

ARG UK

Amphibian and Reptile Groups of the UK

Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Charity Number: 1165504

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31 January 2026

Contents

Reference and administrative details..... 2
Trustees' Report..... 3-9
Independent Examiner's Report..... 10
Statement of Financial Activities..... 11
Balance Sheet..... 12
Notes to the financial statements..... 13-17

Reference and Administrative details

Charity Number:	1165504
Trustees:	Chris Monk (Chair) Frank Syratt (Treasurer) John Baker Nigel Hand Alice Pawlik Suzie Collinson Jeanette Hall Erik Paterson Catharine Wuster Maiya Evans (Youth Panel Representative elected January 2026).
Registered Office:	82 Gidley Way Horspath Oxford OX33 1TG
Independent Examiner:	Sheila Parry FCCA SPX Oxford 19 Paradise St, Oxford OX1 1LD
Banker:	The Cooperative Bank

Amphibian and Reptile Groups of the UK is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (no. 1165504) registered on 10 February 2016. Membership of the CIO is open to all local constituted volunteer groups whose principal objective is the conservation of native amphibians and reptiles and who, by applying for membership, have indicated their agreement to become a member and acceptance of the duty of members. ARG UK is governed by its Constitution Document following the Association model. The Charity Trustees present their annual report and the charity's financial statements for the year ending 31st January 2026.

Trustees' Report for Amphibian and Reptile Groups of the UK from 1 February 2025 – 31 January 2026

ARG UK's Objectives and Activities

Mission

Amphibian and Reptile Groups of UK (ARG UK) is committed to the conservation of native amphibians and reptiles and their natural environment by supporting the development of a network of independent volunteer amphibian and reptile groups (ARGs).

Charitable Objectives

The charitable objects of Amphibian and Reptile Groups of the UK are:

(1) the preservation, conservation and welfare of native amphibians, reptiles and their natural environment in the UK for the benefit of the public by promoting and supporting the development of a network of independent amphibian and reptile groups (ARGs) involved in the conservation of the herpetofauna of the British isles.

(2) to promote education and research activities for the benefit of the public at large relevant to species and habitat conservation pertinent to native amphibian and reptile populations of the British Isles and to publish the useful results of such research for the public benefit.

Strategic themes and activities:

There are currently three themes to ARG UK's work:

1. **Supporting the grass roots conservation of amphibians and reptiles:**

   ARG UK's primary role is to support a network of 40 county-based volunteer amphibian and reptile groups (ARGs). Each group works with the species in its locality, and these provide the 'grass roots' of native herpetofauna conservation in the UK; undertaking survey and monitoring, practical conservation tasks, public events and outreach and liaising with stakeholders including local planning authorities, land owners, other conservation bodies, and the wider public. We also support other volunteer groups with an interest in our native herpetofauna in a more informal capacity.

2. **Representing the volunteer sector at the national level:**

   We promote the position and views of the volunteer sector at national level and sit on a number of panels and forums. We also convene internal meetings in order to understand better the views of our volunteers, so that we can be more representative at national level.

3. **Public outreach and education:**

   We promote positive messages about amphibians and reptiles with communities and the wider public, through direct engagement at events, workshops, seminars and training days; by working with other NGOs and land managers and the local/national media to develop an engaging and positive narrative; and by developing educational materials for pre-school and school-aged children.

Principles:

Our guiding principles are:

- Everyone is welcome! We do not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, disability, ethnicity, belief, socio economic background or any other characteristic. We aim to be inclusive and proactively break down barriers, encouraging all members of society to become involved with wildlife conservation.
- We work through collaboration, using existing networks or by developing new groups and partnerships.
- We believe people learn most effectively from their peers and enable those we work with to take action within their own networks through mentoring and other forms of support.

Public benefit

The Board of Trustees is satisfied that they have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission, and that the mission, aims and activities of ARG UK meets with these criteria.

Key Achievements:

1. Supporting the grass roots conservation of amphibians and reptiles:

ARG UK continues to support volunteers engaged in conservation activities, by providing a range of advice and support services. These include our series of Advice Notes, based on expert inputs from specialists from the volunteer groups and other organisations including wildlife NGOs, ecological consultants and statutory agencies. These can all be accessed from the ARG UK website, www.arguk.org, and are also promoted via social media.

