SAMARITANS

SCOTTISH CHARITABLE
INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Perth Samaritans SCIO

For the year ended 31 March 2026



Samaritans' vision is that fewer people die by suicide.

CHARITY NUMBER SC048125

18 UNITY TERRACE, PERTH PH1 2BQ

OSCR
Scottish Charity Regulator
www.oscr.org.uk
Registered SCIO
SC048125

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> The trustees present their report and financial statements together with the independent examiner's report for the year ended 31 March 2026.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

Reference and administrative details

CHARITY NAME	Perth Samaritans SCIO
CHARITY NUMBER	SC048125
PRINCIPAL ADDRESS	18 Unity Terrace, Perth, PH1 2BQ
WEBSITE	www.samaritans.org/branches/perth
BANKERS	Unity Trust Bank plc, 4 Brindley Place, Birmingham, B1 2JB
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Ian Ottiwell, The Stables, Leslie Mains, Glenrothes, KY6 3EP

Current trustees

NAME	ROLE	APPOINTMENT
Kirsty Dodson	Co-Director	—
Simon Rycroft	Co-Director / Secretary	—
Julie Christie-Marr	Deputy Director	—
Kathy Dolby	Treasurer	—
Sian Hislop	Deputy Director	Co-opted 1 May 2025
John Muncey	Vice Director	—
Peter Scott	Deputy Director	Co-opted 1 May 2025
Elinor Smith	Deputy Director	Elected 13 September 2025

Other trustees who served during the year

Laura McVean	Director	Resigned 30 April 2025

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) that was registered on 07 February 2018 and is governed by its constitution from that date. It is the successor charity to Perth Samaritans, which was an unincorporated association (Charity Number SC016369) established in 1974.

Appointment of trustees

The board of trustees consists of the Branch Director (whose appointment is subject to the approval of the board of trustees of the Samaritans Central Charity), a Secretary, a Treasurer and up to eight trustees elected by the members of the Branch. The trustees may co-opt two further trustees, but are not required to do so.

The Branch Director serves for three years. All other trustees retire at the AGM but are eligible for re-election if they have not served for six or more consecutive years.

New trustees are inducted and trained in accordance with Samaritans' national policy.

Organisational structure

The board of trustees, which is responsible for the day-to-day management of the charity, meets every second month.

Risk management

The trustees regularly review the risks, including the health and safety of its volunteers, to which the charity is exposed. They do not believe there are any substantial risks beyond the liabilities disclosed in the accounts. The property, which the charity owns, is maintained in good order and properly insured.

The trustees accept that Samaritans' reputation could be at risk through misuse of confidential information, but has policies and procedures in place, including Protection of Vulnerable Groups checks on all listening volunteers, to mitigate this risk.

Samaritans Central Charity policies and procedures, including safeguarding, have been implemented within the Branch and integrated into our standard practice.

Objects and activities

The objects of the charity are:

1. to enable persons in Perth and the surrounding area as well as elsewhere who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those who may be at risk of suicide, to receive confidential emotional support at any time of the day or night in order to improve their emotional health and to reduce the incidence of suicide;
2. to promote a better understanding in society of suicide, suicidal behaviour and the value of expressing feelings which may otherwise lead to suicide or impaired emotional health; and
3. to collaborate with and support Samaritans Central Charity and its affiliated branches in fulfilling these objects.

> Samaritans' vision is that fewer people die by suicide. We work to achieve this by making it our mission to alleviate emotional distress and reduce the incidence of suicidal feelings and suicidal behaviour.

Achievements and performance

2,443
HOURS ON THE PHONE
1,716 in 2024/25*

10,122
CALLS ANSWERED
6,890 in 2024/25*

48
VOLUNTEERS
with others awaiting training

It has been another busy year at Perth Samaritans, with volunteers spending 2,443 hours on the phone answering 10,122 calls. Volunteer numbers are standing at 48 and we have others in the pipeline awaiting training.

**Note that the branch closed during the Autumn of 2024/25 due to our move of premises.*

We have continued to carry out our training both in-branch and via Zoom. Other training has taken place online through the Samaritans portal and via Zoom to ensure that our longer serving volunteers remain up to date. There are numerous training opportunities through the Samaritans portal of which many volunteers have availed themselves.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

During the year we were able to take advantage of our new branch premises to support a range of activities that would previously have been difficult to undertake. These included a Branch open day, volunteer 'get togethers' (often coupled with training), and a very well-attended Quiz Night fundraiser. We were also able to rent our main meeting space out to the Girl Guides on several occasions, adding further to branch income.

