



# **Sunflower Scotland SCIO**

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

**From 01.01.2025 to 31.12.2025**



## Charity contact information

|                          |                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Charity name:            | Sunflower Scotland SCIO                                                                                 |
| Scottish Charity Number: | SC0052092                                                                                               |
| Registered Address*:     | Greyfriars Charteris Centre,<br>138-140 Pleasance, Edinburgh                                            |
| Postcode:                | EH8 9RR                                                                                                 |
| Telephone number:        | 0131 358 54 90                                                                                          |
| Email address:           | <a href="mailto:contact@sunflowerscotland.co.uk">contact@sunflowerscotland.co.uk</a>                    |
| Website:                 | <a href="https://sunflowerscotland.co.uk">https://sunflowerscotland.co.uk</a>                           |
| Facebook:                | <a href="https://www.facebook.com/SunflowerScotland">https://www.facebook.com/SunflowerScotland</a>     |
| LinkedIn:                | <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company/84030862/">https://www.linkedin.com/company/84030862/</a>     |
| Instagram:               | <a href="https://www.instagram.com/sunflowerscotland/">https://www.instagram.com/sunflowerscotland/</a> |

\* Until 30.07.2026 the charity's Registered Address was 5 South Charlotte Street, Edinburgh EH2 4AN

## Charity Board of Trustees

1. Oleg Dmitriev, Chairman | Place of residence: Edinburgh
2. Margaret Coughtrie | Place of residence: Edinburgh (resigned on 22.08.26)
3. Iryna Mansell | Place of residence: Edinburgh
4. Tetyana Sibbald | Place of residence: Edinburgh
5. Elvira Dmitrieva, Treasurer | Place of residence: Edinburgh
6. Alistair Davidson | Place of residence: Edinburgh (appointed on 22.08.26)



*Sunflower Scotland's Trustees and volunteers delivering aid to Ukraine*

*March 2025*



## Objectives and activities

We have been helping Ukraine since 02 March 2022. First as volunteers, later as a registered charity. We learned and evolved.

During 2025 we were helping vulnerable people near the front line, vulnerable children, and supporting rehabilitation of victims of war.



During 2025 **the rapid spread of drone warfare created new challenges**. Drones not only escalated medical casualties, but also allowed Russia to terrorise Ukraine at an unprecedented scale. In the winter, Russia used long-range drones to destroy Ukraine's energy grid. Vulnerable people met the cold months without heating or light.

By the end of the year, our main focus shifted to responding to the drone terror:

- Helping medics to save lives at/near the front line. We were supporting hospitals and medical evacuation teams, donating ambulances and evacuation vehicles.
- High-capacity batteries to keep families with vulnerable children warm.





## Sunflower Scotland's Purposes

The purpose of Sunflower Scotland SCIO is to save lives and to provide relief to those Ukrainian people who suffered from Russia's aggressive invasion in Ukraine.

To achieve its purpose, our organisation undertakes:

- (a) to provide humanitarian relief aid to vulnerable people in settlements near the front line and de-occupied territories, where homes and civilian infrastructure are severely damaged;
- (b) to provide relief aid to deprived children and fostering families;
- (c) to provide medical equipment and supplies to Ukrainian hospitals;
- (d) to help save lives at the front line by providing medical supplies, ambulances and means of evacuation;
- (e) to source humanitarian aid locally in Ukraine as much as is reasonably practical, in order to support the country's economy.

## Structure, governance and management

### Type of governing document

The work of our charity is governed by a two-tier constitution, which is based on the SCVO Model SCIO Constitution.

Sunflower Scotland's Constitution sets out our purpose, structure and describes how it operates.

### Trustee recruitment and appointment

The maximum number of charity trustees is 7, and the minimum number is 3.

The initial trustees are deemed to have been appointed by the members as charity trustees with effect from the date of incorporation.

At each AGM, members may elect any eligible member .

