Docusign Envelope ID: 6AF2DC0F-9AC9-8389-816D-CD97ED1383DD

Registered number: 09734369
Charity number: 1165847

WAG AND COMPANY NORTH EAST FRIENDSHIP DOGS

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Docusign Envelope ID: 6AF2DC0F-9AC9-8389-816D-CD97ED1383DD

WAG AND COMPANY NORTH EAST FRIENDSHIP DOGS
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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WAG AND COMPANY NORTH EAST FRIENDSHIP DOGS
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Trustees	Diane Morton, Chair Alison A Hall Sophie Carvin Sean Churchill Christopher Farman Keira Hall (appointed 27 March 2026) Douglas R Morton Claire Riley (appointed 30 April 2025)
Company registered number	09734369
Charity registered number	1165847
Registered office	C/o Northumbrian Water Northumbria House French Garden Industrial Estate Hexham NE46 4DL
Principal operating office	Northumbria House French Garden Industrial Estate Hexham Northumberland NE46 4DL
Company secretary	Alison A Hall
Accountants	Kinnair Associates Limited Chartered Accountants Aston House Redburn Road Newcastle upon Tyne NE5 1NB

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WAG AND COMPANY NORTH EAST FRIENDSHIP DOGS
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Objectives and Activities

Wag and Company North East Friendship Dogs (Wag & Company) was incorporated on 15 August 2015, became a registered charity on 3 March 2016 and launched on 6 May 2016.

The Charity's object is to promote social inclusion for the public benefit by relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded by reason of old age and assisting them to integrate into society by the provision of a befriending service in the North East of England.

Wag & Company is the only visiting dog charity befriending older dog lovers alone in their own homes and in care homes, hospitals, and hospices across the North East. Our mission is to end loneliness for older dog lovers so that no-one misses human friendship and the company of a dog.

The North East has significant social challenges, the highest population over 55 in England after London, the highest proportion of English Indices of Multiple Deprivation households deprived in at least one dimension and nine of the twelve North East unitary authorities are in the top 15%. Social isolation in people with physical and mental health challenges is very prevalent, many are unable to get out independently or at all, excluded from their communities, including the dog community and marginalised as a consequence.

There is a shortage of physical befriending services in the region; only three of the seven Age UK's offer physical befriending services - paid or unpaid - and there are only two other befriending agencies for older people. There are no other charities who offer befriending with dogs.

Before 2016 visiting dogs were only available in care or medical establishments and Wag & Company was created to fill this gap.

From a small donated office in Hexham, relying on digital technology, Wag’s small paid team recruit and support hundreds of volunteers and placements across 13 unitary authorities of the North East and parts of North Yorkshire.

Visiting activities

The people we befriend at home are mostly in failing health, bereaved, have lost friends, family, and their much-loved pets. They have an average age of 82, over half are living with dementia, some have no-one in their lives either at all or locally, their health conditions mean they are unable to go out independently or at all so most people are profoundly lonely, socially isolated, and desperately miss the friends they have lost, two and four-legged; with Wag & Company they get both.

Care and medical establishments also ask us to visit their residents and patients. We also follow our older friends - originally in their own homes - into care, hospitals and hospices. Whilst these residents and patients are less socially isolated than the people alone in their own homes, their need for contact with a dog again is no less important.

Wag volunteers are often called upon to provide support and comfort during treatment or palliative and end of life care, benefitting individuals and also their families too during very difficult times. Increasingly since the pandemic, we have also supported NHS staff in critical care and stressful situations.

We never charge for our visits or our volunteers for their assessment and deployment costs. Instead, we rely completely on our fundraising and the support of people, organisations, trusts and foundations who are able to help, to raise the more than £300,000 a year necessary to support hundreds of placements, benefitting thousands of people.

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Demand for our unique Wag friendships generally and particularly for people alone in their own home continues to be significant and growing.

The majority of the people we befriend at home are referred by social care and medical organisations - e.g. Social Services, British Red Cross, Age UK, GP's, NHS Trusts, Mind etc - with smaller numbers referred by family members or even by themselves - something we have made possible since the pandemic.

With an hour or two most weeks, professionally assessed volunteer befrienders and their special dogs (Visiting Wag Teams/VWTs) provide older people, dog lovers who can't have their own dogs anymore, often bereaved, lonely and in failing health, with something to look forward to, some company and a cuddle with that much missed furry friend.

These people have typically lost their loved ones, partners, family members including their four-legged family members. They are often living with multiple health challenges which impact their ability to go out independently or at all and consequentially they spend much more time on their own than they'd like.

Some have family members to visit and support them, some have loved ones who live away and visit as often as they can, others have no family or friends to visit at all and are entirely supported by carers, with their Wag friends as their main source of companionship.

Carefully matched with VWTs from their own communities, they have a lifetime of dog owning locally in common so there is an immediate connection and most often forming important friendships for life.

These local Wag friends visit regularly, they also take people out if it's safe to do so, they help to reconnect people with their communities as well as with the Wag community, helping them to feel included again and giving them a sense of belonging. They can also be the people, supported by the whole team at Wag, who can raise the alarm if things aren't going well from many perspectives, just as friends would.

It makes such a difference to people's health:- As David Dawson, Older Person's Fellow from Northumbria NHS Trust tells us:- "what you do in Wag is as important as medical treatments, because when you're lonely and socially isolated, it's almost impossible to stay well".

It also makes such a difference to how they feel about the quality of their lives:- 88 year old Mr John Robson told us:- "I had nothing and now I have a wonderful relationship with these lovely friends and my life has completely changed. I do get lonely living on my own and I couldn't manage to have a dog of my own now. This is the best· of both worlds though. It's fantastic, like winning the Pools!".

Achievements and Performance

2025-26 has been another excellent year for Wag & Company.

We supported 535 Visiting Wag Teams (VWTs) with 595 Friendship Dogs during the year, and we finished with 474 VWTs on the 31st of March and another 40 applicants still in the pipeline waiting to don their red bandanas; turnover is sadly inevitable.

