

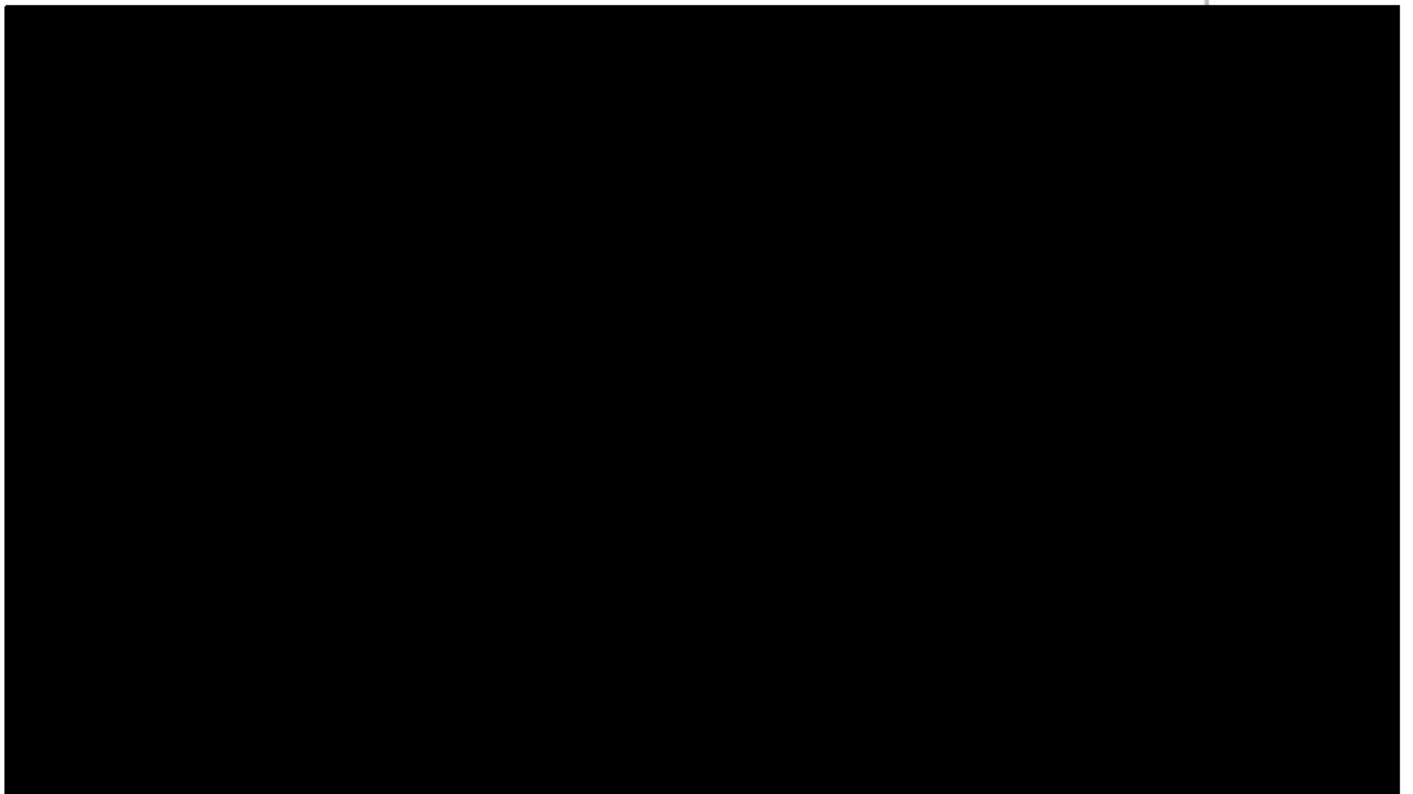
Caithness
Seal Rehab & Release



Caithness Seal Rehab & Release

Trustees' Annual Report

Period From 28/12/2023 to Period End
