

**VETERANS CHAPLAINCY SCOTLAND SCIO**  
**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the period 1 July 2023 to 31 March 2025**  
**Scottish Charity Number: SC052358**

# VETERANS CHAPLAINCY SCOTLAND SCIO

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# **VETERANS CHAPLAINCY SCOTLAND SCIO**

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**

**For the period 1 April 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

The trustees are pleased to present their annual trustees' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

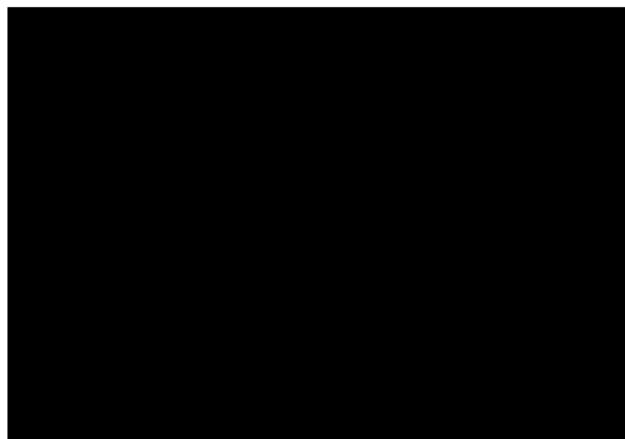
### **Reference and Administrative Information**

**Charity Name** Veterans Chaplaincy Scotland SCIO

**Charity Registration Number** SC052358

**Registered Office Address**

**Trustees**



**Key Management Personnel**

**Independent Examiner**



**Bankers**

Unity Trust Bank plc  
Nine Brindley Place  
Birmingham, B1 2HB

### **Structure Governance and Management**

#### **Constitution**

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (a SCIO). It was registered in its current legal form on 27 February 2023. The Charity was established from the winding up of the charity Workplace Chaplaincy Scotland – SC041857.

#### **Appointment of Trustees**

The Trustees of the charity are known as the Board of Trustees. The Articles of Association set out the requirements regarding the Charity's Trustees as follows:

The number of appointed Trustees shall be no more than 8 but no less than 3

## **VETERANS CHAPLAINCY SCOTLAND SCIO**

Each Appointed Trustee is appointed for a term of 4 years and can be reappointed for a second term

### **Objectives and Activities**

#### **Charitable Purposes**

The charitable purposes of the charity are:

- To promote, develop and manage a Christian chaplaincy which provides pastoral and spiritual support, care, and guidance to the Veterans' community in Scotland
- To train, support and develop both lay and ordained people to engage in Veterans' Chaplaincy in Scotland

To meet these objectives, the charity's main aims are:

1. To offer a proactive service providing pastoral care to our veterans and their families promoting hope, healing and acceptance;
2. Deliver pastoral care to anyone who has left the armed services, providing that support for those of all faiths and none;
3. Continue the in-service provision of chaplaincy for veterans and their families;
4. Provide chaplains who are able to speak the 'language' of veterans and relate to these specific circumstances in a way that other agencies may not;
5. Provide a valuable link between veterans, our faith, and our social communities, enabling veterans to engage with the support they need, and bring their own gifts and experiences to life;
6. To ensure that chaplains will, at all times, function within the charity's guidelines and codes of good practice;
7. To generate income from charitable donations and securing grant funding from organisations who support the work of Veterans Chaplaincy Scotland, including various armed forces benevolent and veterans' funds.

### **Achievements and Performance**

Until February 2023, Veterans Chaplaincy operated under the umbrella of Workplace Chaplaincy Scotland. The charity obtained SCIO status on 27th February 2023. This report covers the 12-month period – 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

Veterans Chaplaincy Scotland (VCS) exists to bring pastoral care to the veterans' community of Scotland. VCS provides a continuation of in-service chaplaincy to those who have left the armed services. Our support is offered to veterans and their families and to those of all faiths and none.

During the reporting period, VCS chaplains have engaged with 2020 members of the veteran community leading to 324 one to one engagements for ongoing pastoral care. A total of 436 hours (excluding travel and prep) of one to one chaplaincy were delivered by VCS chaplains.

34.1% of the work is with groups of veterans, 65.9% one to one engagement. VCS Chaplains signposted 14.1% of clients, 45, for further support to other veteran and health agencies.

## **VETERANS CHAPLAINCY SCOTLAND SCIO**

The VCS training programme for chaplains includes core training in:

- **Safeguarding and Confidentiality**
- **Active Listening**
- **Media and Social Media**
- **Introduction to Chaplaincy**
- **Reflective Practice and Pastoral Conversations**

In addition, our optional specialist training modules delivered by SME are:

- **Trauma and Moral Injury Awareness (TAMI)**
- **Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)**
- **Suicide Interventions (SFA)**
- **Bereavement Support**
- **Pastoral Narrative Disclosure (PND)**
- **Trauma Risk Management (TRIM)**

VCS chaplains offer a wide spectrum of support to veterans, ranging from bereavement care to general life review and Moral Injury (MI) support. The work is focused on providing a presence that can facilitate a safe/sacred space for engagement. Chaplains connect locally with their veteran community, attending veteran functions (legion meetings, veteran cafe's. Drop-in centres, veterans' workplaces, veteran support agencies) and leading events such as Remembrance, funerals, memorials, carol services, VCS walk and lunch events. This chaplaincy presence in the community develops relationships which veterans then may call upon for specific support in times of distress. VCS has three care 'pathways' in which it provides specific support to veterans in regard to: Bereavement care, Life review and Moral Injury.

