



SCOTTISH GREYHOUND SANCTUARY

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

2023/2024

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1. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

The Charity's name - **Scottish Greyhound Sanctuary**

Registered Charity number – SC039701

Principal Address

Scottish Greyhound Sanctuary
24 Abbotshall Road
Cults
Aberdeen
AB15 9JX

Names of the Charity Trustees on date of approval

(All appointed at the AGM on 27/09/2024)

Ms Suzanne Simpson - Chairperson

Ms Emma McLeod - Vice Chairperson

Mrs Kirsteen Campbell - Secretary

Ms Lorraine Baker – Treasurer



2. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Type of governing document - Charity Constitution

Trustee Recruitment and Appointment

1. An executive committee of four trustees shall be elected at the annual general meeting of the organisation and shall consist of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary.
2. The Trustees must be fully paid-up members of the organisation.
3. Individuals will be given a Trustee position only after receiving nominations, for a specific Trustee position, from two other fully paid-up members of the organisation. In the event of multiple individuals being nominated for the same Trustee position, the position will be filled by a private ballot of those present at the annual general meeting at which time a majority vote must be gained by one individual.
4. The election of a Trustee will be for one year. All Trustees shall retire annually and shall be eligible for re-election.



3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

1. Provision of a sanctuary to Greyhounds and Lurchers in danger.
2. Provide veterinary care where needed and to ensure the wellbeing of Greyhounds and Lurchers.
3. Promote responsible Greyhound and Lurcher ownership and in particular encourage the neutering of dogs as a means of reducing stray, abandoned and unwanted Greyhounds and Lurchers.
4. Forge links with other Greyhound and Lurcher rescue organisations i.e. Greyhound Awareness League, in furtherance of the organisation's objectives.
5. Provide support and aftercare through the rehoming of Greyhounds and Lurchers.
6. Co-ordination of fundraising through events and raising awareness of the Greyhound and Lurcher breeds.
7. Provision of home checks on all potential foster/adoption carers to ascertain individual and home suitability.
8. To always provide and meet the needs of any Greyhound and Lurcher placed in rescue.
9. Promote and implement an equal opportunities policy for all. The organisation will not discriminate on grounds of gender, marital status, ethnic origin, colour, nationality, disability, race and religion, or other grounds of discrimination not prohibited by legislation such as sexual orientation, age etc when considering potential adopters of Greyhounds placed in their care.
10. Monitor rehomings to ensure compliance with adoption agreement and where this is breached take action to terminate adoption.



4. SUMMARY OF MAIN ACTIVITIES IN PURSUANCE OF THESE OBJECTIVES

1. Following on from the 15th anniversary celebration walks, the Scottish Greyhound Sanctuary have continued with regular monthly walks throughout 2023/2024. We have had great turnouts at most walks, and the feedback from those attending has been positive.
2. 2023/24 saw a decrease in adoption and fostering applications as follows:
 1. Adoption applications: 67
 2. Fostering applications: 9
 3. Home checks: 62
 4. Adoptions: 63
3. SGS have continued to support veterinary care for dogs during 2023/24 which has amounted to: £30,374.00
4. All SGS dogs have been neutered and spayed (normally prior to rehoming), and this is crucially important to the charity and the management team, unless otherwise advised by a vet.
5. We continue to support foster carers and new adopters with our fully comprehensive “follow-up service”. At least two team members are involved with each follow-up.
6. We have continued to hold fundraising activities throughout the year in the form of online raffles and auctions. We have also continued to raise funds through sponsorship and membership.
7. The SGS team have been working hard behind the scenes to create a new forum and administration system. Work is still in progress with training provided to all team members.
8. Finally, the commitment to a fair and transparent rehoming system has been maintained and no issues have arisen regarding any concerns.



5. ACHIEVEMENTS, PERFORMANCE, AND FUNDRAISING

The SGS Team have had a busy year behind the scenes. As mentioned above, we have created a new forum which will eventually replace the 'old forum'. We formed a sub-team which included those on the team with technical and administrative skills to set-up and roll out the new system. The forum is now open to the public and we hope to build on usage by including details of events and fundraising activities. All SGS team members have been given training on how to use MS Teams and are working collaboratively to maintain good record keeping.

We held a Winter Show on 26th November 2023 which unfortunately did not attract the numbers we hoped for. Going forward, we have taken a team decision to attend organised shows rather than hold our own. To start this off, we had a successful visit to the Stratherrick & Foyers Highland Gathering near Inverness. This gave us the opportunity to raise awareness, showcase our dogs, raise funds, and sell merchandise.

Our fundraising co-ordinator has been busy again this year and has held very successful campaigns. Regular auctions and raffles have provided SGS with an income boost and have proved very popular with the SGS community. Supporters of SGS have also helped fundraise this year and special thanks go to those who walked and ran to raise funds!



