

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: SC048355

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
for
Braemar Care (SCIO)

Braemar Care (SCIO)

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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Braemar Care (SCIO)

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the seventh year of operations for the year ended 31 March 2025.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The organisation's charitable purpose is the relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Braemar Care has established a model of care provision for the community of Braemar and Crathie. The Care provision is made in one or a combination of the following ways:

- In conjunction with the Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership (AHSCP)
- Through self-employed carers
- Through the volunteer network

A Care and Volunteer Services Manager works with the local GP and AHSCP to allocate carers in response to the needs of clients and she also co-ordinates various volunteer activities for care clients as well as other members of the community.

Main achievements

Braemar Care SCIO is currently operating in its seventh year. It continues to grow and evolve, with more clients and volunteer services. Our carer numbers are stable, and we continue to provide the volunteer hospital transport service, dog walking, social trips, shopping, and help to build resilience in the village.

This year [REDACTED] started as the new Care and Volunteer Services Manager. We began the year with 10 trained, local carers (up from the original 2, six years ago) and ended with 12, most of whom are deployed via Cornerstone. All are self-employed, self-insured and choosing to work through Braemar Care and the Self-Directed Support (SDS) system.

We continue to maintain and update a Buddy System to support some of the more vulnerable folk who might need a priority visit in an adverse weather crisis.

Training

Our training budget is a significant part of our running costs as we also cover the training time for the carers. This is one way to support the ongoing skills development of our carers without it being a weighty burden on their busy lives.

Braemar Care carers undertake the same online mandatory training as AHSCP carers, it is recognised however that not all BC carers wish to undertake the commitment of training of an SVQ and hence work as self-employed Personal Assistants through Cornerstone Self Directed Support. Braemar Care does however wish to support the development of those carers wishing to undertake the SVQ and this comes at a cost of c.£3,000 per carer. We have put three through the SVQ with one more registering for next year.

Transport

For the second year running we received a Scottish Government Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund. The grant administered by Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action for £3,500 was to cover some of the transport costs of our Volunteer Transport service although this fund is depleting fast due to a healthy uptake. We receive excellent feedback on this service, given the infrequent bus connection and aging demographic of the village. We are expanding this service to include social trips, visits, and shopping but to continue resourcing it requires several grant applications to ensure it continues. We remain indebted to all our volunteer drivers as the service is dependent on them being ready and willing to undertake the driving and accompanied assistance which is a significant undertaking and responsibility. - Thank you

Braemar Care (SCIO)

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Resilience

Braemar Care continues to lead the Braemar Resilience Group. (with our partners at both the village hall and BCC)

Our role in BRG has been leading on fundraising and supporting Emergency Response planning. We have joined the Aberdeenshire Council resilience forum and are now looking at enhancing our local communications during power outages and improving resilience volunteer training.

Sincere thanks to the Board of Trustees for their dedication, time, and support. Giving commitment, energy and positive thinking to Braemar Care is valuable and essential but it is not something we take for granted. Being a viable, sustainable organisation needs us to plan for succession, and we will be looking at introducing new trustees in the coming year.

As always a huge thank you of course, to each of the Carers and every Volunteer working with us. Without all these people, we simply could not deliver this service.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

We continue to look at ways to manage our funding so that Braemar Care can be sustained as a reliable service without a year on year search for grants and build in up to two years of operational funds and expand our service. This is a fine balance as although we would like to have a cushion of operating funds, as a charity we are obliged to use our funds and so our reserves policy is limited.

We are also delighted to receive a further grant from the Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership (AHSCP); our original, founding sponsor. We have also received a significant grant to support our training from the Braemar Community Hydro fund as well as several private donations; from care-clients, local supporters and from our hospital passengers. We also raised £3,897 of donations via a crowdfunder to purchase a second Raizer.

Many thanks to everyone who has awarded or gifted BC funding this year!