We also supported 405 older people in their own homes throughout the year, our most ever, with 239 of these people still receiving visits at year end. Turnover in this population was sadly over 70% this year.

The average age of the people we visit at home is 82, they received visits for on average 34.4 weeks of the year, and new referrals are typically only waiting 6.4 weeks for their new Wag friends.

We have completed a staggering 220,649 friend visits since we started in May 2016, 51,973 in the year to the end of March 2026 - and 2,574 older people across our North East region are regularly benefiting.

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At the year end, we were also visiting 230 care and medical organisations across the region - with another 194 waiting.

Volunteer turnover has continued slowly to reduce, so far this year it is 16% (rolling 12-months) almost back to the pre-pandemic norm of c15%; it gives us increased confidence in our ability to reach our target of 600 VWTs by March 2029.

Good progress was made against performance (in red) against our key operating objectives:-

- Recruit and sustain a healthy volunteer workforce to meet the significant demand across our region. *536 volunteers supported throughout the year (from 505 the previous year).*

- Reduce loneliness and social isolation by quickly enabling older and vulnerable dog lovers to have safe, regular social contact and build up positive relationships with fellow dog lovers and their dogs, improving their sense of wellbeing and reconnecting them with their communities. *On average: - first visits happened within 6.4 weeks of referral and each person had 34.4 befriending visits spread over the year.*

- Achieve the desired outcomes for each home placement requested upon referral by the individual and/or the professional agency involved in their health and social care. Usually, these are ending loneliness/isolation and improving their wellbeing. *98% of our home placements felt happier and less socially isolated.*

- Manage the health, safety and wellbeing of all our home placements, ensuring all incidents or issues are effectively managed immediately. *100% of Risk assessments and monitoring reviews were carried out at the required intervals. All incidents were managed immediately, effectively and reported to our Trustee Board quarterly for review. None required any formal onward reporting.*

- Befriending relationships continue until the desired outcomes can no longer be met, for example, due to a substantial change in the person's health, geographic location or, sadly, death. *100% continued.*

- Raise sufficient income to meet our carefully managed costs and continue to enable our principal of never charging older people for their befrienders or the volunteers for their assessment, insurance and equipment costs. *To date Wag income has always covered our costs, however in 2025-26, due to two late but committed payments, we had to use almost £30,000 of reserve income.*

Progress also continued to be made all other areas:

As part of the sustainability review, we highlighted the need to strengthen our Trustee Board and appointed two new Directors during the course of the year.

In April 2025, we appointed Claire Riley to our Board as a Trustee Director. Claire is Chief of Corporate Services for the North East & North Cumbria Integrated Care Board and also Regional Lead for Women's Health, Research & Innovation. Claire first met Wag & Company in her role as a Director of Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust in 2018 where she saw first hand the difference Wag befrienders made to older people isolated in their own homes as well as the powerful healing impact of a lovely dog for a dog lover in hospital.

In March 2026, we also appointed Keira Hall to our Board as Trustee/IT Director. Keira is a Solutions Architect for Waterstons, a large North East based technology consultancy, and as part of the next stage of her personal development, giving back to a community organisation with similar values and which depends on strong, sustainable digital systems to genuinely change people's lives, is important to Keira.

We're very grateful to have these accomplished professionals give their time to strengthen our leadership team ensuring Wag's governance, sustainability and future success.

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Agreed to recruit new management skills in 2026-27.

During 2025-26 we reviewed the structure and skills required for Wag's sustainability which resulted in the identification of a vacancy which we aim to fill this year for a General Manager with commissioning, bid writing, business development, relationship and staff management skills. This will enable Founder and Exec. Chair Diane Morton to continue to lead key relationships and the strategic direction of the charity but on a part time basis after 10 years as a full time volunteer.

We met HM The King at Clarence House.

Wag & Company was one of only ten charities invited to Clarence House in October 2025 by the King Charles III Charitable Fund to celebrate the £50 Million that has been donated by the Fund since 1990 to 1,000 good causes/charities through it's Duchy Organics partnership with Waitrose. It was an honour to be able to thank His Majesty in person and introduce him to the work Wag Teams are doing every day across the North East. We even featured on a centre spread in Waitrose Weekend Magazine.

Fizzy Friday Fundraising Afternoon Tea was back for a second year!

Corporate Friend, the Apartment Group, helped us for the second year to create a fundraising afternoon tea by donating their premises at As You Like It in Newcastle upon Tyne and also donated 120 teas each with a glass of prosecco enabling 100% of ticket sales and raffle tickets to benefit the charity. Over £6,000 was raised.

Donors, e-shoppers and Lottery players gave regularly. Our Friends of Wag also gave regularly through our Supporters Scheme for individuals, Companies who become Corporate Friends and care or nursing homes who guarantee their Wag visits by becoming Community Friends, all very important to Wag. Steps will be taken to raise every greater awareness of these initiatives in 2026-27.

Our 9th Walk for Wag, now firmly established at Derwent Reservoir, was held in September 2025. It proved to be very successful both in terms of numbers of walkers, fundraising and feedback from attendees; it was a lovely event, with the associated Waggy Tails Fun Dog Show sponsored by local artist Alex Clark adding to the fun. 140 walkers with 98 dogs raised over £13,000 and everyone enjoyed the new venue.

Local Philanthropist, Mrs Helen McArdle funded Christmas Gifts for our Older Friends. We made sure that all our friends had a gift under the tree at Christmas again. For the third year, tea and biscuit hampers for our friends in their own homes were fully funded by the generosity of local philanthropist Mrs Helen McArdle. 234 Ringtons tea and biscuit hampers, along with handwritten Christmas cards designed and produced by local artist Alex Clark, were delivered throughout December. Some were shared and others were carefully placed under their Christmas trees to give them something to open on Christmas Day.

