

The Next Chapter

Registered Charity Number: 1202346

Rescue and Rehoming Centre

Report of the Trustees and Receipts and Payments Accounts for the Period Ended 31 December 2025

The Next Chapter Horse Rescue CIO
Reference and administration details

Reg charity number:	1202346
Principal address:	*Rehoming Centre (By appointment)* Leicester Rd, Countesthorpe Leicester *Correspondence address:* 42A Valley Drive Leicester LE3 3EE
Contact:	thenextchapterhorses@gmail.com 07828 834342
Trustees:	Michelle L Page (Chairperson) Megan E Bailey Julie Miles Sally Evill
Governing document:	CIO - FOUNDATION Registered 16 Mar 2023
Bank:	National Westminster.
Independent examiners:	Mrs Sarah A Smith MSc. BSc. (HONS) FCCA. FCIE. MNAVP. TSA (Oakham) Ltd Temple House 8 Main Street Cold Overton Leicestershire LE15 7QA

Independent Examiners report to the Trustees of The Next Chapter Horse Rescue CIO

I report on the accounts of the charity for the period ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on

the attached pages.

Respective responsibilities of Trustee and Examiner.

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider the audit requirement of s144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) does not apply, and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under s 145 of the 2011 Act; to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners report.
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in audit and, consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiners statement.
In connection with my examination, *no matter has come to my attention*:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

* to keep accounting records in accordance with s130 of the 2011 Act; and

* to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met.

(2) There are no other matters to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Sarah Smith

Mrs Sarah Smith MSc. BSc. (HONS) FCCA. FCIE. MNAVP.
TSA (Oakham) Ltd
Temple House
8 Main Street
Cold Overton
Leicestershire
LE15 7QA 28 September 2026

Trustees of The Next Chapter Horse Rescue CIO
Trustees annual report for the period 31 December 2025.

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 December 2025. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting policies as set out by charity law (Charities Act 2011) and are based on a receipts and payments format adopted by the trustees. The report includes the information given on the reference and administration page (see page 2).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity, a corporate body is controlled by its governing document, CIO-Foundation, 16 March 2023.

The charity is governed by a board of trustees who meet monthly to oversee operations. Day-to-day management is handled by a small team of dedicated volunteers.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.
The Committee review the risks and appropriate controls as required, but at least annually.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Activities to promote the objectives:

For the benefit of the public to relieve suffering of horses and ponies in need of care and attention in the Leicestershire area and in particular to provide and maintain rescue homes or other facilities for the reception, care and treatment of such animals. Specifically:

- To rescue horses and ponies and provide relevant veterinary care.
- To prevent all types of cruelty and abuse of the horses that we have taken in our care.
- To relieve the suffering of horses which need care and attention and (where applicable) assist carers/owners in the provision of improved facilities at their own yards or homes.
- To host open days, educational visits, and fundraising events.
- To offer volunteering opportunities to local people.
- To provide support to other charities in the UK, animal welfare businesses and re-homers.

Public benefit:

The trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of the activities for the year to ensure they remain focused on the CIO's aims and objectives and also continue to deliver benefits to the public.

The trustees are satisfied that the charity's activities provide an essential service to the community of Leicestershire, including but not limited to horse and land owners and carers, volunteers, and the re-homing community who provide these animals with the next chapter in their lives.

Trustees of The Next Chapter Horse Rescue CIO
Trustees annual report for the period to 31 December 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

At the start of 2025, the charity had 32 ponies in its care. During the year, a further 12 ponies were admitted to the rescue. By year end, 26 ponies remained as permanent residents, 16 ponies had successfully been rehomed, and, sadly, two ponies were euthanised on veterinary welfare grounds. This resulted in a total of 28 ponies in our care at the end of the year.

We were extremely grateful to receive the donation of six field shelters, which have significantly enhanced the welfare and comfort of the ponies.

We were also pleased to welcome members of the local Scouts group, who volunteered their time in support of the rescue while working towards their volunteer badges.

Throughout the year, a variety of fundraising events were held, including car boot sales, quiz nights, scratch-card fundraisers, a fashion show, and a psychic evening. These events not only generated valuable income but also helped raise awareness of the charity within the local community.

To further promote our work, a quarterly newsletter was distributed to approximately 4,000 households, highlighting the charity's activities, encouraging community engagement, and helping to recruit new volunteers.