Conferences, meetings, training and outreach

We continued to support the annual **Herpetofauna Workers Meeting** in partnership with Amphibian and Reptile Conservation, which was held in Sheffield in February 2025. We were pleased to welcome nearly 200 delegates to an interesting and varied programme covering all aspects of amphibian and reptile conservation.

Vanishing Viper 2025 - In September 2025 we ran a special species-focussed event, Vanishing Viper 2025, at the University of Chester. Attracting over 120 delegates, this two-day conference explored how land managers can best support adder conservation and reverse the population declines we are recording. Compared to previous conferences in the series, Vanishing Viper 2025 considered a wider range of topics including: genomics, modelling, habitat management, translocations, the role of volunteer work, and included the unveiling by Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust of a national strategy document that offers guidance on conservation translocations for adder recovery. The discussions following these many topics were wide ranging. There were also two workshops, one examining what defines disturbance for vipers and the other considering the role and challenges of conservation translocations. The rise in conservation actions for the adder at the landscape-level gives cause for some optimism that conservation outcomes will be increasingly successful.

South East Amphibian and Reptile Groups Regional meeting - Once again Kent (KRAG) and the University of Kent kindly hosted the 2025 South East meeting on Saturday October 18th. There was an exciting day of talks and activities relating to amphibian and reptile conservation in the south-east region. To ensure that the meeting was inclusive and diverse as possible and to encourage participation from the 'Next Generation' of amphibian and reptile conservationists, the afternoon session included 5 minute 'speed talks' from under 25s and students, which was a great success.

ARG UK also provides practical support to the ARGs through:

a) Provision of an **umbrella insurance scheme**, at no cost, to affiliated ARGs. This provides public and employer liability for the groups, and enables them to attend public events, run training sessions, surveys and practical conservation tasks for volunteer members and the wider public.
b) ***100% fund*** – the ARG UK small grants scheme provides affiliated ARGs with grants of up to £500 for practical conservation to benefit amphibian and reptiles. In 2025-26 we provided £250 to London ARG to support provision of native plants for a new city pond; £250 to Warminster Toad Patrol (c/o Wilts ARG) to support local

amphibian-related outreach and the costs of setting up a new toad patrol; and £1,800 to Avon Reptile & Amphibian Group (ARAG), kindly donated by a corporate sponsor, to support their amphibian conservation activities. We would like to thank our corporate sponsors in 2025: Habitat Aid and Cobalt Consulting, and all of our individual donors for their generous support for this fund.

c) Provision of **free mini-websites**, enabling small volunteer groups to get up and running at no cost.
d) Support for **regional meetings** including the annual **Herpetofauna Workers Meeting**, which attracts over 200 delegates and is the main forum for the sector. The ARGs also organise smaller regional meetings, and ARG UK supports other organisations running herpetofauna themed events.
e) Support and advice with fundraising, administration, training and governance, where requested.

2. Supporting national projects

We coordinated volunteer action for a number of projects of national significance:

Make the Adder Count (MTAC) – We continued to support the Make the Adder Count surveys in 2025-26, and are working closely with researchers at UK CEH to further interrogate this important, long-term data set on our native adder.

Survey and monitoring – The online herpetofauna recording portal, Record Pool in partnership with Amphibian & Reptile Conservation (ARC), continues to expand and function well with over 80,000 records from nearly 23,000 recorders right across the UK by the end of the 2025-26 year. We've also reinvigorated ARGWEB, which is now functioning well and is also supporting our local groups with membership and recording.

National Disease monitoring – We have continued to support the Garden Wildlife Health (GWH) Project (www.gardenwildlifehealth.org), and our volunteers have been proactive in collecting information on amphibians and reptiles showing abnormalities. Our volunteers also provide a frontline resource for new pathogens, such as the deadly *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans* (Bsal), a fungal pathogen that has already caused mass die-offs in wild European fire salamanders (*Salamandra salamandra*) in the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany and may pose a threat to our native newts.

