



# Annual Report and Financial Statements

1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025



*Welsh school children taken into the Celtic rainforest to connect with their cultural and natural heritage as part of Gobaith Coetir (Woodland Hope).*

© Anita Darnford

## Message from the President

They've been called a nuisance and blamed for delays, costs, and red tape by people who should know better. This year, bats were dragged into a political argument about planning and progress and absurdly turned into scapegoats. But of course, they're not a problem. They're part of a desperately needed solution.

Bats are builders. Of biodiversity. Of balance. Of beauty. They navigate our fractured landscapes with astonishing skill, survive against all the odds we keep stacking against them, and still find ways to thrive... if only we give them the chance.

This annual report tells a story of hearty resistance, not just against mad damaging laws, but against crazy damaging narratives. And it tells another story too: of how, quietly and persistently, people across the UK have stood up for bats – not solely out of sentiment, but out of real science, resolute solidarity, and a deep sense of care.

In Devon, a remarkable project brought farmers, young people, and those from under-represented backgrounds together to restore habitats and reconnect fragmented landscapes. Helping bats became a way to help people – building new skills, strengthening communities, and showing that farming and wildlife can thrive side by side.

In London, our NightWatch programme took flight and continues to bring diverse new voices into conservation: 40% of participants identified as from minority ethnic backgrounds, and 29% as disabled. These are not just statistics, they are signs of a movement becoming essentially broader, braver, and more inclusive.

And across the country, we looked after the people who look after bats. Volunteer carers (including those who answer distress calls and drive 'bat ambulances') shared how we could support their incredible work even better. One result: a smarter call-routing system that uses real-world travel times, not just straight-line distance, to get help where it's needed faster. It's simple. It's effective. And it could save lives.

Through all this, one thing is clear: bats don't block progress. They show us how to make it.

It's been an annoying year. But I'm very pleased to stand with Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) – and with every person who's lent their voice, their time, or their resources to protect these beautiful, fascinating and extraordinary animals. Thank you for being a positive part of their brilliant story.



Chris Packham CBE, President, Bat Conservation Trust



© Jo Charlesworth

# Chair and Chief Executive's Review

## Facing threats, finding strength: how strategy and community power our mission

Conservation doesn't just happen in wild places. It happens in Whitehall, in planning policy, and in public conversation – all of which made this one of the most difficult years in recent memory for bats and for biodiversity more broadly.

The government's proposed Planning and Infrastructure Bill threatens to undo hard-won legal protections for bats and their habitats. This moment has tested us and proved the value of our new strategy. Its five objectives are not just words on a page; they are how we rise to challenges like this, and how we work for a better future.

**Influence** has been at the heart of our response. We've challenged damaging narratives, briefed ministers and civil servants, and made the case for smarter, evidence-led planning that works for both nature and people.

But we can't influence without action. Our ability to **act** (to train planners, ecologists and land managers) ensures that conservation knowledge translates into real-world decisions, every day.

At the same time, we continue to **discover**. From AI-powered acoustic identification to genetics, BCT science provides the evidence base that underpins our advocacy, strengthens our case, and helps us focus where the need is greatest.

This year also showed the power of connection. When decision-makers didn't listen, our supporters raised their voices – with an incredible 573 MPs contacted about the Bill by BCT supporters. This is **connect** in action – building a growing movement that speaks up for bats and the ecosystems we all depend on.

And through it all, we've worked to **strengthen** BCT itself: developing inclusive ways of working, securing new partnerships, and investing in the resilience needed to navigate an uncertain political landscape.

Thank you for standing with us.



Jean Matthews, Chair, Board of Trustees



Kit Stoner, Chief Executive



# Why bats? Why now?

## Bats are a chance for us to do better

Bats account for more than a quarter of mammal species in the UK and around 20% of all mammal species worldwide, but most people rarely see them – let alone realise how important they are.

From woodland canopies to city rooftops, bats are quietly playing a vital role in keeping our ecosystems in balance. They feed on vast numbers of insects, helping reduce the need for pesticides. And because they are extremely sensitive to changes in the environment, their presence – or absence – tells us a lot about the wider health of our natural heritage.

But right now, bats are in trouble. All of our 18 species are yet to recover from historical declines and four are highly endangered. Bat species are struggling because of habitat loss, climate change and development. Proposed planning reforms, which reduce environmental protections, could cause them to disappear from some places.

## Conservation that works for wildlife and people

Bats benefit from strong legal protection, and targeted conservation has helped some species in some areas begin to recover. This shows us that when we act on evidence, we can turn things around – not just for bats, but for entire ecosystems.

And by saving bats, we also protect the places people love: our woodlands, green spaces, and night skies. We also know that helping wildlife helps people too. From wellbeing benefits to citizen science, from urban greening to education, bat conservation connects communities and nature in powerful ways.

## A plan for the future

In 2024, BCT launched a bold new strategy for the decade ahead. Rooted in science, shaped by experience, and focused on impact, our strategy sets out five clear goals: grow the evidence, strengthen policy, protect habitats, engage the public, and build a stronger BCT. This report shares how we're bringing that strategy to life – one place, one project, and one partnership at a time.



*Pipistrelle species in hand, left to right: Nathusius's, soprano and common.*

## 1. ACT

# Turning knowledge into action

Protecting bats means protecting the places we all depend on. Whether it's championing better building practices, tackling wildlife crime, or driving innovation, we're turning expertise into impact.

By offering training, guidance, and on-the-ground conservation, we help others make informed choices that protect bats today and for the long term. Over the past year, we've worked alongside ecologists, landowners, developers, farmers, and policymakers to ensure bat conservation is part of everyday decisions.



© BCT

*Community open day at the farm with our regenerative farming project, Connecting people and landscapes in a changing climate.*

# Connecting people and landscapes in a changing climate

## Helping wildlife and farming thrive together in Devon

*Connecting people and landscapes in a changing climate* (CPL) is an ambitious and evolving partnership project uniting a diverse and dynamic range of organisations. Partners include BCT, University of Exeter, People's Trust for Endangered Species, Devon Wildlife Trust, South Devon and East Devon National Landscapes, and Devon Communities Together.

Set in the farmed landscapes of Devon but with relevance for farming and bats UK-wide, this work aims to create a countryside where nature and people can thrive together in the face of climate change.

“ *Lovely family, informative day and great to spend time outside! Thank you.* ”  
Community open day attendee at a CPL farm.

## Putting nature back into farmland

Devon's countryside is home to rare and threatened nocturnal species including greater horseshoe bats, hedgehogs and dormice but agricultural intensification has pushed these species to the edge. By supporting regenerative farming, we're helping farmers become more sustainable and produce food in ways that restore biodiversity, build soil health, and create more resilient landscapes.

To date, the project has worked with 97 farmers and improved over 600 hectares of farmland for nature. That includes planting native trees, creating species-rich grasslands, and restoring traditional orchards – 18 regenerative farming initiatives in total.

**Connecting people and landscapes in a changing climate grows people as well as habitats. In just one quarter, we worked with more than 240 people providing training, open days, support for farmers and practical conservation.**



## Reaching the people who can make change happen

Farmland covers around 70% of the UK, so helping farmers steward the land has a significant positive impact on nature. We've provided over 80 one-to-one advice sessions and continue to support farmers as they navigate shifting agricultural policy, practice and funding. These trusted relationships are helping bring about meaningful, long-term changes on the ground.

We're also piloting volunteer days on farms to understand what's most engaging for communities and where we can offer long-term opportunities to get involved in nature-friendly land management.

## Training and learning at every level



*A highlight has been seeing the abundance of wildlife on the farms such as barn owls, deer, and foxes. Another has been meeting lots of new people from varied backgrounds and finding out about their roles. This has been a great opportunity to learn about an industry I knew little about.*



One of CPL's Junior Landscape Surveyors shares their experience.

From new farmers to future conservationists, this project is growing people as well as habitats. In just one quarter, we ran nine training events and 79 wider engagement activities, working with more than 240 people. These ranged from co-created youth sessions to farm bioblitzes and wildlife surveys.

We're also offering paid traineeships to support young people, career-changers and those from underrepresented backgrounds, building the skills and confidence to take up roles in conservation and land stewardship.

## Building a future where bats and people thrive together

Although still in its initial stages, *Connecting people and landscapes in a changing climate* is already showing the power of joined-up thinking.

By creating space for wildlife on farms, strengthening relationships between farmers and their communities, and helping people reconnect with nature, the project directly contributes to BCT's wider vision: a world where bats and people thrive together.

## The Roost Partnership builds safer homes for bats

Bats need safe places to roost, even in towns and cities. But as older buildings are lost or renovated, their natural shelters are disappearing. The Roost Partnership — a collaboration between BCT and manufacturers of bat roosting products — is making sure the built environment works for bats too.

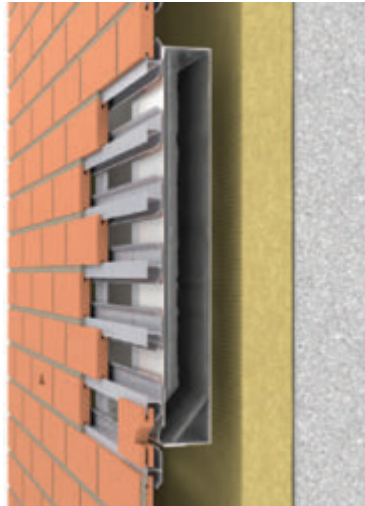
Now featuring six innovative products from four industry partners, the scheme includes specially designed bat boxes, tiles and tubes that are both bat-friendly and practical for use in buildings. These designs are informed by the latest research and best practice guidance.

Instead of endorsing individual products, the Roost Partnership fosters collaboration between conservation and construction. It also serves as a knowledge-sharing hub, capturing insights from those on the ground to keep pushing best practice forward.

## Smart solutions: Manthorpe Ridge Roost and Cladmate Bat Roost Box

Designed to counteract the loss of wildlife-friendly features in modern construction, both of these innovative, easy-to-install ridge-end roost solutions developed and tested through the Roost Partnership provide essential shelter for crevice-dwelling bat species; the Manthorpe Ridge Roost at the gable end of the roof and the Cladmate Bat Roost Box in the skin of a clad building.

Through collaboration, research, and real-world solutions, the Roost Partnership is helping to integrate bat conservation into the future of building design.



*Developed and tested through the Roost Partnership, both the Manthorpe Ridge Roost (left) and the Cladmate Bat Roost Box (right) are easy to install.*

## Conservation in housing: getting the balance right

Bats often shelter in buildings, but large-scale housing repairs can disrupt or destroy these roosts. Our new guidance is helping people protect bats without halting essential work. Published in December 2024, *Bats and Large-Scale Housing Maintenance Projects Guidance for England* offers practical advice for property owners, architects and ecologists.

Developed with Natural England and sector experts, the guidance bridges the gap between conservation and routine housing maintenance – a challenge not always addressed by traditional approaches.

In February 2025, we ran a well-received online seminar to support its rollout.

By supporting evidence-led, pragmatic solutions, we're helping conservation thrive even in challenging times.

## Pushing boundaries at the Bat Tracking Methodologies Conference

To protect bats, we need to understand where they go and what they need. Thanks to innovative tracking technology, we're gaining clearer insights than ever – and bringing the right people together to shape the future.

In 2024, the Bat Tracking Methodologies Conference at the University of Warwick brought together leading minds to share knowledge, refine techniques, and explore the next generation of tracking tools.

Discussions covered GPS, radio tracking, Motus, and new innovations, with deep dives into data handling and visualisation. The in-person event will be followed by a virtual conference and published proceedings in 2025.

We also welcomed Professor Fiona Matthews (University of Sussex), whose keynote set the tone for thoughtful discussions – including a lively ethics panel chaired by our Director of Conservation.

By fostering collaboration we're guiding best practice to ensure that tracking benefits bat species.

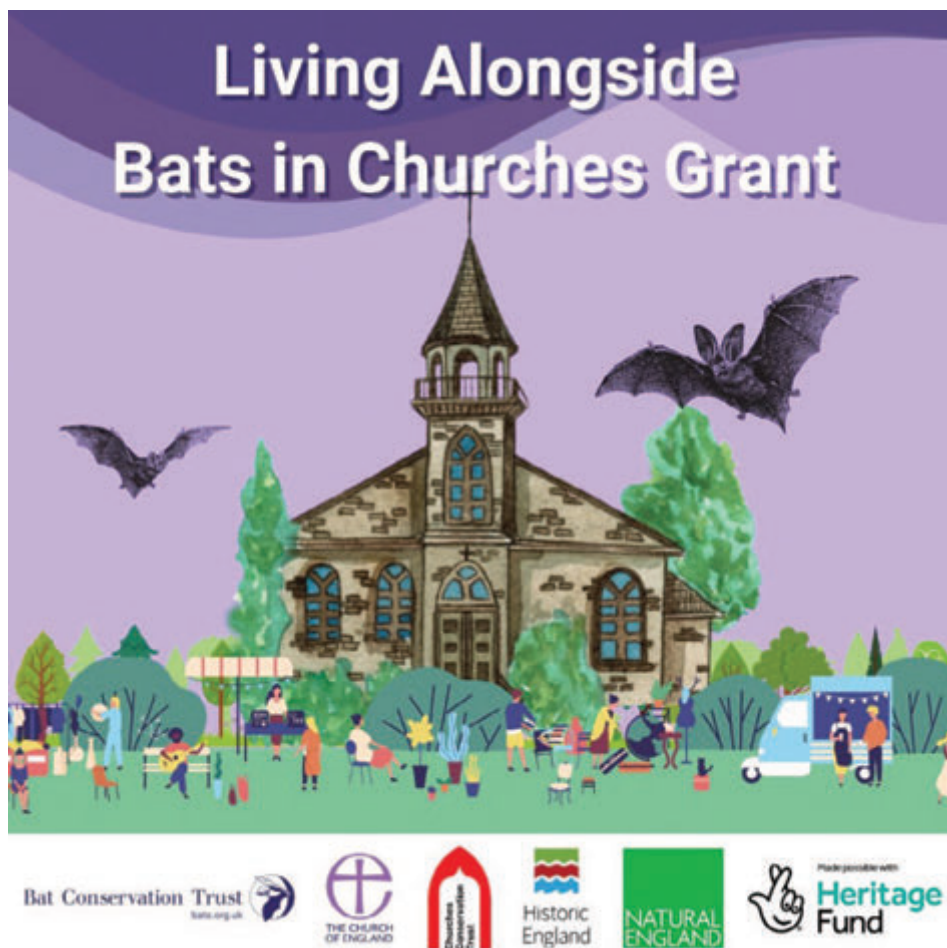
## Bats and churches: supporting harmony

Churches have long provided shelter for bats but living alongside them can present challenges. That's why we've launched a new grant fund to offer practical support.

