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Company registration number SC362801

Charity registration number SC040690

LOTHIANS VETERANS' CENTRE LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

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LOTHIANS VETERANS' CENTRE LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr KS Coventry	
	Mr K Dempsey	
	Mr C Elliot	
	Mr C Jetuah	
	Mr J Naples	
	Ms G Purdie	
	Mr IJ Stewart	
	Dr CE Armstrong OBE	(Appointed 29 January 2026)
	Mr DA R Thomson	(Appointed 29 January 2026)
Country of incorporation	United Kingdom (Scotland)	SC362801
Charity registration	Scotland	SC040690
Independent examiner	EQ Accountants Limited 41 Charlotte Square Edinburgh EH2 4HQ	

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LOTHIANS VETERANS' CENTRE LIMITED

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LOTHIANS VETERANS' CENTRE LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026.

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 governing document, the Companies Act 2006 the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" 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)".

Objectives and activities

The purpose of the charity is to provide support to ex-service personnel and their families, with a range of services to deal with challenges associated with their service and transition into civilian life. In order to effectively achieve this the objects of the charity are as undernoted.

- The relief for those in need as a result of suffering, distress and/or disadvantage caused by serving or having served in the armed forces (including service in the Reserve Forces) or as members of the merchant marine (in times of war) ("Veterans") and their families, particularly through the provision of advice and support;
- The advancement of education through raising public awareness of issues affecting the lives of Veterans;
- The advancement of health, and in particular the mental and emotional wellbeing of:
  - Those suffering from ill health and/or injury, particularly through providing support, advice and information to promote and improve physical and mental health;
  - Individuals resident in Scotland who are suffering from mental and emotional distress as a result of a family member being killed or wounded in military service, through the provision of advice and support;
- The provision of recreational, sport, leisure and social opportunities, or the organisation of such activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for Veterans.
- Providing support and advice to serving personnel, Veterans and their families and merchant marine (in time of war), on issues which shall include (but shall not be limited to) pensions, housing, benefits, employment, financial and legal matters, particularly through the operation of drop-in facilities.

Achievements and performance

Significant activities and achievements against objectives

This was another busy, successful year for LVC where we continued to offer a safe, welcoming space for Veterans and families in the Lothians and beyond through our drop-in centre, collaboration with our many partner organisations and by way of our many and varied events, activities and trips.

As part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring the Veterans' Community face no disadvantage as a result of service, we continued to provide a pathway for Veterans and families to access a community where they can connect with like-minded people with shared experiences and regain the sense of belonging and identity that was so familiar during service. We continued to tackle inequalities in health and social care for Veterans and families whilst helping reduce stigma around seeking support. Veterans and families were also encouraged and supported to integrate into both the Veterans' Community and local community to ensure they were making the most of any and all support. Given that our social events and activities are a lifeline for some individuals and their sole means of social connection, we continued to offer encouragement and help to form peer support groups outwith LVC where Veterans and families could meet regularly and connect through WhatsApp and Messenger groups to help maintain their overall health and wellbeing, mental resilience, self-confidence and self-esteem when not attending LVC events.

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Our life-changing and lifesaving, holistic, person-centred advice and support also included continuing to help combat the effects of the unrelenting cost-of-living crisis which, undoubtedly, continues to impact negatively on people's ability to socialise, maintain connections, stay physically and mentally healthy and manage finances. Being a Warm Hub played a fundamental part in offering support as it provided a warm, welcoming space for Veterans and families that were struggling to pay bills, afford everyday shopping and essentials, pay utility bills and other necessities. This is of particular concern for people on lower and fixed incomes as it can have a detrimental impact on other areas of their lives such as deteriorating mental health and social isolation. Having access to free Wi-Fi, TV, digital access, drinks and food, as well as food and toiletry parcels, supermarket deliveries and emergency payments, we helped ease financial worries for many Veterans and families whilst helping improve their health and wellbeing and state of mind.