31/12/2024

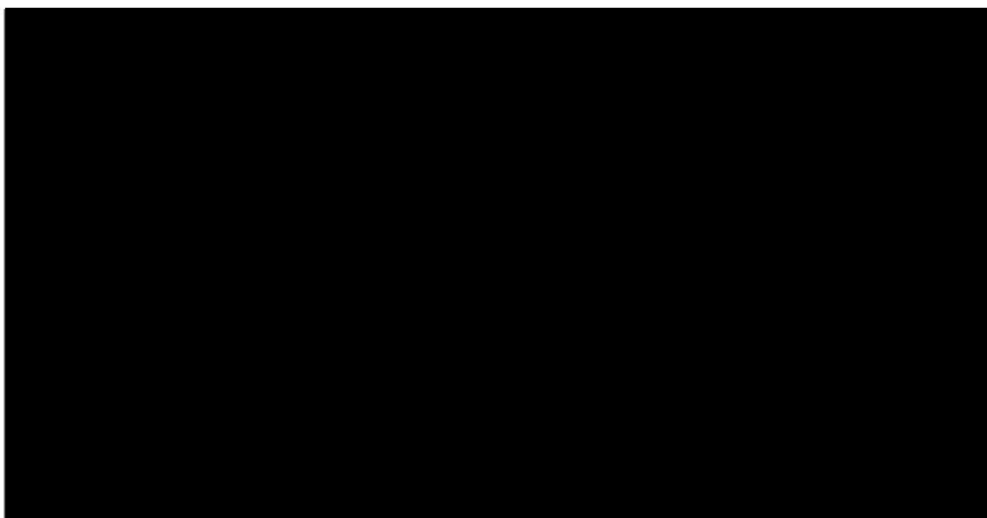


Charity contact information

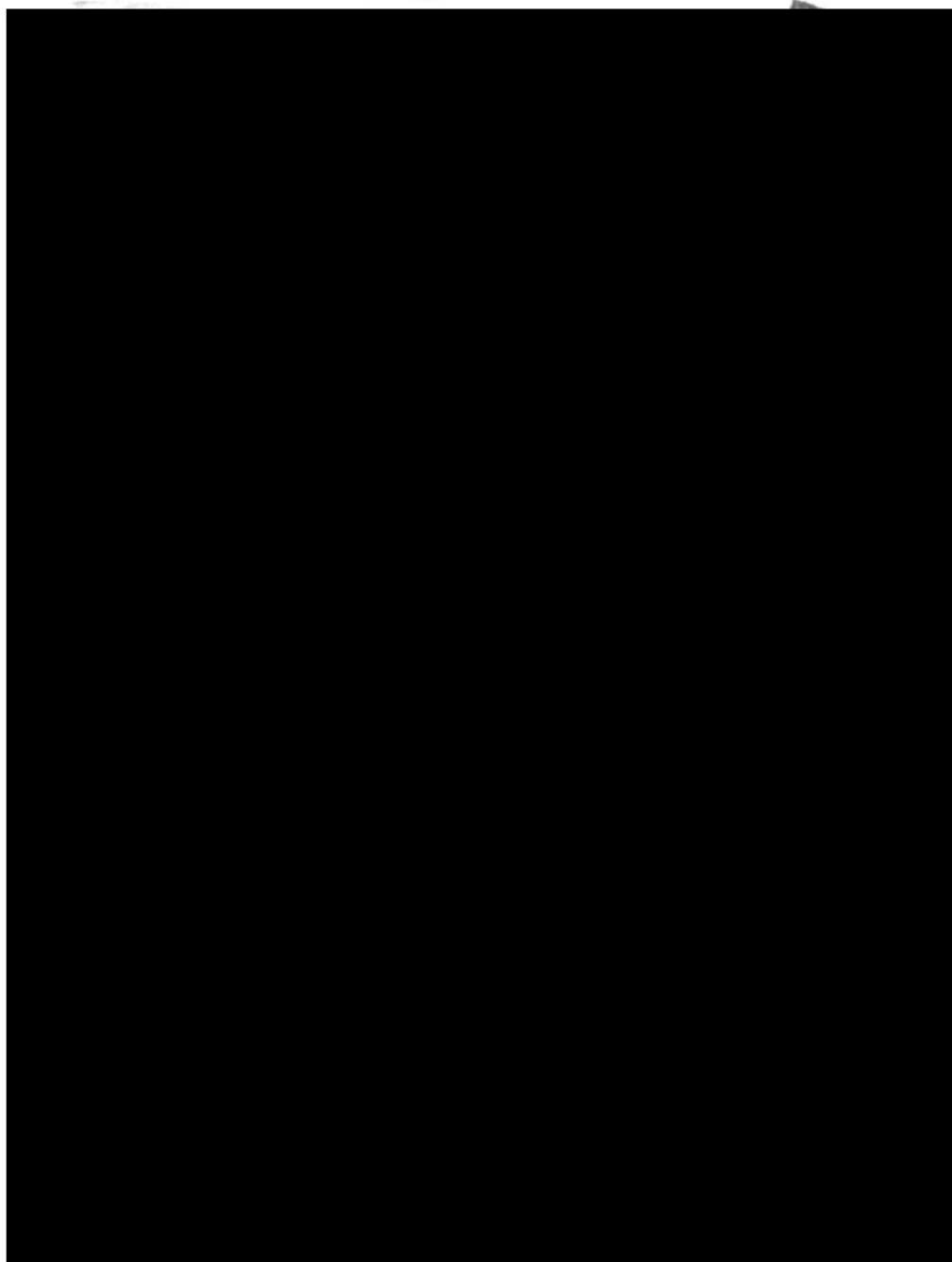
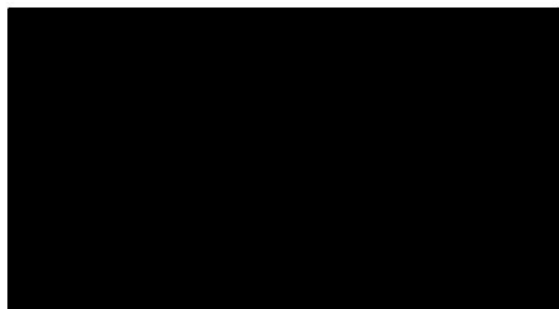