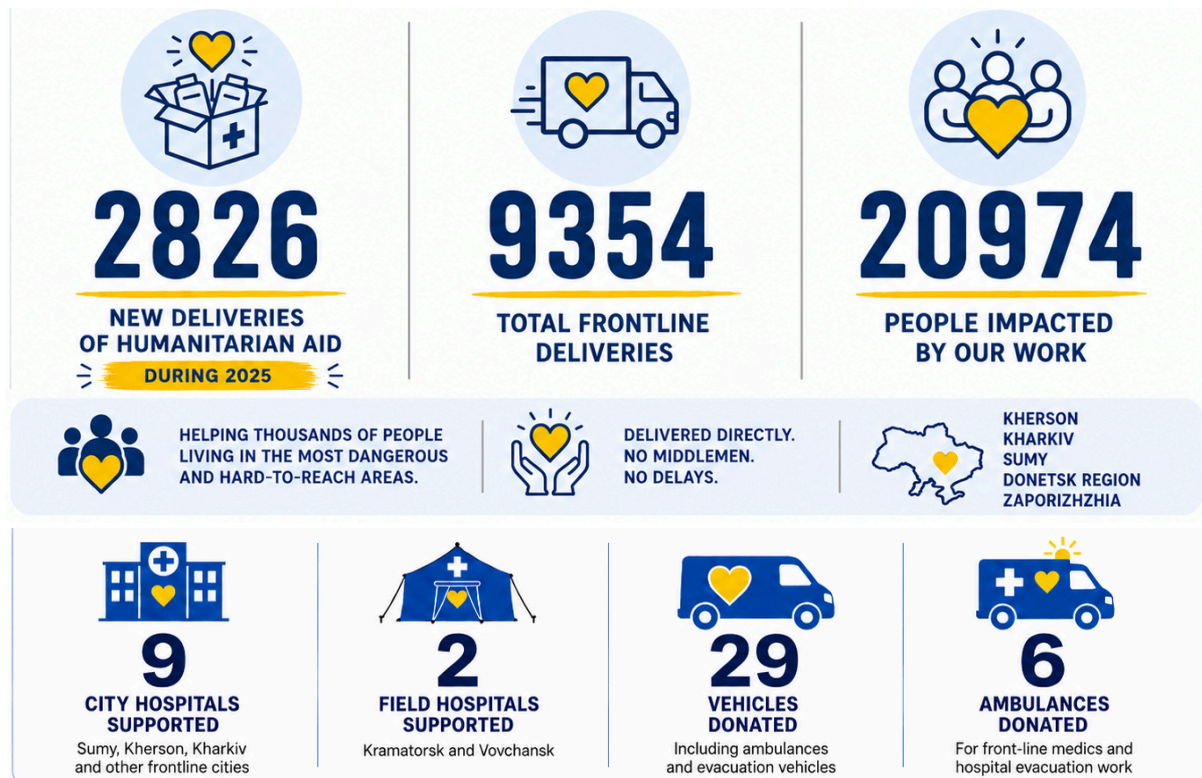
The board may at any time appoint any eligible member to be a charity trustee.

A person is not eligible for election or appointment to the board if they are either disqualified from being a charity trustee under the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005; or they are a charity's employee.

## Achievements and performance

Here's a summary of our results for 2025:

- Conducted 9 trips, delivered humanitarian aid to 53 locations.
- Made 2,826 deliveries in areas near the front line including Kherson, Kramatorsk, Vovchansk district, Kushuhum (Zaporizhzhia).
- 1,084 aid deliveries to vulnerable children (disabled, orphans).
- Supported 9 city hospitals in Sumy, Kherson, Kharkiv etc., two field hospitals (Kramatorsk, Vovchansk), and a rehabilitation centre in Dnipro.
- Donated 29 vehicles including six ambulances.



## PROJECT 1: VULNERABLE PEOPLE IN VILLAGES AND TOWNS NEAR THE FRONT



In 2025 we continued helping vulnerable (pensioners and disabled) people near the front. But because of the rapidly increasing drone danger, in mid-2025 we had to rethink our work. Our trips were putting volunteers at the risk of death.

After delivering aid to almost a thousand people, we changed focus to helping to evacuate people from kill zones. We donated an armoured van to an evac team in Kherson, and 29 vehicles including six ambulances.

We prioritised supporting hospitals which treat the victims: see “Project 2” below.