### **Acknowledgement**

Since its establishment, Veterans Chaplaincy Scotland has been supported by donations from Scottish Armed Forces, Veterans Foundation and RAF Benevolent Fund, The Benefact Trust, the SVWA , BFBS, as well as donations from other organisations and individuals with an interest in the veterans' community. This ministry is only made possible through this continued support.

### **Financial Review**

Income for the period 1 April 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 amounted to £49,803 (2024 : £40,268). This includes operational income of £30,000 received from Veterans Foundation. Expenditure during the period amounted to £48,403 (2024 : £27,236) giving a surplus for the period of £1,400 (2024 : £14,032). At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 reserves, all of which were unrestricted, stood at £15,431 (2024 : )£14,032.

## **VETERANS CHAPLAINCY SCOTLAND SCIO**

### **Reserves Policy**

We aim to hold sufficient reserves to cover 3 months of normal charitable operations.

### **Risk Management**

The principal risk to the charity relates to the reliability of sources of future funding at a time when there are growing demands for charitable services. In addition, the Risk Register is being developed to monitor risks of Reputation, Fraud and Lone Working.

### **Plans for Future Periods**

VCS will continue to identify funding opportunities and apply for funding throughout the year spreading the risk across a raft of funders within the sector. VCS has secured the services of a fund raiser to identify potential funding opportunities.

It is the Trustee's intention to ensure resilience through the employment of two salaried roles (project manager and operations officer) and has identified a potential long term funding source for salaries.


VCS has recruited and continues to train 31 volunteer chaplains ensuring the geographical spread of availability of pastoral care to veterans and their families.

VCS will continue to engage with larger organisations, being a member of Veterans Scotland, attaining membership of the SCVO, being a stakeholder in the Scottish Government's Veteran's Mental Health Pathway and a Partner of the Scottish Veterans Wellbeing Alliance.

The principal funding aim will be to secure longer term (3-5 year) funding.

### **Organisational Structure**

Currently, VCS is made up of 3 sessional workers – Programme Co-ordinator, Programme Administrator, Office Administrator (all IVA) and 31 Volunteer Chaplains. Going forward, the vision is to employ a project manager on a salaried basis dependent on securing long term funding.

  
(Chair of Trustees)

Date : 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025

## **VETERANS CHAPLAINCY SCOTLAND SCIO**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

**For the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025**

I report on the accounts for the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 as set out on pages 7 to 9.

#### **Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent 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. The charity's 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 report**

My examination is 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 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 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, 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 (as amended)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.

Signature of

Date: 01/08/2025

# VETERANS CHAPLAINCY SCOTLAND SCIO

## STATEMENT OF Receipts and Payments

For the period 1 April 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

	Unrestricted	Restricted	31/03/2025	2024
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Donations	19,803	-	19,803	21,268
Grants	30,000	-	30,000	20,000
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>49,803</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>49,803</b>	<b>41,268</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Cost of Charitable activities	48,403	-	48,403	27,236
Governance Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>48,403</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>48,403</b>	<b>27,236</b>
<b>Surplus (Deficit) for the period</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>14,032</b>

## Statement of Balances - As at 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	2024
Opening Cash at Bank and in hand	14,032	-	14,032	-
Surplus (Deficit) for the period	1,400	-	1,400	14,032
<b>Closing Cash in hand and in Bank</b>	<b>15,032</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,032</b>	<b>14,032</b>
<b>Bank and Cash Balances</b>				
Bank Current Account	15,032	-	15,032	14,032
Cash in Hand	-	-	-	-
	<b>15,032</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,032</b>	<b>14,032</b>



## VETERANS CHAPLAINCY SCOTLAND SCIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the period 1 July 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

#### 1. Basis of Accounting

- The accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006

#### 2. Nature and Purpose of Funds

- The unrestricted funds are applied by the Trustees in the furtherance of the charity's charitable objectives
- There were no restricted funds for the period covered by these accounts

#### 3. Trustees

- Trustees receive no remuneration. No expenses were reimbursed to Trustees or related parties during the year

#### 4. Fixed Assets

- No fixed assets were held, or purchased, by the charity during the period covered by these accounts

#### 5. Donations

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	2024
Workplace Chaplaincy Scotland	-	-	-	17,343
Donations – Churches	2,940	-	2,940	-
Events	-	378	378	-
Fundraising	725	-	725	-
Other Donations	13,138	-	13,138	3,925
Training Income	222	-	222	-
	17,025	378	17,403	21,268

#### 6. Grants Received

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	2024
Veterans Foundation	30,000	-	30,000	20,000
BFBS	-	2,400	2,400	-
	30,000	2,400	32,400	20,000

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### 7. Cost of Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	2024
Payroll Costs	38,562	-	38,562	26,468
Fundraiser Costs	600	-	600	-
Insurance	551	-	551	487
Advertising	-	-	-	78
VCS events and activities	6,641	378	7,018	50
Membership Fee	100	-	100	100
IT Support	1,500	-	1,500	-
Bank Charges	71	-	71	53
		-		
	48,025	378	48,403	27,236

### 8. Governance Costs

Independent Examiners Fee	-	-	-	-
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