Financial Summary

At the end of Year 7 we had income of £31,465 mainly from donations and grants from AHSCP and our annual expenditure was £32,184, resulting in a small deficit of £718 and leaving £55,357 bank balance at the start of Year 8 (April 2025). Note that a net £5,256 of that sum is ring-fenced for Resilience work with BCC and the Village Hall and £2,025 is restricted funding for use against transport costs and £2,776 is restricted funding for training costs.

Costs this year have increased and we will attempt to keep them under control in Year 8 and beyond. The main reasons for the increase are increased hours for our CVSM and the purchase of a Raizer.

In summary, this means that, even though we had a small deficit this year, we have enough funds in the bank to keep the charity going at an average spend of c £25k pa for almost 2 years. We will continue to apply for new funding sources to sustain the charity.

Reserves policy

Reserves of the Trust are that part of the funds that are freely available and excludes those restricted funds and those funds which could only be realised by the disposal of fixed assets held for the Trusts use. Reserves at 31 March are £45,298.

The Trust's policy regarding general reserves is to try to maintain a minimum level equating to twelve months operating costs. The level of reserves at 31 March 2025 are considered to be satisfactory. The Trustees ensure that reserves are available to meet the obligation of all restricted funds.

Braemar Care (SCIO)

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

FUTURE PLANS

Whilst developing the Carer, Volunteer and Resilience parts of the Charity, we continue to expand our interests further; into Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) support and last year began researching the possibility of local Dementia support.

MHFA – The ‘Listening in Confidence’ service BC launched last year has had a disappointing uptake for many possible reasons including awareness of the service, demand for the service and trust in a new service. We will continue to run the service until the MHFA training certificates are up for renewal and will then decide whether to continue it.

Dementia Support – BC has been investigating Dementia, the support and creating the right receptive and dementia friendly environment over the last year. We are aware it is a significant issue and the demand for support will only increase with dementia affecting a number of our clients. In this coming year we will renew our focus to commit to a strategy to address dementia awareness in the community.

Braemar Care Sustainability Strategy Document – We continue to develop a strategy document to identify the challenges we face as a charitable care organisation and the avenues for sustaining our operation. The clearest challenge is how to maintain funding a small organisation, the demand on which continues to grow.

Carers and volunteers; recruiting, training, continued professional development and ensuring we don't over ask or over stretch our carers is a significant challenge for us in a very small community. We value them highly and support them with training, insurance, and regular structured feedback sessions to understand any emerging issues and share best practice. We aim to grow our carer pool to support our operation. We will also be looking at increasing the integration of our volunteers into the support we offer as they really support our pre-emptive early intervention focus and can make a significant difference to people's lives at home in the community.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, the constitution, and is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are nominated by the existing trustees of Braemar Care. Each new board member is given access to the files and given a copy of the governing document and the principals of Braemar Care as well as an operations chart which explains the manner the organisation provides care within the community. Each trustee has received the OSCR Charity trustee handout.

Risk Management

Representing a small community and the challenges that presents, Braemar Care needs to maintain the commitment and momentum in our Board, we have a dedicated team of Trustees. I would identify the following areas to maintain a watchful eye

- i) **Funding** – we manage from year to year with annual grants but the ideal yet difficult position is to build funding option(s) to sustain us for the next 5 years.
- ii) **Profile** – After 6 years many local people aren't fully aware about how we might help; so, we must improve our messaging.
- iii) **Capacity** – We sometimes are stretched to meet all requests. We need to continually recruit and train more Local Carers
- iv) **Board of Trustees** – we need to ensure succession and refresh the Board with new input periodically.

Braemar Care (SCIO)

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number
SC048355

Principal address
Braemar Health Centre
St Andrews Terrace
Braemar
Aberdeenshire
AB35 5WR

Trustees



Chair
Vice Chair
Treasurer
Secretary

Appointed 4 December 2024

Independent examiner



Bank
Bank of Scotland
The Direct Business Bank
PO Box 1000
BX2 1LB

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 16 October 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Braemar Care (SCIO)**

I report on the accounts for the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 set out on pages six to nine.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). 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 seeking 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

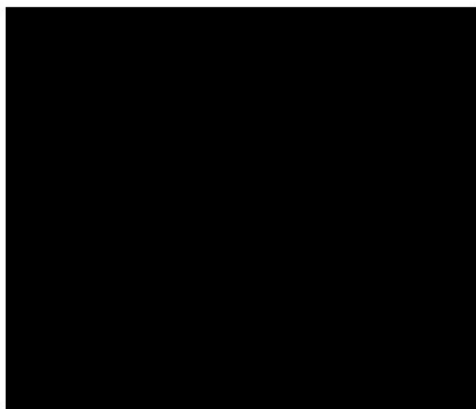
Independent examiner's statement

In the course of 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 Accounts Regulations; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts 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.



