

Chairperson's Report

EFAS

Reporting period: January 2025 to January 2026

Introduction

On behalf of the trustees, I am pleased to present the Chairperson's Report for Event First Aid Service (Scotland) EFAS for the period January 2025 to January 2026. Throughout the year, our volunteers continued to support communities and event organisers by providing trained, well-equipped first aid teams at public events across Scotland.

Our charitable purpose remains focused on saving lives through first aid provision and training, alongside advancing education through first aid learning opportunities. This report reflects on a year of service, development and continued commitment to safe, professional and compassionate care.

Service Delivery and Community Impact

During the reporting period, EFAS maintained its role as a trusted provider of first aid cover for a wide range of community, sporting and cultural events. Our operational model enabled us to support organisers with proportionate first aid arrangements, appropriately trained personnel and suitable equipment.

Our work continued to span Highland Games, agricultural shows, running and cycling events, motorsport, festivals and other community gatherings. From established annual fixtures to smaller local occasions, our volunteers provided reassurance to organisers, participants and members of the public while helping events meet their safety responsibilities.

Our volunteers have attended over 40 events this year, with over 2000 volunteering hours undertaken. We have treated a range of casualties from minor injuries to broken bones and an Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest.

Volunteers and Training

You volunteers are at the heart of the charity. Your professionalism, reliability and willingness to give your time makes our service possible. I offer my sincere thanks to everyone who attended events, completed training, maintained equipment, supported administration or helped the organisation in any other capacity.

Training and continuing professional development remained central to maintaining safe and consistent standards. Volunteers were encouraged to refresh core skills, take part in scenario-based learning and develop confidence in responding to the varied situations encountered at public events. Recruitment also remained an important priority so that the charity can sustain and strengthen teams across its operating areas.

Equipment and Operational Readiness

Maintaining appropriate vehicles, medical equipment, uniforms and consumable supplies is essential to effective service delivery. During the year, the charity continued to focus on operational readiness, routine checks and the responsible replacement or replenishment of resources. These activities supported the deployment of teams capable of responding safely and professionally in a range of event environments.

Governance and Stewardship

The trustees continued to oversee the charity's activities, finances, policies and regulatory responsibilities. Our priorities included safeguarding the charity's resources, supporting volunteers, maintaining suitable insurance and operational controls, and ensuring that decisions remained aligned with our charitable purposes.

Careful financial management remains particularly important in the face of rising costs for fuel, insurance, training, equipment and clinical consumables. The trustees will continue to monitor income and expenditure closely and seek sustainable sources of support. The charity's detailed financial position is set out separately in the annual accounts.

Challenges and Lessons

Like many volunteer-led organisations, we continue to balance demand for services with volunteer availability, training capacity and the cost of remaining fully equipped. The year reinforced the importance of early planning with event organisers, clear deployment procedures, effective communication and regular review of our operational arrangements.

Priorities for the Coming Year

- Recruit, welcome and retain volunteers across our operating areas.
- Maintain high standards of training, competency and continuing development.
- Strengthen relationships with event organisers and community partners.
- Keep vehicles, medical equipment and consumable stocks operationally ready.
- Develop sustainable income through event fees, grants, donations and community support.
- Continue reviewing governance, safeguarding, clinical and operational policies.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank our volunteers and trustees for their dedication throughout the year. I also extend our appreciation to event organisers, partner organisations, funders, donors, suppliers and members of the public who have supported our work. Their confidence and cooperation enable us to continue providing a valuable service to communities across Scotland.

Closing Statement

EFAS ends this reporting period with a clear purpose and a strong foundation of volunteer commitment. I am proud of what has been achieved and confident that, by working together, we can continue to develop the charity and provide safe, dependable first aid support wherever it is needed.

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Chairperson

Date: _____