

Charity registration number 101099 (Northern Ireland)

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

Mrs K Matthews
Mrs E Walker
Mrs H Jarvis

Charity number

101099

Principal address

6 Grovehill Road
Moir
Craigavon
Co Armagh
BT67 0PW

Independent examiner

GMcG Lisburn
Century House
40 Crescent Business Park
Lisburn
BT28 2GN

Bankers

Danske Bank
Donegall Square West
Belfast
BT1 6JS

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 4
Independent examiner's report	5 - 6
Statement of financial activities	7
Statement of financial position	8
Notes to the financial statements	9 - 15

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Constitution, 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 organisation rescues, provides shelter, and works to rehome abandoned companion animals in Northern Ireland. It also endeavours to educate members of the public on how to correctly treat their animals.

The organisation will rescue and rehome stray or abandoned pets. This will give the public the opportunity to rescue an animal and give them a new home. It will also educate the public on the correct treatment of animals. The evidence of this will be seen in a reduced number of animals destroyed in council pounds in Northern Ireland. The local councils responsible for animal welfare will have their costs reduced and this will have a commensurate effect on the rates. This will therefore benefit ratepayers. There is no private benefit for any of the trustees. We do not anticipate any harm befalling the public from the activities of the charity.

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

We are a voluntary run rescue with no paid staff. Our aim is to take in, care for and re-home stray and unwanted animals at our shelter in Moira. This is laid down in the constitution under which we operate and we became a registered charity on 18th March 2015.

These animals may be from local council pounds which results in a reduction in the numbers of dogs being euthanized at council expense. They may also come through animal welfare cases where animals are being abused and neglected. We also provide a lifeline to members of the public, who, through no fault of their own, may have to surrender their much loved pets. We always keep in touch with these people and let them know when their pet has been successfully rehomed. In the current year, we have rehomed around 900 dogs, 160 cats, 13 rabbits, and degus, guinea pigs, birds, hens and ferrets have also been included. During Covid, physical home visits were put on hold and were carried out by video call –this seemed to work well so we have carried on in this manner. Any potential adopter who is not happy with or cannot manage a video call will be offered a home visit. Beneficiaries of our work are residents who may live anywhere in Northern Ireland.

We aim to educate the public in matters pertaining to animal welfare and the care and treatment of animals. We actively encourage spaying and neutering of pets – this helps to reduce the numbers of stray and unwanted animals. Sadly this year we have seen our highest ever numbers of unwanted dogs, cats and kittens and a big increase in the numbers of animals needing our help because of welfare/abuse issues. The shelter is full to capacity and it is heart-breaking to be unable to offer help in some cases.

We advise on the importance of cleaning up after your pet, thus reducing the amount of time and money being spent cleaning up dog fouling in our parks and on our pavements. A further benefit flowing from our work is in the support given to local businesses e.g. veterinary practices, animal food suppliers and suppliers of cleaning equipment materials. This is incidental but necessary for the welfare of the animals in our care and the upkeep of the shelter.

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Achievements and performance

At Almost Home, we have a fantastic fundraising team who go over and above in terms of giving up their time to organise events to raise funds for the rescue – this is after having given up their time to complete several shifts with the animals each week. Several events were held throughout the year, the highlight being a Speed dating event held in February for Valentine's day – many of our dogs were taken out to the event held in a local recreation space and members of the public were invited to come and meet them. This proved very popular and quite a few of our longer term residents received home offers. Other events included days out for the dogs to various dog parks, a quiz night, Meet and Greet in Lurgan Park, Santa Paws event, bring your dog to work day and a sponsored swim at Helen's Bay. Our ever popular calendar sold almost 1,000 copies with the animals pictured being previous Almost Home residents who have happily been rehomed and each page of the calendar is sponsored by a local business.

Main achievements

Heather House

Our older residents continue to thrive in the wonderful environment within Heather House, loved and cared for (and thoroughly spoilt by) their own team of volunteers. They have vet visits each week, their own personal groomers and this year have enjoyed several trips to local dog parks in the company of their slaves!

The ongoing sponsorship of Heather House goes from strength to strength, with the admin for this undertaken by 2 of the volunteers. They also arrange open days for sponsors to come and meet some of the residents.