We also held surgeries and drop-ins where Veterans and families could receive expert advice and support from both statutory and third-sector organisations within LVC's safe and familiar surroundings. These included the DWP, Defence Medical Welfare Service, MOD Veterans Services, Shared Parenting Scotland, Ears2Hear, Help For Heroes, Midlothian Council Homeless Team, Sight Scotland Veterans and Housing Options Scotland. By having access to this vital resource, we can foster a real sense of trust and make lasting and notable differences to people's lives whilst removing the stress of arranging appointments. Moreover, it eases concerns for issues such as health and wellbeing, benefits, debt, housing, homelessness, pensions, the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme, hearing loss, sight loss, relationship breakdowns and access to children during separation/divorce.

As part of our commitment to ensuring equitable access to support for everyone in the Veterans' Community, we continued our proactive approach to reach out to underrepresented and harder to reach groups. One such group is female Veterans. We are now in the second year of our 3-year Female Veterans' Gateway Project, funded by the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust, which was initially devised and developed for ex-servicewomen to encourage more of them to engage with Veterans' services and seek support. Our objective was to support around 100 female Veterans in the Lothians over three years, but I am delighted to report that due to the ongoing success of this project we have exceeded that target at the end of year two and we are supporting female Veterans all over Scotland, not only the Lothians. We are mindful that female Veterans are less likely to seek support in the Veterans' Sector than their male counterparts as well as being less likely to identify as Veterans, not least because of Military Sexual Trauma which is one of the leading causes of PTSD in female Veterans. It is therefore incredibly important to continue to break down any barriers female Veterans face in accessing support so they can receive and benefit from the same opportunities as their male counterparts. As part of this project, we continue to host monthly drop-ins where ex-servicewomen can connect socially in a female only, safe space and get any other support they need. These are a lifeline for some women with one testifying, "if it hadn't been for the monthly Women Veterans' meetings, I may have not been able to stay alive this year so far without their help". The women also enjoyed a day at the Edinburgh Festival for the August drop-in and a day at the races for the Christmas drop-in.

In collaboration with Operation Cairngorms CIC, we also took a group of 10 female Veterans from various parts of Scotland to Aberdeenshire for a 'Wild Women's Wilderness Weekend' in September 2025. The opportunity to bond in nature and come together as a group of female Veterans was heartening and the ex-servicewomen found "companionship and support at every turn". Their shared experiences and stories also brought with them a silent yet familiar camaraderie amongst the group.

Additionally, we held our third networking event in Edinburgh for female Veterans all over Scotland with 92 women attending. These events are now hotly anticipated due to the unique opportunity to meet and network with fellow ex-servicewomen of all ranks and rates from all three services and women from our many partner organisations, whilst enjoying afternoon tea, a glass of fizz, and other activities. Susie Hamilton, the Scottish Veterans Commissioner, and Liza Jarvis, Female Veterans' Transformation Programme Lead, were keynote speakers at the event again this year, and we were delighted and privileged when Dr Alethea Hardy also asked to speak about her PhD in Health Outcomes of Female Military Veterans and launch her new project, HER SERVICE HER HEALTH, at our event.

LVC's female Veterans' group also had the privilege of being asked to take part in Episode 2 (Lost Voices) of a podcast produced by Scotland's Veterans Wellbeing Alliance to hear the voices and stories of female Veterans: https://svwa.org.uk/podcast/

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In the same vein, we continued to provide a safe, gender-specific space for male Veterans through our monthly 'NAAFI Break' evening drop-ins as a means of receiving peer support, making new connections and support networks and building on existing relationships with other men with shared experiences. These events have been successful in attracting younger male Veterans who are another harder to reach cohort with one stating, "I just wanted to thank you all personally for putting on these evenings, which offer us Veterans a few hours every month to be able to relax to such a degree, and then subsequently revel in the therapeutic catharsis that such nostalgia offers". This group also enjoyed a Christmas NAAFI BREAK with each of the men receiving a small Christmas gift.

We maintained our ongoing commitment to ensure we remain a safe space for LGBT+ Veterans and their families by continuing to work closely with Fighting with Pride so that LGBT+ Veterans get the best support including making them aware of the Financial Recognition Scheme (FRS) which closes for applications in December 2026.