**Who/where** Older, disabled and vulnerable people in Kherson, Kharkiv region, Sumy region.

**Why** Vulnerable people in towns and villages near the front live in extreme poverty and danger. **Urgent evacuation required!**

**What** Beginning of 2025: Food, clothing  
End of 2025: Help with evacuation  
Disabled persons: Mobility aids, nappies, urine/stoma bags

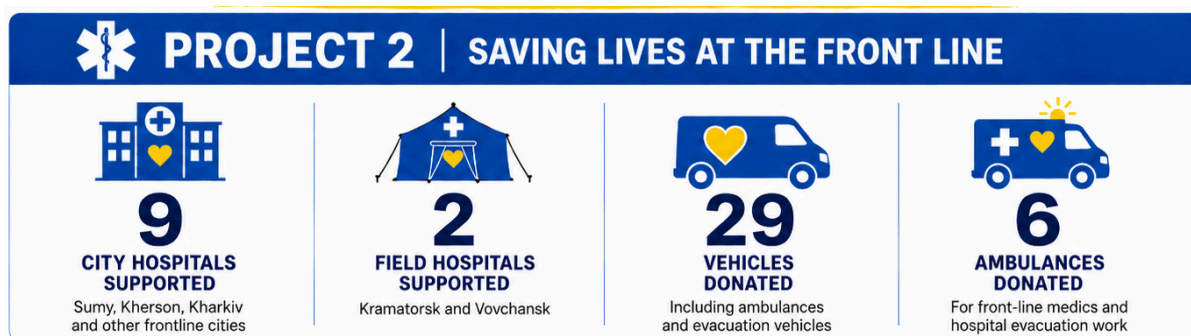




## PROJECT 2: SAVING LIVES AT THE FRONT LINE

|                  |                                                                                                                                                               |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Who/where</b> | Directly: Medics in City/town hospitals and field hospitals near the front.<br><br>Indirectly: victims of war who receive first treatment in these hospitals. |
| <b>Why</b>       | Certain critical supplies are missing*. Due to high danger, international aid is not arriving on time.                                                        |
| <b>What</b>      | Bandages, dressings (sterile/non-sterile), IV catheters, urine / stoma management, crutches, mobility aids                                                    |

\* All hospitals get supplies but often not as much as required. When this happens doctors prioritise which patients will receive surgeries and procedures. Charities plug urgent gaps.