Our SLA based Partnerships/Commissioned Services continued to develop. As well as continuing to work very successfully with Stockton Borough Council, Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust through it's Bright Charity and Newcastle Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust through the Newcastle Hospitals Charity, we have now been commissioned by the North East & North Cumbria ICB for befriending in Gateshead in 2026-27 and we have also received a grant from Middlesbrough Council's Staying Included Fund to develop our service in the town. Other areas are now looking at supporting our service in their area as a low cost/high impact offering for the health and wellbeing of their older residents and patients.

The Future

The demand for our unique befrienders is substantial, and we must continue to grow to reconnect and enrich the lives of older dog lovers right across our region.

We are delighted with the numbers of people we're supporting, the quality of our impact and the feedback we continuously receive from individuals, their families, referrers and referring organisations.

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Our three-year plan assumes demand continues to grow at current rates and that the North East dog community will continue volunteering to support older dog lovers. On that basis we aim to continue recruitment activities to achieve volunteer numbers of 600 by March 2029.

We have reviewed the structure and skills in place at all levels - including the Trustee Board - to support the achievement of our three-year plan and to enable the growth and expansion in the region and the supporting plan for income generation. We will also enable expansion into North Yorkshire and North Cumbria subject to formal financial support from the local NHS Trusts and/or unitary authorities.

Higher than estimated turnover in our home placement population this year will be monitored over the first half year and its impact on our operational staff headcount assessed.

Wag will not expand geographically beyond N. Yorks and N. Cumbria, so instead, on a case-by-case basis, we will advise existing reputable befriending agencies on how to expand their service to accommodate safe visiting with dogs as we did with Friendship at Home - a North East Lincolnshire befriending agency for the elderly - in 2024/25.

Income generation to meet our costs continues to be the main challenge but we remain confident in our ability to deliver the ambitious three-year plan which will help to protect Wag & Company for older and vulnerable dog lovers in the North East in perpetuity.

Financial Review

2025/26 was another strong year of financial performance with continued diverse income generation and careful cost management including deliberate investment for continuous improvement.

Income

Income was a forecast to meet budget until the last quarter when it became clear that some income receipts expected before the financial year end would be delayed until early in the new year. So total income was around £46,000 below budget and this variance is explained by the unexpected delay to £40,000 of new income and the high number of applications for a previously awarded grant donation which wasn't secured.

It is particularly encouraging to note that, apart from legacies and non Wag fundraising events, all sources of income grew year on year. Our Supporter's scheme still offers significant potential and our investment in SLA's/Commissioned Services is showing strong growth, something which we expect to continue. Trusts and Foundations, following an outstanding 24/25 year, held steady if we correct for the late receipts.

In the end it was necessary to fund a loss of circa £28,500 from reserves against a budget loss of circa £56,000 mostly as a result of diligent staff cost management.

Expenditure

Overall operational costs increased by less than inflation despite a budgeted increase of circa £80,000 or 30%.

Staff costs grew year on year by circa £21,000 but full year staff costs were, by a significant margin, less than budget- circa £60,000. This was due to the completion of Wag's business review, part of its succession, growth and sustainability project. As a result, staff costs were temporarily reduced within the senior team, offset to some extent by the use of contractors, and a delay in recruiting visiting services operational staff meant that full year costs are below the levels which will be necessary to support Wag's ongoing sustainable growth.

The operational team is now fully resourced, and a plan is in placed to recruit a senior manager in the early Autumn who will be supported by existing specialist contractors to fulfil the recommendations of the business review and so staff costs are budgeted to increase to sustainable levels from 26/27.

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Non staff costs reduced year on year by circa £14,000 (despite a slight increase in fundraising and support expenditure). This was principally due to historically high Wag Management System development costs and the donation of the non-staff costs element of the volunteer recruitment campaign- these assets are now in use and the balance of funds held in designated reserves for this purpose have been released.

As reported last year, a number of known issues with the Wag Management System were to be corrected and a provision of £10,000 was set aside for this purpose. However, there have been delays in this work as resources were prioritised for the Power BI project. As a result, £1,000 of the provision was released and the work will is now planned to be completed during 26/27.

The volunteer recruitment assets developed through the investment of designated funds will be refreshed every two years and funded from operations.

Wag funded two one off projects in the year. The business review element of the succession, growth and sustainability project and new digital reporting (Power BI) functionality principally to support its investment into SLA/Commissioned services customers. The total cost invested is just a little short of the budget of £30,000.

Donated Services

A notional cost of £6,000 has been added to support costs as before for donated services primarily the rent free office provided by NWL. As this is not a cash cost an equal amount has been added to income as a notional donation.

Designated reserves

The balance of unused designated reserves from the volunteer recruitment campaign and the IT hardware replacement programme have been released and the amount set aside to fund the balance of the acoustic POD has been fully utilised. At year end there is a small amount (£1,227) remains to fund the completion of the Power BI project which was expanded during 25/26 to include a further reserve of £5,000 to incorporate Donorfy and Xero. The succession, growth and sustainability project will complete during 26/27 with the recruitment of a new senior manager having and will utilise the remaining £10,641 designated reserve.

Movement of funds

There was a net movement out of reserves of £28,140 leaving a balance of £197,319 of which £15,091 is restricted and so, including the balance of designated reserves total of £11,868, unrestricted reserves are £170,360.

It was agreed that due to the increased staff numbers and the potential for unforeseen operational costs including temporary cover for sickness etc, as well as the increased volatility of income from trusts and foundations and the regular delays in payment of invoices for SLA based/commissioned services, our reserve policy requirement of four months be increased to the equivalent of five months forward operating costs.

Based upon budgeted expenditure for the 26/27 year, the policy requirement is to maintain £142,000 and the available reserves are therefore sufficient for this purpose.

Structure, Governance and Management

Wag & Company North East Friendship Dogs was incorporated on 15 August 2015 and became a registered charity on 3 March 2016.