Our older Veterans and families are some of the most isolated of our service users so it is vital that we continue to facilitate a weekly 'Senior Socials' event (formerly the D Day Club) so they can meet with likeminded people and engage in activities that stimulate the mind and promote good mental and physical health. The activities include quizzes, crafts, bingo and games and they also enjoy hearing from speakers from other organisations. Many people in this group relish the comfort of attending the Warm Hub after their Senior Socials event where they can enjoy a lunch of homemade soup and filled rolls with their friends so we have started offering filled rolls at the Senior Socials events so everyone can benefit and anyone wishing to attend the Warm Hub can still enjoy their soup and the company of others afterwards.

For Veterans and family members who are particularly isolated, our events can be their sole means of social connection, so it is crucial we provide varied free events, activities and trips for people to attend. One such event is our longstanding, eagerly anticipated, and much-loved weekly Bacon Roll Morning. Every Friday these events are a lifeline for many Veterans and families and a source of great pleasure. Besides being a chance to catch up with friends and make new connections over a tasty morning roll, they offer the opportunity for Veterans and families to hear from speakers from other organisations and join in a sing-along once a month when our partner organisation Music in Hospitals and Care kindly provides a mix of musicians for our pleasure.

2026 was a year of remembrance and commemoration so our events and activities included taking Veterans and families to Scotland's Salute which was a concert to commemorate the end of the war in Europe 80 years ago and honour the WWII Veterans that attended. We also held our own tea parties for VE Day 80 and VJ Day 80.

Our fishing club was especially popular with male Veterans, and we organised Christmas Wreath workshops for women in the Veterans' Community. Visits to the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards Museum and Headquarters, Rosslyn Chapel, Crazy Golf, Indoor Bowling and Christmas Crafts were popular with everyone. We enjoyed meeting people at our stall at Armed Forces Day in Edinburgh in June 2025 and attending an afternoon tea courtesy of 603 Sqn RAuxAF in Edinburgh to celebrate the centenary anniversary of the squadron's formation. Our annual family fun day and barbeque also attracted around 80 Veterans and families with lots of children and many of our partner organisations attended with some of their service users.

In June-July 2025 we had the great honour of being invited to take 12 Veterans to join McCrae's Battalion Trust's annual pilgrimage to Contalmaison to commemorate the men of the 16th Royal Scots (the Pals Battalion) who made the ultimate sacrifice at the Battle of the Somme.

Another significant event was when we partnered with Operation Cairngorms CIC in July 2025 so five families (28 people including some non-UK and Commonwealth Veterans and families) could benefit from a unique weekend of adventure and fun, providing a safe and supportive space to spend meaningful time together, strengthen family bonds through shared outdoor experiences, offer opportunities for children and parents to try new activities in nature and encourage connection, resilience, and peer-to-peer support among families. Activities included bushcraft; campfire cooking; forest therapy walks; axe throwing; archery team challenges; and making shelters and fires.

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We now have over 600 registered served users and this year we provided direct support to 434 Veterans and family members (and indirect support to over 2000 others) who benefitted from the following:

- 58 new people registered with LVC giving them access to a wealth of support and advice;
- 169 people received one-to-one advice and support sessions 730 times from LVC's experienced staff for issues such as social isolation, mental health, health and wellbeing, welfare, benefits, pensions, debt, finances, employment, training, housing, homelessness, the justice system and addictions;
- 37 surgery appointments and drop-ins for Veterans and families to access free expert advice and support in the familiar surroundings of LVC;
- 164 referrals and 42 signposts to partner organisations in the statutory and third sectors for specialist support;
- 359 drop-ins where Veterans and families could connect and socialise with others and benefit from a brew/wet and chat with LVC's peer support staff and volunteers;
- 797 attendances at our Warm Hub;
- 20 food/toiletry parcels and supermarket deliveries were arranged for 17 Veterans and their families and there was also the opportunity to take items of food/toiletries from our larder when needed;
- 8 emergency payments were made to 6 service users in crisis;
- 1254 attendances at our Bacon Roll Morning;
- 959 attendances at our Senior Socials weekly social club for Veterans and families aged 50+;
- 1703 attendances at our varied social and sporting activities, events and trips;
- 66 attendances by 30 male Veterans at our 'NAAFI Breaks';
- 114 attendances by 25 female Veterans at our monthly drop-ins.