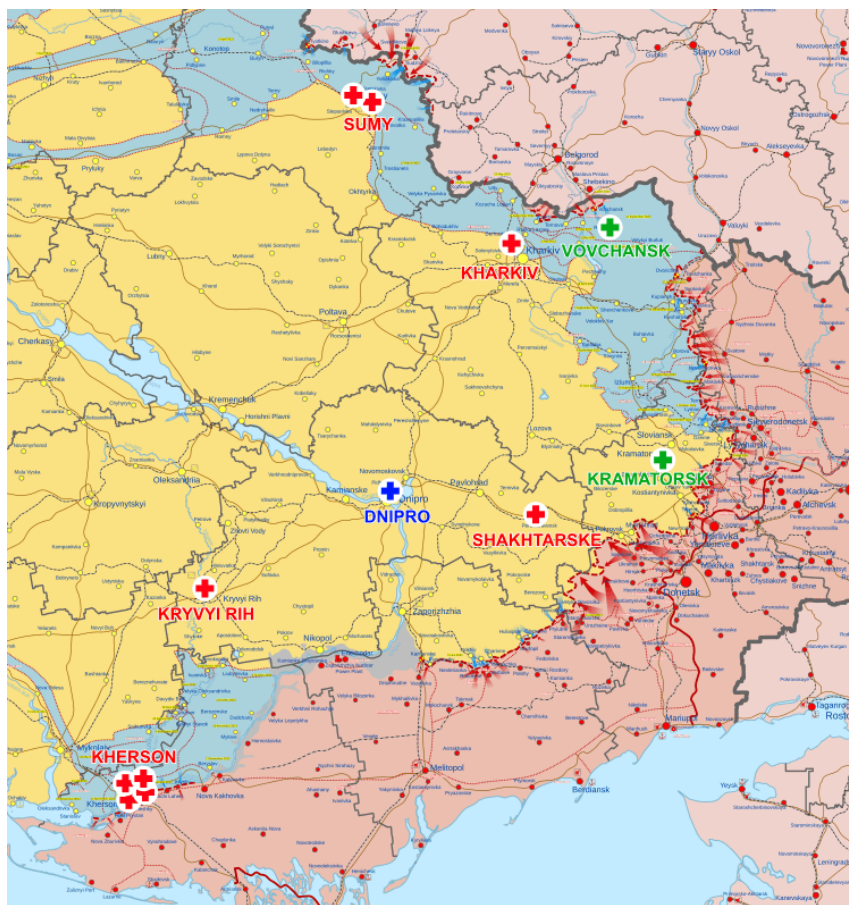


### Here are examples of our deliveries:

- Donated an ambulance van to a paramedic team near Vovchansk
- Medical aid to a field hospital near Vovchansk in east Kharkiv region
- Sumy – refrigerator van for transporting fallen soldiers
- Shakhtarske – ambulance for medics of the 46<sup>th</sup> brigade
- Kherson - 250 packs of nappies to Kherson Regional Hospital
- 4x4 Ambulance to 253<sup>rd</sup> Regiment
- Sumy - Van for evacuation of fallen soldiers
- Kharkiv (Tsyrukun) – Ambulance to Khartiya brigade
- Sumy – Medical Aid to Chernobyl Hospital (2 deliveries)
- Sumy – Medical Aid to City Hospital no. 5



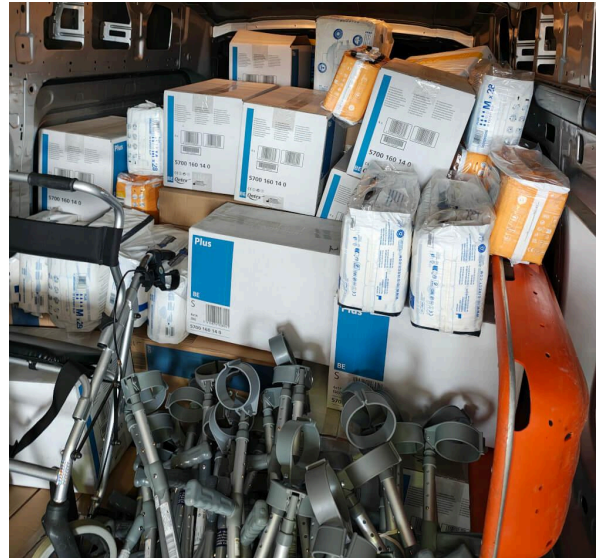
- Kharkiv - van for transporting fallen soldiers, 125<sup>th</sup> brigade
- Kherson – Rehabilitation machines and supplies to MVS hospital
- Kherson – Donated armoured van for evacuation from the kill zone
- Kherson – Medical supplies to Luchanskogo hospital
- Kherson – Medical supplies to Tropinykh hospital
- Kramatorsk – Medical supplies for first aid team, 253<sup>rd</sup> Regiment
- Kryvyi Rih – Medical supplies to Novopilla Hospitals
- Kharkiv – clothes and essential supplies for 117 wounded in Hospital no.13



*Hospitals supported by Sunflower Scotland in 2025*

*Red: city/town hospitals; Green: field hospitals; Blue: rehabilitation centres.*











### PROJECT 3: DISABLED CHILDREN AND ORPHANS



In the winter of 2025, vulnerable children suffered enormously when **Russia damaged the power grid**.

In addition to providing basic supplies such as food and clothing, we started supplying powerful high-capacity batteries (Ecoflow). They (a) power the boiler and keep the family warm for 6-8 hours (b) charge torches and mobile phones.



**Who/where** 40 Disabled children and young adults (cerebral palsy, autism)  
207 Orphans in foster care, Kharkiv region 40 km from the front

