Trustees' Annual Report 2023-2024

Tiny Paws MCR | From 2nd April 2023 to 1st April 2024

Registered Charity Number 1186507

14 Sandbach Road, Sale, M33 2QU

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
1.	Suzanne Wright	
2.	William Herbert	
3.	Nicola O'Brien	
4.	[redacted]	3rd December 2023 - Present
5.	Amy Blair	3rd December 2023 - Present

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	CIO Foundation Model Constitution – 3rd November 2019
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods	Trustees are appointed by the current trustee panel every 3 years or sooner if required

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

For the benefit of the public to relieve the suffering of domestic species of rodents and rabbits in need of care and attention, in particular, to provide and maintain rescue homes or other facilities for the reception, care and treatment of such animals.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects

The charity has taken in rodents and rabbits from members of the public who needed to rehome their animals for various reasons including financial issues, health problems, relocations, work commitments, or general inability to care for the animals (often as a result of a lack of research carried out prior to obtaining the animal). We have also accepted stray/dumped animals including some discovered abandoned in rental properties when tenants have moved out.

We have continued to work with other rescues both locally and nationally to provide rescue space for rodents or rabbits from large welfare cases.

Similar to the previous reporting period, we have taken in animals from situations where members of the public had purchased mis-sexed rodents or rabbits, resulting in unexpected and unwanted offspring. In some cases, multiple litters were born back to back and the owners were unable to cope. Without the assistance of rescue charities, animal numbers increase exponentially in these situations where owners are unable to accurately sex the offspring and separate them at the appropriate time.

Echoing the previous Annual Reports, trustees draw attention to the lack of due diligence performed by retailers and individuals who breed and/or sell rodents and rabbits, and the knock-on effect this has on the public and welfare of these animals.

The charity receives a very high volume of requests to take in animals from the public, which sadly far surpass our capacity. We operate a waiting list for rescue space and advise on alternative reputable rescue organisations where we are unable to assist. We are very aware that the demand for rescue space exceeds availability on a wider scale in the UK. The figures below provide a snapshot of the situation.

Species	Number requested to take in	Taken in
Chinchilla	17	3
Degu	12	2
Gerbil	24	9
Guinea pig	105	10
Hamster (all species)	58	15
Mouse (fancy)	179	29
Multimammate	9	0
Rabbit	360	7
Rat	96	39
Spiny mouse	10	7
Total	870	121

The charity was able to take in just 14% of the above animals. Surrender requests were prioritised based on the animal(s) welfare, and where we were not able to accept the animal(s), enquirers were directed to other potential sources of help.

Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Additional details of objectives and activities

In September 2023, the charity recruited 8 volunteer animal care assistants to help with caring for animals fostered at SW & WH's home, the main base for the majority of animals in the charity's care. Volunteers were selected via an application form, and received an induction and training from SW. Volunteers attend on a rota basis on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings for approx. 2 hours. The main task is cleaning out animal enclosures which they have all become very efficient at. This has helped to share the workload and reduce reliance on SW & WH, however, there are still limits to how well the charity is able to utilise volunteers within this private home setting.

In light of the charity continuing to grow year on year, and in an effort to make the trustee board more balanced with note to the conflict of interest with two trustees, two additional trustees were appointed in December 2023. Amy Blair brings a wealth of professional charity fundraising experience and [redacted] contributes a background in animal rights campaigning at a national charity level, combined with vast animal care knowledge.

SW & WH plan to move house this year, so a decision was taken at the end of March 2024 to cease animal intakes at this main base until after the relocation. The charity currently has 4 volunteer foster carers who can continue to be utilised when they have capacity. SW & WH hope to purchase a property with a larger outside space for better rabbit housing, including an outbuilding (or space for one), which the charity could use to house indoor animals, providing some separation from the trustee's private living space, bringing many benefits for the rescue. The property will be a private purchase by SW & WH. Trustees have discussed the possibility of renting charity space from SW & WH, which will be considered further after their relocation. The charity expects to need to undertake significant fundraising for new animal housing at the new premises.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Species	Taken in	Rehomed	Deceased	Awaiting Adoption	Sanctuary Resident
Chinchilla	3	3	0	0	0
Degu	2	2	0	0	0
Gerbil	9	6	1	2	0
Guinea pig	10	6	0	2	2
Hamster (all species)	15	13	2	0	0
Mouse (fancy)	29	10	8	27	2
Multimammate	0	6	0	0	0
Rabbit	7	5	1	5	0
Rat	39	27	7	10	2
Spiny mouse	7	3	1	3	0
Total	**121**	**81**	**20**	**49**	**6**

The charity took in 43 fewer animals in this reporting period than the previous year. Rehoming as a percentage of total animals taken in increased from 60% to 67%. Animal deaths remain stable, reflecting the vulnerable nature and short natural lifespans of small animals. Evidenced by the accounts, animals

receive prompt and extensive specialist veterinary care.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity has an agreed level of £5500 of unrestricted funds in reserve for the running of the charity, in particular to allow prompt veterinary treatment of any animals when required. The charity currently holds funds in excess of the agreed reserves level, which it plans to use for new housing and facilities after SW & BH's relocation.