As a legacy of the Bats in Churches project, our new *Living Alongside Bats in Churches Grant* helps places of worship across England manage roost-related challenges sustainably.

From seasonal cleaning and pew covers to small-scale repairs, the fund helps churches find practical ways to live alongside bats. It also supports nature-based activities that deepen the connection between communities, wildlife, and place.

Together, we're supporting both bats and the historic spaces they call home.



***Our new Living Alongside Bats in Churches Grant is a legacy of the Bats in Churches project, that helps places of worship across England manage roost-related challenges sustainably.***

## Cracking down on crime with a win for bat protection

Bat roosts are protected by law – but laws only work when enforced. Thanks to advocacy from our Wildlife Crime Officer, bat crime has once again been recognised as a UK wildlife crime priority.

Agreed at the Wildlife Crime Conservation Advisory Group, this decision means bat crime will receive increased attention from enforcement agencies over the next three years. It's a major step toward protecting bats from harm and holding offenders to account.

# New bat group boosts conservation in East Lancashire

For years, East Lancashire's bats had no dedicated group to look out for them. But now, thanks to local passion and help from BCT, that's changing.

Despite Lancashire already having three bat groups, a gap remained in East Lancashire, leaving local bat populations under-studied. The newly formed East Lancashire Bat Group (ELBG) is set to change that by launching surveys and increasing awareness in the region.

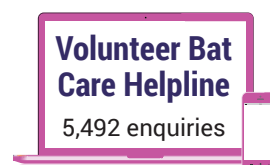
## BCT's role in supporting ELBG

Establishing a new group isn't easy and earlier attempts had stalled. BCT's Bat Groups Officer played a key role in advising and supporting ELBG. With this support, ELBG is now ready to contribute valuable data and help more people connect with bat conservation in their area.

## Putting knowledge into action 2024-25

Beyond our headline projects, we've continued to give expert advice, practical tools, and hands-on support across the UK. Here are just a few ways we've made an impact over the last year:

- **Learn.Bats** now offers 10 courses with over 1,000 users – bringing expert training to anyone, anywhere through a suite of bite-sized modules, including *Bat Awareness for the Built Environment and Introduction to Bats and Artificial Lighting*.
- Our Agriculture Officer mapped environmental land management schemes to bat species' needs and created practical **leaflets to support farm-based conservation**.
- A **bilingual Bats & Woodlands leaflet** (Welsh and English) will soon be available as a digital flipbook to support woodland managers long-term.
- The **Volunteer Bat Care Helpline** answered 5,492 enquiries offering expert advice and linking the public with local bat carers.
- The **National Bat Helpline** handled 11,509 enquiries – a growing demand for bat conservation support.
- We arranged **700 roost visits** on behalf of Natural England to protect bats and their habitats.
- In partnership with the National Wildlife Crime Unit, we launched a new course to **strengthen police responses** to bat crime.
- **Natur am Byth: Stars of the Night** pilot study began on lesser horseshoe bats around Swansea and the Gower.
- A delivery group was set up for Stars of the Night, with **diverse membership** including the University of South Wales and local councils.
- **Species on the Edge's** Youth Panel helped form a new bat group for Outer Hebrides.



***Lesser horseshoe bats are the focus of our Stars of the Night project for Natur am Byth in Wales.***



© Steve Roe

## **Together, let's keep building a better future for bats – one action at a time**

**Become a corporate partner to make a difference.**

By working with us, your organisation will help to create a healthier environment for wildlife and people alike. A partnership with us can also support your Corporate Social Responsibility goals and bring valuable benefits to your business.

To find out more, please contact our Director of Communications and Fundraising, Dr Joe Nunez-Mino, [jnunez-mino@bats.org.uk](mailto:jnunez-mino@bats.org.uk)

## 2. CONNECT

# Changing minds, connecting communities


Bats face a PR problem. Misconceptions and fear, especially around health and their protected status, often lead to decisions that harm bat populations. And as we explore in other sections, bats are repeatedly used as a scapegoat in political rhetoric. That's why public engagement is central to our mission.

By building understanding, inspiring action, and challenging myths, we aim to reduce harm and create a culture where bats and people can thrive together.

*Gobaith Coetir (Woodland Hope) connects children in Wales to their cultural and natural heritage through music, trees, and bats.*

## Creative connections through events that inspire


This year we delivered a diverse range of engagement events across the UK – from special interest sessions for bat carers and citizen scientists, to bold, inclusive public experiences that welcomed new audiences.


 Our Celtic rainforest project Gobaith Coetir (Woodland Hope) worked with Welsh musicians to create a song about bats. Written in Welsh to foster connection with children in Wales, Can yr Ystlum (The Bat Song) celebrates the deep bond between bats and the rainforest. Our team have worked with schools, taking classes to rainforest sites and teaching them the song.

So far, more than 200 children have had a chance to learn about their cultural and natural heritage through these unique engagement sessions.

“ We would like to thank everyone involved in this week’s workshops with the pupils of Bro Idris – the feedback from the children was very positive, everyone enjoyed it and had a great time. ”

Teacher whose class took part in our The Bat Song workshops.

 **NightWatch** led more than a dozen events across London, co-hosting inclusive bat walks with groups like Sustainably Muslim, Touch Grass, and dementia care homes. The project also piloted a Local Coordinator scheme, training 20+ community members to run bat walks and surveys in their own neighbourhoods.

 **Bats and Belly Laughs** combined comedy, creativity, and conservation. Co-created with Wanderers of Colour, the evening featured stand-up, storytelling, and the premiere of *Stories Under Starlight*.

One attendee summed it up beautifully:

“ I had a lovely time. I’m really into bats now, so if that was the event’s intention, it worked on me! ”



With 58 participants (aged 7 to 60+), over 30% from underrepresented backgrounds, and 10 amazing volunteers, the event buzzed with energy – and pipistrelles!

***Bats and Belly Laughs, co-created with Wanderers of Colour, blended comedy, storytelling, and conservation.***

## Changing the story on bats and health

Our communications work helps ensure bats are spoken about in ways that are accurate, science-based, and empowering. Thanks to funding from the Rufford Foundation, we developed *Let's talk about bats and health* – a free communications toolkit to support conservationists and researchers in shaping messages that reduce stigma and increase support across the world.

Available in English and Spanish, with more translations to come, the toolkit is a practical step toward making bats part of everyday conservation conversations.

## A more inclusive movement

Behind the scenes, we're supporting the wider bat community to engage more people in more meaningful ways.

- Our *Inclusion Challenges and Opportunities* session brought together around 20 bat group members to share Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) **experiences and ambitions**.
- A new internal report assessed our citizen science programmes and highlighted ways to support **diverse volunteer pathways**.
- Through the *Happier Outdoors Network*, we provided free training to **green prescribing** organisations, enabling more people to connect with bats through supported bat walks.
- **Bat groups** are better supported, with IT improvements and better organisation of support materials.

## Growing a community for bats

More people than ever are choosing to stand up for bats. Our membership grew by 3% this year, with nearly 5,300 individuals now part of the BCT community – including four new life members whose long-term commitment strengthens everything we do.

One of our most heartening moments came in December 2024, when we saw our highest-ever number of *Adopt a Bat* subscriptions in a single month. Thirty-four people chose to give the gift of bat conservation over the festive season, showing that bats can inspire care and generosity.





*The cuddly Daubenton's bat keyring was a popular gift for Christmas 2024.*

© BCT

## Telling bat stories in new places and to more people

Our digital platforms are vital tools for sharing insight, building empathy, and encouraging action. This year, we've expanded our reach by embracing new platforms and refreshing how we tell bat stories.

### Our blog is now on Substack

In 2024, we revamped our blog and created an account on Substack, an increasingly popular online subscription platform. Substack allows readers to subscribe easily and get new posts straight to their inbox, helping us stay connected with our community.

These changes make our blog more accessible and engaging. Whether we're sharing personal perspectives from bat carers or exploring complex issues like planning reform, the blog gives us space to go deeper and bring more people along on the journey.



### Hello Bluesky: BCT joins the growing online platform

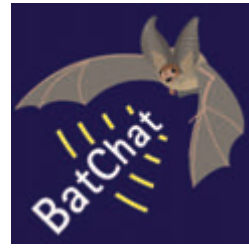
We also joined BlueSky in 2024, expanding our digital presence and making space for more thoughtful conversations about bat conservation. So far, we have 3K followers and hundreds of new people join us each month.

BlueSky is helping us build visibility in a space where quality conversations still thrive – something that's increasingly important for sharing evidence-based messages about bats and biodiversity.



## Our podcast reaches 100K downloads

BatChat podcast, hosted by ecologist and BCT trustee Steve Roe, reached 100K early in 2025. This award-winning podcast takes you behind the scenes with experts, conservationists, and passionate bat lovers across the UK and beyond. Each episode is recorded on location, bringing listeners closer to bats and the people protecting them.



## Record numbers visit our website

Our website saw fantastic growth over the past year. In 2024-25, we had 1,128,958 visitors – up from 1,000,201 the year before, which is a 12.9% increase. Page views also went up, from 2,140,661 to 2,279,420, a 6.5% rise. It's clear more people are finding and using the site, and we're excited to keep building on that momentum.



## Follow the flight

From challenging misinformation to sharing the wonder of bat life, we're building a community of people who care – and want to make a difference.

**Join the conversation, stay informed, and help us shift the narrative about bats and biodiversity.**



BlueSky: <https://bsky.app/profile/batconservation.bsky.social>



LinkedIn: <https://www.instagram.com/batconservationtrust/>



Substack: [batconservation.substack.com](https://batconservation.substack.com)



Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/batconservationtrust/>



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BatConservationTrust/>



[www.bats.org.uk](https://www.bats.org.uk)



*The Bechstein's bat is one of the UK's rarest bats. Found almost exclusively in woodland habitat, the destruction of ancient mature forests and intensive woodland management practices has led to a decline in its numbers.*

### 3. DISCOVER

# Advancing science to protect bats

*An audio detector  
on-site for one of  
our conservation  
projects.*

To help bat populations recover and thrive across the UK, we start with something simple: understanding them better. Every bat call recorded, every survey completed, and every new discovery helps us conserve and protect bat species and their habitats.

That's why we're focusing our research on where bats live now, how they're adapting to change, and what they need to survive and flourish. From city streets to ancient woodlands, we're building a picture of how bats are doing and how we can help.

## Transforming bat research with acoustic and genetic innovation

Because bats use echolocation to navigate and feed, we can 'listen in' on their world to learn more. Sound is a powerful tool for studying bats, and our research is expanding how we use **ecoacoustics** (large-scale environmental sound recordings) to assess environmental health.



In partnership with Forest Research, University College London and the University of Edinburgh, we are testing whether bats, birds and anthropogenic (human) disturbance can all be recorded by autonomous devices that send real-time monitoring information.



Our Sound Classification System now processes hundreds of terabytes of bat call data each year, helping to track bat activity at an unprecedented scale.



Through a new partnership with xeno-canto, we are helping to build up the largest global repository of bat sounds, increasing access to valuable acoustic data.



In collaboration with University College London, we are working on EchoHub, a platform where conservationists and the public will be able to label wildlife sounds, training AI-based sound classification tools.

At the same time, we are breaking new ground in **genetics and population monitoring**:



As part of the NatureAir project (UK Innovate-funded), we are pioneering airborne DNA sampling to detect bats in different environments.



With funding from JNCC, we have begun adapting our Sound Classification System for local scale monitoring, via the Local Change Monitoring Programme.

## Understanding bats across different landscapes

Britain's bats don't just need dark skies and quiet roosts; they rely on healthy landscapes. From temperate rainforests to working farms, our research explores what bats need to thrive in these changing environments. Our research ensures conservation efforts are informed by the best available evidence.

### Woodlands and agricultural land

Some of the UK's 18 resident bat species are woodland specialists, and these species are generally rare, threatened and hard to monitor. To learn more about these species we've teamed up with the Vincent Wildlife Trust to develop the National Barbastelle and Bechstein's Bat Survey. So far, we have:

- Conducted acoustic surveys for barbastelle bats in key woodland sites.
- Collected reference calls for Bechstein's bats, improving species identification via our Sound Classification System.
- Tested different bat detectors to assess their effectiveness in wooded environments.

- We're exploring the potential of British Bat Survey's methodology to track the impact of regenerative farming. In North Wales, Gobaith Coetir (Woodland Hope) is developing an acoustic index of temperate rainforest health, helping to define what a thriving ecosystem looks like.

## In our towns and cities

Cities can be challenging places for bats but also full of unexpected opportunities. Our work in urban areas helps ensure planning decisions support nature, not harm it.



Through JNCC's Local Change Monitoring Programme, we are working with local authorities to integrate bat data into strategic planning and development control to support nature recovery.



We are co-designing nature-based solutions with local authorities to tackle key environmental challenges.



© Sally-Ann Hurry

## A mixed picture for UK bats: signs of hope amid emerging concerns

### 5-year trends — a first for the National Bat Monitoring Programme

The latest annual report from the National Bat Monitoring Programme (NBMP) offers encouraging news: of the 11 UK bat species which NMBP monitors over the long-term, none show overall declines. Even more promising, five species show early signs of recovery from historic losses, a testament to the power of legal protection and targeted conservation.

*The UK has 18 species of bat, including Daubenton's bat, which hunts over or near water, using its large feet to catch prey.*

However, new short-term trend analyses reveal cause for concern. For the first time, NBMP data were assessed over a five-year window – revealing that two iconic species may now be in decline:

- Brown long-eared bats decreased by 11.2% across Great Britain.
- In England, lesser horseshoe bats dropped by 12.3%, although this species continues to increase in Wales.

These findings highlight the need to better understand recent pressures and how they may differ by region.

## Looking back to look forward

The long-term findings of the NBMP underscore the importance of consistent monitoring. But they must be viewed in the context of severe historic declines. Genetic research conducted in partnership with the University of Exeter in 2023 revealed that the endangered barbastelle bat has declined by an estimated 99% over the last several hundred years – a sobering reminder of what’s at stake.

Still, there is hope. As recognised in the *State of Nature* report 2023, some UK bat species are among the few native wildlife groups showing positive recovery trends. This progress is only possible thanks to legal protections and dedicated conservation work – protections that must be maintained.