**Why** Carers are in extreme financial difficulty, children get the bare minimum. Supplies help to relieve the burden.

**What** Cleaning supplies, food. High-capacity batteries - to power the boiler and keep the family warm





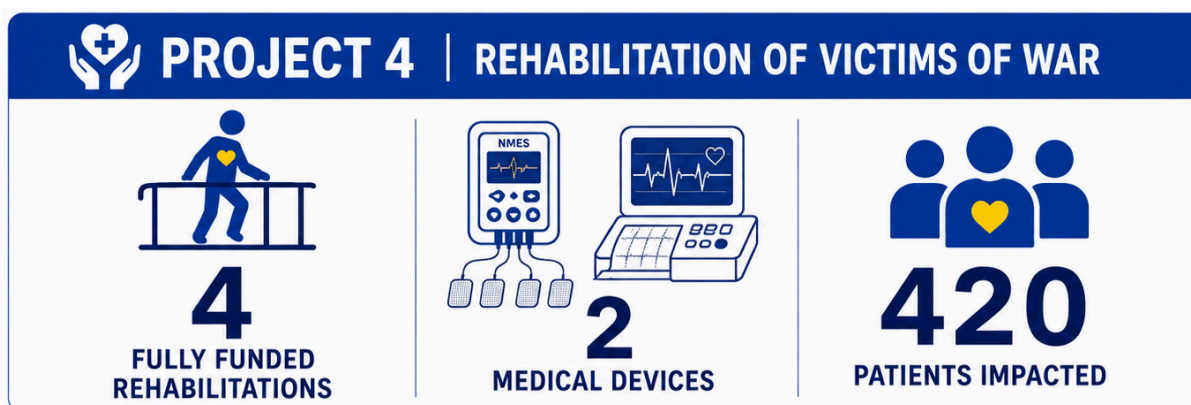


## PROJECT 4: REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF WAR



In 2025 we continued to support Way to Health, the most experienced rehabilitation centre in Eastern Ukraine for blast injury.

The vast majority of victims of war in Ukraine suffer from various types of blast injuries, including: shockwave, shrapnel, fractures and head injuries, chemical and thermal burns. Because of this, supporting rehabilitation is increasingly important.

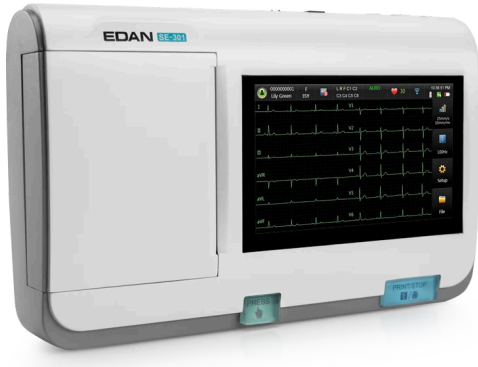


During the year, Sunflower Scotland helped in various ways:

- 4 fully funded rehabilitations (we provided a grant of £2,000)
- Donated 2 medical devices:
  - Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation (NMES) device (March 2025)
  - ECG machine (May 2025)



The machines we donated were used on a daily basis, and helped at least 420 patients.

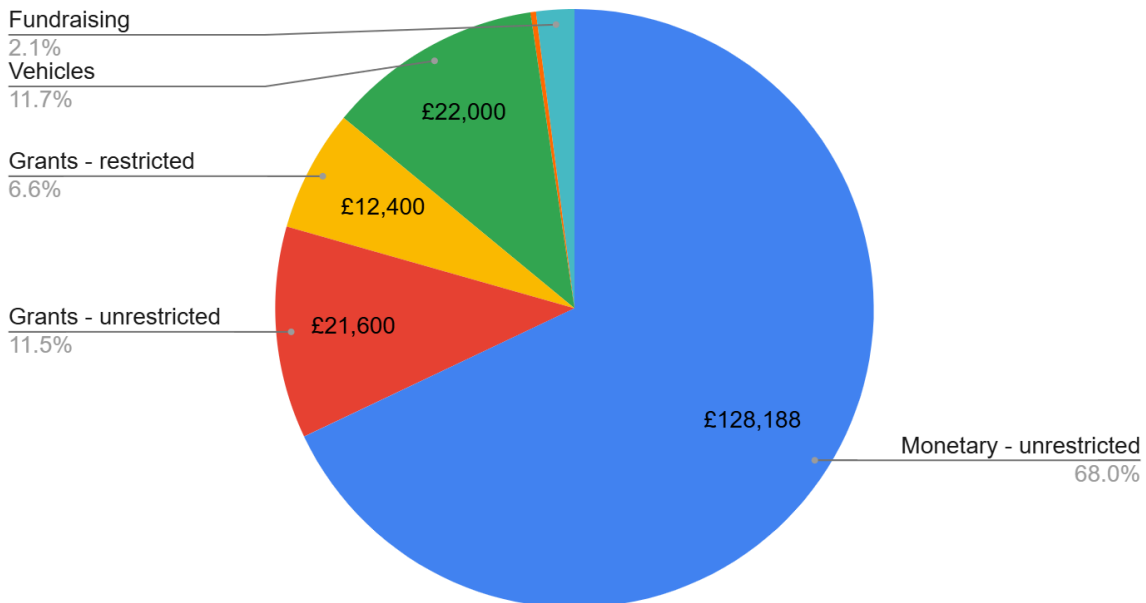


# Financial review

## Receipts

The total value of Receipts was £188,638. Of this number, £184,738 was received as donations (97.93%) plus £3,900 as Income from fundraising activities (2.07%).