We are involved regionally and nationally with the Samaritans Central Charity and take an active part in their initiatives.

During the year, the Central Charity embarked on a 'Futureproofing' process, the aim of which is to identify how the Samaritans organisation can adapt to our changing world. Over time, this process is likely to involve a number of branch closures and changes to the way in which the listening service is provided. Our branch participated actively in the consultation process which followed the announcement of planned changes. Similarly, we look forward to supporting the Scotland 'Pathfinder nation' initiative, which aims to establish how revised working practices will operate at branch and regional level in Scotland. Any significant changes to an organisation such as ours are bound to be unsettling, and so we are proud of the positive approach Perth branch volunteers have taken to continue delivering on our listening commitments; we hope that this will stand the branch in good stead for any significant branch changes in Scotland over the coming years.

One specific consequence of the Central Charity Futureproofing process is that all branches have been asked to suspend plans for significant spending on branch premises until further clarity is achieved about which branches are likely to continue operating in the longer term. Consequently, our plans to expand the branch's duty room and other property improvements have been put on hold. Funding for this work in the future will be ringfenced as far as possible.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

We continue to support HMP Perth, with fortnightly visits to our five listeners. We have worked with other local organisations to provide support for the local community and are part of PKC Suicide Prevention Steering Group. During the year we also attended the Braco Show, Kinross Show, Perth Pride, the Blairgowrie Highland Games and a local charity fayre organised by the Rotary Club to raise awareness of our services within the local community. We also took part in the Samaritans Small Talk Saves Lives campaigns with an event at the St Johns Centre and sent volunteers to Perth Station for Brew Monday. We formed part of a panel for a Suicide awareness event in September and joined local organisations to give support after a cluster of suicides in a nearby town. Live Active Perth have also allowed us to use the area outside Bells Sports Centre at the North Inch to interact with the local community. Over these events we interacted with around 2,500 members of the public.

We are grateful to Morrisons Supermarkets for permitting us to collect donations and hand out awareness-raising material on a number of occasions.

We are proud of what we have achieved during the last year, with the volunteers going well above what was expected of them so that the branch, and the service, stayed open for the callers.

Financial review

Overview

Our principal sources of income continue to be donations, grants and the proceeds of fundraising, with the expenditure focussed on service delivery and the costs of the Branch building. The following is a summary of our income and expenditure for the year:

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL 2026	TOTAL 2025
	£	£	£	£
Receipts	12,350	0	12,350	172,680
Payments	38,559	0	38,559	271,446
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	**(26,209)**	**0**	**(26,209)**	**(98,766)**

FINANCIAL REVIEW (CONTINUED)

Donated facilities and services

We thank all the volunteers in the Branch for their dedication and the time they give to the Branch. They are the heart of our service and it is due to them that there is a safe space and a confidential listening ear for anyone feeling down, depressed, unable to cope or suicidal.

We also thank all of our financial donors who enable us to continue our work — our heartfelt thanks go to those listed on page 15.

Reserves policy

Given the uncertainty of recurring income from donations, the trustees believe that 12 to 18 months of expenditure is an appropriate level of reserves. The exact reserves amount was yet to be determined at the time of writing due to ongoing conversations with Samaritans Central Charity about the final level of Central Charity Contribution for the financial year.

Future plans

We plan to continue our support for the local community by undertaking outreach in rural and city locations. We will work with Perth & Kinross Council to further our engagement in structured initiatives to support those in distress.

We intend to continue to maximise the opportunity provided by our new premises to increase in-person interaction between branch volunteers and fundraising opportunities.

We will continue to engage with local organisations and give talks where feasible. We will continue to support HMP Perth by running the Listeners Scheme. We hope to be able to widen our pop-up events in local green spaces during the year.

Approval

This report was approved by the trustees on 23 August 2026 and signed on their behalf by:



Simon Rycroft
DIRECTOR

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees/members of Perth Samaritans SCIO

Registered charity number SC048125

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026, which are set out on pages 1 to 5.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act 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 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes 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 seeks 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 accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

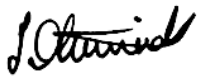
In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

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 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