Our work also has a huge impact on the local community, and we remain a well-respected 'go to' source of support with organisations such as local authorities, schools, GPs, The Red Cross, VOCAL and Police Scotland making referrals to us. Midlothian Council, who provide us with funding towards our core costs, recognise our contribution to the local community and note the role we play in "supporting Midlothian clients in different ways with the cost of living crisis. LVC are often the first point of contact for clients seeking support rather than the Council". One remarkable example of how well respected we are in the local community was when S3 pupils from St David's RC High School, Dalkeith, chose LVC as their nominated charity for the Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI Scotland) and their outstanding dedication and hard work won us the top prize of a grant of £3,000 in March 2025.

In terms of other successes and achievements, we had the honour of hosting Major General (Retd) Tim Hyams CB OBE, the Chief Executive of the Army Benevolent Fund, in August 2025. He came to visit along with Jenny Redman, Director of Communications and Marketing, and Lt Col (Retd) John Donovan MBE MA FCMI, Regional Director ABF Scotland. We work closely with the ABF who support us by providing funding towards our overheads and they wanted to see firsthand, the exceptional work we do to support the Veterans' community. In April 2025, we also joined forces with the ABF Scotland team to host a joint fundraiser locally and 80 people turned out to support both charities. We had another visit from the ABF in March 2026, when we had the pleasure of hosting Col (Retd) Helen McMahon MBE, the Case Studies Liaison Officer, together with the ABF Scotland team. They wanted to meet and hear the testimonies of LVC's Army Veterans who had received lifesaving and life changing support from us through ABF funding.

LVC's CEO, Pauline Cherrington, was also delighted to be a guest of the former Secretary of State for Scotland, Ian Murray, at The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in August 2025. The theme for the 75th year was The Heroes Who Made Us whilst also paying tribute to the fact that Edinburgh was 900 years old.

In November 2025, LVC's CEO also had the honour and privilege of being invited to attend the official launch of the Female Veterans' Transformation Programme (FVTP) online toolkit at the Royal Hospital Chelsea. This invaluable resource was brought together with a lot of hard work over the past two years by the team from the FVTP together with the insight and lived experience of over 800 female Veterans and more than 50 support organisations. We are proud to say that LVC is one of the organisations that helped in the creation of this significant resource for female veterans and we feature on page 57 as an example of what good looks like for female Veterans in Scotland. You can explore in more detail here: https://covenantfund.org.uk/female-veterans-toolkit/

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We held fundraising events and initiatives throughout the year which generated vital revenue for our small charity as well as raising our profile in both the Veterans' Community and local community and awareness of issues affecting Veterans and their families. One such event included the Edinburgh Kiltwalk in September 2025 when 10 Veterans and family members from all three services gave their time and effort generously to raise funds for LVC. We are also grateful to local people and organisations who support us through generous donations of food, money and other items. Some of these included Colin Beatty MSP, who participated in government surveys which generate regular donations which he chose to donate to LVC. The Midlothian Armed Forces and Veterans Breakfast Club, Mactaggart Scott, Age Scotland, Morrisons, Baynes, Campbells Butchers, Poppy Cabs, and Bonnyrigg Rose Community Football Club have also supported us with donations of money and food. Additionally, we received significant donations from bereaved families of Veterans.

We cannot solely rely on fundraising and donations to provide the quality, level and wide range of support we do, so we are indebted to our funders including Veterans Foundation, the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust, Midlothian Council, the Army Benevolent Fund, The Scottish Government, and the National Lottery Community Fund. Their generous and ongoing support means that we can continue to deliver and expand our services to Veterans and families throughout the Lothians and beyond.