Amphibian and Reptile Group (ARG) Support - We support affiliated local ARG groups as needed with advice on setting up and governance and assistance for local conservation projects.

ARGWEB - We have developed an online portal, specifically designed to support the volunteer ARGs, by providing a suit of online tools (apps) to enable groups to manage their members and other stakeholders including land managers and project partners in a GDPR compliant manner. ARGWEB also supports site-based amphibian and reptile surveys to allow for site monitoring, a toad patrol app, to enable patrollers to more easily collate amphibian numbers and patrollers' effort. By enabling site managers and other partners, including ARC and Froglife, to access data for their sites in real time, it also provides a tool for site management. By the end of January 2026, 32 of our county-based groups adopted ARGWEB portals, with nearly 2,700 users signed up to the system and over 900,000 observation records for amphibians and reptiles.

3. Representing the volunteer sector at the national level:

To promote the position and views of the volunteer sector at national level we attend or sit on a number of project panels and forums these include: the Great Crested Newt Working Group, the Garden Wildlife Health Project Forum, the Adder Working Group and the Wildlife Gardening Forum. We liaise with other NGOs in the wildlife conservation sector, statutory agencies, local authority and private land managers and the relevant staff of the UK Government's national conservation organisations: Natural England, Natural Resources Wales, Northern Ireland Environment Agency and NatureScot. We also convene internal seminars and regional meetings in order to understand better the views of our volunteers so that we can be more representative at national level.

4. Public Outreach and Education:

Adder Community Networking – Building on approaches developed in Adders are Amazing! we are continuing to work with volunteers, land managers and local communities to conserve our native adder. In 2025-26 we ran two land manager adder networking days in Norfolk and Suffolk as part of '**Secretive Serpents'**, in partnership with UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (UKCEH), Norfolk and Suffolk Wildlife Trusts, Forestry England, RSPB supported by Natural England. We also ran a land manager networking day on Cannock Chase to support the ongoing development of an Adder Species Action Plan for Cannock Chase National Landscape. In 2025 we were awarded a grant by Natural England to study reptiles in the Wyre Forest. '**Where in the Wyre**?' has engaged local volunteers and land managers, to map the current distribution of adders and other reptiles in the Wyre Forest as part of a SSSI recovery programme. Volunteer-led surveys have been supported by radio telemetry from Central Ecology, which is providing important insights into how adders move around the woodland.

Secretive Serpents - In partnership with the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (UK CEH); local conservation NGOs including Norfolk Wildlife Trust, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, RSPB and National Trust; as well as Forestry England and the Norfolk and Suffolk Biological Recording Centres, we ran a survey and monitoring programme supported by Natural England to collect and collate records for reptiles across Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex. This information was used to refine our adder habitat suitability model to allow us to identify areas of good habitat, and opportunities for habitat connectivity across the landscape. Although concentrating on adders, the survey included all herpetofauna species including slow-worm, common lizard, grass snake and any amphibians.

Where in the Wyre - Responding to local concerns about declining reptiles and amphibians, particularly our native adder which is already facing local extinctions in other parts of England, a new project in collaboration with Natural England, Forestry England, Amphibian and Reptile Groups of the UK (ARG UK) and the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, is finding out more about the distribution and abundance of reptiles and amphibians in the Wyre Forest NNR. The findings from this study are informing conservation efforts to find out which areas will provide the most benefit for creating habitat corridors for reptiles across the Wyre Forest area, working with landowners and local stakeholders to create better quality, more joined up habitat.

In 2026-27 we will be continuing to find out more about how adders use different habitats, including road and field verges, in a new partnership project '**Living on the Verge**'. Based in three locations in: Gloucestershire, Northamptonshire and Norfolk, the project will create more floristically/structurally detailed models for preferred adder habitats, to be able to inform ongoing habitat work on improving connectivity for reptiles.