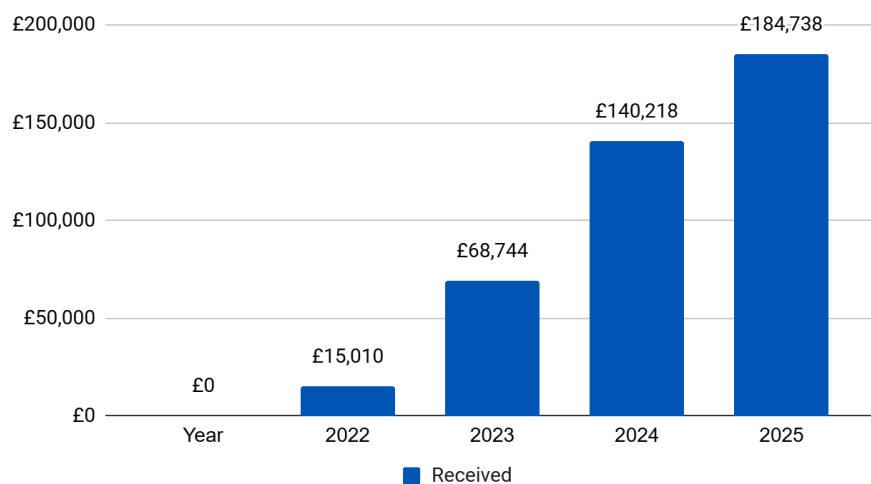
2025 Receipts by type



## Donations

The value of donations raised in 2025 totaled £184,738. In 2025, it increased by 31.75% from 2024 (£140,218).

DONATIONS





We group donations in the following way: Monetary donations - unrestricted; Grants - unrestricted (the donor does not strictly define types of humanitarian expenditure); Grants - restricted (for specific humanitarian projects); Donations - vehicles; and Donations - medical items.

| Type                              | Value received  | % of total     |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Monetary donations - unrestricted | £128,188        | 69.39%         |
| Grants - unrestricted             | £21,600         | 11.69%         |
| Grants - restricted               | £12,400         | 6.71%          |
| Donations - vehicles              | £22,000         | 11.91%         |
| Donations - medical               | £550            | 0.30%          |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>£184,738</b> | <b>100.00%</b> |

In terms of changes from the previous FY: the volume of “Monetary donations - unrestricted” more than doubled from £61,439 in 2024 to £128,188 in 2025 (an increase of 109%).

The total value of “Grants” (both Restricted and Unrestricted) almost doubled from £17,700 (2024) to £34,000 (2025). The value of “Grants - restricted” decreased by 28%, and the value of “Donations - vehicles” decreased by 52%.