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The eight Directors are the Trustees of the charity and along with one appointed Member form the governing body which has ultimate responsibility for the proper administration of the charity and acts in its interests. Nominations for new Trustee appointments are presented to the Trustee Board and appointed by invitation of existing Trustees who assess candidates on the basis of the skills they contribute to the future direction of the organisation. New appointees are apprised of their obligations as Trustees of the charity and as Directors of a company limited by guarantee and they receive an induction into the organisation, its current position and significant issues.

The Board is responsible for setting the strategic direction of the organisation giving consideration to resources and the risks and opportunities in the operational environment. The Board ensures compliance and has overall financial control, approving budgets and monitoring expenditure and revenues. The Board has overall approval of the programme of activity, ensuring it is consistent with objects and maximises public benefit. The Board meets at least quarterly and on other occasions as required to consider issues of particular significance.

While the Board retains the ultimate responsibility for running the charity, the management and day-to-day functions of implementing the Board's decisions are, at this time, devolved to the Chair who is also a Trustee Director. The Chair presents a full operational report to the Board at all quarterly Board meetings highlighting any areas of risk that require consideration.

Other operational delivery functions are carried out by paid charity staff, a specialist contracted accountant, a volunteer Walk Project Team, volunteer expert advisors and a number of professionally qualified dog trainers and behaviouralists who operate as dog assessors also on a volunteer basis.

Risk Management Statement

Wag and Company aims to take all reasonable steps to avoid any harm to our staff or volunteers, their dogs, those we visit and the general public as a result of our activities. We also want to ensure that Wag and Company continues to develop to its full potential guided by its Vision.

For these reasons, we operate a Risk Management System. It comprises a Risk Management Policy and a number of Risk Registers, which are designed to assess risks, manage an appropriate response and allocate responsibility for action.

The Charity's Trustees are collectively responsible for ensuring that an adequate system of risk management is implemented and maintained and have appointed a Trustee Director responsible for Risk to lead and oversee this process.

The Risk Management System was developed during a detailed review of the Charity's Plan and programme of activities which were designed to efficiently deliver its services.

Since the Charity was in its early stages of development great care was taken to assess each programme of activity in order to anticipate the major risks associated with our Charity's activities. It was also desirable to test the effectiveness of the system as the operations were being bedded in. The Charity Chair has deliberately engaged in detail operationally from the outset to ensure that the risk management approach was continuously reviewed and developed, properly briefed to all new volunteers during induction and that its scope was comprehensive.

Everyone is encouraged to review the Risk Management System before commencing visits and to pay particular attention where specific further action is required by them, for example prior to visiting. One of the major benefits of operating such a system is the opportunity it presents for continuous improvement based upon the actual experience of our volunteers. So everyone is encouraged to feedback any issues from actual visits and discuss any new responses which may be necessary. In this way, risk registers can be updated and shared with others.

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Major risks include:
- Safeguarding of lone-visiting of vulnerable adults
- Failure to secure adequate funding
- Failure to attract and maintain adequate, suitable operational staff resources
- Injury to elderly Friend/ Volunteer/ member of public as a result a dog scratch/bite

Wag & Company has developed a Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Policy and ensures that volunteers are adequately trained in Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults best practice and lone-working. Monitoring of placements is conducted at prescribed intervals with recording and reporting protocols. Volunteers submit a visit report after each visit enabling routine understanding of all activity and these reports, together with our incident reporting protocols, enable proactive management of issues or potential issues.

Wag & Company's fundraising strategy has secured a range of funding sources and types such that the risk of failure due to single funder loss is eliminated. It has also minimised operating costs as a result of the ongoing support of its corporate partners. It operates a reserve policy which retains a surplus equivalent to three month's operating costs.

In order to address suitable person and injury from dog risks, Wag & Company appointed an expert adviser in dog behaviour to design a customised dog assessment. This assessment is carried out on potential Visiting Wag Teams (volunteer and dog) by one of a number of professionally qualified volunteer assessors and simulates real hazards so that the dog and handler response can be judged. If in the assessor's opinion the risks are under control, the Charity is notified that they are qualified to visit subject to the successful completion of an Enhanced DBS check for the volunteer, an appropriate reference and the Wag induction.

For some of the major risks identified it is possible to transfer the consequences to insurers as part of a basket of responses. The Charity maintains an appropriate level of Public Liability Insurance. The Risk Management System was reviewed by the Charity Trustees before its first implementation and has been accepted for ongoing use each year after an annual review.

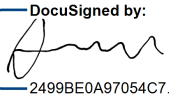
Public Benefit

All our activities are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit. The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit through the year when deciding on the activities of the charity and its future plans.

Small Company Provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees on 19 June 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

2499BE0A97054C7...

Christopher Farman
Trustee

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WAG AND COMPANY NORTH EAST FRIENDSHIP DOGS
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Wag and Company North East Friendship Dogs ('the company')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Trustees of the company (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the company's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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

This report is made solely to the company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: DocuSigned by: Detlev Anderson 8228AFA7794A4DC... Dated: 22 June 2026

Detlev Anderson FCA

Kinnair Associates Limited
Aston House
Redburn Road
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE5 1NB

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WAG AND COMPANY NORTH EAST FRIENDSHIP DOGS
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total funds 2026 £	*Total funds 2025 £*
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	**137,838**	**35,254**	**173,092**	*251,155*
Charitable activities	4	**45,020**	**-**	**45,020**	*36,492*
Other trading activities	5	**32,764**	**-**	**32,764**	*31,386*
Investments	6	**6,646**	**-**	**6,646**	*3,798*
Total income		**222,268**	**35,254**	**257,522**	*322,831*
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	**86,164**	**-**	**86,164**	*53,397*
Charitable activities	8	**148,941**	**50,557**	**199,498**	*195,599*
Total expenditure		**235,105**	**50,557**	**285,662**	*248,996*
Net movement in funds		**(12,837)**	**(15,303)**	**(28,140)**	*73,835*
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		**195,065**	**30,394**	**225,459**	*151,624*
Net movement in funds		**(12,837)**	**(15,303)**	**(28,140)**	*73,835*
Total funds carried forward		**182,228**	**15,091**	**197,319**	*225,459*

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 14 to 36 form part of these financial statements.