## NightWatch: Opening up urban conservation for all

NightWatch is one of BCT’s most exciting and inclusive projects – designed to open wildlife monitoring to people who are historically under-represented in conservation. This project brings bat conservation into the heart of our towns and cities, connecting communities with the wildlife around them in accessible and meaningful ways.



“ I can’t tell you how much it’s made a difference to me as a deeply and invisibly disabled person of colour... to have had this wild opportunity to meet EXACTLY the kind of people I’ve been looking for & basically just have joy & discovery & happiness. ”

A NightWatch participant.

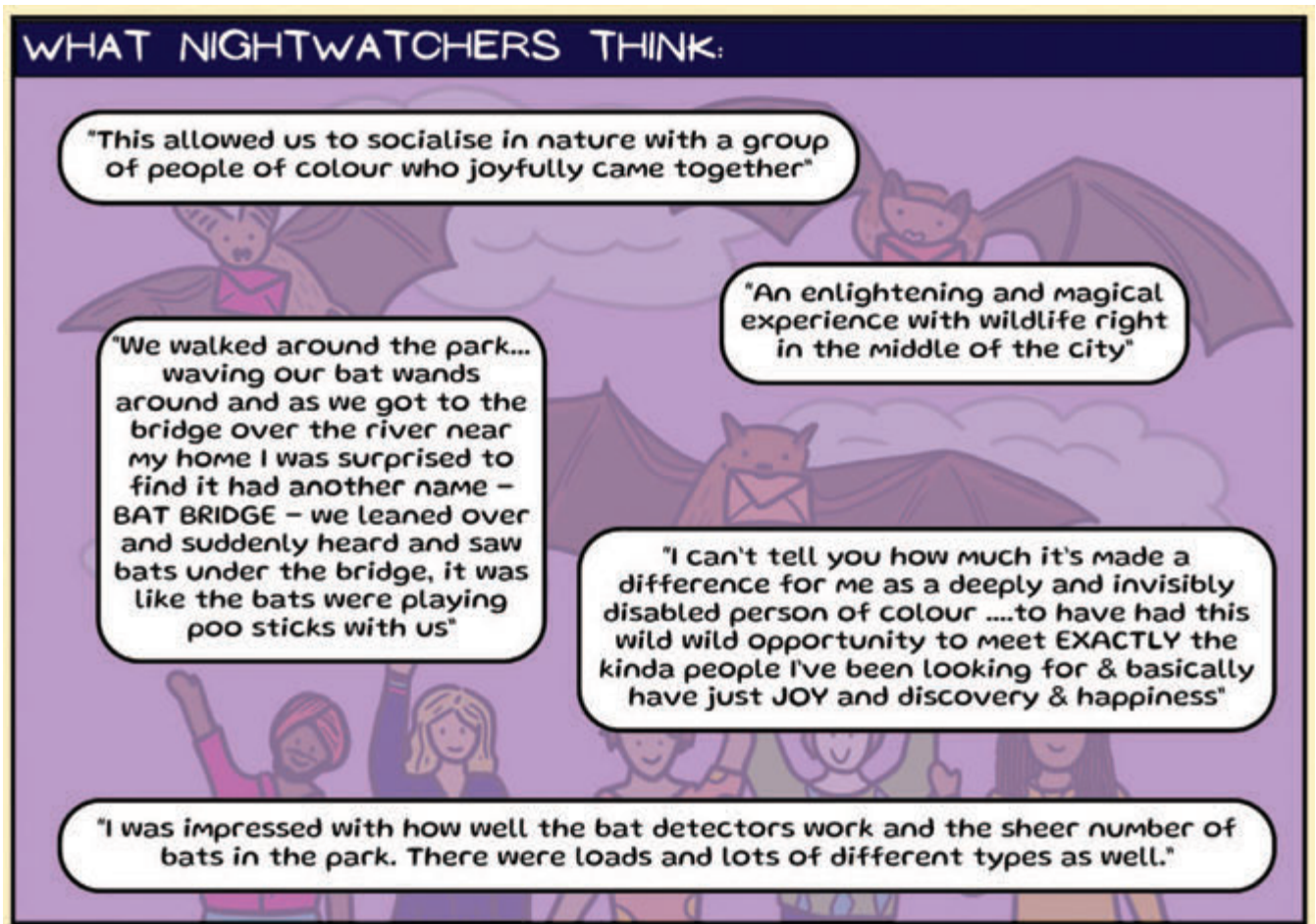
That sense of wonder is what NightWatch is all about: connecting people with each other and the nature around them in ways that are easy, joyful, and meaningful.

## A successful season in London

Limited funding meant we couldn’t run NightWatch across Great Britain in 2024-25, but thanks to support from the Greater London Authority, the project came to life in London. The results were inspiring:

- 40% of participants identified as being from **minority ethnic backgrounds**.
- 29% identified as **having a disability**.

These figures meet or exceed the demographic makeup of the city, demonstrating NightWatch’s power to engage new audiences in conservation.



*A compilation of quotes from NightWatchers about their experiences of this ground-breaking project.*

## Bats in sacred spaces

### A new pilot survey for places of worship

Churches are some of the most important historic buildings in the UK and some of the wildest too. Early in 2024, our pilot survey helped 15 churches discover more about their resident bats. For many, it was their first real glimpse into this hidden world and the start of a new relationship between the sacred and the wild.

One church's feedback reflects how this pilot scheme is working:

“ We know now what we need to think about if getting repairs done. It also really adds to our building to know we have lovely bats live here too. ”  
 St Cuthbert's, Elsdon.

### Bringing bat conservation into the heart of communities

This new survey builds on the legacy of the Bats in Churches (BiC) project. Our goal? To continue offering free, informative surveys to places of worship across England, helping them better understand and live alongside their bat residents.

Led by BCT's newly appointed Bats in Churches Advisor, the pilot focused on 15 presence/absence surveys. These were carried out over the summer of 2024 by trained Natural England Volunteer Bat Roost Visitors (VBRVs).

## Connecting churches with their wildest residents

This pilot was about more than just data; it was about relationships. Each survey helped build confidence and skills among our volunteers and their trainees, and deepened connections with local church communities.

For many volunteers, this was their first time surveying places of worship. For the churches, it opened a whole new understanding of the wildlife sharing their sacred spaces.



## Survey success: better knowledge, stronger partnerships

The pilot made a real difference:

- **11 churches** now understand more about their bat populations and what having a roost means for their building.
- Each one now knows how and when to contact the National Bat Helpline – crucial for any future **repair or maintenance works**.
- Volunteers gained valuable hands-on experience and **developed long-term relationships with the churches** they supported.
- Every church that gave **feedback** said they were ‘extremely satisfied’ with the survey.

## Looking ahead

With such a positive response, this pilot has laid the foundations for expanding surveys like this across more communities – bridging the gap between built heritage and biodiversity.

*Bats In Churches project was created to work with churches, bat workers and heritage communities to provide advice for any church with resident bats. Whilst BiC finished in 2023, it has led to more projects such as this pilot.*



# Tracking bats, advancing conservation

## The National Ringed Bat Database

Every tiny ring tells a story. Until recently, those stories were scattered. Now, with the launch of the National Ringed Bat Database, we're bringing them together.

Bat ringing is an important research tool, identifying individual bats over time to provide insights into their lifespan, migration, and habitat use. Until recently, the UK had no national system for storing this data, limiting its long-term scientific value.

With the launch of the National Ringed Bat Database, we ensure that every ringed bat contributes to a bigger picture of bat conservation, whilst allowing ringers to retain control of their data. This database enables researchers to:

- Upload and manage ringing and recapture records, both current and historic.
- View ringed bat records on a map.
- Order bat rings.

By centralising this data, we can improve conservation efforts and ensure that every bat ringed helps protect the species for the future.

*A close-up photo of bat rings. With the launch of the National Ringed Bat Database, we ensure that every ringed bat contributes to a bigger picture of bat conservation.*



## A year of scientific progress

From pioneering new acoustic and genetic research techniques to expanding habitat-based studies and offering data-driven guidance for conservation planning, our scientific research is shaping the future of bat conservation. These achievements are only possible thanks to our funders and collaborators, whose support allows us to push the boundaries of bat research – delivering lasting benefits for bats, people, and the wider environment.

## Help us in advance bat conservation science

What's good for bats is good for people: clean air and water, healthier woodlands, greener cities, stronger communities.

**If you believe in a world where nature and people thrive side by side, consider donating to BCT today.**

Visit our website to donate: <https://www.bats.org.uk/donate/pledge>



© Claudia Gebhardt

*Bat worker in Scotland carrying out fieldwork including trapping.*

## 4. INFLUENCE

# Championing policies and decisions that protect bats

*BCT staff and volunteers at the Restore Nature Now rally.*

We champion laws and policies that reflect the real needs of bats — across landscapes, habitats, and species. Drawing on science and expertise, we work with partners and all levels of government to protect and restore bat populations.

Our policy team tracks legislation, assesses its impact, and acts where needed. We're developing a new plan to engage and empower species and nature champions — amplifying our voice in national debates. At the same time, we're strengthening our role in key advisory groups and decision-making spaces to keep bats on the agenda.

## Launching the Bat Conservation Manifesto: a vision for policy change

This year, BCT launched its first-ever Bat Conservation Manifesto, ensuring that decision-makers have access to clear, evidence-based policies that support bat species recovery. Developed by our experts, this manifesto outlines the urgent actions needed to protect bats and their habitats in the face of mounting challenges, from climate change to habitat loss and underfunded environmental services.

### Bringing bats into the political conversation

Bats are still at risk, with some species in decline or even facing extinction in parts of the UK. While legal protections have played a crucial role in conservation success stories, stronger policies are needed to secure a future where bats and people can thrive together. That's why we've set out five key actions that every political party should commit to.

- Keep and **strengthen legal protections** for bats.
- Ensure all new **developments support wildlife**.
- Implement **climate solutions** that work for nature.
- Support **nature-friendly farming** through sustainable policies.
- Strengthen enforcement against **wildlife crime**.

By presenting these clear policy solutions, we are making it easier for politicians to champion bat conservation. With our manifesto in hand, we are actively engaging with decision-makers to push for a future where bats – and the ecosystems they support – are protected and valued.

## Responding to planning reform threats

As the UK government has driven forward planning reforms, BCT has been at the forefront of evidence-based resistance. Proposed reforms directly threaten the legal safeguards in place for bats, other vulnerable species and precious habitats, and do not tackle the real causes of problems with planning and development.

### Challenging harmful proposals: site-based surveys

One concerning aspect of the proposed planning reforms is the potential removal of site-based surveys. Site-based surveys are essential for finding bat roosts on sites and therefore being able to both mitigate harm and check impacts over time.

### Championing better planning based on evidence

BCT has consistently advocated for smarter planning that benefits nature, people and developers. And we have a long history of working with planning policy decision-makers to get the best outcomes for all.

As such we're disappointed to see policy changes being proposed which do not reflect what the evidence shows will and will not work, for nature or for planning.

Bat Conservation Trust



# #ManifestoForBats

## Our five asks for every political party:

- ✧ Keep legal protection for all bat species and improve its implementation
- ✧ Make all new development species friendly
- ✧ Deploy climate change mitigation in harmony with nature
- ✧ Support long-term nature-friendly farming through agricultural schemes
- ✧ Improve wildlife crime recording, investigation and prosecution

*Our Manifesto for Bats had five asks for all political parties.*

## Legal reviews and advocacy

BCT's policy team has been reviewing the government's planning reform proposals in detail, assessing their potential impact on existing wildlife protections.

Where consultations were opened, we submitted to them, highlighting risks posed to bats and broader biodiversity. For example, we responded to the consultation for *Planning Reform: Development and Nature Recovery Working Paper*.

When there weren't consultations, we gave evidence in whatever way we could. We've sent briefings directly to government ministers, such as the Secretary of State for Housing and the Environment. We have responded to over 30 government consultations and over 570 MPs (at the time of writing) were contacted by BCT supporters about concerns related to planning reforms.

Our message is consistent: evidence shows that it is the implementation of wildlife laws rather than the protections for wildlife themselves which can cause problems. Conversely, weakening these protections will lead to long-term ecological damage – which would ultimately be counterproductive for both nature and developers.

## Meeting with decision-makers

Beyond written submissions, BCT has actively engaged with decision-makers to ensure that our voices are heard. For example, in response to the Planning and Infrastructure Bill, BCT met with officials to explain the importance of site-based surveys and to emphasise that proper planning, with wildlife protection in mind, benefits both development and the environment. We hope to continue to engage positively where possible and will always be open to having these conversations with decision makers.

***We launched a campaign in November 2024 to mobilise our supporters and help us protect bats and other wildlife from the Planning and Infrastructure Bill.***



## Mobilising our supporters

Early in 2025, we mobilised our supporters to let their MPs know they're worried about planning reform. In one of our most successful campaigns, our supporters contacted 80 MPs within a few weeks of our launch – and the number climbed to 573 (and still rising) at the time of writing this report.

We will continue to work with other conservation organisations to ask for essential amendments to the Planning and Infrastructure Bill that will help mitigate the worst of the harm it will cause to wildlife.

## Challenging the rhetoric scapegoating bats

2024-25 saw an increase in the scapegoating of bats – and other wildlife – to justify changes to wildlife protections. Repeatedly we saw the government unfairly blame bats and other wildlife for delaying house building and development projects. We've been working hard to expose these misleading narratives.

## Debunking the myth of the bat tunnel

In the run up to the Planning and Infrastructure Bill, the so-called HS2 bat tunnel was repeatedly referenced by government and in the media. A false narrative was developed which painted bats as a costly hindrance to development.

In response we created an evidence-based communications campaign to show that the real problem wasn't bats, but poor management and lack of strategic environmental assessments at an early stage. We used this campaign to further mobilise our supporters to get these the facts in front of as many decision-makers as possible.

“ I'm annoyed that you're having to field all these questions about the tunnel when BCT had nothing to do with it in the first place. BUT the article has some amazing detective work and sets the record properly straight. I'll be asking my MP to oppose the Planning and Infrastructure Bill.”

A response to our *Throwing bats under the train: HS2's bat tunnel and the dangerous spin behind deregulation* news article.

## Changing the narrative

BCT has always worked to shift the conversation around bats and development more widely. Instead of accepting the false narrative that they block growth, we've shown that bats are key to a healthy environment and economy.