We were delighted to support the development of young people by welcoming three Duke of Edinburgh Award participants, alongside several teenagers interested in pursuing careers in veterinary care and animal welfare.

Unfortunately, during the year our back paddock was targeted by vandals, resulting in significant damage, including deliberate fires and destruction of fencing. In response, we launched an appeal to help meet both general costs and the costs of repairs to restore the affected area, and we are grateful for the support received from our community during this challenging time.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The trustees are pleased to confirm that the charity remains financially stable although our results serve to underline just how crucial the generosity of our donors is in order to maintain this stability in the next financial year. We raised £43,380 through donations and another £29,800 in fund raising. Total income of £73,180 was matched to total expenditure of £71,372, resulting in a surplus for the year of £1,808. Veterinary fees, hay and feed and farriery are our main ongoing expense with administration costs kept to an absolute minimum. However, it is necessary to maintain and improve our fencing and shelters/stabling. This year £3,374 was spent on this type of cost, which includes the vandalism mentioned above. A full breakdown is given on page 7.

Reserves carried forward are £2,598.

Trustees of The Next Chapter Horse Rescue CIO
Trustees annual report for the period 31 December 2025.

Reserves and Investment Policy. The reserves of the CIO are held on a current account until required. The trustees aim, over time, to build standing or permanent reserves of 3 months operating costs (around £8,000) in order to safeguard the welfare of horses on the property in the event of a financial down turn or a crisis in welfare requiring emergency rescue. The committee are satisfied with the increase in Reserves to £2,598 this year.

Sustainability of Services
The trustees of the charity are satisfied that they will be able to pay creditors as they fall due for at least 12 months from the Balance Sheet date.

Approved by the Board of trustees on 28 September 2026
and signed on its behalf by

Shelley Page

Michelle Page (Chairperson)

Trustees of The Next Chapter Horse Rescue CIO
Receipts and payments accounts
For the period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2025

	NOTES	TOTAL 2025	TOTAL 2024
	1		
		£	£
Receipts			
Fees, Grants and Donations		43,380	24,146
Other Fundraising		29,800	6,849
Total Receipts		**73,180**	**30,995**
Payments			
Other Fundraising Costs		**966**	**1,064**
Direct Charitable Costs			
Consumables (Yard)		1,519	2,959
Fallen stock and transport		1,400	843
Farriery		3,035	3,080
Feed and Supplements		12,915	6,679
Hay and Haylage		11,093	4,195
Rent		3,000	2,600
Repairs and Renewals		3,374	0
Veterinary fees and medicines		29,147	9,036
Waste Management		2,385	0
		67,868	**29,392**
Support Costs			
Accountancy and Independent Examination	**2**	425	0
Administration and Office Costs		1,121	667
Insurance		483	579
Horse Passports		509	0
		2,538	**1,246**
Total Payments		**71,372**	**31,702**
Net Receipts/(Payments)		**1,808**	**(707)**
Bank and cash funds brought forward		**790**	**1,497**
Bank and cash funds carried forward		**2,598**	**790**

Trustees of The Next Chapter Horse Rescue CIO
Statement of assets and liabilities at 31 December 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash and Bank Deposits		
Bank accounts and cash	2,598	790
TOTAL	**2,598**	**790**
Assets / (Liabilities)		
Independent Examination	(440)	(425)
TOTAL	**(440)**	**(425)**

Approved by the trustees on 28 September 2026

Signed *Shelley Page*

Name Michelle Page CHAIRPERSON

Trustees of The Next Chapter Horse Rescue CIO
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

Accounting policies

1 a) These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, as adopted by trustees.

b) Fund Accounting
Unrestricted Funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds arise when the use of a donation or legacy is stipulated by the donor or funds are raised for a specific purpose. All restricted funds are used within the objects of the charity. There are no restricted funds at the year end.

2 Accountancy and Independent Examination

The liability for this financial year	£ 2025	£ 2024
Accounts preparation, from completed records	80	75
Independent Examination	360	350
	440	**425**

3 Payments to trustees and Related Parties.

There are no fees, remuneration or expenses paid to trustees in the financial year, (£0 2024). There are no other related party transactions.

4 Winding up of the CIO.

Under the constitution and in accordance with charity law, trustees must submit a formal declaration confirming that all debts and liabilities are provided for and remaining assets have or will be applied appropriately to organisations with similar charitable objectives.