

VSPCA-UK Annual Report 2020

3 January 2021

Summary of the activities in the past year

This report covers the time period of our inaugural fiscal year from 22 July 2019 to 31 December.

Activities in the past fiscal year

The VSPCA-UK officially took up business on 22 July 2019 with the successful registration of the charity with the UK Charity Commission (Charity No.: 1184528). The VSPCA-UK couldn't have been established at a better time because in 2020 the Covid pandemic hit our sister organisation the VSPCA in St Vincent and the Grenadines hard. Normally, their biggest source of income are donations from cruise ship passengers but due to the pandemic these donations essentially dropped to zero as cruises were cancelled around the globe. Another unfortunate side effect of the pandemic was that animals that were sheltered and treated in St Vincent and the Grenadines could no longer be flown out for adoption. As a result, adoption rates dropped and the number of shelter animals locally in St Vincent and the Grenadines increased. Despite reduced educational activities this meant that costs for animal protection and treatment rose while income from donations virtually evaporated.

In the UK, our efforts to fundraise were obviously hampered by the pandemic as well as the UK went into lockdown in spring 2020 and again in December 2020. In between these lockdown phases, public gatherings like markets or fairs that could have served as events at which to fundraise were cancelled throughout the country.

Thus, fundraising had to be restricted to online activities via the Facebook site and webpage of the VSPCA. Additionally, board members like Liz Clayborne and VSPCA founder Kiersten Nielsen used every opportunity to approach their contacts to help raise funds for the VSPCA and the VSPCA-UK. Luckily, the establishment of the VSPCA-UK made it easier for UK residents to donate money via bank transfers and the registration with the Charity Commission and a local representation in the UK provided some additional level of trust to donors.

Thus, the VSPCA-UK reduced the hurdle for donors to donate to our work of protecting animals and providing health care for them.

Changes in board composition

Unfortunately, the Chair of the Board of our sister organisation in the Caribbean, Ms. Mary Barnard and another board member, Ms Traudl Arthur, left the board of both the VSPCA in St Vincent and the Grenadines and the board of the VSPCA-UK in July 2020 due to their age. We thank both of them for their tireless efforts to protect and help animals across St Vincent and the Grenadines and their valuable work in the establishment of the VSPCA-UK.

The new chair of the board of the VSPCA in St Vincent and the Grenadines is the founder of the organisation, Ms Kiersten Nielsen. She has become a board member of the VSPCA-UK ex officio according to clause 10.02 of the constitution of the VSPCA-UK. Replacing Traudl Arthur as a nominated trustee is Lisa Walker who also sits on the board of trustees of the

VSPCA in St Vincent and the Grenadines. Both new board members were duly elected at our regular board meeting on 11 July 2020.

Outlook 2021

With the pandemic raging around the globe and a more virulent variant spreading at the end of December, we expect the situation in St Vincent and the Grenadines to remain largely unchanged this year. Cruise ships will again be few and far in between and once vaccines have been rolled out widely enough in developed countries for cruise activity to pick up again (something we expect to see in the second half of 2021), the cruise season in the Caribbean will be over. Thus, the activities in St Vincent and the Grenadines will again be hampered significantly by a lack of income from cruise ship passengers and an inability to reduce the number of shelter animals through adoptions.

This means that going forward, the VSPCA-UK will likely have to find alternative sources of income in the UK through our existing network of donors and benefactors. [Financial Statements](#)

The following statements cover the first reporting period of the VSPCA-UK from its inception on 22 July 2019 to 31 December 2020. **Income Statement:**

Position	£
Direct donations	10,612.80
Donations via Paypal	2,027.42
Other income	0.00
Total income	12,640.22
Donations made	10,000.00
Bank fees	32.00
Paypal fees	32.00
Admin fees	0.00
Total expenses	10,064.00
Net income	2,576.22

The VSPCA-UK started its inaugural year with zero assets and liabilities. Throughout the first fiscal year, we received donations that total £12,640.22. Our Paypal account received a host of smaller donations most of which came through the website and Facebook site of our sister organisation, the VSPCA in St Vincent and the Grenadines. Thanks to the fundraising efforts of our board member Liz Clayborne, we received two major donations. One donation of £10,000 by a UK benefactor and another donation of £500 from the Bryan Adams Foundation.

Due to the lack of income at the VSPCA in the wake of the Covid pandemic, we received a request in June 2020 for a donation from the VSPCA-UK to the VSPCA. At our board meeting on 11 July 2020, we decided unanimously to donate £10,000 to the VSPCA with the express purpose to use the funds to feed shelter animals and veterinary care for stray animals and shelter animals on the islands. The board of the VSPCA-UK together with the board of the VSPCA will supervise the use of this donation based on the regular reports of the VSPCA in

St. Vincent. So far, the board has been satisfied that the donated funds have been used as agreed and have benefitted a large number of shelter animals.

Given this large donation to the VSPCA in St Vincent and the Grenadines, our asset base as of 31 December 2020 has shrunk to £2,576.22 but additional donations have been received in early January 2021 and a major donation of US\$10,000 is expected to be received soon. The VSPCA-UK has no liabilities or debt and all services by the board members have been provided pro bono. The VSPCA-UK did not incur any costs except bank fees for the transfer of money to St Vincent and the Grenadines and Paypal administration fees. **Balance Sheet:**

Active	£	Passive	£
Liquid assets	2,576.22	Short-term liabilities	0.00
Long-term assets	0.00	Long-term liabilities	0.00
Other assets	0.00	Equity	2,576.22
Total assets	2,576.22	Total assets	2,576.22