Caithness Seal Rehab & Release

Scottish Charity Number: SC052004



Charity Trustees



Objectives and activities

The organisation's purposes are:

- (a) The advancement of education, with the teaching of what species of seals are along the Caithness coastline, their habitats, the behaviours and how we can protect them.
- (b) The saving of marine mammal lives, in particular Pinnipeds, by rescuing them if warranted and uplifting them to a safe environment for rehabilitation.
- (c) The advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science, by recording and monitoring seal populations already present and those that are rescued & released.
- (d) The advancement of environmental protection or improvement, by monitoring vulnerable areas, feed availability and pups born.
- (e) The advancement of animal welfare.
- (f) The rescue, protection, treatment, rehabilitation, and release of sick or injured Pinnipeds.

Caithness Seal Rehab & Release is the only seal rehabilitation centre in Caithness & Sutherland. We cover a vast area along the whole of the east coast down as far as Tain but have received a pup from Fraserburgh this year. We cover the whole of the north coast as far along as Durness, and then down the west coast as far as Ullapool. We also receive pups from the Isle of Skye and the Isle of Lewis. We work together with BDMLR and the SSPCA.

Members of the public come across a seal pup on the beach, they contact us direct or BDMLR or the SSPCA. One of our volunteers will go out and assess/examine the pup to see if it needs to come into our care.



Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

We are a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation. SCVO Model SCIO Constitution (single tier).

The principal office of the organisation will be in Scotland (and must remain in Scotland).

The name of the organisation is "CAITHNESS SEAL REHAB & RELEASE" (SCIO)
A Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation is a legal structure which has been purpose built for the charity sector in Scotland. It provides limited liability and a separate legal identity to organisations that want to become charities but do not want or need the complex structure of company law. This means that even the smallest charity can access the benefits of incorporation – including limited liability and legal capacity.

Trustee recruitment and appointment

The board may at any time appoint any person, and providing they are not debarred, to be a charity trustee - by way of a resolution passed by majority vote at a board meeting.

At the conclusion of the first AGM, one third (to the nearest round number) of the charity trustees shall retire from office; the question of which of them is to retire shall be determined by some random method.

At the conclusion of each AGM (other than the first) any charity trustees appointed during the period since the preceding AGM (but excluding those re-appointed under clause 0 during that period) shall retire from office.