Sadly, as is to be expected, we have lost a few residents this year. They are always treated with dignity and as far as is possible, they are never alone as they pass over to Rainbow Bridge and privately cremated.

Payment is made to Pet's Farewell for this service – the company is owned by Ian Matthews who was a trustee of the charity during the year. During the year, Pets Farewell provided cremation services to the charity of £2,160 (2014 - £1,105). At 31st March 2025 an amount of £900 (2024 -£nil) was owed to Pets Farewell by the charity.

Mother and Baby Unit

This unit continues to be full, we have had many litters of puppies through the doors this year. We had 14 mothers who gave birth in the unit, mainly animals who had been removed because of welfare issues. Sadly we had several litters where mum died and the babies were left, but thankfully all have thrived and gone on to find new homes. Included in this number were 10 cockapoo puppies which were seized at Belfast Port en route to the mainland as part of an illegal puppy farming trade. This has led to Almost Home having a close working relationship with DAERA and welfare authorities.

Throughout all the work we carry out, we adhere to the rules of the Northern Ireland Charity Commission with regard to running a charity, and also ensure that no harm is caused to any person as a result of any activity carried out by Almost Home Animal Rescue.

Cattery

Our cattery continues to be full with vast amounts of cats and kittens being handed in as found, abandoned or just not wanted! The unit has its own team lead and team of volunteers. In the current year over 160 cats and kittens were rehomed.

We have several other units – the spay & neuter unit and the main kennel block – all have their own team lead and their own volunteers. We have improved some of the outside runs and bought new crates for the dogs that need to be on cage rest because of either illness or injury. A pig ark and mud matting was ordered for the pigs and is now set up in their fenced off area.

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Financial review

The results are set out in detail on pages 7 to 15. The charity returned net incoming resources for the year of £146,680 (2024 - £128,098) leaving unrestricted funds of £1,001,138 (2024 - £854,458). The unrestricted funds are considered to be essential to provide sufficient funds to cover any unforeseen costs which may arise and fulfill legal obligations of the charity in the event that current levels of income are not maintained.

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

As stated above, we have ended the year in a very healthy financial position.

The trustees have designated funds of £700,000 (2024 - £605,000) out of unrestricted funds, for the cost of proposed remedial works. We always have to ensure we have enough funds to pay for the care of our special needs animals, some of which are very costly and to have enough money to cover any emergency which should arise, thankfully we have very generous supporters and we hope to commence the work during the next financial year.

Plans for future periods

We have a lot of plans for the future. Sadly at present there are some ongoing legalities concerning the land on which the rescue sits but hopefully in the not too distant future this will be resolved and we can get on with all our improvements.

In the meantime, we carry on caring for all our residents – they are well fed, exercised and loved until such times as they are not 'Almost Home' but forever home.

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is governed by its Constitution. The organisation is not for profit and unincorporated.

The organisation is governed by its Board of Trustees who meet regularly.

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

Mrs K Matthews

Mr I Matthews

Mrs E Walker

Mrs H Jarvis

(Resigned 10 October 2024)

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the charity.

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

We currently have 3 trustees who are responsible for the overall decisions made at the shelter. We also have a committee of 8 people who oversee the day to day running of the shelter – each unit within the shelter has its own team leader and they liaise with the volunteers in each area.

Some 210 volunteers have been recruited and trained and without their hard work it would be impossible to function. We are very proud of the fact that the rescue is run on a completely voluntary basis, so that any money we receive is spent totally on the animals in our care and the running costs of the shelter.

We have held 5 committee meetings during the year and a meeting can be quickly arranged if any matters arise.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

E Walker

Mrs E Walker

Trustee

Date: 12/01/26

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

We report to the trustees on our examination of the financial statements of Almost Home Animal Rescue N.I. (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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 (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

We have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

Our examination included 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 seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

Our role is to state whether any material matters have come to our attention giving us cause to believe:

- 1 that accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act; or
- 2 that the accounts do not accord with those accounting records; or
- 3 that the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act; or
- 4 that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. We confirm that we are qualified to undertake the examination because we are a member of Chartered Accountants Ireland, which is one of the listed bodies.