- Thanks to our efforts, bats were – for the first time – mentioned in the updated National Planning Policy Framework in 2024, marking a major step forward in recognising their value in planning.
- We were quoted in a news piece in *Byline Times: The Government's Housing Bill Branded a 'Licence to Kill' Protected Species for Property Developers*.
- Helen Hayes MP (our common pipistrelle Species Champion) wrote to the Minister for Housing and Planning on BCT's behalf to raise concerns on changes to planning legislation.



© Hugh Clark

## Backing the evidence, shaping the future

BCT continues to challenge harmful rhetoric, advocating for a balanced approach where nature and development thrive together.

**With your support, we'll keep pushing for a future where bats are protected and evidence informs decisions.**

Sign up to our campaigns email list and make our voice louder:  
[www.bats.org.uk/bat-campaigns-list](http://www.bats.org.uk/bat-campaigns-list)

*Grey long-eared bats are very rare medium sized bats found only in a few places in southern England. They are one of two long-eared bat species in the UK.*

## 5. STRENGTHEN

# Securing a sustainable future for bats, BCT, and our community



*BCT staff at a team away day.*

© Joe Numer-Mino

To protect bats and inspire change, BCT must be strong from the inside out. Our strategy puts just as much focus on how we work as what we do – from equity and inclusion to fundraising, IT and environmental policies.

By supporting our staff, volunteers and partners with the tools, systems and culture they need, we're building a more resilient, impactful organisation for the future.

# A clear path for bat conservation

## BCT launches new strategy to guide the next decade

As set out in the introduction, BCT launched a new three-year strategy (2024–2027), underpinned by our 10-year Theory of Change (2024–2034).

This long-term vision helps us stay focused on our goal: that all UK bat species will be in recovery. To achieve this goal, we've set five strategic outcomes:

- Ensure that scientific research drives effective bat conservation.
- Influence decision-makers to support the recovery of bat species.
- Act – through collaboration and guidance – so that bat-friendly land and building management is mainstreamed.
- Inspire more people to protect bats.
- And – the objective covered in this section – making BCT itself strong and resilient.

## Powering progress: the people and systems behind our mission

To protect the future of bats, we also need to future-proof ourselves. Charities like BCT face a constant balancing act: investing in the tools, technology, and people we need – while ensuring every pound is spent wisely.

That's why we're upgrading our systems to be more efficient, secure, and resilient for the long term. Smart tech choices today mean more time and resources for conservation tomorrow.

But it's not just about systems – it's about people. Our volunteers are at the heart of what we do, and we're committed to giving them the support, training, and tools they need to thrive. We're also investing in our staff, because a strong, supported team is essential to delivering lasting impact.

## Investing in people, systems, and support

From better technology to stronger teams, we've made meaningful progress this year to build a more resilient and responsive organisation – ensuring our work for bats is grounded in solid foundations.



### Smarter systems for greater impact:

#### ● **New National Bat Helpline database launched**

Our updated database is now live and in use – making it easier for staff to track, respond to, and analyse calls efficiently and effectively. The new platform guides call handlers with intuitive forms, captures rich data for reporting, and has simplified volunteer training. With over 300,000 people, 209,000 tickets, and 200,000 locations carefully migrated, this project shows how thoughtful digital solutions can help protect our vital UK wildlife through better data and more personal support.

- **New IT support in place**

We welcomed new IT contractors, KCS and we've already seen improvements to system backups and overall support.

## Enhancing volunteer support and helpline services:

- **Optimising bat care call handling**

We surveyed members of the Bat Care Network for feedback on how calls are handled. Our findings are helping us to refine our procedures. For example, we've now moved to a new mapping system which goes beyond simple radius calculations. Instead of assuming a volunteer can travel '10 miles in any direction' (which might mean a quick 10-minute drive in the Cotswolds but a 45-minute journey in London traffic), the system now uses precise geographical boundaries to connect callers with the nearest available bat carers. This means injured or vulnerable bats receive attention more quickly, potentially saving more of these protected creatures.

- **Volunteer power: over 100 trained and retained**

More than 100 volunteers were trained and welcomed into the Volunteer Bat Care Helpline Project and crucially, we've retained them. That continuity helps ensure high-quality support for the public and bat carers alike.



*I am genuinely excited to be a volunteer. I've particularly appreciated being able to use my role as a reference to get a charity-related job role. Above anything else, it's been great to talk to so many different people about bats, helping them get to safety and donate my time to a fantastic organisation.*

A volunteer on the Volunteer Bat Care Helpline.



## Growing our staff team to grow our reach

- **New financial support for projects and teams:** We welcomed a new staff member into a new role, Finance and Operations Officer. They will provide support to project teams as well as helping to develop and check budgets for funding applications.
- **Supporting bat groups in Wales:** We were delighted to bring on a Wales Bat Groups Officer. This role provides tailored support for 15 volunteer-led bat groups across Wales through regional conferences, training, resources, and funding that strengthens local conservation efforts.
- **New Membership Officer:** In 2025-26 we will create another new role for BCT, so that we can give our growing membership base the care and attention it deserves.

## Fundraising: securing the future for bats

### Hope through innovation. Strength through support.

We are not just responding to change – we're preparing for it. The world around us is shifting fast, and so are we. That's why we're diversifying our fundraising: building a broader, more innovative funding base that keeps us agile, sustainable, and always focused on protecting bats and their habitats.

Unlike some conservation charities, we don't own land or property – our work depends on people. On partnerships, public support, and funders. Every step forward for bats starts with people who share our belief that together, we can create a world where bats and people thrive.



*This year for the first time, NBMP data were assessed over a five-year window - revealing that two species may now be in decline: brown long-eared bats and lesser horseshoe bats (pictured).*

© Gareth Jones

Given the opportunity, bats live long lives. Conserving them takes long-term vision and commitment. We're investing in exactly that – securing regular donations, building new partnerships, unlocking grant funding, and expanding our community fundraising. We've also launched a legacy giving strategy, offering a free will-writing service for anyone who wants to leave a gift that echoes into the future.


## 2024-25's funding highlights:


### **Big Give, big impact**

We raised £24,000 for BCT's Science programme through the Big Give Green Match Fund – and an additional £20,000 for the National Bat Helpline during their Christmas Challenge. These results take more than just luck. They take dedication, teamwork, and the kind of support that lifts campaigns beyond their targets.

### **Leaving a legacy**

Our new legacy fundraising approach is already opening doors for future conservation. More people than ever are choosing to leave a lasting impact and thanks to our free will-writing service, it's never been easier to do.

 **Rona Gordon**, is a seven-year-old BCT member who is raising funds for BCT and the Back Up Trust through a 5-day, 100km cycle challenge in the Netherlands. As we went to press, she'd already raised £1,000. Well done, Rona.

 Another athletic fundraiser, **Anne Youngman** – our Scottish Officer for 15 years – will do a 105 km ultra-marathon as a fundraiser for BCT. Participants have 19.5 hours to reach the Northumbrian Coast, starting at the Scottish Borders. They will climb 8,000 feet, go through peat bogs, and do a stretch of a Roman road.

***Seven-year-old Rona Gordon, our youngest ever fundraiser.***



# A louder voice for bats

## BCT is building its first ever communications strategy

For the first time, BCT is creating a dedicated communications strategy – to help us speak up for bats more clearly, more widely, and more powerfully.

Why does this matter? Because how we talk about bats shapes how people value and protect them. With so many environmental messages competing for attention, we need to make every word count. A communications strategy will help us do just that, making sure everything we say supports BCT's goals, reaches the right audiences, and inspires meaningful action.

## Communication that drives conservation

From frontline conservation to policy influence, effective communication is essential. This strategy will help us raise awareness, change perceptions, build stronger partnerships, and ultimately drive real-world impact for bats, other wildlife, and people too.

## Follow and share our journey

Find BCT online:



[batconservationtrust.org](https://batconservationtrust.org)



@BatConservation (BlueSky, Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn)



YouTube: Bat Conservation Trust

## We're building something lasting – and we need your help to grow it

If you believe in protecting wildlife, if you believe in hope through innovation, then please join us. Whether it's a donation today, a legacy for tomorrow, or a new connection we can build together – your support powers everything we do.

## Let's make the future brighter for bats. Together.

Join BCT for just £3.25/month: [www.bats.org.uk/membership/scheme](https://www.bats.org.uk/membership/scheme)

## CONCLUSION

# Securing the future for bats – together

As we have seen throughout this report, bat conservation is not just about protecting a group of species – it is about safeguarding the health of our shared environment.

Bats play a vital role in ecosystems across the UK, from controlling insect populations to acting as indicators of wider biodiversity. Yet they face increasing pressures from habitat loss, climate change, and shifting policy landscapes.

Over the past year, we have made significant strides in addressing these challenges. From working with farmers to launching our first manifesto, our work is making a real difference. But there is still much to do.

### Your role in securing lasting impact

None of this progress would be possible without the generosity and commitment of our funders, members, volunteers and supporters. Your contributions enable us to:

- Continue essential research to strengthen the scientific evidence base for bat conservation.
- Advocate for policies that protect bats and their habitats in an increasingly complex and challenging political landscape.
- Restore and safeguard roosting and foraging sites to ensure healthy bat populations.
- Engage communities – particularly in hard-to-reach areas – in conservation action that benefits both bats and people.

### THANK YOU

We are immensely grateful to all those who make our work possible – our funders, partners, volunteers, members, and the passionate individuals who champion bat conservation in their communities. Your support and dedication are the foundation of everything we do.

Together, we can build a future where bats and people thrive side by side. Thank you for being part of this journey.

# Administrative information

## Status

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 7 May 1992 and registered as a charity on 29 June 1992.

## Governing document

The company was established under a memorandum of association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its articles of association.

**Company number** 2712823

**Charity number  
England and Wales** 1012361

**Charity number  
Scotland** SC040116

## Registered office and operational address

Studio 15 Cloisters House, Cloisters Business Centre,  
8 Battersea Park Rd, London SW8 4BG

## Trustees

Officers:

Jean Matthews (Chair)

Steven Roe (Vice Chair)

Helen Slinger (Treasurer)

Annika Binet (Hon Secretary)

Dr. Cerys Bradley

Stuart Brittenden

Matt Browne – Trustee from

14 September 2024 AGM

Colette Marshall

Dr. Orly Razgour

Matthew Terry

Dr Ruth Waters

Stepped down as trustees at AGM on 14

September 2024:

Dr. Abigail Entwistle

Lord John Randall

## President

Chris Packham CBE

## Vice Presidents

Professor Paul Racey

Dr. Robert Stebbings

## Patron

David Gower OBE

## Ambassadors

Kate Rusby

Aruhan Galieva

## Honorary roles

Hon Education Officer: Shirley Thompson MBE

Hon Science & Conservation Advisor: Professor Paul Racey

Hon Science Advisors: Professor Gareth Jones,  
Professor Kate Jones

Hon Legal Advisor: Michael Ford QC

## Senior Management Team

Chief Executive: Kit Stoner

Director of Conservation: Lisa Worledge

Director of Communications & Fundraising:

Dr. Joe Nunez-Mino

## Bankers

The Co-operative Bank plc

Kings Valley, Yew Street

Stockport SK4 2JU

## Health and Safety

JEM Safety Management Ltd

190 Moor Lane, Upminster

Essex RM14 1HG

## Insurance brokers

First Insurance Solutions Ltd

First Insurance Solutions House

Centre 3000, St. Leonards Road

Maidstone, Kent ME16 0LS

## Financial advisors

Coloma Wealth Management LLP

3rd Floor, Warwick House

65/66 Queen Street

London EC4R 1EB

## Employment advisors

WorkNest (previously known as Ellis Whittam)

Woodhouse, Church Lane

Aldford, Chester CH3 6JD

## Solicitors

Aaron & Partners LLP

Grosvenor Court, Foregate Street

Chester CH1 1HG

## Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP

110 Golden Lane

London EC1Y 0TG

# Introduction

The Trustees present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Administrative information set out on page 38 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

## Structure, Governance & Management

### History of the Bat Conservation Trust

The Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) was formed in 1991, by far-seeing individuals who recognised that the combination of challenges to the conservation of bats was unique. BCT is proud to be the leading non-governmental organisation devoted solely to the conservation of bats and their habitats. In a very short time, BCT has grown to become an organisation with over 5,400 members, with offices in England and Scotland and a team of around 60 staff including scientists, specialists in training, outreach and biodiversity, volunteer engagement, fundraising, media and membership. BCT's core activities include; biodiversity delivery (taking effective practical conservation actions and influencing policy to secure bat populations); the National Bat Monitoring Programme; delivering advice about bats through the National Bat Helpline and through long-term partnerships with the statutory nature conservation organisations (SNCOs) and with statutory investigators and prosecutors; training professionals and volunteers; and engaging and educating wider audiences.

### An overview of who we are

BCT has championed bats for over 30 years and the places they need to survive.

### Our vital stats:

***We spend just 8.6p on fundraising per £1 raised (in 2023/24: 10p per £1)***

***Around 217,000 online supporters across different platforms (same as 2023/24)***

***Over 3,000 volunteers (same as 2023/24)***

### Our purpose:

**Vision:** A world rich in wildlife where bats and people thrive together.

**Mission:** We work collaboratively and with a diversity of people to achieve resilient populations of bats and improve their habitats in an ever-changing world.

### Values:

**Evidence based:** We seek out and commission leading science and research to build the best possible evidence base to focus our work and shape the advice we give.

**Collaborative:** We actively seek out the best partners, conversations and opportunities to make our expertise and resources work hard to deliver the best outcomes for bats.

**Inclusive:** We are working to remove barriers to participation in bat conservation, as we believe including and welcoming a wide range of people will bring new ideas and benefit both people and bats.

### We work to:

**DISCOVER:** scientific evidence in place to support bat conservation

**INFLUENCE:** decision makers make right choices for bats

**ACT:** effective management of landscapes and built environment

**CONNECT:** inspire an appreciation of bats and nature

**STRENGTHEN:** invest in a sustainable future for Bat Conservation Trust, its staff and volunteers

### Fundraising Statement

At BCT, we respect the wishes of our members, supporters and donors who ask for no further contact from us, and we adhere to Data Protection law. We employ reputable companies to assist with distributing membership material. We do not employ fundraising or marketing agencies to target people by telephone, or in the street, to persuade them to set up regular donations to BCT. BCT is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and agrees to abide by its rules and regulations. Those who register with the regulator agree to ensure their fundraising is legal, open, honest and respectful. There were no complaints related to fundraising during the period covered by this report.