Travelling toadlets –A collaborative project funded by the Natural England Species Recovery Programme. Travelling toadlets aimed to find out more about migrating common toads in the UK, in partnership with ARG UK, the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, University of Chester and Froglife. The project had two themes: to improve our understanding of the dispersal of metamorph common toads using a combination of citizen science reporting, visual surveys and computer modelling; and to develop best practice guidelines for 'toads on roads' citizen scientists. The new standardised national guidelines will be promoted through Froglife's 'Toads on Roads' programme packs, and ARG UK advisory notes.

Training courses – in 2025 our intern from Nottingham Trent University, Maiya Evans, helped to create a new syllabus for amphibian survey techniques training, and specifically supporting ARG volunteers to gain a second reference for a GCN Class Licence in England. We ran a number of training days in the Midlands and Southern England supporting volunteers with good practice concerning amphibian surveys and biosecurity. Maiya also ran a number of reptile training events locally, and has set up the first ARG UK Youth Panel, encouraging young herpetologists to become involved in decision making and conservation action.

Community Outreach – in May and June 2025 we ran workshops with three communities in SW London in partnership with Spelthorne, Hounslow and Richmond-upon-Thames borough councils, and local NGOs including Stanwell Moor

Community and Wellbeing Garden, Talking Tree and Let's Go Outside and Learn, to explore their understanding and appreciation of herpetofauna. Each workshop was shaped by the cultural background and life experiences of the attendees, who expressed themselves through discussions, games and creative arts. There is a breadth of knowledge, enthusiasm and experience within all of these communities, who are keen to learn about and support nature connectedness and conservation at these locations.

Publications from 2025-26

Hopkins, C., Lesbarrères, D., Claunch, N., Emmenegger, E., Hardy, B., Torres-Sánchez, M., Stark, T., Julian, A., McGrath-Blaser, S., Parker-Graham, C.A. and Haman, K., 2024. Balancing the scales: Including under-represented herptile species in a One Health approach. Research Directions: One Health, 2, p.e17.

Future Plans and Next Steps

We will continue to support the ARGs by providing advice and support; representation at the national level; regional and national meetings and by developing, or participating in projects or schemes they can adapt to local use. Other areas where ARGs have asked for support are with fundraising; toad patrolling; and public outreach. Above all, the volunteer groups value being connected, and knowing they are part of a bigger picture, working together to conserve our native amphibians and reptiles. We will also provide continued administrative support to the groups with provision of the umbrella insurance scheme, free mini-websites, along with the recording and monitoring tools contained within Record Pool and ARGWEB.

We will continue to expand our major conservation campaign for adders, in partnership with other NGOs. We continue to reinforce a narrative highlighting the vulnerability of this iconic native reptile through local and national media, and continue to collect records across the UK to establish baseline distribution data. A part of this programme will include running additional land manager adder networking days in different parts of the country to reach as many land owners and land managers as possible; as well as regional and national meetings.

More generally, we aim to increase the engagement of the local groups with widespread species surveys (all species), and by allowing for better communication between surveyors working towards common standards monitoring. We will continue to support projects and partnerships that deliver conservation gains for all native species of herpetofauna, and develop opportunities for our volunteers to engage in wider conservation projects, as well as local outreach and conservation.

Specific projects that we will be engaging with in the coming 2026-27 year include: working in partnership with Cannock Chase National Landscape and Staffordshire Wildlife Trust to develop a species action plan for adder; and 'Living on the Verge', which aims to find out more about how adders may use different landscape features for connectivity. We are also supporting a second intern from Nottingham Trent University, who will be focussing her sandwich year on conserving slow-worms in gardens and on allotments. All of our projects have a common 'citizen science' approach, and additional funding bids in 2026-27 will seek to support outreach and knowledge exchange, build on the learning we have from research and our survey and monitoring schemes, to engage a greater number and diversity of the wider public in amphibian and reptile conservation activities.

And finally, we will aim to continue to run innovative online and in person seminars and workshops focussing on key aspects and discussions that affect reptile and amphibian conservation, and broaden our social media, expanding our portfolio from Facebook and Bluesky into Instagram and other platforms that are widespread, especially with a younger demographic. To support our student/early career herpetologists better we have also set up our first ARG UK Youth Panel, who will be aiming to get involved in amphibian and reptile conservation at the local and national level.