Further financial review details

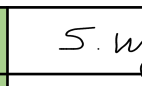
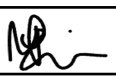
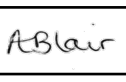
Of note is that the charity received a one-off donation of £5000 from a single donor. In this reporting period, the charity increased its use of an online shop and stalls at markets and events such as The National Rabbit Festival, bringing in additional income via sales and donations.

A £4 discrepancy from the previous year's accounts exists due to £18 more being left in the paypal account than listed in the previous accounts and a Stripe balance of £14 was listed in cash funds in the previous accounts but was released into the Tiny Paws bank account in the 23/24 year.

Animal care costs increased due to upgrading of guinea pig housing and an increase in bedding/litter used by volunteers cleaning enclosures more regularly. Waste collections were increased from bi-weekly to weekly, increasing the spend in this area. Spending on merchandise, fundraising and postage also increased with the increase in use of sales as an income generator.

Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signatures					[redacted]
Names	Suzanne Wright	Nicola O'Brien	William Herbert	Amy Blair	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Trustee	Trustee	Trustee	Trustee
Date	01/26/2025	01/30/2025	01/28/2025	01/29/2025	01/27/2025

Section A: Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts				
Donations and Legacies				
Donations and gifts	**28,269**	**-**	**28,269**	**24,942**
Grants	**-**	**-**	**-**	**500**
Income from other trading activities				
Merchandise sales	**6,476**		**6,476**	
Auctions & raffles	**646**	**-**	**646**	**2,244**
Total receipts	**35,391**	**-**	**35,391**	**27,686**
A2 Payments				
Charitable Activities				
Veterinary care & treatment	**17,200**	**-**	**17,200**	**17,155**
Animal care (Bedding, food, housing, equipment, enrichment)	**4,249**	**-**	**4,249**	**2,416**
Storage	**953**	**-**	**953**	**-**
Travel	**395**	**-**	**395**	**557**
Waste Disposal	**842**	**-**	**842**	**430**
Insurance	**206**	**-**	**206**	**177**
Stationery	**140**	**-**	**140**	**55**
Website	**70**	**-**	**70**	**35**
Raising Funds				
Merchandise	**3,805**	**-**	**3,805**	**847**
Postage	**630**	**-**	**630**	**187**
Fundraising	**591**	**-**	**591**	**147**
Donorbox fees	**35**	**-**	**35**	**31**
Mailchimp	**318**		**318**	
Other				
Grants to other charities	**-**	**-**	**-**	**125**
Total payments	**29,434**	**-**	**29,434**	**22,162**
Net of receipts/(payments)	**5,957**	**-**	**5,957**	**5,524**
A3 Transfers between funds	**30**	**-**	**30**	**-**
A4 Cash funds last year end	**8,056**	**-**	**8,056**	**2,528**

Cash funds this year end	14,043	-	14,043	8,052

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds
		to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank account	**11,535**
	Paypal	**805**
	Cash	**1,702**
	Total cash funds	**14,042***

*£1 discrepancy from Cash funds this year end due to rounding to nearest £.

Trustees declare that they have approved the accounts above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signatures	S. Wright	William Herbert		ABlair	[redacted]
Names	Suzanne Wright	Nicola O'Brien	William Herbert	Amy Blair	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Trustee	Trustee	Trustee	Trustee
Date	01/26/2025	01/28/2025	01/30/2025	01/29/2025	01/27/2025

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name: Tiny Paws MCR

On accounts for the year ended: 2024

Charity no (if any): 1186507

Set out on pages: 1-2 of the Receipts and Payments Accounts (cc16a)

(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 **01/04/2024**.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. *Delete* [ ] *if not applicable.*

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

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

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.

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

Signed: LEH Hussain **Date:** 9/1/2025

Name: Louise Hussain

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): N/A

Address: 45 Alderley Road
Urmston, Manchester
M41 5DW

Section B	Disclosure
	Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.	N/A