In order to achieve our objective of financial stability, everyone at BCT contributes towards our fundraising efforts along with a small, dedicated fundraising team. We also support others who choose to make donations or take part in fundraising activities in whatever way they can.

## Safeguarding

BCT is committed to upholding the principle that children and vulnerable adults are entitled to protection from physical, sexual and emotional harm and have the right to a safe, positive and enjoyable environment when involved with BCT. We are committed to maintaining a safeguarding policy, which can be viewed here:

<https://www.bats.org.uk/the-trust/policies/safeguarding> and providing regular staff training.

## The Trustees

The Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report are shown on page 38. All Trustees also act as directors for the purposes of company law.

The Trustees are elected at an Annual General Meeting (AGM) and serve for three years. Trustees are eligible for reselection at the end of their first and second term of three years, but following election for a third term, are not be eligible for reselection until one year has elapsed from them ceasing to be a member of the Board of Trustees. The Trustees may co-opt any Member eligible for election to fill a vacancy until the next AGM.

The Trustees regularly audit their collective skills, competencies and experience against those required to fulfil their responsibilities and proactively recruit new Trustees to fill gaps. All proposed Trustees are put to the BCT membership prior to any appointment. On appointment, training is given according to the needs of the Trustee and new Trustees have an induction with key members of staff.

The Trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights and any benefits received by the Trustees are incidental. As members of the charity they undertake to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such undertakings at 31 March 2025 was 11 (2024: 12).

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

## Risk Management

The Trustees and Senior Management Team have reviewed the major risks which the charity faces. They review these risks at least annually. The Trustees implement improvements to systems of internal control in order to mitigate other operational and business risks as and when identified.

Some of the major risk areas are:

- Pressure for change in government policy or legislation that impacts on bat conservation. BCT undertakes advocacy and mobilises our supporters to speak up for the importance of the legislation and policy protecting bats.
- Controversial issue which results in negative publicity for bats and their conservation. BCT proactively communicates with stakeholders and the media and is developing a communications strategy to further address this risk.
- Reduced funding for key projects and services. BCT regularly reviews our financial position including income, ethical investments, fundraising pipeline and potential impacts from government policy.
- Funding paid late or in arrears leading to cashflow problems. BCT has a weekly cashflow monitoring system with careful management of cash reserves.
- Reduced support, profile and funding in a competitive market. BCT has a hard-earned position as an authoritative voice in the conservation space and is proactive in engaging with a wide range of sectors and research.
- Loss of capacity and key knowledge due to loss of staff. BCT undertakes work to understand and mitigate stressors and strives to provide adequate capacity for growing areas of work, while reducing reliance on sole contractors where work is outsourced.

## Remuneration Policy

Remuneration of all staff is considered on an annual basis by the Board of Trustees. The Senior Management Team make recommendations to the Trustees for a) the cost of living based on inflation rates, the London Living Wage and a salary survey we take part in with other environmental NGOs, and b) for any staff increments based on job bands, performance and any extra responsibilities taken on. The Trustees make the final decision in the context of BCT's budget. The salary of the Chief Executive is set by the Chair in consultation with the Trustees.

## Statement of Responsibilities of the Trustees

The Trustees (who are also directors of The Bat Conservation Trust) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law required the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### **Disclosure of information to auditor**

In so far as each of the Trustees is aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware;

And

- Each of the trustees has taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

#### **Treasurer's report**

BCT has further grown its vital work, despite the continued economic uncertainty. Staff numbers have risen to support the increased project work this year with an associated increase in staff costs alongside significant changes to national insurance and meeting our commitment to a living wage.

For the year ended 31 March 2025, income was £2,984,804 (2024: £2,665,328) and expenditure was £3,068,552 (2024: £2,281,864), leading to net deficit for the year of £83,748 (2024: surplus £383,464).

Taking into account losses on investments of £12,407 (2024: gains of £147,858), the net movement in funds for the year was a decrease of £96,155 (2024: an increase of £531,322).

While the accounts show a small in-year deficit, this is in line with the trustees' expectations and represents a better position than budgeted, reflecting careful cost control in a challenging environment. The difference from the prior year's surplus reflects the investment of

some of our reserves in strategic projects. We are investing in fundraising capacity to increase unrestricted funds and this year spent just 8.6p on fundraising per £1 raised.

Underperforming investments led to a review of our investment policy, portfolio and fund managers, which concluded during the financial year. This has culminated in the transfer of our funds to a multi-asset sustainable stewardship fund under a newly selected asset manager post year end.

#### **Investment policy**

Investments total £2,427,145 (2024: £2,288,298) at 31 March 2025. The aim of these funds is to provide stability to reserves and a steady annual income stream to support our work, helping to reduce the risks associated with our reliance on project funding.

Our revised investment policy features key sustainability criteria to promote biodiversity and mitigate climate change. Investments are expected to meet our sustainability criteria with returns reported on via a benchmark. Target returns for our investments are CPI +3% over the long term.

#### **Reserves policy**

We adopt a risk-based approach for our reserves policy in order to define the amount we need to enable us to sustain our operations and protect us from unforeseen events. We have also been investing some of our reserves in strategic projects to secure BCT's long-term financial viability.

At the end of the 2024/25 financial year our total reserves stand at £3,396,462 (2024: £3,492,617). Of this, £2,228,800 (2024: £2,252,701) are endowment funds and £308,540 (2024: £242,602) are restricted funds for projects. This leaves unrestricted funds of £859,122 (2024: £997,314) of which £450,772 (2024: £523,447) have been designated to key programmes of work in the next financial year (see note 18 in financial statements for details). This leaves us with £408,350 (2024: £473,867) as unrestricted, unallocated funds. Of this, £233,751 (2024: £312,456) represents free reserves after deducting the net book value of fixed assets.

The trustees' policy is to work towards holding six months operating costs, approximately £885,000, in unrestricted reserves. We will continue to review our reserves policy and our progress towards achieving it each year. On behalf of BCT, I would like to thank all our members, donors and partners for their fantastic support and our volunteers and staff for their endless hard work on behalf of bat conservation.

Helen Slinger, Treasurer

# Thank you

## Partner bat groups

Avon Bat Group  
Ayrshire and Arran Bat Group  
Bedfordshire Bat Group  
Berkshire & South Bucks Bat Group  
Birmingham & Black Country Bat Group  
Borders Bat Group  
Cairngorms Bat Group  
Cambridgeshire Bat Group  
Cardiff Bat Group  
Central Scotland Bat Group  
Cheshire Bat Group  
Cleveland Bat Group  
Clwyd Bat Group  
Clyde Bat Group  
Cornwall Bat Group  
Derbyshire Bat Conservation Group  
Devon Bat Group  
Dorset Bat Group  
Dumfries & Galloway Bat Group  
Durham Bat Group  
East Lancashire Bat Group  
East Yorkshire Bat Group  
Essex Bat Group  
Fife & Kinross Bat Group  
Glamorgan Bat Group  
Gloucestershire Bat Group  
Guernsey Bat Group  
Gwynedd Bat Group  
Hampshire Bat Group  
Herefordshire Bat Research Group  
Herts & Middlesex Bat Group  
Inverness Bat Group  
Isle Of Wight Bat Group  
Isles Of Scilly Bat Group  
Jersey Bat Group  
Kent Bat Group  
Leicestershire & Rutland Bat Group  
Lincolnshire Bat Group  
Loch Lomond Bat Group  
London Bat Group  
Lothians Bat Group  
Manx Bat Group  
Merseyside & West Lancs Bat Group  
Montgomeryshire Bat Group  
Nene Valley Bats  
Norfolk & Norwich Bat Group  
North Bucks Bat Group  
North Ceredigion Bat Group  
North East Scotland Bat Group  
North Lancashire Bat Group  
North Wales Mammal Group  
Northern Ireland Bat Group  
Northumberland Bat Group  
Nottinghamshire Bat Group

Oxfordshire Bat Group  
Pembrokeshire Bat Group  
Shropshire Bat Group  
Skye and Lochalsh Bat Group  
Somerset Bat Group  
South Cumbria Bat Group  
South Lancashire Bat Group  
South Yorkshire Bat Group  
Staffordshire Bat Group  
Surrey Bat Group  
Sussex Bat Group  
Tayside Bat Group  
Vale Of Glamorgan & Bridgend Bat Group  
Valleys Bat Group  
Warwickshire Bat Group  
West Yorkshire Bat Group  
Worcestershire Bat Group  
Herefordshire Mammal Group

## Charitable trusts, statutory bodies and other organisations

Alice Noakes Memorial Charitable Trust  
Animal and Plant Health Agency  
Animal Friends  
ARC  
Barry Green Memorial Fund  
Benefact Group  
Cecil Pilkington Charitable Trust  
Chapman Charitable Trust  
Church of England  
David Webster Charitable Trust  
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation  
Forest Research  
Garfield Weston Foundation  
Goldcrest CT CMA-Client Fund Trust  
Greater London Authority  
Groundwork UK  
Innovate UK  
John Ellerman Foundation  
Joint Nature Conservation Council  
National Heritage NNF (Nature Networks Fund)  
National Lottery Heritage Fund  
Natural England  
Natural Resources Wales  
NatureScot  
The Royal Parks Limited  
Shirley and James Dutton Charitable Trust  
UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology  
Vistry Group  
William Dean Countryside and Education Trust  
William Haddon Charitable Trust  
Xeno-canto

**Sponsorships (of £100 or more in year to 31 March 2025)**

Amey  
 Cura Terrae  
 Ecolybrium  
 Gateshead Council  
 NHBS  
 I&G Ecological Consultancy Ltd  
 Pettersson  
 Southampton Council  
 Thermal Vision Ecology  
 WildCare  
 Wildlife Acoustics

**Donations from bat groups (of £100 or more in the year to 31 March 2025)**

Berkshire & S Bucks Bat Group  
 Cornwall Bat Group  
 East Yorkshire Bat Group  
 Hampshire Bat Group  
 Kent Bat Group  
 North Ceredigion Bat Group  
 Oxfordshire Bat Group  
 Surrey Bat Group  
 Warwickshire Bat Group  
 West Yorkshire Bat Group  
 Wiltshire Bat Group

**Corporate members (as of 31 March 2025)**

Arbtech Consulting Ltd  
 ASW Ecology Ltd  
 BatAbility Courses & Tuition  
 BatBox Ltd.  
 CJ Wildlife  
 Cleankill Environmental Services  
 Co-ecology  
 D J H Ravcon Ltd  
 Echoes Ecology Ltd.  
 Ecological Survey And Assessment Limited  
 English Heritage  
 Ground Control Ltd.  
 Historic England  
 Holidaycottages.Co.Uk  
 Homegrown Timber (Rail Ltd.)  
 I&G Ecological Consultancy Ltd  
 Integrated Utility Services Ltd.  
 MelBek Technology Ltd  
 NHBS  
 Nurture Holdings Ltd.  
 Stowe Family Law LLP  
 Tamworth Property Services  
 The Nestbox Company Ltd.  
 Titley Scientific  
 Treework Ltd  
 United Environmental Services Ltd  
 Wilby Tree Surgeons  
 Wild Surveys Ltd.  
 WildCare  
 Wildlife Acoustics  
 Wold Ecology Ltd.  
 Zoological Society of Hertfordshire

## Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP were reappointed to act as the charitable company's auditor during the year.

The report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the Trustees on: 18 August 2025

and signed on their behalf by

Jean Matthews  
Chair

## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Bat Conservation Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

## Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on The Bat Conservation Trust's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

## Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- The information given in the trustees' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The trustees' annual report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements

## Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

### **Responsibilities of Trustees**

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with regulations made under those Acts.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the

economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are set out below.

### **Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities**

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
  - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
  - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

### **Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Noelia Serrano (Senior statutory auditor)

Date: 18 August 2025

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP,  
Statutory Auditor  
110 Golden Lane London EC1Y 0TG

Sayer Vincent LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

## The Bat Conservation Trust

### Statement of financial activities *(incorporating an income and expenditure account)*

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Endowment £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
<b>Income</b>						
Donations and legacies	2	472,156	46,324	-	<b>518,480</b>	856,737
Investment income		68,103	-	-	<b>68,103</b>	59,185
<i>Income from charitable activities</i>						
Conferences		88,437	-	-	<b>88,437</b>	69,983
Training courses and meetings		105,590	-	-	<b>105,590</b>	84,537
Projects and research	3	991,160	1,141,862	-	<b>2,133,022</b>	1,539,734
Other activities		71,172	-	-	<b>71,172</b>	55,152
<b>Total income</b>		<b>1,796,618</b>	<b>1,188,186</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,984,804</b>	2,665,328
<b>Expenditure</b>						
<i>Expenditure on raising funds</i>						
Membership support	4	102,788	-	-	<b>102,788</b>	73,017
Costs of raising funds	4	141,784	-	11,110	<b>152,894</b>	176,866
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>						
Conferences	4	54,697	-	-	<b>54,697</b>	75,001
Training courses and meetings	4	136,147	-	-	<b>136,147</b>	119,924
Project and research costs	5	1,529,803	1,092,223	-	<b>2,622,026</b>	1,837,056
<b>Total expenditure</b>	4	<b>1,965,219</b>	<b>1,092,223</b>	<b>11,110</b>	<b>3,068,552</b>	2,281,864
<b>Net (expenditure) / income before net (losses) / gains on investments</b>		<b>(168,601)</b>	<b>95,963</b>	<b>(11,110)</b>	<b>(83,748)</b>	383,464
Net (losses) / gains on investments	12	384	-	(12,791)	<b>(12,407)</b>	147,858
<b>Net (expenditure) / income for the year</b>		<b>(168,217)</b>	<b>95,963</b>	<b>(23,901)</b>	<b>(96,155)</b>	531,322
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	18	<b>30,025</b>	<b>(30,025)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(138,192)</b>	<b>65,938</b>	<b>(23,901)</b>	<b>(96,155)</b>	531,322
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		997,314	242,602	2,252,701	3,492,617	2,961,295
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	18	<b>859,122</b>	<b>308,540</b>	<b>2,228,800</b>	<b>3,396,462</b>	3,492,617

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in note 18 to the financial statements. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities are given in note 20.

For Companies Act purposes, excluding Endowed funds, income for the year ended 31 March 2025 was £2,984,804 (2024: £2,665,328) and expenditure £3,057,442 (2024: £2,270,630) and gains on investments of £384 (2024: £616). Net expenditure was £72,254 (2024: net income £395,314).