*Sunflower Scotland's Volunteers taking part in Kilt Walk fundraiser*

## Income from Fundraising Activities

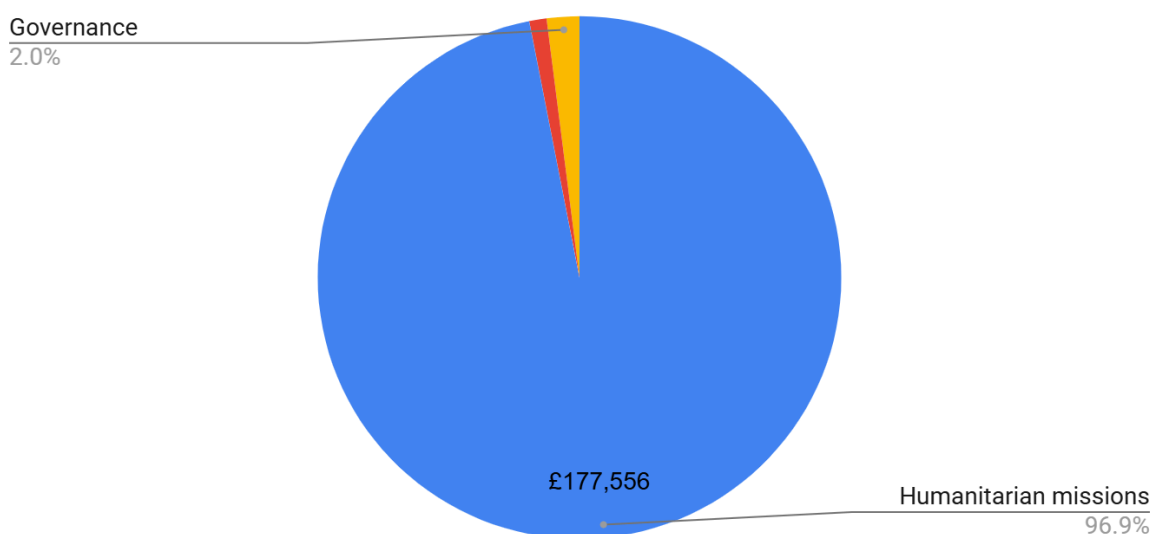
£3,900 was raised from Fundraising activities: the sale of Sunflower Scotland-branded t-shirts, icons, books and consent tickets.

## Payments

Total expenditure was £183,190. Of this number:

- Expenditure on humanitarian missions in Ukraine was £177,556, or 97% of the total (+27% growth from 2024)
- Expenditure on fundraising activities: £1,947, or 1% of the total (a decrease by 62%).
- Governance costs £3,687 or 2% (an increase by £1137 from 2024).

### Expenditure by type



Out of £177,556, £147,099 was spent on unrestricted charitable activities, and £30,457 was spent on specific humanitarian projects defined by the donors.

Our total budget for travelling to/from humanitarian missions in Ukraine was £37,286. That number increased from £17,193 in 2024 because in 2025 Sunflower Scotland's team scaled up its activity.

In 2024, the charity conducted 7 trips, delivered humanitarian aid to people in 36 locations and donated 11 vehicles. In 2025, Sunflower Scotland conducted 10 trips delivering aid in 52 locations and donating 29 vehicles including 6 ambulances. In order to deliver this additional work the charity involved more volunteers and incurred additional expenses.



## **Remuneration**

None of the trustees or volunteers has been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from their involvement with Sunflower Scotland during the reporting period.

## **Statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

Sunflower Scotland adopted a reserve policy in October 2023. £2,000 of reserves were built up to manage unforeseen day to day operational costs or the need to bridge the gap between the spending and the receiving of income and to cover unplanned expenditure. The reserves have been built up gradually, with a £500 quarterly contribution, and by the end of 2025 amounted to £2,000. The level of reserves will be reconsidered should any planned commitments not be fully supported by received income and/or if the charity expands its work to additional beneficiaries.

The trustees aim to maintain free reserves of unrestricted funds at a level sufficient to cover around 9 months of governance expenditure. The trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to enable applications for grants and ensure that governance costs are covered.

## **Details of any deficit**

As of the end of 2025 Sunflower Scotland did not have any deficit on any fund.

## **Donated facilities and services**

Sunflower Scotland does not have any donated facilities and services.