We have completed our examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, we have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

GMcG Lisburn
GMcG Lisburn

Chartered Accountants

Century House
40 Crescent Business Park
Lisburn
BT28 2GN

Dated: *12/1/26*

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Income from:			
Charitable activities	2	438,656	441,845
Other trading activities	3	7,613	15,275
Investments	4	2,827	1,897
Total income		449,096	459,017
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	5	3,241	11,071
Charitable activities	6	299,175	319,848
Total expenditure		302,416	330,919
Net income and movement in funds		146,680	128,098
Reconciliation of funds:			
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		854,458	726,360
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		1,001,138	854,458

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

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		174,130		173,595
Current assets					
Debtors	11	35,425		36,542	
Cash at bank and in hand		810,572		693,692	
		845,997		730,234	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(18,989)		(49,371)	
Net current assets			827,008		680,863
Total assets less current liabilities			1,001,138		854,458
Income funds					
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds	13	700,000		605,000	
General unrestricted funds		301,138		249,458	
			1,001,138		854,458
			1,001,138		854,458

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees, authorised for issue on 12.01.26 and signed on their behalf by:

E Walker

Mrs E Walker
Trustee

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Almost Home Animal Rescue N.I. is an unincorporated charity registered with the Charity Commission in Northern Ireland. The principal office is 6 Grovehill Road, Moira, Craigavon, Co. Armagh, BT67 0PW.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's constitution, 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 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. 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.

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.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature to support them.

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

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% straight line
Computers	20% reducing balance
Motor vehicles	20% 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 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.

1.8 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.

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

2 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Charitable activities		
Income from charitable activities	438,656	441,845

3 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Fundraising events	7,613	15,275

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Interest receivable	2,827	1,897

5 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Fundraising and publicity		
Other fundraising costs	3,241	11,071

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable activities 2025 £	Charitable activities 2024 £
Direct costs		
Vet fees	179,240	206,615
Admin expenses	4,235	2,517
Premises expenses	22,383	26,826
Motor expenses	3,948	3,293
Cleaning	18,300	16,232
Bank and paypal charges	4,081	3,746
Animal supplies	58,836	52,286
Depreciation	4,965	4,782
Sundry expenses	1,247	284
Accountancy Fees	1,940	2,200
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	1,067
	<u>299,175</u>	<u>319,848</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	<u>299,175</u>	<u>319,848</u>

7 Trustees

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

8 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Total	-	-

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

9 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Computers £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2024	223,815	1,529	-	225,344
Additions	-	-	5,500	5,500
At 31 March 2025	223,815	1,529	5,500	230,844
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 April 2024	51,443	306	-	51,749
Depreciation charged in the year	4,476	306	183	4,965
At 31 March 2025	55,919	612	183	56,714
Carrying amount				
At 31 March 2025	167,896	917	5,317	174,130
At 31 March 2024	172,372	1,223	-	173,595

11 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	35,425	36,542

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	17,069	47,411
Accruals and deferred income	1,920	1,960
	18,989	49,371

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

13 Designated 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 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	At 31 March 2025 £
Provision of new laundry room	30,000	-	-	-	-	30,000
Off lead area	10,000	-	-	-	-	10,000
Benny's Barn repairs	12,000	-	-	-	-	12,000
Sensory garden for Heather House	5,000	-	-	-	-	5,000
New wash room facilities	3,000	-	-	-	-	3,000
Land & building improvements	545,000	95,000	-	-	-	640,000
	<u>605,000</u>	<u>95,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>700,000</u>
Previous year:	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	At 31 March 2024 £
Provision of new laundry room	30,000	-	-	-	-	30,000
Off lead area	10,000	-	-	-	-	10,000
Benny's Barn repairs	7,000	-	-	5,000	-	12,000
Sensory garden for Heather House	5,000	-	-	-	-	5,000
New wash room facilities	3,000	-	-	-	-	3,000
Land & building improvements	-	-	-	545,000	-	545,000
	<u>55,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>550,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>605,000</u>

The trustees have agreed to designate funds at the year end totalling £700,000 (2024 - £605,000) for various building and repair projects required to the premises.

ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE N.I.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

14 Related party transactions

Pets Farewell, Pet and Horse Crematorium is a business in Northern Ireland which is owned by Ian Matthews, who was a trustee of the charity during the year. During the year ended 31 March 2025, Pets Farewell provided cremation services of £2,160 (2024 - £1,105) to the charity. At 31 March 2025, an amount of £900 (2024 - £nil) was owed by the charity to Pets Farewell.