**The Bat Conservation Trust** (Company number 1012361)

**Balance Sheet**

**As at 31 March 2025**

	Note	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	10		902		1,826
Intangible assets	11		173,697		159,585
Investments	12		<u>2,427,145</u>		<u>2,288,298</u>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			<b>2,601,744</b>		<b>2,449,709</b>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	13	638,039		1,192,317	
Short term deposit		91,369		302	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>345,741</u>		<u>147,568</u>	
		<b>1,075,149</b>		<b>1,340,187</b>	
<b>Creditors: amounts due within one year</b>	14	<u>(280,431)</u>		<u>(297,279)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b><u>794,718</u></b>		<b><u>1,042,908</u></b>
<b>Net assets</b>	16		<b><u>3,396,462</u></b>		<b><u>3,492,617</u></b>
<b>Reserves</b>					
Endowment funds	18		2,228,800		2,252,701
Restricted funds	18		308,540		242,602
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	18	408,350		473,867	
Designated funds	18	<u>450,772</u>		<u>523,447</u>	
			<b><u>859,122</u></b>		<b><u>997,314</u></b>
<b>Total funds</b>	18		<b><u>3,396,462</u></b>		<b><u>3,492,617</u></b>

Approved by the trustees on: 18 August 2025

Signed on their behalf by:

**Jean Matthews** (Chair)

**The Bat Conservation Trust**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2025**

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>				
Net (expenditure) / income for the year	(96,155)		531,322	
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation and amortisation charges	69,979		39,572	
Dividends and interest	(68,103)		(59,185)	
Losses / (gains) on investments	12,407		(147,858)	
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	554,278		(896,482)	
(Decrease) / increase in creditors	(16,848)		151,539	
Investment charges taken directly from cash held as part of the investment portfolio	10,776		11,945	
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>		<b>466,334</b>		<b>(369,147)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>				
Bank interest received	1,073		539	
Cash withdrawals from investments	25,000		276,000	
Cash additions to investments	(120,000)		-	
Purchase of intangible assets	(83,167)		(117,965)	
<b>Net cash (used in) / provided by investing activities</b>		<b>(177,094)</b>		<b>158,574</b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>		<b>289,240</b>		<b>(210,573)</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year</b>		<b>147,870</b>		<b>358,443</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>		<b>437,110</b>		<b>147,870</b>
<b>Analysis of cash and cash equivalents</b>				
	At 1 April		Cash flows	At 31 March
	2024			2025
	£		£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	147,568		198,173	345,741
Short term deposit	302		91,067	91,369
	147,870		289,240	437,110

**Analysis of change in net debt**

The charity had no net debt during the year.

**The Bat Conservation Trust**  
**Notes to the financial statements**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2025**

**1. Accounting policies**

**Status**

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 7 May 1992 and registered as a charity on 29 June 1992.

The registered office is Studio 15, Cloisters House, Cloisters Business Centre, 8 Battersea Park Road, London, England, SW8 4BG.

**a) Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS102"), the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and "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)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The functional currency of the financial statements is Sterling.

**b) Going concern**

The trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The trustees have made this assessment in respect to a period of one year from the date of approval of these accounts.

The trustees of the charity have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees are of the opinion that the charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due. With regard to the next accounting period, the year ending 31 March 2026, the most significant areas that affect the carrying value of the assets held by the charity are the delivery of grant funded activities and securing future funding for these activities (see the risk management section of the trustees' report for more information).

**c) Income**

Income from generated funds received by way of donations and member subscriptions are included in full in the statement of financial activities when probable.

Gifts in kind comprise meeting rooms and catering provided free of charge for trustee and other meetings and gifted IT services where material. Gifts in kind are included in income and expenditure at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity, which is the price that would have had to be paid if hiring a room and paying for catering or contracting for IT services at a commercial rate on the open market. Volunteer time is not included in the financial statements.

Legacy income is accounted for on a receivable basis. A legacy is considered receivable when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Entitlement is the earlier of the charity being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received.

Investment income represents bank interest and dividend income, included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable.

Revenue grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier.

Where unconditional entitlement to grants receivable is dependent upon fulfilment of conditions within the charity's control, the incoming resources are recognised when there is sufficient evidence that conditions will be met. Where there is uncertainty as to whether the charity can meet such conditions, the incoming resource is deferred.

Grants for the purchase of fixed assets are credited to restricted income when probable.

Depreciation of fixed assets purchased with such grants is charged against the restricted fund. Where a fixed asset is donated to the charity for its own use, it is treated in a similar way to a restricted grant.

Fees for training courses and the annual conference are recognised in the financial statements during the year in which the conference or training course to which they relate occurred. Research contracts are recognised in the financial statements as entitlement is earned through completion of the contract.

**d) Fund analysis**

The expendable endowment funds are funds whereby the capital sum is invested, and income earned is used to contribute to core costs. The capital element may also be spent should sufficient need arise.

The permanent endowment funds are funds whereby the capital sum is invested, and income earned is used to contribute to core costs. The capital element is to be retained to generate future income for the work of BCT.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other income receivable or generated for the objects of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

Transfers are made to and from designated funds at the discretion of the trustees. Transfers are made between restricted funds or from restricted funds to general funds only if agreement has been obtained from the donor.

**e) Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Expenditure includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Expenditure is allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which is an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity: Raising funds, Conferences, Biodiversity training courses and Project costs.

The costs of generating funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in raising funds for the charitable work. Fundraising costs associated with raising funds for a specific charitable activity are allocated to that activity.

Rentals payable under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership remain with the lessor, are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they fall due.

**f) Tangible and intangible assets**

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Computer equipment - 33% per annum on a straight-line basis.

Field equipment - 25% per annum on a straight-line basis.

Furniture and fittings - 20% per annum on a straight-line basis.

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £5,000 (2024: £1,000). Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Intangible assets are recognised at cost and amortised over the assets' expected useful life. The amortisation rate in use is as follows:  
Database - 20% per annum on a straight-line basis.

Amortisation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities.

**g) Pensions**

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable under the scheme by the charity to the fund. The charity has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contributions.

**h) Foreign exchange rates**

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Sterling at the exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into Sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the end of the financial year. All exchange differences are written off to the Statement of Financial Activities.

**i) Investments**

Investments are stated at mid-market value at the balance sheet date. The gain or loss for the period is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities. All movements in value arising from investment changes or revaluations are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities.

**j) Financial instruments**

BCT has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to

all of its financial instruments. Financial instruments are recognised in the balance sheet when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

## 2. Donations and legacies

<b>Current Year</b>			<b>2025</b>
	Unrestricted	Restricted	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Membership subscriptions	194,423	-	<b>194,423</b>
Members' & other donations	114,251	46,324	<b>160,575</b>
Legacies	163,482	-	<b>163,482</b>
	<b>472,156</b>	<b>46,324</b>	<b>518,480</b>
			2024
<b>Prior Year</b>	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Total</i>
	£	£	£
<i>Membership subscriptions</i>	<i>173,176</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>173,176</i>
<i>Members' &amp; other donations</i>	<i>137,142</i>	<i>22,232</i>	<i>159,374</i>
<i>Legacies</i>	<i>524,187</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>524,187</i>
	<i>834,505</i>	<i>22,232</i>	<i>856,737</i>

## 3. Projects and research income

Current Year			<b>2025</b>
	Unrestricted	Restricted	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Government grants & contracts	946,697	303,079	<b>1,249,776</b>
Grants & contracts from other charitable bodies	44,463	838,783	<b>883,246</b>
	<b>991,160</b>	<b>1,141,862</b>	<b>2,133,022</b>

**Projects and research income: grants, contracts and donations**

Project income was received in the year from the following organisations and donors:

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025 Total
	£	£	£
Alice Noakes Memorial Charitable Trust	-	2,000	<b>2,000</b>
Animal and Plant Health Agency	13,000	-	<b>13,000</b>
Animal Friends	-	10,000	<b>10,000</b>
ARC	1,200	-	<b>1,200</b>
Cecil Pilkington Charitable Trust	4,000	-	<b>4,000</b>
Chapman Trust	-	2,000	<b>2,000</b>
Church of England	-	18,584	<b>18,584</b>
David Webster Charitable Trust	-	2,000	<b>2,000</b>
Esmee Fairbairn Charitable Trust	-	46,000	<b>46,000</b>
Forest Research	142,597	-	<b>142,597</b>
Garfield Weston	-	40,000	<b>40,000</b>
Goldcrest CT CMA-Client Funds Trust	2,000	-	<b>2,000</b>
Greater London Authority	-	99,590	<b>99,590</b>
Groundwork UK	-	3,594	<b>3,594</b>
Innovate UK	-	7,000	<b>7,000</b>
John Ellerman Foundation	-	30,000	<b>30,000</b>
Joint Nature Conservation Council	333,006	-	<b>333,006</b>
National Heritage NNF (Nature Networks Fund)	-	122,550	<b>122,550</b>
National Lottery Heritage Fund	-	680,013	<b>680,013</b>
Natural England	453,477	49,064	<b>502,541</b>
Natural Resources Wales	4,617	-	<b>4,617</b>
NatureScot	-	23,975	<b>23,975</b>
The Royal Parks Limited	3,314	-	<b>3,314</b>
UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology	5,000	-	<b>5,000</b>
Vistry Group	17,500	-	<b>17,500</b>
Xeno-canto	6,899	-	<b>6,899</b>
Other grants and contracts	4,550	5,492	<b>10,042</b>
	<b>991,160</b>	<b>1,141,862</b>	<b>2,133,022</b>

### 3. Projects and research income (continued)

<b>Prior Year</b>	<b>2024</b>		
	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Total</i>
	£	£	£
<i>Government grants &amp; contracts</i>	665,183	662,832	1,328,015
<i>Grants from other charitable bodies</i>	51,869	159,850	211,719
	<hr/> 717,052	<hr/> 822,682	<hr/> 1,539,734 <hr/>

#### **Projects and research income - grants, contracts and donations**

Project income was received in the year from the following organisations and donors:

	<b>2024</b>		
	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Total</i>
	£	£	£
<i>Animal and Plant Health Agency</i>	13,000	-	13,000
<i>Animal Friends</i>	3,500	2,000	5,500
<i>AWS Imagine</i>	-	33,104	33,104
<i>Church of England</i>	24,592	-	24,592
<i>David Webster Charitable Trust</i>	-	2,000	2,000
<i>Forestry England</i>	-	14,379	14,379
<i>Forest Research</i>	-	136,323	136,323
<i>Goldcrest</i>	2,000	-	2,000
<i>Garfield Weston</i>	-	40,000	40,000
<i>Groundwork</i>	-	17,745	17,745
<i>HDH Wills 1965 Charitable Trust</i>	-	20,000	20,000
<i>John Ellerman Foundation</i>	-	45,000	45,000
<i>Joint Nature Conservation Council</i>	276,147	-	276,147
<i>Ministry of Justice</i>	-	40,132	40,132
<i>National Lottery Heritage Fund</i>	-	300,485	300,485
<i>Natural England</i>	376,329	147,514	523,843
<i>NatureScot</i>	-	24,000	24,000
<i>Vistry Group</i>	12,500	-	12,500
 <i>Other grants and contracts</i>	 8,984	 -	 8,984
	<hr/> 717,052	<hr/> 822,682	<hr/> 1,539,734 <hr/>

## 4. Total expenditure

	Costs of raising funds	Membership support	Conferences	Training courses and meetings	Projects and research (note 5)	Governance (note 6)	Other support costs (note 6)	2025 Total
Current Year	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries & temporary staff (note 8)	102,270	37,368	10,953	45,014	1,410,723	10,678	240,489	1,857,495
Travel & training	907	94	692	1,986	53,503	1,239	33,811	92,232
Advice & other project costs	8,277	31,003	-	28,226	542,843	-	27,718	638,067
Publications & events	905	7,775	34,337	44,256	18,261	-	773	106,307
Premises	-	-	-	-	307	-	60,304	60,611
Other costs	13,302	15,478	4,730	1,554	67,963	12,460	198,353	313,840
	125,661	91,718	50,712	121,036	2,093,600	24,377	561,448	3,068,552
Support costs allocated to activities	26,100	10,609	3,820	14,482	506,437	-	(561,448)	-
Governance costs allocated to activities	1,133	461	165	629	21,989	(24,377)	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>152,894</b>	<b>102,788</b>	<b>54,697</b>	<b>136,147</b>	<b>2,622,026</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,068,552</b>

	Costs of raising funds	Membership support	Conferences	Biodiversity training courses	Projects and research (note 5)	Governance (note 6)	Other support costs (note 6)	2024 Total
Prior Year	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries & temporary staff (note 8)	99,098	35,476	8,429	42,795	1,127,710	6,422	203,238	1,523,168
Travel & training	9,425	272	2,849	1,012	38,715	1,818	27,230	81,321
Advice & other project costs	17,982	8,896	-	34,901	182,180	-	17,067	261,026
Publications & events	1,037	7,809	51,586	23,366	21,913	-	360	106,071
Premises	-	-	-	-	1,940	-	47,119	49,059
Other costs	13,195	6,993	7,536	1,797	52,215	12,200	167,283	261,219
	140,737	59,446	70,400	103,871	1,424,673	20,440	462,297	2,281,864
Support costs allocated to activities	34,599	12,996	4,406	15,373	394,923	-	(462,297)	-
Governance costs allocated to activities	1,530	575	195	680	17,460	(20,440)	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>176,866</b>	<b>73,017</b>	<b>75,001</b>	<b>119,924</b>	<b>1,837,056</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,281,864</b>

## 5. Projects and research costs

<b>Current Year</b>			<b>2025</b>
	Unrestricted	Restricted	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Bat Groups' Support & Public Education	24,360	125,461	<b>149,821</b>
Biodiversity Projects	792,450	820,290	<b>1,612,740</b>
National Bat Monitoring Programme	249,866	120,462	<b>370,328</b>
Research projects	463,127	26,010	<b>489,137</b>
	<b>1,529,803</b>	<b>1,092,223</b>	<b>2,622,026</b>
<hr/>			
<b>Prior Year</b>			<b>2024</b>
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
<i>Bat Groups' Support &amp; Public Education</i>	<i>78,775</i>	<i>78,099</i>	<i>156,874</i>
<i>Biodiversity Projects</i>	<i>642,833</i>	<i>406,842</i>	<i>1,049,675</i>
<i>National Bat Monitoring Programme</i>	<i>233,531</i>	<i>129,602</i>	<i>363,133</i>
<i>Research projects — Bat conservation</i>	<i>58,025</i>	<i>209,349</i>	<i>267,374</i>
	<b>1,013,164</b>	<b>823,892</b>	<b>1,837,056</b>

## 6. Governance and other support costs

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	£	£
<i>Analysis of governance costs:</i>		
Governance staff costs	<b>10,678</b>	6,422
Audit Fee	<b>12,460</b>	12,200
Trustee expenses and meeting costs	<b>1,239</b>	1,818
	<b>24,377</b>	20,440
<hr/>		
<i>Analysis of other support costs:</i>		
Salaries	<b>240,489</b>	203,238
Non-salary staff costs	<b>45,086</b>	39,018
Conference costs	<b>773</b>	360
Membership costs	<b>10,678</b>	1,028
Property	<b>60,304</b>	47,119
IT costs	<b>18,359</b>	20,722
Office running costs	<b>23,530</b>	30,771
Insurance	<b>24,636</b>	22,213
Legal fees	<b>34</b>	350
Depreciation and amortisation	<b>69,979</b>	39,572
Outsourced finance & payroll	<b>45,039</b>	40,602
Irrecoverable VAT	<b>16,219</b>	11,688
Bank charges	<b>6,322</b>	5,616
	<b>561,448</b>	462,297

## 7. Net (expenditure) / income for the year

	2025	2024
	£	£
<i>This is stated after charging:</i>		
Depreciation and amortisation	69,979	39,572
Operating lease costs	38,712	27,059
Trustees' expenses (2025:4 trustees (2024:4 trustees))	1,239	1,817
Trustee indemnity insurance	1,850	1,724
Auditors' remuneration — audit services	12,460	12,200

Expenses reimbursed to trustees relate to travel and subsistence costs relating to both attendance at trustees' meetings and other operational work carried out in furtherance of the Trust's objects. No trustees were reimbursed for their services as trustees during the year (2024: no trustees reimbursed).