The charity trustees to retire under paragraph (b) of clause 0 shall be those who have been longest in office since they were last appointed or re-appointed; as between persons who were last appointed/re-appointed on the same date, the question of which of them is to retire shall be determined by some random method.

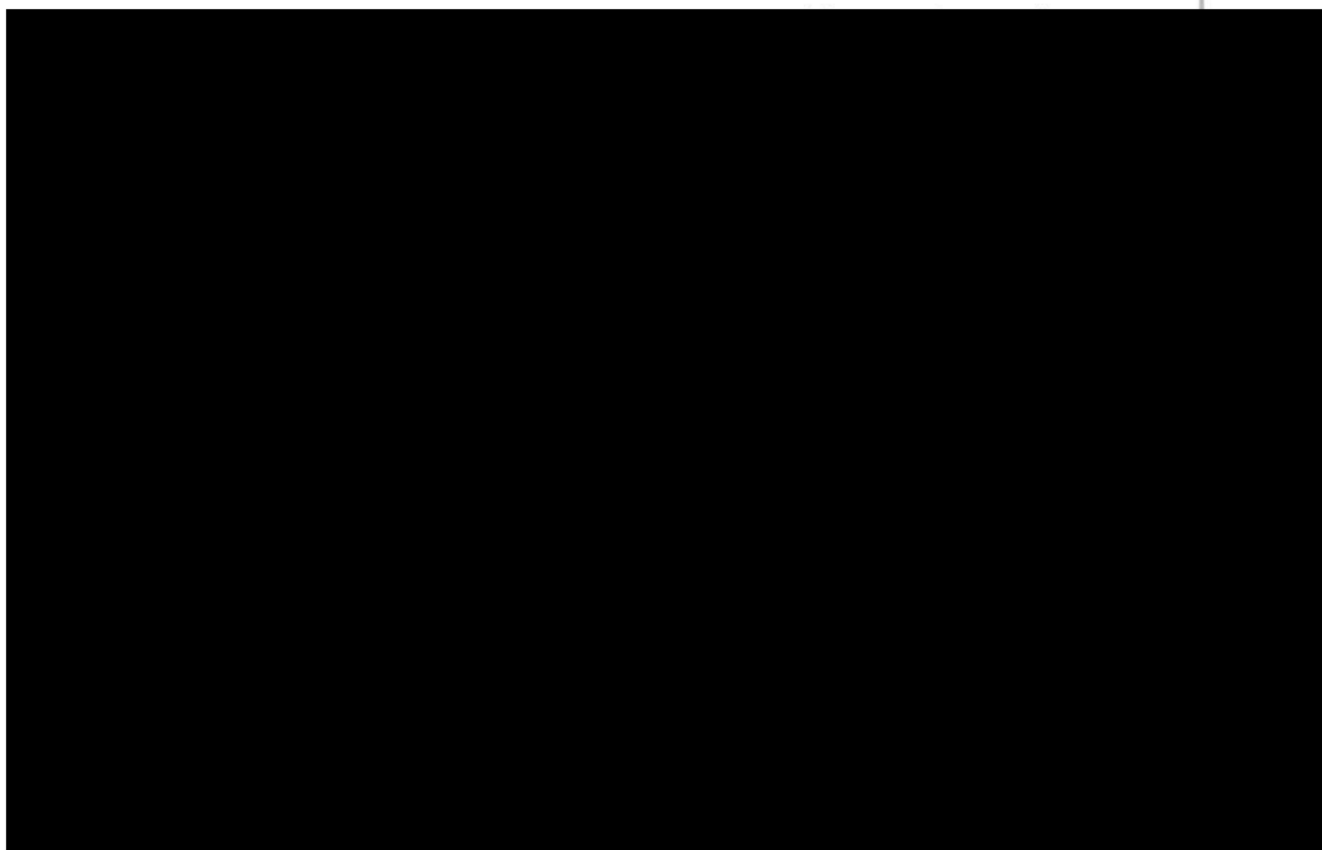
A charity trustee who retires from office under clause 0 or 0 at the conclusion of an AGM shall be eligible for re-appointment under clause 0 at the next board meeting.