Financial Report for Amphibian and Reptile Groups of the UK for the period from 1 February 2025 - 31 January 2026.

Financial Review:

Review of Results:

We have raised a total of £76,341 since February 2025 (against income of £40,905 in 2024-25), with expenditure of £59,412 (against expenditure of £49,416 in 2024-25). Detailed breakdowns are at the end of this document.

Reserves Policy:

The Trustees of ARG UK have agreed to maintain unrestricted reserves to meet the requirements of ARG UK's working capital and to meet any temporary shortfall in funds or cover unexpected expenditure to enable ARG UK to fulfil its charitable objectives. Working capital is defined as the equivalent of 6 months' unrestricted expenditure.

The Board of Trustees reviews the Reserves Policy and amount of reserves required annually as part of the budget setting process. The unrestricted reserves at the end of this period were £40,386 (compared with £23,788 of unrestricted reserves in 2024-25) and comply with this policy.

Restricted reserves represent unspent monies received from donors who have specified conditions as to their use on agreed projects. These funds are fully covered by matched assets.

The Board of Trustees considers that reserves as held at year end are sufficient for operating the organisation and therefore continues to adopt a going concern basis in preparing the accounts.

Risk Management:

The Board of Trustees has assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those relating to the operations, finances, reputation and business of ARG UK. The likelihood and impact of material risks are reviewed by the Board on an annual basis at Trustee meetings. The Coordinator updates and assesses the risk management matrix, and has a duty to report any significant changes to trustees.

Structure, governance and management

ARG UK is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (no. 1165504) registered on 10 February 2016 with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. Membership of the CIO is open to all local constituted volunteer groups whose principal objective is the conservation of native amphibians and reptiles and who, by applying for membership, have indicated their agreement to become a member and acceptance of the duty of members. ARG UK is governed by its Constitution which follows the Association model. All members of the organisation and Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Constitution. There must be at least four and no more than 11 charity trustees. If the number falls below this minimum, the remaining trustee or trustees may act only to call a meeting of the charity trustees, or appoint a new charity trustee. The charity trustees may not appoint any charity trustee if as a result the number of charity trustees would exceed the maximum.

All trustees were subject to re-election at the first AGM of the organisation, and then subject to retirement by rotation. The charity trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment. If any trustees were last appointed or reappointed on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot. The vacancies so arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the annual general meeting; any vacancies not filled at the annual general meeting may be filled. The members or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee, whether in place of a charity trustee who has retired or been removed, or as an additional charity trustee, provided that the limit on the number of charity trustees would not as a result be exceeded. Charitable Trustees may exercise all the powers of the organisation subject to the Charity's Act 2011 and the Constitution.

Board appointments are based on the need of the Board of Trustees as a whole to have the skills and experience to agree ARG UK's strategy and policies and monitor their implementation. Every charity trustee must be a natural person. Trustees are recruited from a wide range of backgrounds, but must be approved by majority vote by the members at the annual general meeting. The Honorary Officer of the Association is the Chairperson. An honorary Treasurer and Vice Chairperson may also be elected by the trustees. The Trustees are listed on page 2.

Membership of the CIO is open to all local constituted volunteer groups whose principal objective is the conservation of native amphibians and reptiles and who, by applying for membership, have indicated their agreement to become a member and acceptance of the duty of a member. An organisation or a corporate body that is a member of the CIO may, in accordance with its usual decision-making process, authorise a person to act as its representative at any general meeting of the CIO.

It is the duty of each member of the CIO to exercise his or her powers as a member of the CIO in the way he or she decides in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO. Membership of the CIO cannot be transferred to anyone else except in the case of an individual representing an organisation which is not incorporated, whose membership may be transferred by the unincorporated organisation to a new representative.

Subject to the following provisions, the quorum for general meetings shall be the greater of 5% of members or three members. An organisation represented by a person present at the meeting, is counted as being present in person.

