

Samaritans of Caithness SCIO

Scotland · Charity number SC046706

Details

Status	Active
Legal form	SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
Registered	2016-07-12
Register	View on the OSCR register

Contact

Address	7 Riverside Place Thurso Caithness KW14 8BZ
Website	www.samaritans.org/branches/samaritans-caithness

Activities

Activities: 'It carries out activities or services itself'

Purposes: 'the saving of lives', 'the relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage'

What the charity does: Samaritans Vision is that Fewer People Die by Suicide

Beneficiaries: 'No specific group, or for the benefit of the community'

Objectives: The objects of the Charity are: 1. To enable persons in Caithness and the surrounding area as well as elsewhere who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those who may be at risk of suicide, to receive confidential emotional support at any time of the day or night in order to improve their emotional health and to reduce the incidence of suicide. 2. To promote a better understanding in society of suicide, suicidal behaviour and the value of expressing feelings which may otherwise lead to suicide or impaired emotional health. and 3. To collaborate with and support Samaritans Central Charity and its affiliated branches in fulfilling these Objects.

Geography

- **Main operating location:** Highland
- **Geographical spread:** Wider, but within one local authority area

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£9,961	£13,305	-	0
2024-03-31	£8,765	£9,100	-	0
2023-03-31	£9,030	£7,900	-	0
2022-03-31	£5,084	£10,442	-	0
2021-03-31	£13,399	£4,493	-	0

Accounts

Samaritans of Caithness SCIO

Registered Scottish Charity

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

Year Ended 31st March 2025

Charity No: SC 046706

Samaritans of Caithness SCIO
31st March 2025

Contents of the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Page
Client Information	1
Report of the Trustees	2-4
Report of the Independent Examiner	5
Receipts and Payments Account	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7

Samaritans of Caithness SCIO

31st March 2025

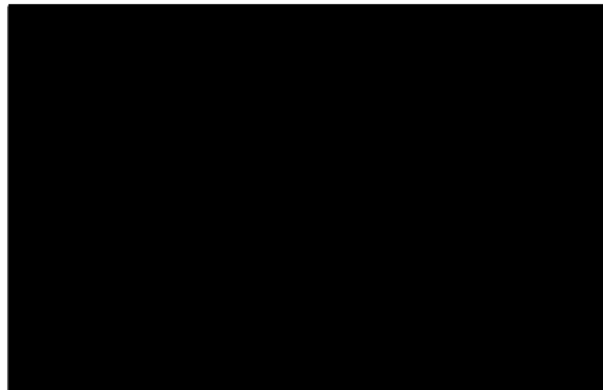
Reference and Administrative Information

Scottish Charity Registration Number SC046706

Contact Address 7 Riverside Place,
Thurso
KW14 8BZ.

Trustees

Director
Treasurer
Secretary
Trustee



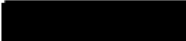
Bankers

Bank of Scotland,
25 Orlig St,
Thurso
KW14 7HQ

Santander Bank,
1 Orlig St,
Thurso
KW14 7BJ

Redwood Bank
The Nexus Building Broadway,
Letchworth Garden City
SG6 3TA

Independent Examiner


KWick BookKeeping
12 Albert Street
Wick
Caithness
KWI 5BQ

Samaritans of Caithness SCIO

31st March 2025

Report of the Trustees

Scottish Charity Number SC046706

Recruitment and Appointment of Committee Members (Trustees)

The committee members were appointed at the Annual General Meeting of Charity SC046706 on 15th August 2024.

Governing Document

Caithness Samaritans is governed by its constitution, which also forms the basis of the other Samaritans branches which chose to become incorporated charities affiliated to the Samaritans Central Organisation.

Charitable Purposes – Samaritans Vision is that Fewer People Die by Suicide

We work to achieve this vision by making it our mission to alleviate emotional distress and reduce the incidence of suicidal feelings and suicidal behaviour. We do this by being available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to provide emotional support for the people who are experiencing feelings of emotional distress or despair, including those which may lead to suicide. In particular we reach out to high-risk groups and communities to reduce the risk of suicide. We attempt to influence public policy and raise awareness of the challenges of reducing suicide.

We are Committed to the Following Values

Listening, because exploring feeling alleviates distress and helps people to reach a better understanding of their situation and the options open to them.

Confidentiality, because if people feel safe they are more likely to be open about their feelings. People making their own decisions wherever possible, because we believe that people have the right to find their own solution and telling people what to do takes responsibility away from them.

Being non-judgemental, because we want to be able to talk to us without fear of prejudice or rejection.

Human contact, because giving people time, undivided attention and empathy meets a fundamental need, and reduces distress and despair.

Samaritans of Caithness SCIO

31st March 2025

Activities and Achievements

The Caithness branch of Samaritans meets the needs of the local population, the more general Scottish population and the population of the UK as a whole by providing a telephone answering service. Because of the small number of listening volunteers, the branch is only able to open for a limited number of hours per week. The branch is endeavouring to increase the number of such listening volunteers and as this number increases the hours open per week will increase. In addition to speaking to callers on the telephone the branch also offered an e mail answering service until this was stopped by the Central Samaritans Charity in November 2022. The table below shows the number of contacts we have had during the last two years. Some of the telephone calls received are of only a few seconds in length and do not involve provision of the full Samaritan service; the calls excluding these very short calls are also shown in the table. It is noted that the proportion of these short calls has reduced over recent years from about 50% of total calls to less than 25%. This experience is typical of the results for Samaritans calls as a whole.