A charity trustee vacating office at the conclusion of an AGM will be deemed to have been re-appointed at the board meeting which next follows unless:

- a. They advise the board that they do not wish to be re-appointed; or
- b. A resolution for the re-appointment of that charity trustee was put to the board meeting and was not carried.

The individuals who signed the charity trustee declaration forms which accompanied the application for incorporation of the organisation shall be deemed to have been appointed by the members as charity trustees with effect from the date of incorporation of the organisation.

Our Trustees are:



Achievements and performance

Caithness Seal Rehab & Release, the hospital, officially opened its doors on the 1st November 2022. Since opening the hospital doors, we have admitted 80 seal pups, both grey and common seal pups. In addition to this we have monitored and relocated seal pups if necessary. The number of pups is increasing every year mostly down to human disturbance, though bad weather does play its part.

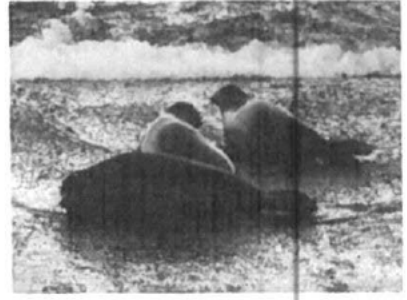
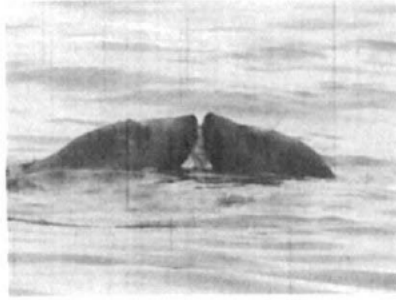
We were nominated for the Nature Scot awards in 2024 but unfortunately did not make it on to their short lists for an award. We were also nominated on the Scottish Land and Estate awards but again, never made it onto the short list. Hopefully we will make it onto the shortlist for the Highland Hero Awards which will be awarded in 2025.

We are still receiving seal pups from the Isle of Lewis and the Isle of Harris, as well as the occasional one from Isle of Skye and Uist. One of the big successes this year is the training of marine medics in the care and wellbeing of seal pups. A new holding station has been opened on the Isle of Lewis manned by staff we have trained. This holding centre takes in rescued pups and rehydrates them over night ready for safe travel the next day on a ferry over to the mainland and up to our hospital for rehabilitation. Our other big success has been in helping the SSPCA formulate a new feeding regime for the common pups they get in. This new regime has proved very successful and their survival rates for the pups has increased enormously.

This year we are working in collaboration with the Royal Veterinary College taking on veterinary students for practical experience and for research purposes. This is a great partnership, and we hope it carries on into the future. We are also taking on students from Glasgow University and Aberdeen University that are studying for their PhD in marine mammal conservation or medicine.

We have a permanent group of about ten volunteers that help out during every pupping season throughout the year. These are all local volunteers from the local surrounding communities. This year we have accommodated volunteers from various countries, Spain, France, Italy, Germany, USA, Australia, New Zealand and Poland. We hope to carry this type of volunteer work into the future.

The hospital is not-for-profit, and we rely entirely on donations from the public in order to look after and feed the pups we get in. Feeding the seals pups is the most expensive part of the work we do. We can use up to five tonnes of fish, or more, per pupping season and all of this must be paid for by donations we receive.



Financial review

Donations from members of the public, from December 2023 to December 2024 has been fantastic yet again. We have received approximately £32,000.00 in donations, which includes approximately £19,000.00 raised on our Crowd Funder page. Approximately £10,000.00 of this has been spent on the purchase of fish, approximately £6600.00 on veterinary fees, £356.00 on insurance. We now have an Animal Welfare Establishment Licence through the council which costs £65.00. The new quarantine building and new swimming pool have cost approximately £10,000.00, money well spent for a building that is absolutely necessary. We have spent about £9000.00 on equipment and consumables. This does not include any running costs, electricity, water etc.

We have received £5000.00 in funding from Dounreay Community Fund for the remainder of the new build and £2000.00 in funding from the Jean Sainsbury Wildlife Trust for running costs (purchase of some fish).

Statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We do not hold reserves at the moment. Ideally, we would like to hold a reserve of at least £3000.00, hopefully we can achieve this in the future.

