SKYE MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM (SCIO)

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAR 2026

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

1. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

To engage directly or indirectly in Mountain Rescue work in the Isle of Skye and in such adjacent areas as the need may arise from time to time; to encourage and promote safety on the hills both locally and nationally, and to take such steps as are necessary or conducive to these ends. This is done on a voluntary basis by the team members. It cooperates with other search and rescue organisations.

The Skye Mountain Rescue Team is called out by Police Scotland to engage in life saving activities.
Activities also include fund raising and team member training activities

2. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The Skye Mountain Rescue Team dealt with a total of 103 incidents involving a total of 2882 voluntary hours over 91 days. It is important to note that not all these incidents resulted in formal callouts. Our responses involve a range of situations including providing advice over the phone, granting individuals additional time to arrive, false alarms and various other scenarios.

On average the team participates in at least one session of training each month, with training in rope work, first aid, stretcher work, swift water rescue and helicopter safety.

3. FINANCIAL REVIEW

3a. Reserves policy

Reserves policy - New reserves policy created August 2021. The organisation should aim to always have at least £60,000 available in the bank account(s) to cover a full year's costs.

In addition, the committee should consider any expected large items of expenditure (below) when making financial decisions or decisions with a significant financial impact.

Expected large items of expenditure (as of Mar 2026). We expect to have the following large items of expenditure within the next 3 years:

- Back exits/morgue for both existing bases c. £25,000 x2 (to be completed after new garage and assessment of financial situation)

- Usual equipment costs, for example radio equipment, rucksacks (ca.£12,000)

This policy is to be reviewed annually at the first committee meeting after the AGM.

Note that Trustees are reimbursed for expenses e.g., mileage and costs of certain equipment as they are active members of the team. All team members are reimbursed for their expenses

4. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

4a. Governing document

The governing document is the Constitution of Skye Mountain Rescue Team (SCIO). The team was recognised as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) charity with effect from 2 September 2015. The team is administered in accordance with the terms of the Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

4b. Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

At the Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held each year there shall be elected from amongst the members of the Association into a committee a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer, an Equipment Officer, a Radio officer, a Team Leader, a Deputy Team Leader, a Statistics officer, a Training Officer and two Representative Team Members and these offices are the charity trustees.

4c. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number
SC038386

Principal address
Skye Mountain Rescue - Sluggans Rescue Unit
Portree, Isle of Skye
IV51 9LY

Trustees

Chair Helen Urquhart
Vice Chair Paddy Mcguire
Secretary Sarah Sutton
Treasurer Jen Painting appointed 2 Dec 25. Nick Alexander resigned 2 Dec 25.
Team Leader Paddy Stephenson appointed 2 Dec 25. Neil Urquhart resigned 2 Dec 25
Deputy Team Leader Ben Wear
Equipment Officer Stephen Murchinson
Radio Officer Nick Heward
Stats Officer Andy MacKinnon
Medical Officer Ken Crossley
Training Officer Tom Coles
Team Member Marcus O'Connell

Independent Examiner
Donald Rankin Business Services
Tigh an Oisean
Bridge Road, PORTREE
Isle of Skye
IV51 9ER

Approved by order of the board of trustees on ..... and signed on its behalf by:

.....
J Painting - Trustee