## 8. Staff numbers and costs

The aggregate payroll cost of these persons was as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,652,069	1,357,984
Social security costs	143,441	113,312
Employer's pension contributions	61,985	48,473
Redundancy payments	-	3,399
	<b>1,857,495</b>	<b>1,523,168</b>

No employees earned in excess of £60,000 in this year or the prior year.

The key management personnel of the Charity comprise the trustees and the Senior Management Team. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Charity were £184,031. (2024: £146,006).

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed and excluding trustees who are all non-executive) during the year were as follows:

	Number of employees	
	2025	2024
	No.	No.
Support and governance	4	3
Direct charitable activities	56	46
	<b>60</b>	<b>49</b>

## 9. Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

## 10. Fixed assets

	Furniture and fittings	Computers	Field equipment	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£
At the start of the year	3,174	11,835	16,428	31,437
<b>At the end of the year</b>	<b>3,174</b>	<b>11,835</b>	<b>16,428</b>	<b>31,437</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At the start of the year	2,099	11,783	15,729	29,611
Charge for the year	415	52	457	924
<b>At the end of the year</b>	<b>2,514</b>	<b>11,835</b>	<b>16,186</b>	<b>30,535</b>
<b>Net book value at the end of the year</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>902</b>
Net book value at the start of the year	1,075	52	699	1,826

### Prior Year

	Furniture and fittings	Computers	Field equipment	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£
At the start of the year	3,174	11,835	16,428	31,437
At the end of the year	3,174	11,835	16,428	31,437
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At the start of the year	1,682	10,512	15,272	27,466
Charge for the year	417	1,271	457	2,145
At the end of the year	2,099	11,783	15,729	29,611
<b>Net book value at the end of the year</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>1,826</b>
Net book value at the start of the year	1,492	1,323	1,156	3,971

## 11. Intangible assets

	CRM database	App development	Total
Cost	£	£	£
At the start of the year	207,302	76,906	284,208
Additions during the year	64,767	18,400	83,167
<b>At the end of the year</b>	<b>272,069</b>	<b>95,306</b>	<b>367,375</b>
<b>Amortisation</b>			
At the start of the year	99,452	25,171	124,623
Charge for the year	50,928	18,127	69,055
<b>At the end of the year</b>	<b>150,380</b>	<b>43,298</b>	<b>193,678</b>
<b>Net book value at the end of the year</b>	<b>121,689</b>	<b>52,008</b>	<b>173,697</b>
Net book value at the start of the year	107,850	51,735	159,585

### Prior Year

	CRM database	App development	Total
Cost	£	£	£
At the start of the year	121,122	45,121	166,243
Additions during the year	86,180	31,785	117,965
Cost at the end of the year	207,302	76,906	284,208
<b>Amortisation</b>			
At the start of the year	72,673	14,523	87,196
Charge for the year	26,779	10,648	37,427
At the end of the year	99,452	25,171	124,623
<b>Net book value at the end of the year</b>	<b>107,850</b>	<b>51,735</b>	<b>159,585</b>
Net book value at the start of the year	48,449	30,598	79,047

## 12. Investments

	Listed investments £	Cash in portfolio £	Total £
At the start of the year	2,233,130	55,168	<b>2,288,298</b>
Additions at cost	344,626	(224,626)	<b>120,000</b>
Less disposals at carrying value	(2,565,349)	2,540,349	<b>(25,000)</b>
Dividend income	-	67,030	<b>67,030</b>
Portfolio costs	-	(10,776)	<b>(10,776)</b>
Net loss on revaluation	(12,407)	-	<b>(12,407)</b>
At the end of the year	-	<b>2,427,145</b>	<b>2,427,145</b>

### Prior year

	Listed investments £	Cash in portfolio £	Total £
At the start of the year	2,307,671	62,068	2,369,739
Additions at cost	679,043	(679,043)	-
Less disposals at carrying value	(901,442)	625,442	(276,000)
Dividend income	-	58,646	58,646
Portfolio costs	-	(11,945)	(11,945)
Net loss on revaluation	147,858	-	147,858
At the end of the year	2,233,130	55,168	2,288,298

### Listed Investments comprise:

	2025 £	2024 £
UK Corporate Bonds	-	882,628
UK Equity Growth	-	239,879
UK Equity Income	-	550,439
International Equity	-	338,754
Emerging Markets Equity	-	221,430
	-	<b>2,233,130</b>

The investments listed on a recognised stock exchange comprise the amounts held at fair value through profit or loss.

## 13. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	<b>271,945</b>	366,150
Other debtors	<b>17,034</b>	18,570
Accrued income	<b>329,890</b>	760,487
Prepayments	<b>19,170</b>	47,110
	<b>638,039</b>	1,192,317

## 14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	122,614	59,402
Other taxes and social security	59,746	89,308
Accruals	47,184	85,327
Deferred income	13,641	27,206
Other creditors	37,246	36,036
	<b>280,431</b>	<b>297,279</b>

Deferred income comprises course and event income paid in advance.

	2025	2024
	£	£
Balance at the beginning of the year	27,206	10,000
Amount released to income in the year	(27,206)	(10,000)
Amount deferred in the year	13,641	27,206
	<b>13,641</b>	<b>27,206</b>

## 15. Operating lease commitments

The charity had commitments at the year end under operating leases as set out below:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Land & buildings		
- Not later than one year	8,067	24,200
- Later than one year and not later than five years	-	8,067
Other		
- Not later than one year	1,380	1,162
- Later than one year and not later than five years	2,530	-

## 16. Analysis of net assets between funds

Current Year	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	2025 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	902	-	-	902
Intangible fixed assets	173,697	-	-	173,697
Investments	198,345	-	2,228,800	2,427,145
Net current assets	486,178	308,540	-	794,718
<b>Net assets at the end of the year</b>	<b>859,122</b>	<b>308,540</b>	<b>2,228,800</b>	<b>3,396,462</b>

Prior Year	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	2024 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,826	-	-	1,826
Intangible fixed assets	159,585	-	-	159,585
Investments	35,597	-	2,252,701	2,288,298
Net current assets	800,306	242,602	-	1,042,908
<b>Net assets at the end of the year</b>	<b>997,314</b>	<b>242,602</b>	<b>2,252,701</b>	<b>3,492,617</b>

## 17. Contingent assets

At the end of the year, we have been notified that we are entitled to funds from a total of one (2024: one) residual legacies. However, as at 31 March 2025, we had not been notified as to the value of our entitlement or when this would be received. As such we are not able to recognise these funds in the financial statements for the year.

## 18. Movements in funds

Current Year	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	(Losses) / Gains on investments	Transfers between funds	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Vincent Weir endowment funds:</b>						
Expendable endowment fund	1,936,627	-	(9,544)	(10,996)	-	<b>1,916,087</b>
Permanent endowment fund	316,074	-	(1,566)	(1,795)	-	<b>312,713</b>
<b>Total endowment funds</b>	<b>2,252,701</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(11,110)</b>	<b>(12,791)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,228,800</b>

### Restricted funds:

Alice Noakes Memorial Charitable Trust — Bat Care	-	2,000	-	-	-	<b>2,000</b>
Animal Friends — CPL	-	6,843	(6,843)	-	-	-
Animal Friends — Natur am Byth	-	657	(657)	-	-	-
Animal Friends — Species on the Edge	-	2,500	-	-	-	<b>2,500</b>
AWS Imagine — SCS development	30,779	-	(3,044)	-	(16,394)	<b>11,341</b>
Bad Wolf — Woodland Hope project	10,000	-	(10,000)	-	-	-
Bat Group appeals — Wildlife Crime	-	3,326	(3,326)	-	-	-
Bat Ringing Project	14,418	-	(13,418)	-	-	<b>1,000</b>
Chapman Charitable Trust	-	2,000	-	-	-	<b>2,000</b>
Church of England — Bats in Churches Advisor	-	18,584	(14)	-	(18,570)	-
David Webster Charitable Trust	2,000	2,000	(2,000)	-	-	<b>2,000</b>
Ernest Kleinwort — Nightwatch	2,092	-	-	-	1,073	<b>3,165</b>
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation — Nightwatch	27,462	46,000	(9,721)	-	(24,129)	<b>39,612</b>
Forestry England — Monitoring	8,485	-	(8,168)	-	-	<b>317</b>
Garfield Weston — Bat Group support	30,000	40,000	(35,000)	-	-	<b>35,000</b>
Greater London Authority — Nightwatch	-	99,590	(96,809)	-	-	<b>2,781</b>
Groundwork — New to Nature	-	3,594	(3,594)	-	-	-
HDH Wills 1965 Charitable Trust — Bat groups	16,667	-	(14,572)	-	-	<b>2,095</b>
Innovate UK — NatureAir	-	7,000	(3,923)	-	-	<b>3,077</b>
John Ellerman Foundation — Policy	26,250	30,000	(38,750)	-	-	<b>17,500</b>
John Swire 1989 Charitable Trust — CPL	25,000	-	(25,000)	-	-	-
Kate Barlow Research Award	13,957	12,135	(2,727)	-	-	<b>23,365</b>
National Heritage NNF (Nature Networks Fund) — Wales WoodlandWonders	-	122,550	-	-	-	<b>122,550</b>
National Lottery Heritage Fund — Bats in Churches	1,728	(10,663)	-	-	8,935	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund — CPL	-	465,491	(477,105)	-	11,614	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund — Natur am Byth	-	36,601	(36,601)	-	-	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund — Species on the Edge	-	52,220	(52,220)	-	-	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund — Woodland Hope	-	136,364	(136,364)	-	-	-

## 18. Movements in funds (continued)

Current Year	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	(Losses) / Gains on investments	Transfers between funds	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Natural England — Bats in Churches	-	4,670	(4,670)	-	-	-
Natural England — Biodiversity	-	30,342	(30,342)	-	-	-
Natural England — Connecting People & Landscapes	10,000	-	(10,000)	-	-	-
Natural England — Earned Recognition	-	(3,586)	-	-	3,586	-
Natural England — Partnerships	-	15,000	(15,000)	-	-	-
Natural England — Science & Monitoring	16,826	18,184	(14,161)	-	(11,686)	<b>9,163</b>
Natural England — Seedcorn	-	(15,546)	-	-	15,546	-
NatureScot — Scottish Bat Project	-	23,975	(23,975)	-	-	-
Other restricted project income	-	4,742	(3,982)	-	-	<b>760</b>
Other restricted project income — Bat Groups	-	12,924	(3,049)	-	-	<b>9,875</b>
Other trusts and donations — Bat Helpline	-	17,443	(250)	-	-	<b>17,193</b>
Other trusts and donations — Bats in Churches	-	550	-	-	-	<b>550</b>
Other trusts and donations — Nightwatch	-	696	-	-	-	<b>696</b>
Rufford Foundation — Bats and Health	6,938	-	(6,938)	-	-	-
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>242,602</b>	<b>1,188,186</b>	<b>(1,092,223)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(30,025)</b>	<b>308,540</b>
	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	(Losses) / Gains on investments	Transfers between funds	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>						
<b>Designated funds:</b>						
Bats in Churches Advisor	329	-	(329)	-	-	-
BCT Roost Partnership	5,200	-	-	-	-	<b>5,200</b>
Designated project funds	-	73,477	-	-	-	<b>73,477</b>
Night Vision Aid Guidance	1,725	-	-	-	-	<b>1,725</b>
Organisational development fund	415,414	163,482	(208,526)	-	-	<b>370,370</b>
Technology investment	100,000	-	(100,000)	-	-	-
Woodland	779	-	(779)	-	-	-
	<b>523,447</b>	<b>236,959</b>	<b>(309,634)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>450,772</b>
<b>General funds</b>	<b>473,867</b>	<b>1,559,659</b>	<b>(1,655,585)</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>30,025</b>	<b>408,350</b>
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>997,314</b>	<b>1,796,618</b>	<b>(1,965,219)</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>30,025</b>	<b>859,122</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>3,492,617</b>	<b>2,984,804</b>	<b>(3,068,552)</b>	<b>(12,407)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,396,462</b>