In terms of governance and structure, the Board of Trustees said farewell to two longstanding board members who have loyally supported the work of this charity since 2020, namely Tom Wood and Natalie Cutler, and we warmly welcomed two new board members, Claire Armstrong OBE and David Thomson. The Board is made up of Veterans with the exception of one member who is from a military family. The team of staff, which is made up of three Veterans and the partner of a Veteran, remained unchanged. The team continued to provide vital, timely, appropriate advice and support to Veterans and families with the help of LVC's 10 dedicated volunteers who supported the team an astounding 294 times over the year. The staff and volunteers have remained diligent this year in ensuring their training and qualifications are up to date and relevant to their roles and responsibilities. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the staff, board members and volunteers as we cannot do what we do without their dedication, commitment and compassion.

Our future work will focus on continuing to support Veterans and their families to ensure they face no disadvantage so they can contribute to and thrive in society. We are grateful to have secured ongoing funding from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust, The Scottish Government, Midlothian Council, and the National Lottery Community Fund and we will continue to seek other funding from grant making bodies and organise fundraising activities.

Financial review

The charity reported a surplus of £19,462 for the year (2025 a surplus of £67,298) and total funds held at the year end increased accordingly to £205,021. Of these funds £31,047 are restricted and £173,974 are unrestricted.

The reserves policy of the charity is to hold sufficient funds for 3 months activity in the event of withdrawal of key funding. This will give the charity time to evaluate its course of action and also to provide for staff redundancies.

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LOTHIANS VETERANS' CENTRE LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Structure, governance and management
Lothians Veterans' Centre is governed by trustees who are also its directors under company law. There are two categories of directors - member directors and co-opted directors. Under the articles the member directors, who are required to be members of Lothians Veterans' Centre, shall at all times constitute a majority of the directors. The directors may at any time appoint any individual to be a co-opted director on the basis that he/she has specialist experience and/or skills which could assist the directors. All Trustees are volunteers and cannot be paid employees of Lothians Veterans' Centre.

Governing Document
The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee. The company was established under a Memorandum and Articles of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and it is governed by its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Organisation and management
Day to day management and operations are delegated to the Chief Executive. The board of trustees meets a minimum of four times per annum, with the Chairperson meeting more regularly with the Chief Executive.

Risk Management
The Trustees have examined the major strategic business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that the systems in place enable regular reports to be provided so that the necessary steps can be taken to minimise any potential risks.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr KS Coventry	
Mr K Dempsey	
Mr C Elliot	
Mr C Jetuah	
Mr J Naples	
Ms G Purdie	
Mr IJ Stewart	
Ms N Cutler	(Resigned 13 October 2025)
Mr T Wood	(Resigned 7 November 2025)
Dr CE Armstrong OBE	(Appointed 29 January 2026)
Mr DA R Thomson	(Appointed 29 January 2026)

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Mr IJ Stewart
Trustee

15 October 2026

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LOTHIANS VETERANS' CENTRE LIMITED

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF LOTHIANS VETERANS' CENTRE LIMITED

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026, which are set out on pages 8 to 19.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity trustees (who are also the directors of Lothians Veterans' Centre Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(a)-(c) of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 does not apply.

It is my responsibility to examine the financial statements as required under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
   - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1)(a) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Regulation 4 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, and
   - to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed by:
Raymond Paterson
2E077950CEEB46A...

Mr W R Paterson FCCA
EQ Accountants Limited
41 Charlotte Square
Edinburgh
EH2 4HQ
Date: 28-10-2026 | 15:28 GMT

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LOTHIANS VETERANS' CENTRE LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	**3**	42,199	148,191	190,390	69,938	139,183	209,121
Charitable activities	**4**	19,670	-	19,670	19,670	6,667	26,337
Investments	**5**	185	-	185	325	-	325
Total income		62,054	148,191	210,245	89,933	145,850	235,783
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	**6**	17,260	360	17,620	16,841	-	16,841
Charitable activities	**7**	32,929	140,234	173,163	33,964	117,680	151,644
Total expenditure		50,189	140,594	190,783	50,805	117,680	168,485
Net income and movement in funds		11,865	7,597	19,462	39,128	28,170	67,298
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2025		157,389	28,170	185,559	118,261	-	118,261
Fund balances at 31 March 2026		169,254	35,767	205,021	157,389	28,170	185,559