The Board of Trustees appoint the Coordinator to manage the day-to-day operations of the organisation and to ensure statutory reporting requirements are fulfilled. The Coordinator is assisted by a team of volunteers. ARG UK appreciates the extensive support it receives from volunteers without which it would not be possible to carry out such a varied and extensive programme.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Board of Trustees to prepare accounts for financial year in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) which give a true and fair view of ARG UK's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing accounts giving a true and fair view, the Board of Trustees should follow best practice and:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently,
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- Follow applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts,
- Prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that ARG UK will continue in operation,

The Trustees are responsible for the keeping of accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of ARG UK. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of ARG UK and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees



Chris Monk, Chair (appointed February 2016)

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Amphibian and Reptile Groups of UK, CIO (Charity number: 1165504)

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 January 2026, which are set out on pages 11 to 17.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

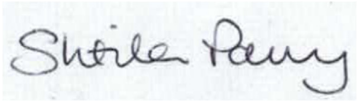
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the Charities (accounts and Report) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Sheila Parry FCCA

SPX Oxford
19 Paradise St,
Oxford, OX1 1LD

Date: 9th November 2026

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure) for ARG UK, Charity number: 1165504 for the year ended 31 January 2026

		2026			2025		
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:	Note						
Donations and legacies	2	17,275	2,347	19,622	15,216	2,029	17,245
Charitable activities	3	56,435	284	56,719	22,860	800	23,660
Total		**73,710**	**2,631**	**76,341**	**38,076**	**2,829**	**40,905**
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	4	2,964	-	2,964	2,929	-	2,929
Charitable activities	5	54,148	2,300	56,448	45,092	1,395	46,487
Total		**57,112**	**2,300**	**59,412**	**48,021**	**1,395**	**49,416**
Net income / expenditure		16,598	331	16,929	**- 9,945**	**1,434**	**- 8,511**
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	7,185	- 7,185	-
Net movement in funds		**16,598**	**331**	**16,929**	**- 2,760**	**- 5,751**	**- 8,511**
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		23,788	15,407	39,195	26,548	21,158	47,706
Total funds carried forward		**40,386**	**15,738**	**56,124**	**23,788**	**15,407**	**39,195**

Balance Sheet ARG UK, Charity number: 1165504 as at 31 January 2026

	Notes	2026 £	2026 £	2025 £	2025 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	8		-		-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	92		1,625	
Cash at bank and in hand		57,555		38,526	
		57,647		40,151	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	10	- 1,523		- 956	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			56,124		39,195
NET ASSETS			56,124		39,195
INCOME FUNDS					
General funds	14		40,386		23,788
Restricted funds	14		15,738		15,407
TOTAL FUNDS			56,124		39,195

ARG UK is registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO): which is a charity registered as a body corporate under Part 11 of the Charities Act 2011. This status confers a duty to file accounts and the trustees' annual report online with the Charity Commission. Because charitable income is between £25,000 and £500,000, there is no requirement for an audit, but there is a requirement for an independent examination.

For the financial year ended 31 January 2026, ARG UK constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by SORP (FRS 102): and follows the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which have been prepared in accordance with revised Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2019). The trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the trusts ability to continue as a going concern.

Approved by the Board on …06.11.2026…… and signed on its behalf by:



Chris Monk, Chair of Trustees

The notes on pages 13 to 17 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 January 2026

1) Accounting policies

Basis of preparation
The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2019).

Fund accounting policy
Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Further details of each fund are disclosed in notes 13 and 14.

Income
Income including donations, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Income from tax reclaims are included in the statement of financial activities at the same time as the gift to which they relate. Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis. Income from charitable activities includes income recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided) under contract.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

The cost of fundraising
This represents the costs of inducing others to make gifts or donations to the charity.

Pensions accounting policy
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme with NEST. The pension cost represents the amount of contributions payable to the scheme in one year.

Support costs
Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Fixed assets
Individual assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500.

Depreciation
Depreciation on tangible fixed assets is calculated to write down the cost in equal instalments over their expected useful lives.

