Trustee's Annual Report for the period 1 January to 31 December 2025

The trustees present their annual report and independently examined financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 and confirm they comply with the Charities Act 1993, as amended by the Charities Act 2006, the constitution and the Charities SORP 2005

Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name Rainbow Stars Disability Group Sleaford

Known As Rainbow Stars

Charity Number 1186118

Charity's Principal Address 8 Duke Street, Sleaford, Lincolnshire NG34 7DX

Board of Trustees

Trustee Name	Office
Sandra Jane Peck	Chair
Hannah Owen	
Tara Jones	
Alan Thomas	
Adrian Peck	
Ann Marie Watson	
Samantha Bryant	

Bankers

Lloyds Bank
Victoria Branch
PO Box 1000
BX1 1LT

NatWest
Grantham(A) Branch
27/28 St Peter's Hill
Grantham
NG31 6QG

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Rainbow Stars Disability Group Sleaford is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered with the Charity Commission in November 2019 under charity number 1186118. It is governed by a constitution.

Organisational Structure

The seven charity trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The trustees give their time freely and receive no remuneration or other financial benefits.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The existing trustees are responsible for the recruitment of new trustees. In selecting new trustees, we seek to identify people who regularly attend events and functions organised by the charity. Potential trustees are invited to attend trustees' meetings as observers and are given more details of the charity's aims and activities and, if all agree, they are then proposed as new trustees at a subsequent trustees' meeting. This process allows due consideration of the person's eligibility, personal competence, specialist knowledge and skills.

Risk Management

The trustees have assessed the risks the charity faces and have drawn up a risk matrix which identifies the major risks by area of activity, the nature of those risks, the likelihood of the risks happening and the measures taken to manage them. The trustees review this risk matrix regularly at their meetings. The trustees are satisfied that systems are in place, or arrangements are in hand, to manage the risks that have been identified.

In particular, finances of the charity are kept under review and a reserve equal to at least a minimum of twelve months hub running costs is kept. Regular attempts to recruit volunteers are made in conjunction with the local volunteer bureau and by advertising on the charity's social media accounts and in the wider community. Appropriate Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks are made for all those who volunteer with children or vulnerable adults within the hub. Also, most activities are staffed by at least two volunteers where possible however parents are expected to accompany their children at all times.

Objectives and Activities

Our Aims

To provide relief for parents, carers and families of children diagnosed with autism and associated problems living in Lincolnshire, through advice, advocacy, and practical support. To relieve the need of children with autism spectrum disorders and those family members who care for such children living in Lincolnshire, through the provision of recreational and leisure time activities.

Use of Volunteers

Volunteers are an extremely important resource and all our events are entirely volunteer run. We utilise the services of up to 15 volunteers over the course of a week, running various sessions and events at our hub. Volunteers are also active on the charity's social media accounts, promoting the charity alongside answering questions and signposting people on the Facebook group and responding to emails generated through our website. All volunteers at our hub are DBS checked and are aware of safeguarding procedures.

Activities and Achievements

How our Activities Deliver Public Benefit

The charity carries out a wide range of activities in pursuance of its charitable aims. When planning and carrying out these activities the Trustees have kept in mind the Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Below is a summary of our activity during the year:

On-line

Rainbow Stars continues to operate as a Facebook based support group with around 3300 members. The group is a safe space for people to ask for, and receive, support and advice from people with lived experience or parents/carers regarding all manner of issues. It is also a platform for the charity to advertise the hub and the many events that are hosted there and elsewhere. There are many interactions on a daily basis.

Hub

Our hub is located in the centre of Sleaford and is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9.30 until 2.30 with various activities taking place during the week. We offer a drop in for parents and carers as well as a day centre type environment for children and adults with additional needs. We can help with completion of benefit claims and other paperwork such as Education Health and Care Plans and school appeals. We continue to provide a safe place for off-rolled children to socialise and complete educational work.

A number of sessions are run in the evenings and at weekends so that children who are in school can attend. These include 'Manic Mondays', 'Siblings', 'Wacky Wednesday', 'Teen and Adult night', and various sensory based sessions making use of our sensory room and other equipment.

We made a number of improvements to our hub during the year. We had some bespoke shelving and cupboards built in the kitchen to 'hide' our craft equipment.

We also achieved a goal which we've had since we first opened a hub in 2018, which was to install a 'changing places' styles bathroom to include a hoist and adult size changing bed with access for a wheelchair. This work was completed in December.

Virtual Autism Hub Grants

We were, again, very lucky to be awarded two grants totalling £11,463 from the Virtual Autism Hub, Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Trust. These were to fund two projects; 'Grow it, Cook it, Eat it 2' and 'Art for All'.