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WAG AND COMPANY NORTH EAST FRIENDSHIP DOGS

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 09734369

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

	Note		2026 £		*2025 £*
Tangible assets	13		**6,299**		-
			6,299		-
Current assets					
Debtors	14	**6,364**		*2,287*	
Cash at bank and in hand		**201,854**		*244,784*	
		208,218		*247,071*	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	**(17,198)**		*(21,612)*	
Net current assets			**191,020**		*225,459*
Total assets less current liabilities			**197,319**		*225,459*
Net assets excluding pension asset			**197,319**		*225,459*
Total net assets			**197,319**		*225,459*

Docusign Envelope ID: 6AF2DC0F-9AC9-8389-816D-CD97ED1383DD

WAG AND COMPANY NORTH EAST FRIENDSHIP DOGS
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 09734369

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

	Note		2026 £		*2025 £*
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	16		**15,091**		*30,394*
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	16	**11,868**		*90,262*	
General funds	16	**170,360**		*104,803*	
Total unrestricted funds	16		**182,228**		*195,065*
Total funds			**197,319**		*225,459*

The company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:
2499BE0A97054C7...

Christopher Farman
Trustee and Finance Director
Date: 19 June 2026

The notes on pages 14 to 36 form part of these financial statements.

Docusign Envelope ID: 6AF2DC0F-9AC9-8389-816D-CD97ED1383DD

1. General information

The Charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a charity registered in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is C/O Northumbrian Water, Northumbria House, French Garden Estate, Hexham, NE46 4DL.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Wag and Company North East Friendship Dogs meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The Financial Statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investments measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity, and amounts rounded to the nearest £.

2.2 Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The preparation of the Financial Statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Trustees do not consider that there are any significant estimates or judgements affecting these Financial Statements.

2.3 Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

2.4 Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is entitled to the income, any performance related conditions attached have been met or are fully within the control of the charity, the income is considered probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Donations and legacy income received by way of donations, legacies, grants and gifts is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Where legacies have been notified to the Charity but the criteria for income recognition have not been met, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

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2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Income (continued)

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the Charity, being the amount the Charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Investment income is included when receivable.

Income from charitable trading activity is accounted for when earned.

2.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

Costs of raising funds comprise the costs associated with attracting donations, grants and legacies and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the Charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis, as set out in the notes to the accounts.

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

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2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.6 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the company; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.7 Taxation

The company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

2.8 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £NIL or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Office equipment	-	20%

2.9 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Accrued income and tax recoverable is included at the best estimate of the amounts receivable at the balance sheet date.

2.10 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

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2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.11 Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as a finance cost.

2.12 Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

2.13 Pensions

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

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2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.14 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

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3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total funds 2026 £
Donations			
Corporate partners, supporters and donors	36,948	5,264	**42,212**
Donated services	6,000	-	**6,000**
Grants			
Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust	3,500	-	**3,500**
Ballinger Charitable Trust	12,500	-	**12,500**
Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust	9,870	-	**9,870**
Frazer Trust	2,500	-	**2,500**
Garfield Weston Foundation	20,000	-	**20,000**
LGA Foundation	5,000	-	**5,000**
Middlesborough Council	-	6,195	**6,195**
The 1989 Willan Charitable Trust at The Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland	-	10,000	**10,000**
The Barbour Foundation	10,000	-	**10,000**
The Sir James Knott Trust	7,500	-	**7,500**
The WA Handley Charity Trust	5,000	-	**5,000**
The Woodsmith Foundation	-	5,000	**5,000**
Other grants individually less than £2,500	18,320	7,855	**26,175**
Parish and town council grants	700	940	**1,640**
Subtotal detailed disclosure	137,838	35,254	**173,092**
	137,838	35,254	**173,092**

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3. Income from donations and legacies (continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	*Restricted funds 2025 £*	*Total funds 2025 £*
Donations			
Corporate partners, supporters and donors	*65,075*	*5,000*	*70,075*
Donated Services	*6,000*	*-*	*6,000*
Grants			
Ballinger Charitable Trust	*12,500*	*-*	*12,500*
County Durham Community Foundation - John T Shuttleworth Ropner Memorial Trust	*-*	*4,700*	*4,700*
David & Ruth Lewis Family Charitable Trust	*35,000*	*-*	*35,000*
Frazer Trust	*2,500*	*-*	*2,500*
Garfield Weston Foundation	*25,000*	*-*	*25,000*
Joseph Levy Foundation	*5,250*	*-*	*5,250*
LGA Foundation	*5,000*	*-*	*5,000*
LNER	*-*	*16,000*	*16,000*
Masonic Charitable Foundation - Province of Northumberland	*4,812*	*-*	*4,812*
Northumberland County Council	*-*	*6,988*	*6,988*
Pease Charitable Trust	*5,000*	*-*	*5,000*
Prime via The Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland	*-*	*4,700*	*4,700*
The 1989 Willan Charitable Trust at The Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland	*-*	*10,000*	*10,000*
The Barbour Foundation	*5,000*	*-*	*5,000*
The Pargiter Trust via The Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland	*-*	*9,870*	*9,870*
The Pets at Home Foundation	*4,800*	*-*	*4,800*
The Sir Jules Thorn Charitable Trust - Ann Rylands Small Donation	*3,500*	*-*	*3,500*
The Souter Charitable Trust	*3,760*	*-*	*3,760*
The Woodsmith Foundation	*-*	*5,000*	*5,000*
Other grants individually less than £2,500	*2,000*	*2,100*	*4,100*
Parish and town council grants	*1,600*	*-*	*1,600*
Total 2025	*186,797*	*64,358*	*251,155*

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4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Total funds 2026 £
Beneficiaries	42,999	**42,999**
Sale of goods	2,021	**2,021**
	45,020	**45,020**