Operating leases
Rentals payable under operating leases are charged in the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 January 2026 (continued)

2) Donations and legacies

	2026			2025		
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Grants for project activities						
Garfield Weston	10,000	-	10,000	10,000	-	10,000
	10,000	-	10,000	10,000	-	10,000
Donations from individuals						
Individual donations	7,275	2,347	9,622	5,216	2,029	7,245
	7,275	2,347	9,622	5,216	2,029	7,245
	17,275	**2,347**	**19,622**	**15,216**	**2,029**	**17,245**

3) Income from charitable activities

	2026			2025		
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Training course fees	120	250	370	-	-	-
Sponsorship	2,400	-	2,400	-	-	-
Events	13,086	-	13,086	-	-	-
Ecological / project services	40,829	34	40,863	22,860	800	23,660
	56,435	**284**	**56,719**	**22,860**	**800**	**23,660**

4) Expenditure on fundraising

	2026			2025		
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Staff costs	2,964	-	2,964	2,929	-	2,929
	2,964	**-**	**2,964**	**2,929**	**-**	**2,929**

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 January 2026 (continued)

5) Expenditure on charitable activities

	2026			2025		
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Analysis by expenditure type						
Volunteer costs	155	250	405	-	100	100
Website costs	4,490	-	4,490	3,531	-	3,531
Office support	1,252	-	1,252	657	-	657
Insurance (ARG UK)	2,214	-	2,214	2,159	-	2,159
Project costs	16,460	2,050	18,510	10,109	1,295	11,404
Staff costs (incl pensions)	26,675	-	26,675	26,358	-	26,358
Travel costs	2,284	-	2,284	1,638	-	1,638
Governance costs	618	-	618	640	-	640
	54,148	**2,300**	**56,448**	**45,092**	**1,395**	**46,487**

	2026 Total funds	2025 Total funds
	£	£
Analysis by activity type		
Supporting grass roots conservation	41,589	34,591
Volunteer representation at national level	5,941	4,941
Public outreach and education	11,882	9,883
	59,412	**49,415**

6) Related Party transactions

There were no related party transactions.

7) Taxation

The organisation is a registered charity (CIO) and is, therefore, exempt from Corporation taxation.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 January 2026 (continued)

8) Fixed assets

	Computers and equipment £
Costs	
At 1 February 2025	581
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31 January 2026	581
Accumulated depreciation	
At 1 February 2025	581
Charge for year	-
Disposals	-
At 31 January 2026	581
Net book value	
At 31 January 2026	-
At 31 January 2025	-

9) Debtors

	2026 £	2025 £
Trade debtors	92	1,625
	92	1,625

10) Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)

	2026 £	2025 £
Payroll taxes	751	356
Other creditors	172	-
Accruals	600	600
	1,523	956

11) Independent Examination and other financial service fees

	2026 £	2025 £
Independent Examiner's fees	198	198
Other financial services from SPX	420	420
	618	618

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 January 2026 (continued)

12) Staff costs and employee benefits

	2026	2025
	£	£
Wages and salaries	28,429	27,584
Employer's pension contributions	1,137	1,103
Internship bursary	-	600
Employer's National Insurance	-	-
	29,566	29,287

Average head count: 1 (2025: 1)
No employees received employee benefits of more than £60,000

13) Remuneration of trustees and benefits of key management personnel

No trustees received any remuneration or were reimbursed for any expenses for their roles as trustees.

The full total for governance costs of £600 also includes costs relating to the professional fee for the examiners' report, professional trustee training, and costs of running trustees' meetings (2023-24, £600).

14) Analysis of funds

	As at 2025	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	As at 2026
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	23,788	73,710	- 57,112	-	40,386
Restricted funds:					
100% fund	7,470	2,330	- 2,300	-	7,500
Sefton sand lizards	259	301	-	-	560
Northants ARG - adder project	1,026	-	-	-	1,026
Herefordshire ARG	6,652	-	-	-	6,652
	15,407	2,631	- 2,300	-	15,738
	39,195	76,341	- 59,411	-	56,124

15) Analysis of net assets by funds as at 2026

	General funds	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	41,817	15,738	57,555
Debtors	92	-	92
Current liabilities	- 1,523	-	- 1,523
	40,386	15,738	56,124