



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **01 January 2024** To **31 December 2024**

**Charity name: Settle and Carlisle Railway Trust**

**Charity registration number: 702724**

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The Trust is concerned specifically with the railway lines between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Settle and Carlisle</li><li>• Blackburn and Hellifield</li><li>• Settle and Leeds/Bradford</li></ul> <p>The principal objectives are:</p> <p>a) the preservation, restoration, maintenance and protection of such of the structures, buildings, plant and</p> <p>equipment on or adjacent to or connected with the lines as are of historic, cultural, architectural, constructional or scientific interest, or exhibit craftsmanship worthy of preservation;</p> <p>b) the promotion of public access to the structures and plant and public knowledge, appreciation and understanding of the architectural, constructional, scientific and crafts features;</p> <p>c) the promotion of public knowledge, appreciation and understanding of the historical and cultural aspects of the lines and the area through which they run; and</p> <p>d) such other charitable purposes for the advancement of education associated with the lines and surrounding areas as the Trustees shall think fit.</p> <p>Strategies for achieving objectives</p>

		<p>Re. (a) above: The Trust's subsidiary company takes on responsibility for structures on the railway, either by long-term leases (e.g. station buildings at Horton-in-Ribblesdale, Ribblehead and Kirkby Stephen) or by ownership (Stationmaster's House at Ribblehead), and brings these into a good condition and maintains them accordingly.</p> <p>Re. (b): The above properties are open to the public - either for community use, or as holiday let properties, or in the case of Ribblehead station as a visitor centre, which is manned by volunteers. The Trust is responsible for the Archives and Library which are located at The Folly in Settle. There are regular open days and work is underway to make material available on-line.</p> <p>Re. (c): The visitor centre at Ribblehead station contains displays about the building of the railway, the construction of the viaduct, and the building of the nearby Blea Moor Tunnel. The Trust also supports guided walks to visit some of the structures, in which information is given about them.</p> <p>Re. (d): The Trust has an internet website with information about its activities: see <a href="http://www.sandctrust.org.uk">http://www.sandctrust.org.uk</a>. The Trust has developed a model using aerial images to explore the railway and nearby features e.g. Archeological site. This is available from a terminal at Ribblehead Visitor Centre and also on-line at: <a href="https://settlecarlisle.exploremoresettlecarlisle.co.uk">https://settlecarlisle.exploremoresettlecarlisle.co.uk</a>.</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	We have referred and confirm the adherence to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

#### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	

Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>The organisations involved in the Leeds-Settle-Carlisle line (the Trust, The Settle Carlisle Railway Development Company and the Friends of the Settle Carlisle Line) have entered into a voluntary agreement to form the Leeds Settle Carlisle Line Association. This is a very positive step forward as the organisations seek to work together for the benefit of those who use the line, and the communities it serves.</p> <p>Settle Carlisle Railway Properties continues to successfully run our holiday properties at Kirkby Stephen and Ribblesdale, recently joined by Horton-in-Ribblesdale where we have also opened a café/bar. We are working with Network Rail to convert the disused waiting shelter at Cumwhinton to a holiday let. A new venture, taking advantage of our project management skills and network of local suppliers, is to carry out project work for Network Rail along the line and further afield.</p> <p>Ribblesdale Visitor Centre continues to provide a warm welcome for visitors to the Yorkshire Dales. The café is very popular, and a starting point for guided tours and other activities. We work closely with the Museum of North Craven Life at The Folly in Settle which houses our archives and is home to the Railway Room which tells the story of the line.</p>

		<p>Very many people contribute to the work of the Trust and the other members of the Association. I would like to thank our trustees and everyone who gives freely of their time and talents.</p> <p>Bryan Gray CBE DL Chairman</p>
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### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>During the year the Trust has received income of £12,920 from donations, £11,180 from legacies and £52,868 of grants relating to the conversion at Horton In Ribblesdale Station. Expenditure on charitable activities amounts to £56,435 with an additional £10,000 being paid out as a loan to Settle &amp; Carlisle Railway Properties Company Ltd and therefore net</p>
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		expenditure of £62,868 has been realised which is in line with the Trustees expectations. As at 31 December 2024 total funds carried forward amounted to £182,280.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<p>The Trustees have reviewed the level of reserves held by the Trust. The review encompassed the nature of the income and expenditure streams and the nature of the reserves held by the Trust.</p> <p>The review concluded that to allow the Trust to be managed efficiently and to provide a buffer for uninterrupted services, an appropriate level of free reserves should be maintained.</p>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	The analysis of net assets between funds shows that unrestricted free reserves amounted to £169,387 (2022 £170,954) as at the balance sheet date.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

#### **Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	The Trust has a subsidiary undertaking, Settle & Carlisle Railway Properties Limited, whose principal activity is to acquire and hold properties at the request of and for the purposes of the Trust.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<p>The Trustees have plans to introduce a formal risk management process to assess business risks and implement risk management strategies. This will involve identifying the types of risks the Trust faces, prioritising them in terms of potential impact and likelihood of occurrence, and identifying means of mitigating these risks.</p> <p>As part of this process the Trustees will review the adequacy of the Trust's current internal controls.</p>

Other		The cost of purchasing indemnity insurance has been paid by the subsidiary company.
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## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Trust deed
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	The Trust was established by Trust Deed dated 14th March 1990 which was amended by Supplemental Deeds dated 17th September 1999 and 26th May 2015. The Trust is registered with the Charity Commission under the Number 702724.
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<p>Under the previous provisions governing the Trust which are set out in the Trust Deed dated 24 May 2015, out of a total of nine Trustees, the Friends of the Settle-Carlisle Line ("the Friends" ) were entitled to appoint up to five, with an obligation to have regard to the need to appoint at least three Trustees with local interest and knowledge or associated with local authorities or bodies in the area. Network Rail was entitled to appoint one Trustee and the Trustees themselves had the right to appoint not more than three Trustees. Under a Supplemental Deed dated 31 December 2021, the Trustees themselves have the right to appoint up to five Trustees, the Friends two, Network Rail one and the Settle 8 Carlisle Railway Development Company one.</p> <p>Trustees are appointed for a period of 2 years and are eligible for re-appointment.</p>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	<p>The Trust is managed directly by the Trustees, with the assistance of the officers.</p> <p>The Trust has a subsidiary undertaking, Settle &amp; Carlisle Railway Properties Limited, whose principal activity is to acquire and hold properties at the request of and for the purposes of the Trust.</p>

Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Settle and Carlisle Railway Trust
Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	702724
Charity's principal address	30 Dryden Street Padiham CURNLEY BB12 8TQ

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Christopher William Bray			
2	Allison Cosgrove			
3	Adrian Quine			
4	Bryan Gray			
5	John Ingham			
6	David Fletcher Sides			
7	Donald George Jary			
8	John Smith			
9	Jon Tomlinson			
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

[illegible]

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

[illegible]



**Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others**

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

**Additional information (optional)****Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

**Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)**

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**Exemptions from disclosure**

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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**Other optional information**

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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Bryan Mark Gray	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chairman	
Date	16/07/2025	