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2025 £*
Beneficiaries	*34,436*	*34,436*
Sale of goods	*2,056*	*2,056*
	36,492	*36,492*

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from fundraising events

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Total funds 2026 £
Fund raising events	26,362	**26,362**
Gift aid	6,402	**6,402**
	32,764	**32,764**

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5. Income from other trading activities (continued)

Income from fundraising events (continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2025 £*
Fund raising events	*26,794*	*26,794*
Gift aid	*4,592*	*4,592*
	31,386	*31,386*

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	**Total funds 2026 £**
Bank interest receivable	6,646	**6,646**

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2025 £*
Bank interest receivable	*3,798*	*3,798*

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7. Expenditure on raising funds

Fundraising expenses

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Total funds 2026 £
Staff costs	38,369	**38,369**
Fundraising and marketing materials	30,997	**30,997**
Processing fees, postage and packaging	1,277	**1,277**
Subcontractor costs	15,521	**15,521**
	86,164	**86,164**

Fundraising and marketing costs includes £23,773 expenditure for the designated Reporting Project (Power BI) fund (2025 - £nil).

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2025 £*
Staff costs	*38,565*	*38,565*
Fundraising and marketing materials	*5,812*	*5,812*
Processing fees, postage and packaging	*1,420*	*1,420*
Subcontractor costs	*7,600*	*7,600*
	53,397	*53,397*

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8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £
Ongoing costs	148,941	50,557	**199,498**

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	*Restricted funds 2025 £*	*Total 2025 £*
Ongoing costs	*135,935*	*59,664*	*195,599*

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2026 £	Support costs 2026 £	Total funds 2026 £
Ongoing costs	173,805	25,693	**199,498**

	Activities undertaken directly 2025 £	*Support costs 2025 £*	*Total funds 2025 £*
Ongoing costs	*161,200*	*34,399*	*195,599*

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9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Ongoing costs 2026 £	Total funds 2026 £
Staff costs	119,938	**119,938**
Other staff costs	3,306	**3,306**
Computer software, licences and consumables	7,259	**7,259**
Gifts for our elderly at home friends	5,264	**5,264**
Volunteer recruitment, insurance and starter kits	8,917	**8,917**
Other direct costs	6,010	**6,010**
Subcontractor costs	8,472	**8,472**
WAG management system	14,639	**14,639**
	173,805	**173,805**

	Ongoing costs 2025 £	*Total funds 2025 £*
Staff costs	*104,839*	*104,839*
Computer software, licences and consumables	*2,516*	*2,516*
Gifts for our elderly at home friends	*3,967*	*3,967*
Volunteer recruitment, insurance and starter kits	*15,133*	*15,133*
Other direct costs	*6,305*	*6,305*
Subcontractor costs	*1,143*	*1,143*
WAG management system	*27,297*	*27,297*
	161,200	*161,200*

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9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Ongoing costs 2026 £	Total funds 2026 £
Staff costs	6,968	**6,968**
Other staff costs	294	**294**
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,575	**1,575**
Computer software, licences and consumables	1,076	**1,076**
Subcontractor costs	2,454	**2,454**
Professional fees, accounts and general office costs	13,326	**13,326**
	25,693	**25,693**

	Ongoing costs 2025 £	*Total funds 2025 £*
Staff costs	*14,254*	*14,254*
Computer software, licences and consumables	*4,135*	*4,135*
Subcontractor costs	*6,766*	*6,766*
Professional fees, accounts and general office costs	*9,244*	*9,244*
	34,399	*34,399*

10. Independent examiner's remuneration

	2026 £	*2025 £*
Fees payable to the company's independent examiner for the independent examination of the company's annual accounts	**775**	*735*
Fees payable to the company's independent examiner in respect of:		
All other services not included above	**880**	*840*

Fees are stated net of VAT.

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11. Staff costs

	2026 £	*2025* *£*
Wages and salaries	**154,080**	*146,610*
Social security costs	**7,963**	*8,193*
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	**3,232**	*2,855*
	165,275	*157,658*

The average number of persons employed by the company during the year was as follows:

	2026 No.	*2025* *No.*
Operational staff	**3**	*4*
Fundraising and support staff	**2**	*2*
	5	*6*

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was: 4 (2025: 5).

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits *(2025 - £NIL)*.

IIn the year ended 31 March 2025 one trustee was reimbursed £481 for the purchase of fundraising materials for an event.

In the year ended 31 March 2026 one trustee received £704 as partial reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs for two volunteer Wag Teams, which included one trustee, to represent Wag at Clarence House, London. They were invited by the King Charles III Charitable Foundation (KCCF) to represent Wag for a celebration of their charitable giving.

KCCF made a donation to Wag for this purpose, £704 of which was reimbursed to the Trustee as partial reimbursement of the total cost of the visit. Consequently, there was no cost to Wag.

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13. Tangible fixed assets

	Office equipment £
Cost or valuation	
Additions	**7,874**
At 31 March 2026	**7,874**
Depreciation	
Charge for the year	**1,575**
At 31 March 2026	**1,575**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2026	**6,299**
At 31 March 2025	*-*

14. Debtors

	2026 £	*2025 £*
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	**-**	*30*
Prepayments and accrued income	**6,364**	*2,257*
	6,364	*2,287*

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15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2026 £	*2025 £*
Trade creditors	**1,632**	*4,230*
Other taxation and social security	**3,910**	*4,315*
Other creditors	**670**	*787*
Accruals and deferred income	**10,986**	*12,280*
	17,198	*21,612*

16. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2025 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2026 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Succession project	**50,000**	**-**	**(39,359)**	**-**	**10,641**
Volunteer Recruitment Campaign	**12,000**	**-**	**(2,424)**	**(9,576)**	**-**
Reporting Project (Power BI)	**20,000**	**-**	**(23,773)**	**5,000**	**1,227**
IT hardware upgrade / replacement	**4,250**	**-**	**-**	**(4,250)**	**-**
Acoustic Pod capital purchase	**4,012**	**-**	**(4,012)**	**-**	**-**
	90,262	**-**	**(69,568)**	**(8,826)**	**11,868**
General funds					
General Funds	**104,803**	**222,268**	**(165,537)**	**8,826**	**170,360**
Total Unrestricted funds	**195,065**	**222,268**	**(235,105)**	**-**	**182,228**