Details of any deficit

There are no deficits.

Donated facilities and services

We have had no donated services or facilities.

Future plans

All improvements have been made to the hospital for the time being. In addition to this we have built a new quarantine building that can house three seal pups. This will be used when pups arrive at the hospital before they go into the ICU building. Pups will be cared for separately to prevent contamination and spread of disease.

We have also installed a new fibreglass pool; we now have two pools for the seal pups.

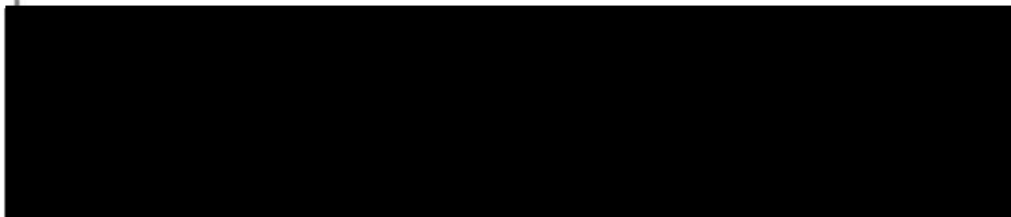
There are no future plans for the moment, we do not foresee adding new buildings to house more seals as we seem to be just about coping with what we have. Should there be an increase in pups then we may need to think about more buildings.

Additional information

We would like more support from the local council. So far they have shown no support whatsoever.

Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:

Designation

Founder/Manager/Trustee

Date

03/07/2025

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period
from

28

12

2023

to

31

12

2024

Section A Statement of receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Expendable endowment funds	Permanent endowment funds	Total funds current period	Total funds last period
	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
A1 Receipts						
Donations	31681				31681 -	14973
Legacies					-	
Grants		7000			7000 -	20150
Receipts from fundraising activities	101				101 -	20
Gross trading receipts					-	
Income from investments other than land and buildings					-	
Rents from land & buildings					-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities					-	
					-	
A1 Sub total	31782 -	7000 -	-	-	38782 -	35143 -
A2 Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
A2 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	31782 -	7000 -	-	-	38782 -	35143 -
A3 Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading payments					-	
Investment management costs					-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	25625	11634			37259 -	15275
Grants and donations					-	
Governance costs:					-	
Audit / independent examination					-	
Preparation of annual accounts					-	
Legal costs					-	
Other: Bank charges, Insurance, Highland Council	639				639 -	362
					-	
A3 Sub total	26264 -	11634 -	-	-	37898 -	15837 -
A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets	1440	4991			6431 -	5975
Purchase of investments					-	
A4 Sub total	1440 -	4991 -	-	-	6431 -	5975 -
Total payments	27704 -	16625 -	-	-	44329 -	21612 -
Net receipts / (payments)	4078 -	-9625 -	-	-	-5547 -	13531 -
A5 Transfers to / (from) funds						
	4451	9080			13531 -	
Surplus / (deficit) for year	8529 -	-545 -	-	-	7984 -	13531 -

B1 Cash funds

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Market valuation to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
	Total		

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (£ if available) to nearest £	Current value (£ if available) to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
Galvanised Hurdles	Restricted Funds	444		
Flooring	Restricted Funds	1200		
Fibreglass Pool	Restricted Funds	2531		
Drainage Channel & Manhole	Restricted Funds	172		
Timber	Restricted Funds	644		
Tumble Dryer	Unrestricted Funds	379		
Galvanised Hurdles	Unrestricted Funds	1061		
	Total	6431 -	-	

[illegible]

Details		Pund to which liability relates	Amount due (estimate) to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
		Total		

Date of approval

13/02/2025

* Please note - OSCR will accept digital or typed signatures

Section C Notes to the Accounts

C1 Nature and purpose of funds (may be stated on analysis of funds worksheets)

--	--

C2 Grants

Type of activity or project supported	Individual / institution	Number of grants made	£
Hospital Improvements	Dounreay Community Fund	1	1260
Hospital Improvements	Dounreay Community Fund	1	1200
Fibreglass Swimming Pool	Dounreay Community Fund	1	2531
Fish	Jean Sainsbury Wildlife Trust	1	2000
Hospital improvements	Stroupester Community Fund	1	9634
Total			16625 -