Year	Total Number of Telephone Contacts	Number of Telephone Contacts lasting more than a few seconds	Total Number of e-mails responded to
2023/2024	2011	1563	0
2024/2025	1650	Unknown	0

In addition to being available to callers we undertake awareness and fundraising events in the local community, as well as being a vital source of funds to allow us to continue to operate, these events publicise our existence and draw attention to the service we provide. During the period we have held fundraising events at the Co-op supermarket in Thurso, walked the street in the Thurso shopping centre and attended the County Show in Wick and the Highland Games in Halkirk and Mey.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Overview

The Financial Statement for the year to 31st March 2025 are set out on pages 6 and 7. This has resulted in a Deficit of £ 3345 (2024 Deficit of £335). Only by maintaining careful control of expenditure and exploring a range of income streams has it been possible to achieve this satisfactory financial performance. Details of the financial performance of the charity are given later in this document.

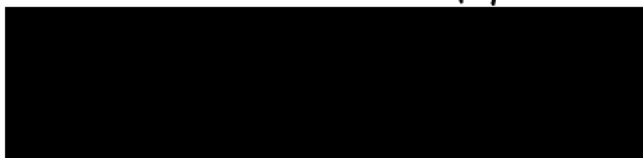
Reserves Policy

The trustees believe that a reserve of about 12 to 18 months of expenditure is an appropriate level of reserves. Reserves on 31 March 2024 were £19115, which is somewhat above the target level but keeps the charity in a relatively good position.

FUTURE PLANS

We are committed to supporting our callers by telephone. Recruitment and training of new listening volunteers will remain essential to achieving this.

Approved by the trustees on 29/8/25 and signed on their behalf by: -



Date 29/8/25

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the 12 months ended 31st March 2025 which are set out on pages 6 to 7.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the items of the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act) and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) ('The 2006 Regulations'). The Charity's Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation (10)(1)(d) of the 2006 Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section (44)(1)(c) of the 2005 Act and to state whether matters have come to my attention.

Role of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the documents presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

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 Section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Regulations
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Regulations

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.

Qualification: Accountant

Address: KWick Bookkeeping
12 Albert Street
Wick
Caithness
KWI 5BQ

Date: 29/08/25

SAMARITANS OF CAITHNESS SCIO

Statement of Receipts and Payments For The 12 Months Ended 31 March 2025

	Note	Restricted Funds (£)	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Total 2025 (£)	Total 2024 (£)
RECEIPTS					
Grants	2	7,282		7,282	5,500
Fundraising and donations			2,302	2,302	2,720
Investment Income			376	376	185
Sundry Income			-	-	-
Gift Aid including GASDS			-	-	360
		7,282	2,679	9,961	8,765
PAYMENTS					
Cost of voluntary income			-	-	-
Fundraising Expenses			-	-	-
Cost of charitable activities (excluding examiner's fees)	3	6300	7,005	13,305	9,100
Governance Costs (examiner's fees)			-	-	-
Total Payments		6,300	7,005	13,305	9,100
SURPLUS / DEFICIT (-) FOR THE PERIOD BEFORE TRANSFERS		982	- 4,327	- 3,345	- 335
SURPLUS / DEFICIT (-) FOR THE PERIOD AFTER TRANSFERS		982	- 4,327	- 3,345	- 335
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Balance of Funds at commencement			19,115	19,115	19,450
Balance of funds at close		982	14,788	15,770	19,115
<i>The above funds are represented by:-</i>					
<u>Bank Accounts</u>					
Bank of Scotland		982	4,680	5,662	4,067
Santander		-	108	108	5,048
Redwood Bank			10,000	10,000	10,000
Cash in Hand			-	-	-
		982	14,788	15,770	19,115

This financial statement and associated notes were approved by the Board of Trustees on

SAMARITANS OF CAITHNESS SCIO

Notes To The Financial Statements For The 12 Months Ended 31 March 2025

1 FIXED ASSETS

The Charity owns and occupies the premises at 7 Riverside Pace, Thurso
The current insurance values are Buildings £105069, Contents £31223.

Note

2 GRANTS RECIEVED

Samaritans Scottish Regional Grant
Samaritans Central Charity
SSE Services
Baille Wind Farm Community Fund
GroundWork UK

Restricted Funds (£)	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Total 2025 (£)	Total 2024 (£)
		0	500
		0	5000
1750		1,750	
5000		5,000	0
532		532	0
7282	0	7282	5,500

COST OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

3 Insurance
Telephone
Heat and Light
Show Expenses
Stationery, Advertising and Postages
Branch Contribution
Property and Equipment Costs
Travelling Expenses for Duty
Miscellaneous Expenses (incl training)
Publicity
Final Payment on New Doors and Windows
I C O
Three Rings

	847	847	0
	784	784	926
	503	503	778
	113	113	185
	45	45	293
	679	679	974
	265	265	716
	2,985	2,985	2,849
	264	264	119
	420	420	65
6300		6,300	2,100
	35	35	35
	66	66	60
6,300	7,005	13,305	9,100

4 DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

There were no Debtors

5 CREDITORS

There were no creditors

6 TRUSTEES AND RELATED PARTIES

No remuneration was paid to any trustee or related party
Expenses paid to Trustees in respect of travelling expenses
Number of Trustees (as of 31st March)

-	-
-	-
1,391	2,377
4	4

7 CENTRAL OFFICE GRANT

The accounting year end of all Samaritans Branches is now 31 March.
The Samaritans General Office make calculations of branch affiliation fee (known as new branch contribution) from the results of the previous accounting period.