RUNNING LIKE A GREYHOUND FOR 8 HOURS
FAITH IS RAISING MONEY FOR SCOTTISH GREYHOUND SANCTUARY



6. FINANCIAL REVIEW

Scottish Greyhound Sanctuary		
Charity Number: SCO39701		
Statement of Receipts and Payments -		
For the year ended 31 March 2024		
	31 March 2024	31 March 2023
	£	£
RECEIPTS		
Donations	12,723	11,485
Sales	738	2,469
Fundraising	10,122	9,769
Membership	528	394
Sponsor a Dog	120	825
Bank Interest	1,183	46
Other Income	9,588	10,662
	35,002	35,650
PAYMENTS		
Veterinary Expenses	20,351	30,374
Kenneling	0	0
Dog General Expenses	2,686	688
Purchases	1,119	4,207
Insurances	648	796
Professional fees - Accountant	0	
Sundry Expenses	201	567
Telephones	1,197	405
Postage & Stationary	220	10
Fuel	0	0
Bank Charges	0	0
Long Term Foster Expenses	5,925	0
Long term foster vet/medical expenses	4,030	0
TOTAL PAYMENTS	36,377	37,046
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	-1,375	£0
BALANCES		
Bank balance b/f 1.4.2023	88,720	
Surplus/Deficit for the year	-1,375	
Balance c/f 31 March 2024	87,345	

Treasurer's Report, Lorraine Baker, SGS Treasurer

The report covers the period 01.04.23 - 31.03.24, as in previous years, also the tax year. I have included the summary sheet as we would if we were in person, please see this above, this is submitted to OSCR.

Thinking about SGS Expenditure or payments on above schedule:

Veterinary Expenses - as always are our single highest expenditure. Although significantly lower than many years being £20,351 as opposed to the previous year of £30,374. This is the first year where foster dog expenses were accounted for separately and their vet fees were £4,030 bringing total vet fees paid by SGS £24,391 with a further £5,925 paid for other associated costs for long term foster dogs.

Dog General Expenses - was used to furnish foster dogs with items needed but not of a medical reason.

Purchases - Harnesses, muzzles calendars and clothing for resale.

Insurance – Public Liability

Sundry Expenses - Included purchase of food for the show, a token of appreciation for judge and cost of hall
Telephones: Currently 2 lines held by SGS, and this has increased in cost which is now £28 a month. This has now been cancelled so this cost will decrease next year. As well as the 0845 cost each month of between £3-£5.

Postage and Stationery – for sending items to fosterers etc.

Thinking about money in or Receipts on above schedule:

- Receipts overall are down by a slim margin this year but not by much £35,002 as opposed to £35,650 so less than £650 overall.
- Donations remain strong and thanks to those involved at £12,723
- Sales are very low and remain so, similar to last year.
- Fundraising from give as you live, charities trust etc remains very similar £10,122 as opposed to £9769.
- Memberships rose to £528 last years was £394.
- Sponsorship of dogs is lower.
- Bank interest has shot up due to interest rates increasing.
- Other income has remained very similar at £9,588 and previous year was £10,662.

At the end of this period the balance available to SGS was £87,345 where last year this figure was £88,720, very close in amount but very marginally down.

Income received by SGS over this year was £35,002 as opposed to £35,650 last year, again primarily from donations and from fundraising. A significant portion of this being gift aid. Expenses paid over this period was £36,377 with the most significant expense being veterinary fees. This left a deficit over the year of - £1,375 the 4th year in a row for a deficit.

We, as a charity, must submit these accounts along with AGM documentation by 31.10.2024 and intend to do so shortly before the end of September 2024.

Many Thanks once again, go to our independent examiner, Mr Mills.

7. FUTURE PLANS

Like most rehoming charities, SGS saw a slump in the number of applications in the first quarter of 2024. This unfortunately coincided with an increase of trainers relinquishing large numbers of dogs throughout the UK. It also highlighted the knock-on effects of the cost-of-living crisis on rehoming charities, who rely on adopters to keep the rehoming process in motion.

In light of this, the plan for 2024/25 includes:

1. Promotion of the new forum.
2. Redefine and clarify team roles.
3. Continue with fundraising activities.
4. Attend existing shows with an SGS stall.
5. Increase social media presence.



8. FINAL COMMENTS

SGS as always worked hard this past year despite our applications to adopt being down again for another year.

Sadly, the cost of living is still having an impact on people deciding to adopt a dog. Vet costs and Insurance premiums, in particular, have increased significantly. This has resulted in more hounds needing homes and it's hard to turn some way away due to our spaces constantly being full.

Rescue work is hard, emotional, and constantly demanding. However, the SGS team have done a marvellous job working together to their own strengths, be it phone calls, administration, fund raising, media work, treasury and organising greyhound awareness days, like walks, all over the country.

I would like to thank the team for their dedication to our cause in saving and rehoming these very special dogs. At times it's hard, but the feedback we receive from new hound adopters, and how much the dogs have enriched their lives in so many ways, keeps us all determined to carry on with our work as best we can.

Suzanne Simpson,
SGS Chair.