**18. Movements in funds (continued)**

<b>Prior Year</b>	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Gains on investments	Transfers between funds	<b>At 31 March 2024</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Vincent Weir endowment funds:</b>						
Expendable endowment fund	1,819,696	-	(9,650)	126,581	-	<b>1,936,627</b>
Permanent endowment fund	296,997	-	(1,584)	20,661	-	<b>316,074</b>
Total endowment funds	<u>2,116,693</u>	-	<u>(11,234)</u>	<u>147,242</u>	-	<u><b>2,252,701</b></u>
<b>Restricted funds:</b>						
Animal Friends — Bat Helpline	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-	-
AWS Imagine — SCS development	-	33,104	(2,325)	-	-	<b>30,779</b>
Bad Wolf — Woodland Hope project	10,000	-	-	-	-	<b>10,000</b>
Bat Group appeals — Wildlife Crime	-	12,191	(12,191)	-	-	-
Bat Ringing Project	32,173	5,588	(23,343)	-	-	<b>14,418</b>
Chapman Charitable Trust	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-	-
David Webster Charitable Trust	2,000	2,000	(2,000)	-	-	<b>2,000</b>
Druid	1,417	-	(1,417)	-	-	-
Ernest Kleinwort — NightWatch	5,094	-	(3,402)	-	400	<b>2,092</b>
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation — NightWatch	80,841	-	(49,563)	-	(3,816)	<b>27,462</b>
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation — Planning	900	-	(900)	-	-	-
Forest Research — NFI Bat survey	-	136,323	(136,323)	-	-	-
Forestry England — Monitoring	-	14,379	(9,310)	-	3,416	<b>8,485</b>
Garfield Weston — Bat Group support	-	40,000	(10,000)	-	-	<b>30,000</b>
Groundwork - New to Nature	-	17,745	(17,745)	-	-	-
HDH Wills 1965 Charitable Trust — Bat groups	-	20,000	(3,333)	-	-	<b>16,667</b>
JNCC — Monitoring	20,805	-	(20,805)	-	-	-
John Ellerman Foundation — Policy	-	45,000	(18,750)	-	-	<b>26,250</b>
John Swire 1989 Charitable Trust — CPL	25,000	-	-	-	-	<b>25,000</b>
Kate Barlow Research Award	15,192	1,169	(2,404)	-	-	<b>13,957</b>
Ministry of Justice — Wildlife Assessment	-	40,132	(40,132)	-	-	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund — Bats in Churches	-	66,573	(64,845)	-	-	<b>1,728</b>
National Lottery Heritage Fund — CPL	-	99,684	(99,684)	-	-	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund — Natur am Byth	-	18,576	(18,576)	-	-	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund — Species on the Edge	-	51,230	(51,230)	-	-	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund — Woodland Hope	-	64,422	(64,422)	-	-	-
Natural England — Airborne DNA	-	14,000	(14,000)	-	-	-
Natural England — Biodiversity	-	14,418	(14,418)	-	-	-
Natural England — CPL	10,000	-	-	-	-	<b>10,000</b>
Natural England — Offshore project	-	16,286	(16,286)	-	-	-
Natural England — Partnerships	-	15,000	(15,000)	-	-	-
Natural England — Science & Monitoring	10,248	53,922	(47,344)	-	-	<b>16,826</b>
Natural England — Seedcorn	-	33,130	(33,130)	-	-	-

## 18. Movements in funds (continued)

<i>Prior Year</i>	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Gains on investments	Transfers between funds	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted funds:</b>						
Natural England — Threatened Species Recovery Action	-	758	(758)	-	-	-
NatureScot — Scottish Bat Project	-	24,000	(24,000)	-	-	-
Other restricted project income	-	560	(560)	-	-	-
Other trusts and donations						
— Bat Helpline	-	4,274	(4,274)	-	-	-
Rufford Foundation						
— Bats and Health	11,476	-	(4,538)	-	-	6,938
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>226,146</b>	<b>846,464</b>	<b>(830,008)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>242,602</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>						
<b>Designated funds:</b>						
Bats in Churches Advisor	-	329	-	-	-	329
BCT Roost Partnership	6,804	2,629	(4,233)	-	-	5,200
Database Project	62,735	-	(62,735)	-	-	-
Digital fundraising and fundraising capacity	15,000	-	(15,000)	-	-	-
Equity, Diversity, and inclusion	730	-	(730)	-	-	-
Fundraising Consultant	2,000	-	(2,000)	-	-	-
Helpline Database Money	11,564	-	(11,564)	-	-	-
JNCC — NBMP	24,834	-	(24,834)	-	-	-
Natural England — Helpline	-	16,282	(16,282)	-	-	-
NBMP	1,045	7,845	(8,890)	-	-	-
Night Vision Aid Guidance	-	1,725	-	-	-	1,725
Organisational development fund	130,000	415,414	(130,000)	-	-	415,414
Principal Ecologist at Ministry of Justice	1,400	-	(1,400)	-	-	-
Technology investment	-	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Woodland	3,874	94	(3,189)	-	-	779
	259,986	544,318	(280,857)	-	-	523,447
<b>General funds</b>	<b>358,470</b>	<b>1,274,546</b>	<b>(1,159,765)</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>473,867</b>
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>618,456</b>	<b>1,818,864</b>	<b>(1,440,622)</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>997,314</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>2,961,295</b>	<b>2,665,328</b>	<b>(2,281,864)</b>	<b>147,858</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,492,617</b>

### Purposes of expendable endowment funds

The funds were donated by Vincent Weir to be invested to generate income for use to support core costs.

### Purposes of permanent endowment funds

The Bat Conservation Trust Fund was established by trust deed dated 31 October 2006, so that the income only may be used to advance the charitable purposes of BCT.

Under a charity commission scheme dated 31 March 2010 the funds are treated as forming part of BCT for the purposes of registration and accounting.

## 18. Movements in funds (continued)

### Purposes of restricted funds

Alice Noakes Memorial Charitable Trust — Bat Care.	Funding to support the update of the bat care guidelines
Animal Friends — Bat helpline	To support the bat care work of the BCT helpline.
Animal Friends — CPL	Funding to support CPL.
Animal Friends — Natur am Byth	Funding to support Wales' flagship Species Recovery project.
Animal Friends — Species on the Edge	Contribution toward the Species on the Edge project “protecting Scotland’s Island Wonders”.
AWS Imagine — SCS development	To further develop Sound Classification System.
Bad Wolf - Woodland Hope project	Funding to study the health of woodland habitats in Wales.
Bat Group appeals — Wildlife Crime	To support the work of the Wildlife Crime Project.
Bat Ringing Project	Funding for the Ring the Changes Project.
Chapman Charitable Trust	Funding for the NightWatch project.
David Webster Charitable Trust	Contributes towards the development of best practice lighting guidance for industry.
Druid	To advise a NERC funded project to understand and predict the cross-ecosystem impacts of insect decline on ecosystem services and natural capital.
Ernest Kleinwort — NightWatch	Funding towards the NightWatch project.
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation — NightWatch	To develop an inclusive, engagement-focused community science bat survey.
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation — Planning	Raising the profile of biodiversity in the planning system — a multi-species partnership project.
Forest Research — NFI Bat survey	To deliver the NFI Bat Survey and support related work including development and improvement of a woodland soundscape classification algorithm.
Forestry England — Monitoring	Collection of baseline data via passive acoustic monitoring from Forestry England sites undergoing forest wilding and sharing of data with NBN Atlas.
Garfield Weston — Bat Group support	Towards bat group support and training in England, Wales and Scotland.
Groundwork — New to Nature	Funding for a paid work placement focusing on engaging under-represented audiences in the NBMP.
HDH Wills 1965 Charitable Trust — Bat groups	Towards bat group support and training in England, Wales and Scotland.
Innovate UK — NatureAir	Funding toward development of potential new method for biodiversity monitoring.
JNCC — Monitoring (British Bat Survey, NBMP and Genetics combined)	Funding for development and delivery of the British Bat Survey. Funding for a citizen science programme for monitoring bats in the UK. Contribution towards understanding historic declines in bat populations.
John Ellerman Foundation — Policy	Funding towards the core costs of policy and advocacy work.
John Swire 1989 Charitable Trust — CPL	Funding towards the Connecting People and Landscapes project.
Kate Barlow Research Award	Award granted to a postgraduate student to conduct a substantive bat research project and to honour the late Dr Kate Barlow's contribution to bat conservation.
Ministry of Justice — Wildlife Assessment	Funding to support update of Wildlife Assessment Check.

### Purposes of restricted funds (continued)

National Heritage NNF (Nature Networks Fund) — Wales Woodland Wonders	Funding a project to help some of Britain's rarest bats and precious woodlands in North Wales.
National Lottery Heritage Fund — Bats in Churches	Partnership project put in place to provide solutions to issues with bats in churches in England.
National Lottery Heritage Fund — CPL	Funding towards the Connecting People and Landscapes project.
National Lottery Heritage Fund — Natur am Byth	Funding for the development phase of Wales' flagship Species Recovery project.
National Lottery Heritage Fund — Species on the Edge	Funding for the Species on the Edge programme; a partnership project to help vulnerable species on Scotland's coast and islands.
National Lottery Heritage Fund — Woodland Hope	Funding to study the health of woodland habitats in Wales.
Natural England — Airborne DNA	Funding to identify a set of functional primer assays for use with British bat species, and establish the sample duration needed to detect an airborne DNA signal at increasing distances from a bat roost in a woodland context.
Natural England — Bats in Churches	Funding to continue supporting churches with small grants and training through the bat advice service.
Natural England — Biodiversity	Work to deliver objectives including implementation of actions for priority species, provision of engagement, training and guidance and raising the profile of bat conservation.
Natural England — CPL	Funding for the development phase of the project Connecting People and Landscapes in a Changing Climate, aiming to bring together farmers and communities to improve outcomes for bats and other wildlife.
Natural England — Earned Recognition	Work on a pilot for a new approach to licensing mitigation work in England that impacts on bats.
Natural England — Offshore project	Investigating bat migration and the impact of offshore wind through a literature and evidence review, workshop organisation, engagement with stakeholders and production of a report.
Natural England — Partnerships	Work to deliver objectives including implementation of actions for priority species, provision of engagement, training and guidance and raising the profile of bat conservation.
Natural England — Science and Monitoring	To contribute towards the NBMP and other monitoring and research work.
Natural England — Seedcorn	Purchase equipment, test monitoring options and pilot a passive acoustic monitoring survey on farmland.
Natural England — Threatened Species Recovery Action	Funding for production of Threatened Species Recovery Action plans for 12 bat species for Natural England.
NatureScot — Scottish Bat Project	Funding to engage more people in bat recording and conservation to: increase the knowledge of bats status and distribution; increase geographical coverage of bat recording in priority areas; tackle conservation threats.
Other restricted project income	Amalgamated small donations restricted to particular projects.
Other restricted project income — Bat groups	Funds to support the bat group work.
Other trusts and donations — Bats in churches	Funding towards providing support to churches with bats.
Other trusts and donations — BCT Helpline	Donations to contribute towards the running of BCT's Helpline.
Other trusts and donations — Nightwatch	Funding towards Nightwatch to enhance an inclusive community science bat survey.
Rufford Foundation — Bats and Health	Funding for "Don't Blame Bats - Setting the Story Straight" campaign to provide accurate science-based communications.

**Purposes of designated funds**

Bats in Churches Advisor	To administer support for churches and training for volunteers.
BCT Roost partnership	To contribute towards bat box monitoring projects.
Database Project	A fund set aside for the amortisation of the investment in our current website and customer relationship management (CRM) system. The website will be updated to make it more effective and accessible, and the new CRM system will make our fundraising more efficient and improve the way we engage with members, donors, and supporters.
Designated project funds	Funds received in the year earmarked for specific projects during 25-26.
Digital fundraising and fundraising capacity	Investment into digital marketing to generate more income and increase our fundraising capacity more broadly.
EDI - Equity, Diversity and Inclusion	To support the equity, diversity and inclusion work at BCT.
Fundraising Consultant	To address the lack of fundraising capacity, we worked with a fundraising consultancy.
Helpline Database Money	To contribute to the development of a new Helpline database.
JNCC - NBMP	For work on the National Bat Monitoring Programme.
Natural England — Helpline	Contribution towards Natural England Bat Advice Service.
NBMP	For work on the National Bat Monitoring Programme.
Night Vision Aid Guidance	Staff time to work on Night Vision Aid Guidance document.
Organisational development fund	Fund to be used strategically for specific projects, capacity or other organisational requirements.
Principal Ecologist at Ministry of Justice	To fund ecological support work.
Technology Investment	To contribute towards development of a new Helpline database.
Woodland	Contributions towards woodland bats work.

**19. Related party transactions**

During the year ended 31 March 2024 it was agreed that Annika Binet, a trustee of the Bat Conservation Trust, would engage to provide bat surveying services to BCT and that payment would be made to her in respect of these services, not in respect of her work as a trustee. The board of trustees (excluding Annika Binet) were satisfied that Annika was best placed in terms of both location and expertise to provide this service and that the amount charged represented value for money and was at or below commercial rate. Amounts paid to Annika Binet in respect of the above in the year ended 31 March 2025 were £nil (2024: £525). At year end £nil (2024: £525) was outstanding.

During the year aggregate donations from related parties totalled £466 (2024: £526).

There were no other related party transactions outside the normal course of business in the current or preceding year.

## 20. Prior year statement of financial activities

### Statement of financial activities *(incorporating an income and expenditure account)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Endowment £	Total £
<b>Income</b>				
<i>Income from generated funds</i>				
Donations and legacies	834,505	22,232	-	<b>856,737</b>
Investment income	59,185	-	-	<b>59,185</b>
<i>Income from charitable activities</i>				
Conferences	69,339	644	-	<b>69,983</b>
Training courses and meetings	84,537	-	-	<b>84,537</b>
Projects and research	717,052	822,682	-	<b>1,539,734</b>
Other activities	54,246	906	-	<b>55,152</b>
<b>Total income</b>	<b>1,818,864</b>	<b>846,464</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,665,328</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
<i>Expenditure on raising funds</i>				
Membership support	73,017	-	-	<b>73,017</b>
Costs of raising funds	159,516	6,116	11,234	<b>176,866</b>
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>				
Conferences	75,001	-	-	<b>75,001</b>
Training courses & meetings	119,924	-	-	<b>119,924</b>
Project and research costs	1,013,164	823,892	-	<b>1,837,056</b>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>1,440,622</b>	<b>830,008</b>	<b>11,234</b>	<b>2,281,864</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) / income before net losses on investments</b>	<b>378,242</b>	<b>16,456</b>	<b>(11,234)</b>	<b>383,464</b>
Net gains on investments	616	-	147,242	147,858
<b>Net income for the year</b>	<b>378,858</b>	<b>16,456</b>	<b>136,008</b>	<b>531,322</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>378,858</b>	<b>16,456</b>	<b>136,008</b>	<b>531,322</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>618,456</b>	<b>226,146</b>	<b>2,116,693</b>	<b>2,961,295</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>997,314</b>	<b>242,602</b>	<b>2,252,701</b>	<b>3,492,617</b>



[www.bats.org.uk](http://www.bats.org.uk)



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