This enabled us to offer life skills in the form of growing vegetables at our station allotment and also preparing menus, buying food and making meals. This has been a great success providing valuable skills to our users and ensuring that some of our more vulnerable members have access to a hot meal on the days that they attend.

We have also held various different types of art activities for our users and their carers, including jewellery making, pottery making and painting, wreath making and bath bomb making to name but a few.

We also had some unspent funding for drumming from the previous grant round which we used during the year.

Tesco Grant

We received £1,500 which was used for two exotic animal experiences and further drumming sessions.

Events

2025 was a busy year for events and activities which were always well attended.

We supported local businesses with trips to Playzone and Arcade Warehouse in Lincoln, Kinema in the Woods at Woodhall Spa, roller-skating at the Gliderdrome in Boston and swimming at Metheringham outdoor swimming pool.

Community and Fundraising Events

We get great support from our local community and like to get involved in community events where possible.

After much delay caused by getting access into or over the river, our mosaics were finally installed on the back wall of our hub.

We continue to be garden adopters at Sleaford railway station, enabling our users to garden and create some great displays to coincide with national or local events such as Remembrance Day or Lincolnshire Day.

Rainbow Stars continues to run the swimability session held weekly at the Sleaford Leisure Centre.

We held a Gary Barlow tribute concert which was attended by approx 90 people

We helped the town council promote and run their car boot sales.

The Rotary Club of Sleaford once again contributed to our trip to Twinlakes Adventure Theme Park at Melton Mowbray as part of Kids Day Out.

Sleaford Classic Car Show, held in September supported Rainbow Stars, allowing us to hold a teddy tombola and donating £500.

Second Chance Charity shop continued to support us, donating £250 per month from May up from £100 the previous year

Sleaford Town Football club supported us for another season. We were able to attend some matches and the club raised money for us through their participation in the South Kesteven Charity Cup.

The President of Sleaford Golf Club held a fundraising event.

We held our Christmas fair at the beginning of December and raised useful funds.

We again entered a tree in the Sleaford Christmas Tree Festival.

Financial Review

In 2025 we arranged many activities across the year and were also able to hold some well supported fund raising events. At the end of the period our cash balances had increased by £2,210 from £40,004 to £42,214. This included £4,291 restricted funds, all of which related to the grant supported projects we are running which end on 31 March 2026.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have reviewed the reserves of the charity. Their policy is to hold at least enough funds to meet twelve months' gross operating costs of the hub. This is approximately £15,000 per year.

Principal Funding Sources

The principal source of funds during the year were donations from grant awarding bodies, local companies and charitable bodies, and our own fundraising activities.

We are very lucky to retain the support of the local community, and many organisations, businesses and individuals supported us throughout the year.

Other funds come from the small charge we make to access our hub and to attend activities.

Investment Policy and Objectives

The charity has no long-term investments. Currently our cash reserves are held in a deposit account.

Plans for future periods

We look forward to 2026 where we will continue to provide much needed services to the local community. We will continue to look to recruit volunteers and provide opportunities and experiences for our members in a safe, non-judgemental environment.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing an annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of *affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the* charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees for the purposes of charity law who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 1.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by

Sandra Jane Peck (Chair)
16 October 2026

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Rainbow Stars Disability Group Sleaford	1186118	CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01.01.25	To	31.12.25

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	22,250	9,399	-	31,649	19,457
Grant Income	-	11,838	-	11,838	13,541
Fundraising	2,402	-	-	2,402	3,367
Trips and Activities	4,945	-	-	4,945	4,387
Hub Related Income	8,329	1,408	-	9,737	11,622
Miscellaneous Income	47	-	-	47	37
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
***Sub total**(Gross income for AR)*	37,973	22,645	-	60,618	52,411
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	37,973	22,645	-	60,618	52,411
A3 Payments					
General Expenditure	1,113	-	-	1,113	993
Fundraising Expenditure	258	-	-	258	524
Trips and Activities	5,341	-	-	5,341	5,280
Grant Funded Expenditure		14,238	-	14,238	7,517
Hub Related Expenditure	22,625	14,833	-	37,458	30,645
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	29,337	29,071	-	58,408	44,959
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	29,337	29,071	-	58,408	44,959
Net of receipts/(payments)	8,636	- 6,426	-	2,210	7,452
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	8,636	- 6,426	-	2,210	7,452

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

B1 Cash funds

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
Cash	275	-	-
Bank	36,680	4,291	-
Paypal	967	-	-
Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	37,922	4,291	-

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	ADRIAN PECK	16/10/26

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) Rainbow Stars Disability Group Sleaford

On accounts for the year ended 31/12/2025 **Charity no (if any)** 1186118

Set out on pages 1-8 (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

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: [signature] **Date:** 18-09-26

Name: SHANE WHITEHEAD

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

Address: 35, CHURCH LANE
CAYTHORPE
NG32 3DU