

**Charity registration number 109121**

**Company registration number NI665739 (Northern Ireland)**

**AVSPNI**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

# AVSPNI

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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<b>Directors</b>	Mr P Walsh Mr M Watts Mrs M Spahn-Holmes Mr I Smith Mr K Sheridan Mr S O'Kane Mr S Murray Mr K McKeeman Mrs P Hart Mr C Carr Mrs L Hamilton Mr M Allison Mr G Bell Mr L Fitzsimons Ms K Henderson Mr C McCrea Ms S Menzies
<b>Charity number</b>	109121
<b>Company number</b>	NI665739
<b>Principal address</b>	6 Ross Green Lane Kilgad Road Kells Ballymena Co Antrim BT42 3JA
<b>Registered office</b>	6 Ross Green Lane Kilgad Road Kells Ballymena Co Antrim BT42 3JA
<b>Independent examiner</b>	GMcG Lisburn Century House 40 Crescent Business Park Lisburn BT28 2GN
<b>Bankers</b>	Danske Bank Donegall Square West Belfast BT1 6JS

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# AVSPNI

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# AVSPNI

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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The directors present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "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).

#### Objectives and activities

The charity's objects are specifically restricted to the promotion of the following purposes for the benefit of the public:

- The advancement of education by promoting, managing, co-ordinating, and developing a programme for education of Veterinary Surgeons who are in practice in Northern Ireland or elsewhere;
- The advancement of animal welfare by representing and advocating for Veterinary Surgeons and animals in need of care and protection; and
- The advancement of health or the saving of lives of veterinary practitioners in Northern Ireland who are suffering from, have suffered from or are at risk of mental or physical health problems for the benefit of the public particularly by the dissemination of information and assistance within the veterinary profession.

There has been no change in the policies adopted in furtherance of these objects during the year.

The charity aims to fulfill its objectives through the following:

- the provision of training courses and advice and to publish or distribute in a suitable format;
- to be a member of and co-operate with all such bodies, organisations and associations, whether within Northern Ireland and United Kingdom or not, as may be thought fit by the directors;
- to raise funds by subscription, donations, grants, loans or otherwise for the purposes of the charity.

The directors have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

#### Achievements and performance

In this financial year AVSPNI has delivered 2 x multi-day conferences – one for Small Animal vets and vet nurses and one for Small Animal and Large Animal vets, plus 7 evening meetings and 1 full day of education and networking.

AVSPNI has engaged with organisations and working groups including, but not limited to the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA); the Agri-Food and Bio-sciences Institute (AFBI); Animal Health and Welfare Northern Ireland (AHWNI); British Cattle Veterinary Association (BCVA); The Society of Practising Veterinary Surgeons (SPVS); The North of Ireland Veterinary Association (NIVA); Rural Support; Ulster Farmers Union (UFU); Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS); RCVS Knowledge - Farm Vet Champions; Young Vet Network (YVN-NI); Veterinary Ireland; LANTRA Council; VetNI Board: Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Implementation Group (BVDIG); TB Stakeholder Working Group (TBSWG); Animal Health and Welfare Stakeholders Forum (AHWSF); the Livestock and Meat Commission (LMC); Vet Support Northern Ireland; British Small Animal Veterinary Association (BSAVA); Veterinary Practice Managers Association (VPMA); Northern Ireland Sheep Scab Group; The Links Group; Harper Adams University; the British Veterinary Association (BVA); The College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE).

Ongoing engagement with the bodies listed above is anticipated in the coming year. AVSPNI also initiated a Graduate Development Programme - a series of full and practical days' training with topics carefully chosen to upskill and build confidence for new veterinary graduates working in Northern Ireland. This series of events rolled out from September 2023 but the planning took place in financial year ending 31st August 2023.

AVSPNI remains flexible and able to respond quickly to amend its programme of education to meet changing needs, e.g. novel disease challenges.

# AVSPNI

## DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### Financial review

The results are set out in detail on pages 5 to 11. The company returned net incoming resources for the year of £6,249 (2022: £37,449) leaving unrestricted funds of £436,402 (2022: £430,153).

The unrestricted funds are considered to be essential to provide sufficient funds to cover any unforeseen costs which may arise and fulfil legal obligations of the charity in the event that current levels of income are not maintained.

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The directors consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

### Structure, governance and management

The charitable company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The company is not for profit and limited by guarantee.

The directors who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr P Walsh  
Mr M Watts  
Mrs M Spahn-Holmes  
Mr I Smith  
Mr K Sheridan  
Mr S O'Kane  
Mr S Murray  
Mr K McKeeman  
Mrs P Hart  
Mr C Carr  
Mrs L Hamilton  
Mr M Allison  
Mr G Bell  
Mr L Fitzsimons  
Ms K Henderson  
Mr C McCrea  
Ms S Menzies

The charity is governed by its Board of Directors who meet regularly.

