Trustees' Annual Report
01 July 2025 to 31 June 2026

Charity name: Cockermouth Emergency Response Group
Registered charity number: 1205090

Charity's principal address

The Hub
2 Market Street
Cockermouth
Cumbria
CA13 9NJ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Name	Tenure
Brian Mitchelhill	21/09/27
Paul Mogford	21/09/26
Hayley Bishop	21/09/28
Robert Ellison Coles	21/09/28
James Andrew Turner	21/09/28

Objectives and activities

The purpose of Cockermouth Emergency Response Group (CERG) is to:

- Provide a volunteer led emergency response to the community as and when instructed to do so by the emergency services.
- Work together with other organisations, to help individuals and the community to plan and prepare for emergencies.
- Provide a volunteer led recovery programme for the community following an emergency.

CERG also provides annual training for volunteers and run bi-annually emergency exercises to ensure that the Operations Team and volunteers are prepared to respond to an emergency where assistance may be required from the organisation.

Achievements and performance

Throughout 2025-26 CERG has undertaken the following to enable the organisation to meet its objective and activities:

- Recruitment and training of a new, contracted, self-employed, Administrator.
- Annual review of the organisations policies to ensure the organisation works within a safe and legal environment.

- Continuation of marketing to promote what the organisation does and to encourage householder and volunteer sign up.
- The organisation continues to carry out weather assessments by monitoring the local rivers, becks and lakes during periods of wet weather along with using their Social Media platform to update residents. The organisation also engages with the Environment Agency and the Council when required.
- The organisation agreed to take over the Taste of Christmas food parcel project from Workington Emergency Response Group for 2026.

Financial review

CERG's financial year runs from 1 July to 30 June.

The financial statements in figures 1 below sets out the income and expenditure for the financial year 2025/26. CERG's ended the financial year in a healthy position with a total carry forward balance of £31,192.22.

Income included a grant from Cumbria Community Foundation and donations.

CERG is predominantly reliant on grant funding. Due to not being in receipt of a regular income stream, the Trustees committed to holding a minimum of £12,000 reserves.

An annual budget of £10,890 has been set for 2026/27 to accommodate the expenditure of the organisation. The reserves figure is based upon one year's expenditure and would protect the organisation from a drop in income and would provide time to explore further funding streams.

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Treasurer's Report for CERG AGM
Accounts for 1 July 25 to 30 June 2026

Opening balance as of 1 July 25		**£ 27,011.97**
Income:		
	Cumbria Community Foundation Grant	11599.00
	Slater Trust Donation	500.00
	Bank interest	654.53
	Total	**£12,753.53**
Expenditure:		
	Salary & board travel expenses	7397.50
	Equipment	185.68
	Bank charges	67.50
	Mobile & Text service	131.37
	Insurance	329.25
	Website & IT	162.40
	Training & volunteer expenses	41.03
	Miscellaneous	258.55
	Total	**£8,573.28**
Closing balance as of 30 June 26		**£ 31,192.22**

Figure 1 - 2025/26 Financial Statement

Plans for future periods

The aims and objectives for 2026/27 is to continue with the purpose of the organisation as set out in the objectives and activities section of this report.

Specific activities planned include:

- Recruitment of a new Administrator as the current post holder has expressed a desire to leave in July.
- Recruit new members to the Operations Team to provide additional resilience to the team.
- Close working with other emergency response groups, sharing best practice and joint working where areas of work overlap.
- Explore funding opportunities through grants and fund-raising activity to support the Taste of Christmas project.

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a Community Interest Company, governed by a constitution.

There must be at least five trustees and no more than ten. Every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. The charity trustees must have regards to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

The organisation also has an Operations Team and three working groups to manage day to day tasks. An Operations Team update is provided at each trustee meeting.

The organisation is also supported by a contracted, part time, self-employed, Administrator.

Exemptions from disclosure

Not applicable

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others.

Not applicable

Brian Mitchelhill - Chair of Trustees

Signed: 

Date: 23/9/2026