C3a Trustee remuneration

If no remuneration was paid during the period to any charity trustee or person connected to a trustee cross this box (otherwise complete section 3b)	X
--	---

C3b Trustee remuneration - details

Authority under which paid	£

C4a Trustee expenses

If no expenses were paid to any charity trustee during the period then cross this box (otherwise complete section 4b)	X
---	---

C4b Trustee expenses - details

	Number of trustees	£

C5 Transactions with trustees and connected persons

Nature of relationship	Nature of transaction	Transaction amount (£)	Balance outstanding at period end (£)

C6 Other information

--	--

Analysis of receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
Just Giving	4108				4108 -	6465
Crowd Funder	18669				18669	
Cash & BACS Donations	9005				9005 -	8508
					-	
Total	31782 -	-	-	-	31782 -	14973

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
Dounreay Community Fund		5000	5000 -	150
Jean Sainsbury Wildlife Trust		2000	2000 -	
Animal Friends Pet Insurance			-	5000
Stroupster Community Fund			-	15000
Total	-	7000	7000 -	20150

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
Total	-	-	-	-	-	

[illegible]

sc 52004

Additional analysis (2)

5 Breakdown of unrestricted funds

					Total unrestricted funds	Total unrestricted funds last period
Receipts						
Donations	31681				31681 -	14973
Legacies					-	
Grants					-	
Receipts from fundraising activities	101				101 -	20
Gross trading receipts					-	
buildings					-	
Rents from land & buildings					-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities					-	
Sub total	31782 -	-	-	-	31782 -	14993 -
Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	31782 -	-	-	-	31782 -	14993 -
Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading payments					-	
Investment management costs					-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	25625				25625 -	10180
Grants and donations					-	
Governance costs:					-	
Audit / Independent examination					-	
Preparation of annual accounts					-	
Bank Charges, Insurance, Highland Council	639				639 -	362
Sub total	26264 -	-	-	-	26264 -	10542 -
Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets	1440				1440 -	
Purchase of investments					-	
Sub total	1440 -	-	-	-	1440 -	-
Total payments	27704 -	-	-	-	27704 -	10542 -
Net receipts / (payments)	4078 -	-	-	-	4078 -	4451 -
Transfers to / (from) funds	4451				4451 -	
Surplus / (deficit) for year	8529 -	-	-	-	8529 -	6091 -

Nature and purpose of funds

--

Additional analysis (3)**6 Breakdown of restricted funds**

	Dounreay	Jean Sainsbury	Stroupster		Total restricted funds	Total restricted funds last period
Receipts						
Donations					-	
Legacies					-	
Grants	5000	2000			7000	20150
Receipts from fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading receipts					-	
Income from investments other than land and buildings					-	
Rents from land & buildings					-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities					-	
<i>Sub total</i>	5000 -	2000 -	-	-	7000 -	20150 -
Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
<i>Sub total</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Total receipts</i>	5000 -	2000 -	-	-	7000 -	20150 -
Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading payments					-	
Investment management costs					-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities		2000	9634		11634	-
Grants and donations					-	
Governance costs:					-	
Audit / independent examination					-	
Preparation of annual accounts					-	
Legal costs					-	
					-	
<i>Sub total</i>	-	2000 -	9634 -	-	11634 -	-
Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets	4991				4991 -	
Purchase of investments					-	
<i>Sub total</i>	4991 -	-	-	-	4991 -	-
<i>Total payments</i>	4991 -	2000 -	9634 -	-	16625 -	-
<i>Net receipts / (payments)</i>	5000	2000 -	-	-	7000 -	-
Transfers to / (from) funds			9080		9080 -	
<i>Surplus / (deficit) for year</i>	9.00 -	0 -	-554 -	-	545 -	-
Nature and purpose of funds						

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Caithness Seal Rehab & Release
Scottish Charity registration number SC052004

I report on the accounts for the period ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on the following pages.

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 by the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2010.

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(d) 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 independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence which 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 comply with Regulation 9 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.


Victor T Fraser & Co Limited
Chartered Accountants
3-4 Market Place
Wick
Caithness
KW1 4LP

Date 03/01/25