Date: 16 October 2025

Braemar Care (SCIO)**Statement of Receipts and Payments
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

		Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Year Ended 31.3.25 Total funds £	Year Ended 31.3.24 Total Funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations	4	5,781	3,897	9,678	6,657
Gift Aid		814	-	814	1,215
Grants	5	-	19,958	19,958	26,000
Fundraising		-	-	-	628
Charitable Activities	6	<u>1,015</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,015</u>	<u>1,512</u>
Total		7,610	23,855	31,465	36,012
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising Funds		-	85	85	27
Charitable Activities	7	12,683	15,414	28,097	24,619
Purchases of Fixed Assets		<u>189</u>	<u>3,812</u>	<u>4,001</u>	<u>2,118</u>
Total		<u>12,872</u>	<u>19,311</u>	<u>32,183</u>	<u>26,764</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(5,262)	4,544	(718)	9,248
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>50,562</u>	<u>5,513</u>	<u>56,075</u>	<u>46,827</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>45,300</u>	<u>10,057</u>	<u>55,357</u>	<u>56,075</u>

Braemar Trust (SCIO)

Statement of Balances
At 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
CASH FUNDS				
Cash and bank balances at start of year	50,562	5,513	56,075	46,827
Surplus/(deficit) shown on receipts and payments account	(5,262)	4,544	(718)	9,248
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash and bank balances at end of year	<u>45,300</u>	<u>10,057</u>	<u>55,357</u>	<u>56,075</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 16 October 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



Braemar Care (SCIO)

Notes to the Financial Statements **for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

1. Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

2. Nature and purpose of funds

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. The restricted funds are represented by £5,256 of grants and donations for the Community Resilience project, transport funding of £2,025 and training funding of £2,776. These funds will be drawn down as required.

3. Related Party Transactions

No remuneration was paid to the trustees or any connected persons during the financial period. Three trustees were reimbursed for volunteer mileage during the year; £362 (2024 - £nil) and three trustees made donations to the charity totalling £360 (2024 - £nil).

4. Donations

	Year Ended 31/03/25	Year Ended 31/03/24
	£	£
Raizer donations	3,897	-
Braemar Royal Highland Charity	2,000	1,000
Miscellaneous donations	<u>3,781</u>	<u>5,657</u>
	9,678	6,657

5. Grants

	Year Ended 31/03/25	Year Ended 31/03/24
	£	£
Inspiring Scotland	-	13,000
AHSCP	9,000	9,000
Braemar Community Hydro Fund	5,000	-
AVA	3,500	2,000
Aberdeenshire Council Resilience Fund	<u>2,458</u>	<u>2,000</u>
	19,958	26,000

6. Charitable Activities Income

	Year Ended 31/03/25	Year Ended 31/03/24
	£	£
Private care receipts	1,015	1,326
First Aid Training	<u>-</u>	<u>186</u>
	1,015	1,512

Braemar Care (SCIO)
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

7. Charitable Activities Expenses

	Year Ended 31/03/25	Year Ended 31/03/24
	£	£
Travel	2,453	2,123
Telephone	565	534
Post, Stationery & Advertising	599	-
Insurance	942	934
Resilience Expenses	1,737	1,767
Training	2,848	6,208
Sundry Expenses	2,185	1,710
Carer Supplies	323	329
Private and emergency care	1,115	1,326
Training Officer	1,032	3,777
Carer Co-ordination/Management	<u>14,298</u>	<u>5,911</u>
	28,097	24,619