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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LOTHIANS VETERANS' CENTRE LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

	Notes	2026 £	2026 £	2025 £	2025 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**13**		1,676		1,908
Current assets					
Debtors	**14**	1,063		11,440	
Cash at bank and in hand		207,637		176,262	
		208,700		187,702	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**15**	(5,355)		(4,051)	
Net current assets			203,345		183,651
Total assets less current liabilities			205,021		185,559
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	**17**		35,767		28,170
Unrestricted funds	**18**		169,254		157,389
			205,021		185,559

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 March 2026.

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 trustees on 15 October 2026

Mr IJ Stewart

Trustee

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LOTHIANS VETERANS' CENTRE LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Lothians Veterans' Centre Limited private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Scotland. The registered office is 11 Eskdaill Court, Dalkeith, EH22 1AG

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" 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)". 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, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

The Trustees believe that the going concern basis of preparation of the accounts is appropriate based on the financial position of the charity at the date of signing the accounts as sufficient funds are held to meet its obligations in the following 12 months.

1.3 Charitable funds

The charity has 2 classifications of funds which are separately disclosed in the accounts: -

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purpose.

Restricted funds which the funder has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for a specific project.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income.

Income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.

Income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

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1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure i recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred and is classified under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities to which it relates. As the charity is not registered for VAT expenditure is statement gross of VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds includes those costs incurred in attracting grants and donations, and those incurred in activities that raise funds.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

Support costs are those costs incurred to facilitate an activity. Support costs relating to a specific activity are allocated directly to that activity.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Plant and equipment	25% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank and in hand consists of short term highly liquid bank deposits none of which have a notice period exceeding 7 days.

1.8 Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

1.9 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee’s services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

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1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.10 Retirement benefits

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Donations and gifts	22,929	-	22,929	24,938	-	24,938
Grants	19,270	148,191	167,461	45,000	139,183	184,183
	42,199	148,191	190,390	69,938	139,183	209,121
Grants						
Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust	-	29,310	29,310	-	39,080	39,080
Army Benevolent Fund (ABF)	19,270	-	19,270	20,000	-	20,000
Scottish Government - Warm Hub	-	27,071	27,071	-	35,203	35,203
National Lottery Community Fund	-	66,210	66,210	-	63,800	63,800
Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust (Napier Uni)	-	25,600	25,600	-	-	-
Veterans Foundation	-	-	-	25,000	-	25,000
Age Scotland	-	-	-	-	1,100	1,100
	19,270	148,191	167,461	45,000	139,183	184,183

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3 Income from donations and legacies **(Continued)**

The grants received from the Scottish Government of £27,071 (2025 - £35,203) and the National Lottery of £66,210 (2025 - £63,800) are considered to be government grants as defined in the Charities SORP (FRS102). For further details regarding these grants please see note 17. This year and the previous year included a service level agreement (SLA) with Napier University who receive funding from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust, see note 18 for more information.

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Charitable income						
Performance related grants	19,670	-	19,670	19,670	6,667	26,337

Performance related grants of £19,670 were received during the year (2025 - £26,337).

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £
Interest receivable	185	325

6 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Fundraising and publicity						
Other fundraising costs	-	360	360	180	-	180
Staff costs	17,260	-	17,260	16,661	-	16,661
	17,260	360	17,620	16,841	-	16,841

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7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable activity 2026 £	Charitable activity 2025 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	75,634	70,113
Events & activities	34,129	19,975
Other charitable expenditure	2,086	2,457
Premises	17,411	19,134
	129,260	111,679
Share of support and governance costs (see note 8)		
Support	43,903	39,965
	173,163	151,644
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	32,929	33,964
Restricted funds	140,234	117,680
	173,163	151,644