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16. Statement of funds (continued)

Restricted funds					
Henry Bell Trust	**-**	**200**	**(200)**	**-**	**-**
Ray Wind Farm	**-**	**500**	**(500)**	**-**	**-**
Ponteland Town Council	**-**	**940**	**(940)**	**-**	**-**
Middlesborough Council	**-**	**8,600**	**(717)**	**-**	**7,883**
The Rothley Trust	**-**	**900**	**(900)**	**-**	**-**
Tees Valley Foundation	**-**	**2,350**	**(2,350)**	**-**	**-**
The National Lottery Awards for All Fund	**8,300**	**-**	**(8,300)**	**-**	**-**
The Community Foundation - 1989 Willan charitable Trust	**909**	**10,000**	**(5,076)**	**-**	**5,833**
The Woodsmith Foundation	**830**	**5,000**	**(5,830)**	**-**	**-**
The Community Foundation - Pargiter Trust	**5,640**	**-**	**(5,640)**	**-**	**-**
Point North Community Foundation	**3,419**	**-**	**(3,419)**	**-**	**-**
Community Foundation - Prime Fund	**4,308**	**-**	**(4,308)**	**-**	**-**
Northumberland County Council - Community Chest Scheme	**6,988**	**-**	**(6,988)**	**-**	**-**
Eldery Gift Appeal	**-**	**5,264**	**(5,264)**	**-**	**-**
Joicey Trust	**-**	**1,500**	**(125)**	**-**	**1,375**
	30,394	**35,254**	**(50,557)**	**-**	**15,091**
Total of funds	**225,459**	**257,522**	**(285,662)**	**-**	**197,319**

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16. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Transfers in/out* £	*Balance at 31 March 2025* £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Succession project	*49,500*	-	*(9,500)*	*10,000*	*50,000*
Volunteer Recruitment Campaign	-	-	*(7,923)*	*19,923*	*12,000*
Reporting Project (Power BI)	-	-	-	*20,000*	*20,000*
IT hardware upgrade / replacement	-	-	-	*4,250*	*4,250*
Acoustic Pod capital purchase	-	-	-	*4,012*	*4,012*
	49,500	-	*(17,423)*	*58,185*	*90,262*
General funds					
General Funds	*76,424*	*258,473*	*(171,909)*	*(58,185)*	*104,803*
Total Unrestricted funds	*125,924*	*258,473*	*(189,332)*	-	*195,065*
Restricted funds					
The Smith (Haltwhisle & District) Charitable Trust	-	*300*	*(300)*	-	-
The Joicy Trust	-	*1,000*	*(1,000)*	-	-
The Rothley Trust	-	*800*	*(800)*	-	-
County Durham Community Foundation - Darlington Building Society	*1,400*	-	*(1,400)*	-	-
McCarthy Stone Foundation	*4,200*	-	*(4,200)*	-	-
Tees Valley Foundation	*1,800*	-	*(1,800)*	-	-
The National Lottery Awards for All Fund	*18,300*	-	*(10,000)*	-	*8,300*
The Community Foundation - 1989 Willan charitable Trust	-	*10,000*	*(9,091)*	-	*909*
The Woodsmith Foundation	-	*5,000*	*(4,170)*	-	*830*
LNER	-	*16,000*	*(16,000)*	-	-

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16. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year (continued)

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Transfers in/out* £	*Balance at 31 March 2025* £
The Community Foundation - Pargiter Trust	-	*9,870*	*(4,230)*	-	*5,640*
Point North Community Foundation	-	*4,700*	*(1,281)*	-	*3,419*
Community Foundation - Prime Fund	-	*4,700*	*(392)*	-	*4,308*
Northumberland County Council - Community Chest Scheme	-	*6,988*	-	-	*6,988*
Eldery Gift Appeal	-	*5,000*	*(5,000)*	-	-
	25,700	*64,358*	*(59,664)*	-	*30,394*
Total of funds	*151,624*	*322,831*	*(248,996)*	-	*225,459*

17. Nature of funds

The restricted funds are for the following purposes:

The **Henry Bell Trust** awarded a grant of £200 restricted to supporting Visiting Wag Teams making a difference to older people in the Hexham area.

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Ray Wind Farm awarded £500 restricted to supporting a Visiting Wag Team visiting in care and medical establishments in the Wind Farm catchment area.

Ponteland Town Council awarded £940 to support 2 Visiting Wag Teams for older people in the Ponteland catchment area.

Middlesborough Council awarded two grants totalling £8,600 restricted to developing befriending/home visiting services in Middlesborough, in the first year supporting 5 older people in their own homes to feel happier and less socially isolated.

The Rothley Trust awarded £900 to purchase an entire workstation including laptop and headset. We were awarded £900 but spent £946.80 after the equipment was respecified and delivery included.

The Tees Valley Foundation awarded £2,350 restricted to recruiting and supporting 5 Visiting Wag Teams in Stockton-on-Tees, Redcar & Cleveland for 12 months befriending older people in their own homes and visiting those in care and medical establishments.

The National Lottery Awards for All Fund

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The National Lottery Awards for All awarded £20,000 in February 2024, a two year grant to end March 2026, to help replace the volunteer befrienders lost during the pandemic years and to sustain our current volunteer headcount and their important impact on loneliness for elderly dog lovers in our region.

The Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland - 1989 Willan Charitable Trust
In May 2024 we were awarded a grant of £10,000 to recruit and deploy 25 Visiting Wag Teams and the balance of £909 at 1 April 2025 supported the completion of the project to the end of April 2025.

