CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name Leicestershire Search & Rescue		
On accounts for the year ended	31 January 2026	**Charity no (if any)**	1150100
Set out on pages	3 - 6		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/01/2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:	P.A. Glyn-Smith	**Date:**	23/10/2026
Name:	Philip Anthony Glyn-Smith		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	FCA		
Address:	HSP Tax & Accounts Ltd Whiteacres, Cambridge Road Whetstone, Leicestershire, LE8 6ZG		

Section B	Disclosure
	Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).
Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.	

Leicestershire Search and Rescue Treasurer's Report
AGM Thursday 22nd Oct 2026

Introduction

This report is for the financial year from **1st February 2025 – January 31st, 2026,** and is written in conjunction with the Income and Expenditure statement which you all have a copy of.
These accounts were produced by Phil Glyn-Smith, FCA | Director of HSP Tax & Accounts Ltd who will be signing them off and submitting them to the Charities Commission.
In addition, there has been the usual internal audit carried out of our financial transactions by Russell Frost, and everything was found to be satisfactory.

Income

2025 was an exceptional year for Income – against a total budget of £52,930 we achieved an actual total of £60,041.

Fundraising continued to be difficult with a clear reduction in opportunities to have collection days at supermarkets etc. We did however manage a few successful collection days at local retailers and supermarkets, gave talks to several Lions and Rotary clubs and our presence at various Emergency services days all helped to generate income for the team.
We raised £2400 with our team Fundraiser which sadly could not go ahead at the last minute due to Operational duties. We are very grateful to everyone who donated for agreeing that we could keep the funds regardless.
One of our members took part in the Great North Run to generate funds for us.

Donations however well exceeded budget with just under £18,000 being raised, most notably being selected as one of four charities to benefit from the annual Archer's tractor run. This raised an incredible £12,000 for the team with further donations in early 2026. We were also the beneficiary of the Wolseley Caravan club's annual open day thanks to a team member. In addition, a member nominating LeicSAR as his employer's charity of the year resulting in a significant donation. These unexpected donations helped us to achieve 156% of our budgeted figure.
As last year, the 3 large events that have become regular annual events for us, along with several smaller ones have stabilised our income and allowed for fairly accurate budgeting.

We are as always extremely grateful for the ongoing support from local organisations, businesses, family and employers of our team members and the generosity of the general public. We also thank all those team members who went the extra mile to generate income for the team, it is very much appreciated.

Grant applications remain challenging, with the focus on many still being cost of living, fuel poverty etc. We did however secure a grant of £8728 from Severn Trent for further development of the water team, and we were selected once again to be one of the Coop Community fund's Charities for 2025. This resulted in 53% increase on the budgeted figure for grants.
Our VAT refund is always as a direct result of expenditure, and it follows that the increase in expenditure on uniforms and stationery, as outlined below in expenses led to an increase in the amount of VAT claimed back from HMRC.

As reported last year we now have Miscellaneous receipts/social as an income category where team payments for the Xmas meal are allocated. Refunds and account transfers have also been included here for ease of accounting.

Expenses

Expenditure for 2025 was significantly down on budget at £45,000 against the budgeted figure of £56,654. This was due in part to the timeframe of Severn Trent grant application process.
The budgeted spend for the Water team was dependent on the successful Severn Trent grant application, and as these funds were only awarded to us in November 2025 only a small percentage was spent in 2025, with the remainder being spent in the current financial year.
The expenditure on Uniforms looks extremely high, with a 105% increase on the budgeted figure. This is due to a different time frame for the training programme in 2024 and uniforms for this cohort only being invoiced in early in 2025, as mentioned in last year's report. This financial year saw a return to a tighter training programme meaning the 2025 cohort uniforms were also purchased. There were also two uniform promotions offered to us and members purchases made up £1800 of this total figure.

The figure for Stationery/Office was higher than budgeted as it includes the spend on the shed to create our own office space within our unit at Police HQ, fondly referred to as"Shedquarters"!
As in previous years, expenses such as insurances, fuel and mobile data remain fairly static and can be accurately budgeted for. Vehicle running costs were the exception this year with the spend being less than half the budgeted figure.

Training was the same as the previous year in that not all the Lowland Rescue courses that were budgeted for were made available as anticipated, and training for 2 additional drone pilots is still pending.

The entry for Team welfare also includes social events, namely the Xmas meal for which members reimburse us, as previously mentioned against income. It is worth mentioning that expenses in this category far exceed the income in the same category because it includes welfare costs ie; catering expenses for members on protracted searches, event cover and training courses. This was accounted for in the budgeted figure.
For ease of accounting Sundry expenses also includes a small figure for General Maintenance.

Summary

To summarise; our Income and Expenditure statement is very positive.
As a team the focus was very much on income in 2025, and members gave a significant amount of time and effort to generate the amazing total in what was one of our best years financially to date.
With a surplus of £15,000 income over expenses, this has increased our surplus carried forward from £32,867 in Feb 2025 to £47,885 in Feb 2026, so an exceptionally strong start for the team for this current financial year.
As usual, an independent examiners report will be submitted to the Charity Commission, along with our accounts and this report.
We are very grateful to Phil Glyn-Smith for continuing to provide this service free of charge each year.

From Date 01-Feb-25
To Date 31-Jan-26

LEICESTERSHIRE SEARCH & RESCUE.

Income & Expenditure Statement

(All values reported in GBP Sterling)

Turnover		
	Balance bought forward from previous year:	£32,867.14
	Fundraising, donations & membership subs	£25,608.57
	Grants	£12,270.34
	Event cover	£13,927.00
	VAT refund	£4,594.78
	Uniform sales	£1,852.33
	Miscellaneous receipts	£802.80
	Total Income for year	**£59,055.82**
Less Expenses		
	Equipment	£5,833.69
	Professional fees/subscriptions	£1,708.89
	Stationery / Office	£3,560.59
	Vehicle Maintenance & Tax	£4,559.20
	Insurances	£11,283.90
	Uniforms	£8,164.64
	Fuel	£2,303.79
	Training	£2,238.48
	Mobiles/Data	£1,484.77
	Team Welfare	£1,756.52
	Sundry expenses	£1,142.69
	Total Expenses for year	**£44,037.16**
	Surplus of income over expenses	**£15,018.66**
	Surplus brought forward	£32,867.14
	Surplus carried forward	£47,885.80