33,703	-	33,703
Total for 2020	5,486	16,979	22,465

The Search and Rescue Dog Association (England)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2021

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Winter courses	1,350	1,350	828
Sales, advertising and yearbook	601	601	859
	<u>1,951</u>	<u>1,951</u>	<u>1,687</u>

4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Courses	3,042	4,678	7,720
Sales, advertising and yearbook	202	-	202
Insurance	2,283	-	2,283
Repairs & equipment	4,080	2,045	6,125
Other expenses	4,445	-	4,445
Expenses, travel & subsistence	713	1,321	2,034
Governance costs - examination of financial statements	1,200	-	1,200
Total for 2021	<u>15,965</u>	<u>8,044</u>	<u>24,009</u>
Total for 2020	<u>19,218</u>	<u>9,207</u>	<u>28,425</u>