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

Signed:  **Date: 10th July 2026**

Name: Ian Ottiwell

Address: The Stables
Leslie Mains
Glenrothes
KY6 3EP

PERTH SAMARITANS SCIO
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2026

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total 2026**	Total 2025
		£	£	**£**	£
Receipts					
Donations		2,278		**2,278**	2,859
Gift Aid		200		**200**	1,946
Legacies		0		**0**	600
Prison grant		1,895		**1,895**	2,139
Other grants		6,000		**6,000**	6,450
Property rents		0		**0**	2,000
Fund raising		1,977		**1,977**	1,686
		12,350	0	**12,350**	17,680
Sale of fixed assets		0		**0**	155,000
		12,350	0	12,350	172,680
Payments					
Fund raising costs		1,483		**1,483**	1,065
Central charity contribution		0		**0**	0
Charitable activities					
Branch costs	7	28,510		**28,510**	41,583
Service delivery	8	6,614		**6,614**	8,613
Governance costs					
Data protection register		47		**47**	35
Donation in lieu of IE fee		0		**0**	150
		36,654	0	**36,654**	51,446
Purchase of fixed assets		1,905		**1,905**	220,000
		38,559	0	**38,559**	271,446
Surplus/(deficit) for year		-26,209	0	**-26,209**	-98,766

The Notes on pages 3 and 4 form an integral part of these accounts.

PERTH SAMARITANS SCIO
STATEMENT OF BALANCES
AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total 2026**	Total 2025
		£	£	**£**	£
Cash at Bank					
Balance as at 1 April 2025		266,101		**266,101**	364,867
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		-26,209		**-26,209**	-98,766
Balance as at 31 March 2026		239,892	0	**239,892**	266,101
Other Assets					
Tangible fixed assets	9	238,075		**238,075**	236,170
Debtors		1,355		**1,355**	1,867
		239,430	0	**239,430**	238,037
Liabilities					
Central charity dues		23,790		**23,790**	23,114
Other creditors		2,391		**2,391**	4,531
		26,181	0	**26,181**	27,645

The notes on pages 3 and 4 form an integral part of these accounts.

These accounts, which have been prepared in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, were approved by the trustees on 10th July 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Simon Rycroft
Director

Kathy Mackay
Treasurer

PERTH SAMARITANS SCIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2026

1. Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared on the receipts & payments basis in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

There have been no changes to the basis of preparation or to the previous year's accounts.

2. Fund accounting

Restricted funds are those that may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor, or when funds are raised for specific purposes.

There are no restricted funds in the year ending 31 March 2026.

3. Taxation

The charity is not liable to corporation tax or capital gains tax on its charitable activities, and is not registered for VAT. All costs shown in the accounts are inclusive of VAT.

4. Trustee remuneration

There were no remuneration payments made to trustees during the year or in the previous year.

5. Trustee expenses

	2026		2025	
	No of Trustees	**Amount £**	No of Trustees	Amount £
Travelling expenses	**6**	**1305**	5	637

6. Transaction with related parties

There were no other transaction with related parties during the year or in the previous year.

PERTH SAMARITANS SCIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2026

7. Branch costs

	Total 2026	Total 2025
	£	£
Bank charges	190	159
Cleaning and housekeeping	1519	1142
Heating and lighting	4594	2780
Insurance	1698	2329
New equipment	510	16822
Professional fees	14217	10581
Repairs and maintenance	5538	7588
Sundries	244	182
	28510	41583

Professional fees are for design and building warrant costs relating to the proposed work to be done on 18 Unity Terrace which was purchased in May 2024.

8. Service delivery costs

	Total 2026	Total 2025
	£	£
Advertising and publicity	14	409
Conferences and training	244	59
Outreach	188	169
Postage and stationery	301	870
Prison expenses	497	368
Telephone	0	2388
Travelling expenses	5370	4350
	6614	8613

PERTH SAMARITANS SCIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2026

9. Fixed assets

The charity is bases at 18 Unity Terrace, Perth, which was purchased in May 2024.

The value shown in the current year's accounts is the purchase price of the property.

	2026	2025
	£	£
Buildings	**220000**	220000
Contents	**18075**	16170
	238075	236170

10. Movement in funds

	As at 31/03/2025	Receipts	Payments	**As at 31/03/2026**
	£	£	£	**£**
General funds	266,101	12,350	-38,559	**239,892**

Supporters

Perth Samaritans are very grateful for all the support received throughout the year and, in particular, would like to thank the following:

Perth and Kinross Council	Robert McVean
Enthuse	J Humphrey
CAF	Perth Samaritans Quiz Team
Auchterarder Fifty Plus	Gift Aid
Crieff Fifty Plus	Can Collections

...and many others, some of whom prefer to support us privately or anonymously.

SAMARITANS

Perth Samaritans SCIO · 18 Unity Terrace, Perth PH1 2BQ

Charity Number SC048125 · www.samaritans.org/branches/perth

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