During the year we received further funds of £10,000 to enable 42 Visiting Wag Teams for two-years with the first payment of £10,000 paid in October 2025. The second payment of £10,000 will be released in Oct 2026, subject to receipt of satisfactory interim monitoring, due on the 25th September 2026. We have agreed the following objectives for this work:

1. We will support and deploy 21 Visiting Wag Teams each funding year.
2. 12 elderly people in their own homes will be matched to Visiting Wag Teams and receiving regular befriending visits each funding year.
3. We will enable 360 visits to elderly dog lovers in their own homes and 2,700 visits to vulnerable people in care/medical settings each funding year.

All milestones were met in the first year.

The Woodsmith Foundation
The Woodsmith Foundation awarded £5,000 in June 2024 restricted to benefiting isolated older people who live in the Borough of Redcar and Cleveland. We are continuing to support the volunteer befrienders who visit home placements in these areas and the full year impact of this grant ended in May 2025.

During the year we received further funds of £5,000 restricted to support befriending relationships in Redcar & Cleveland, helping reduce loneliness and social isolation for 10 older dog lovers in both their own homes and in residential care, hospitals or hospices.

The Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland - The Pargiter Trust
The Community Foundation awarded us £9,870 in December 2024 to recruit, assess, equip, insure, deploy and support 21 Visiting Wag Teams in Tyne & Wear and Northumberland, creating important, life changing friendships which improve the health and wellbeing of our older dog lovers. The funding covered salaries, volunteer recruitment, marketing and overheads. All 21 teams are in place and being continuously supported to make a difference to their elderly friends in their placements. The final £5,640 was utilised before the end the funding period in July 2025.

Point North Community Foundation - John T Shuttleworth Ropner Memorial Trust
Point North Community Foundation (previously County Durham Community Foundation) awarded us £4,700 in December 2024 to support 10 Visiting Wag Teams in the Teesside area. All 10 teams are in place and the funds utilised before the end of the project in November 2025.

Community Foundation, Tyne and Wear and Northumberland - Prime Fund
The Community Foundation awarded us £4,700 in February 2025 to provide 10 Visiting Wag Teams across Northumberland and Tyne & Wear. At the end of March 2026 the teams are in place and the funds fully utilised.

Northumberland County Council - Community Chest Scheme
We were awarded £6,988 from the NCC Community Chest Scheme in February 2025 towards the purchase and installation of an acoustic pod. This capital grant was utilised by 18 February 2026 using general funds for the any additional costs incurred.

Elderly Gift Appeal
During the year the Charity received £5,264 restricted to Christmas gifts and handwritten Wag Christmas cards for elderly friends in their own homes.

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Designated Funds

Succession Project
The trustees agreed to set aside a designated reserve to be used in the two financial years 23/24 and 24/25 of £60,000 to allow for succession planning. The senior leadership role in Wag has been done on a voluntary basis for seven years but isn't sustainable, so there is a need to recruit a senior manager with the ability to lead Wag & Company into the future. Without this recruitment, the future development of Wag and income growth could be compromised. The balance at 1 April 2025 was £40,000 plus an additional £10,000 added to cover a business review. During the year £39,359 was utilised and £10,641 carried forward to 26/27.

Volunteer Recruitment Campaign
The trustees designated £12,000 to help with the recruitment of new volunteers. During the year £2,424 was utilised and the remainder released to general funds.

Reporting Project (Power BI)
The trustees have designated £25,000 towards fundraising, marketing and advertising costs, of which £23,773 was spent to 31 March 2026 and £1,227 carried forward to 26/27.

IT hardware upgrade / replacement
To cover costs of upgrading or replacing outdated IT equipment the trustees designated £4,250 to spend in 25/26 (£2,250) and 26/27 (£2,000). It has now been decided to release these funds to general funds.

Acoustic Pod procurement
The trustees designated £4,012 towards the cost of purchasing an acoustic office pod which was purchased during the year to 31 March 2026.

18. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2025 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2026 £
Designated funds	**90,262**	**-**	**(69,568)**	**(8,826)**	**11,868**
General funds	**104,803**	**222,268**	**(165,537)**	**8,826**	**170,360**
Restricted funds	**30,394**	**35,254**	**(50,557)**	**-**	**15,091**
	225,459	**257,522**	**(285,662)**	**-**	**197,319**

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18. Summary of funds (continued)

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2024	*Income*	*Expenditure*	*Transfers in/out*	*Balance at 31 March 2025*
	£	*£*	*£*	*£*	*£*
Designated funds	*49,500*	*-*	*(17,423)*	*58,185*	*90,262*
General funds	*76,424*	*258,473*	*(171,909)*	*(58,185)*	*104,803*
Restricted funds	*25,700*	*64,358*	*(59,664)*	*-*	*30,394*
	151,624	*322,831*	*(248,996)*	*-*	*225,459*

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2026	**Restricted funds 2026**	**Total funds 2026**
	£	**£**	**£**
Tangible fixed assets	6,299	-	**6,299**
Current assets	193,127	15,091	**208,218**
Creditors due within one year	(17,198)	-	**(17,198)**
Total	182,228	15,091	**197,319**

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2025	*Restricted funds 2025*	*Total funds 2025*
	£	*£*	*£*
Current assets	*216,677*	*30,394*	*247,071*
Creditors due within one year	*(21,612)*	*-*	*(21,612)*
Total	*195,065*	*30,394*	*225,459*

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20. Pension commitments

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charitable company to the fund and amounted to £3,232 (2025 - £2,855). There were £670 (2025 - £787) contributions payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

21. Members' liability

The charity is limited by guarantee. At 31 March 2026 there were eight members each of whom had undertaken to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 in the event of a winding up.

22. Donated services

Total expenditure includes £6,000 for donated services relating to the provision of office space (2025 - donated services £6,000). As this is a notional cost an equal amount has been added to income in Donations so that there is no impact on Funds.

23. Related party transactions

During the year £2,209 (2025 - £2,636) in total was received from five Trustees (2025 - five Trustees) as donations and fundraising income under normal operating activities.