None of the directors has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the directors are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

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

The directors' report was approved by the Board of Directors.

  
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Mr P Walsh  
**Director**

Date: 22/5/2024  
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## **AVSPNI**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE DIRECTORS OF AVSPNI**

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We report to the directors on our examination of the financial statements of AVSPNI (the charity) for the year ended 31 August 2023.

#### **Respective responsibilities of directors and examiner**

As the directors of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied ourselves that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiners' report**

We have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included 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 seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

Our role is to state whether any material matters have come to our attention giving us cause to believe:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland
- 4 that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**AVSPNI**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)  
TO THE DIRECTORS OF AVSPNI**

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**Independent examiner's statement**

We have completed our examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, we have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

*GMcG Lisburn*

**GMcG Lisburn**

Century House  
40 Crescent Business Park  
Lisburn  
BT28 2GN

Dated: *22/05/24*

## AVSPNI

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
	Notes		
<b><u>Income from:</u></b>			
Donations and membership fees	2	66,944	56,857
Charitable activities	3	160,669	128,162
Investments	4	1,612	918
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total income</b>		229,225	185,937
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b><u>Expenditure on:</u></b>			
Charitable activities	5	222,976	148,488
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds</b>		6,249	37,449
Fund balances at 1 September 2022		430,153	392,704
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2023</b>		436,402	430,153
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

# AVSPNI

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

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	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	10	63,423		59,347	
Cash at bank and in hand		462,114		441,541	
		<u>525,537</u>		<u>500,888</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	11	(89,135)		(70,735)	
Net current assets			<u>436,402</u>		<u>430,153</u>
<b>Income funds</b>					
Unrestricted funds			<u>436,402</u>		<u>430,153</u>
			<u>436,402</u>		<u>430,153</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 August 2023

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the directors on 22/5/2024 and signed on their behalf by:

  
.....

Mr P Walsh  
Director

Company Registration No. NI665739

# AVSPNI

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### 1 Accounting policies

#### Charity information

AVSPNI is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is 6 Ross Green Lane, Kilgad Road, Kells, Ballymena, Co Antrim, BT42 3JA.

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "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 charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

#### 1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the directors in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

#### 1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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**1 Accounting policies (Continued)**

**1.5 Expenditure**

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 are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

**1.6 Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

**1.7 Financial instruments**

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

***Basic financial assets***

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

***Basic financial liabilities***

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

***Derecognition of financial liabilities***

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

# AVSPNI

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### 2 Donations and membership fees

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	Unrestricted funds
	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Donations and gifts	3,380	1,280
Membership fees	63,564	55,577
	<u>66,944</u>	<u>56,857</u>
<b>Donations and gifts</b>		
Raffle income	<u>3,380</u>	<u>1,280</u>
	<u>3,380</u>	<u>1,280</u>

Raffle income of £3,380 (2022 - £1,280) was gathered during the year and paid out to various charities before the year end.

### 3 Charitable activities

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Income from conferences and webinars	<u>160,669</u>	<u>128,162</u>

### 4 Investments

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	Unrestricted funds
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Interest receivable	<u>1,612</u>	<u>918</u>

# AVSPNI

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 5 Charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Speakers fees	21,454	10,117
Other conference and webinar expenses	102,363	62,219
	<u>123,817</u>	<u>72,336</u>
Share of support costs (see note 6)	99,159	76,152
	<u>222,976</u>	<u>148,488</u>

### 6 Support costs

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2023 £	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2022 £
Administration Fees	70,529	-	70,529	57,548	-	57,548
Presidential and Council expenses	3,848	-	3,848	1,019	-	1,019
Legal and professional fees	15,000	-	15,000	2,400	-	2,400
Bank charges	438	-	438	560	-	560
Printing, postage and stationery	108	-	108	115	-	115
Insurance	1,213	-	1,213	1,158	-	1,158
Accountancy	2,079	-	2,079	6,636	-	6,636
Sundry expenses	168	-	168	716	-	716
VSNI donations	2,000	-	2,000	6,000	-	6,000
Other donations	3,776	-	3,776	-	-	-
	<u>99,159</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>99,159</u>	<u>76,152</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>76,152</u>
Analysed between Charitable activities	<u>99,159</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>99,159</u>	<u>76,152</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>76,152</u>

### 7 Directors

None of the directors (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

# AVSPNI

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### 8 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Total	-	-

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

### 9 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

### 10 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
Trade debtors	61,539	58,236
Other debtors	1,252	530
Prepayments and accrued income	632	581
	<u>63,423</u>	<u>59,347</u>

### 11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	2,576	6,156
Other creditors	6,733	467
Accruals and deferred income	79,826	64,112
	<u>89,135</u>	<u>70,735</u>