8 Support costs allocated to activities

	2026 £	2025 £
Staff costs	21,344	20,490
Depreciation	953	1,184
Website	473	311
Insurance	969	949
Communications & IT	6,512	7,984
General Costs	5,607	5,921
Repairs & Renewals	2,341	406
Staff Travel	1,890	-
Professional Fees	3,814	2,720
	43,903	39,965
Analysed between:		
Charitable activity	43,903	39,965

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9 Net movement in funds

	2026	2025
	£	£
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements	-	-
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	953	1,184

10 Trustees

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

11 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2026	2025
	Number	Number
	4	4

Employment costs	2026	2025
	£	£
Wages and salaries	108,717	101,018
Social security costs	3,003	4,037
Other pension costs	2,518	2,209
	114,238	107,264

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

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

	2026	2025
	£	£
Aggregate compensation	33,696	33,322

12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

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13 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and equipment
	£
Cost	
At 1 April 2025	6,735
Additions	721
At 31 March 2026	7,456
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2025	4,827
Depreciation charged in the year	953
At 31 March 2026	5,780
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2026	1,676
At 31 March 2025	1,908

14 Debtors

	2026	2025
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Other debtors	131	131
Prepayments and accrued income	932	11,309
	1,063	11,440

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2026	2025
	£	£
Other creditors	681	981
Accruals and deferred income	4,674	3,070
	5,355	4,051

16 Retirement benefit schemes

	2026	2025
Defined contribution schemes	£	£
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	2,518	2,209

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17 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2025 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2026 £
National Lottery	15,950	66,210	(53,305)	28,855
AFCFT - Female Veterans	12,220	29,310	(36,690)	4,840
Warm Hub	-	27,071	(27,071)	-
Thrive Together	-	25,600	(23,528)	2,072
	28,170	148,191	(140,594)	35,767

Previous year:	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2025 £
Other Restricted	-	1,100	(1,100)	-
National Lottery	-	63,800	(47,850)	15,950
AFCFT - Female Veterans	-	39,080	(26,860)	12,220
Scottish Govt - FVWP	-	10,500	(10,500)	-
VPPP	-	6,667	(6,667)	-
Warm Hub	-	24,703	(24,703)	-
	-	145,850	(117,680)	28,170

Nature and Purpose of Major Restricted Funds

National Lottery Community Fund: Lothians Veterans Centre will support veterans and family members throughout Edinburgh and the Lothians. The three-year project will address the social isolation and loneliness of veterans. The support will also tackle the financial and health inequalities they experience. LVC will provide a person-centred approach to support through our drop-in centre and external events and activities for veterans and families.

Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust (AFCFT): This three-year project will support female veterans and their families in Edinburgh and the Lothians to overcome barriers in accessing help and support for issues including improved health and wellbeing, peer support, comradeship, and advice on matters such as employment, training, housing and benefits within a safe, protected and welcoming environment.

Warm Hub: funding from The Scottish Government for our Warm Hub where veterans and families could access free Wi-Fi, TV, tea and coffee and where they could get hot food every day to combat the cost-of-living crisis.

Thrive Together: This is a service level agreement (SLA) with Napier University who receive funding from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust and distribute it to partners engaged in delivering support to veterans and families as part of Scotland’s Veterans’ Wellbeing Alliance which is a consortium of organisations that support veterans and their families across Scotland to live well and thrive in communities.

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18 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2025 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2026 £
Designated funds	-	38,940	(38,940)	-
General funds	157,389	23,114	(11,249)	169,254
	157,389	62,054	(50,189)	169,254

Previous year:	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2025 £
Designated funds	1,850	-	(1,850)	-
General funds	116,411	89,933	(48,955)	157,389
	118,261	89,933	(50,805)	157,389

Included within the designated funds is funding from the Army Benevolent Fund (ABF) which goes towards core operating costs.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £
At 31 March 2026:			
Tangible assets	1,676	-	1,676
Current assets/(liabilities)	167,578	35,767	203,345
	169,254	35,767	205,021

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
At 31 March 2025:			
Tangible assets	1,908	-	1,908
Current assets/(liabilities)	155,481	28,170	183,651
	157,389	28,170	185,559

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20 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2025 - none).