# Future plans

## Changes in war

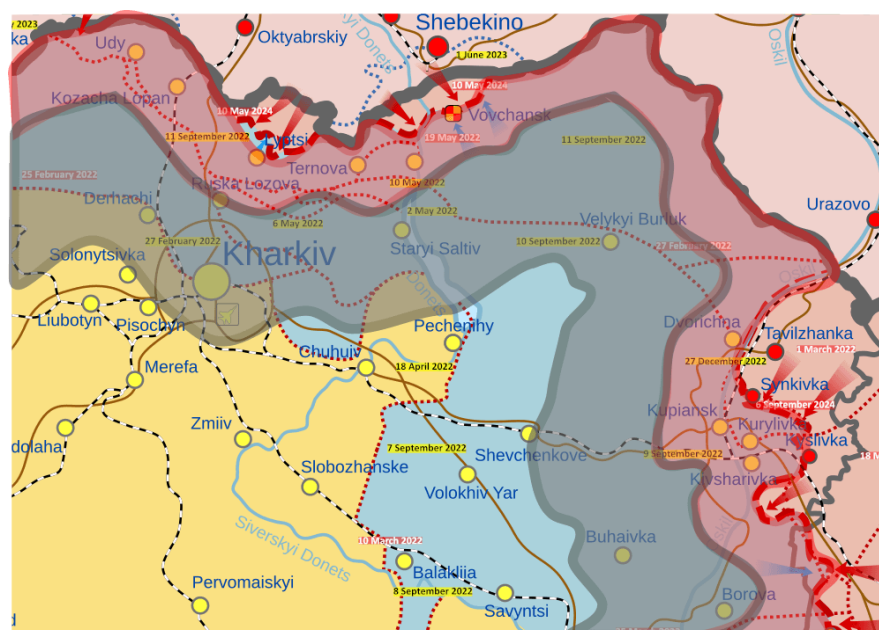
In 2025, the war changed dramatically. First person view (FPV) drones became the most dangerous type of weapon. By the end of 2025, their range expanded to 40 km and now FPV drones could target people in much wider areas.

In mid-2026, we participated in evacuations at the front, and observed that the number of drones the Russians were using was absolutely massive. Media reports speak how drones are now used to terrorise Ukrainian civilians (in other words, the Russians have so many drones they do use them for both soldiers and civilians).

People living in the 40 km area along the front effectively found themselves in a “kill-zone”: an area where everything is destroyed.

We predicted this terrifying development in our 2024 article “The End of Humanitarianism”.

<https://sunflowerscotland.co.uk/news-and-reports/humanitarianism-in-drone-war/>



*Kharkiv region. Drone range: 2023-2024 (red); 2025-2026 (grey).*

Providing staple humanitarian supplies like food, clothing and hygiene items in kill-zones became unsustainable. The risk both to humanitarian teams and to aid recipients became too high.

## **Change in humanitarian response**

From the end of 2025, we suspended delivering humanitarian items to frontline villages and towns, and changed our focus to (a) helping civilians to evacuate from the kill zones; (b) helping Ukrainian medics to save lives.

Our priorities for 2026:

### **1. Saving lives**

In 2026, evacuations will be our first priority. We will continue providing evac vehicles and supporting local teams that take vulnerable people to safety.

Due to the increased number of casualties, the burden on hospitals will be increasing further. They are already overwhelmed and under-supplied.

In addition, older and disabled people who refuse to evacuate are fully reliant on local medical facilities. We see this situation in Kherson and Zaporizhzhia.

In 2025 Sunflower Scotland supported 12 hospitals. In 2026, the number of hospitals we can support will decrease, because:

- The Luchanskogo hospital in Kherson is now in a kill-zone. It is expanding and will soon cover the Kherson Regional hospital as well.
- Access to hospitals in Sumy may soon be fully closed because Russia is regularly attacking the city with 1500 kg gliding bombs.
- From mid-2026, a kill-zone may cover the Kramatorsk hospital.

We will continue supporting frontline medics, by providing ambulances for the evacuation of the wounded, and first aid equipment.

### **2. Help to disabled children and orphans**

Sunflower will continue helping some of the most vulnerable groups in Ukraine: children with disabilities and orphans.

These families especially suffer in the winter because Russia severely damages Ukraine's power grid. Thus our main focus will be providing high-capacity batteries which help to maintain heating, preventing hypothermia and further medical issues.

### **3. Rehabilitation of victims of war**

Sunflower Scotland will continue, and accelerate its support to rehabilitation centres in east Ukraine. We will continue providing direct donations and medical equipment .



We will provide a specialist wheelchair-enabled patient transport vehicle. It will help wheelchair users to access rehabilitation therapy. We could not secure funding in 2025 and will aim to complete the task in 2026.

## Additional information

Channel 5 UK News aired a two-minute interview with Oleg Dmitriev, chairman of Sunflower Scotland. The programme went live on 21st February 2025 and included video clips of Sunflower Scotland's work in Ukraine.



## Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Oleg Dmitriev', is written inside a blue rectangular box.

Print name:

OLEG DMITRIEV

Designation:

CHAIRMAN

Date:

01 SEPTEMBER 2026