2025 ANNUAL REPORT

ZERO carbon guildford

Together for Change

A local community thriving through greener living and working.



Photo: Rosamund Community Garden

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Our trustees: (Left to Right) Kerry Lewis, Kath Clowser, Meghna Das, Maddie Evans, Isabel Robson, Steve Davis, Eris Roberts, Olivia Carpenter-Lomax, Carol Dunnett, Prashant Kumar.
Not pictured: Helen Harris, Jack White, Jenny Bannerman

A MESSAGE FROM OUR TRUSTEES



2025 was a year of growth, learning and impact for Zero Carbon Guildford.

As the organisation continues to evolve, it feels more important than ever to recognise the power of community action in responding to the climate and nature crisis.

The challenges we face are both urgent and ongoing. Alongside the need to cut emissions, communities must adapt to changes already underway. Local organisations like Zero Carbon Guildford play a vital role in supporting this transition. We help residents take practical steps to reduce their environmental impact, and benefit from saving energy, avoiding waste, breathing cleaner air through reduced pollution levels and also building resilience to a changing climate. Just as importantly, we bring people together – creating connected communities where people can learn, feel supported and take action side by side. Strong, engaged communities are a powerful part of the solution, and we are proud to support positive change across Guildford.

None of this would be possible without our volunteers, staff, partners, donors, funders and supporters. From organising events and leading projects to sharing skills and showing up locally, every contribution makes a difference. We would also like to thank those who have supported our work behind the scenes, including our independent financial examiner, workshop facilitators and professional advisers.

This year also marked a significant milestone as we merged with Guildford Environmental Forum (GEF), following votes in support by both organisations' members. Since then, we have worked to bring our communities and activities together, including joint events, merged communications and shared systems. GEF's valued projects and legacy of environmental advocacy and action are now fully part of Zero Carbon Guildford and will continue to shape our work going forward.

This Annual Report also reflects our responsibility as trustees to the duties imposed on us by the Charities Act 2011 Section 17, and to ensure that all our work delivers clear public benefit. Everything we do is charitable in purpose and designed to be open, inclusive and accessible. Anyone can attend our events, use our resources or get involved as a volunteer. Our aim is to support the whole community to engage with the opportunities and challenges of greener living and working, in ways that are practical, fair and locally relevant.

As we look ahead to 2026, we are excited to deepen our impact, grow our community and support even more people to take positive local action. Thank you for being part of this journey with us.

Olivia Carpenter-Lomax
Chair of Trustees

OUR STORY SO FAR

Five years of community led climate action.

Five years ago, a small group of hopeful and determined residents came together with a shared belief that the climate and nature crises demand practical, local action - this was the start of Zero Carbon Guildford.

Since then, the local and global contexts have shifted dramatically. Surrey experienced temperatures above 39˚C for the first time in 2022 and 2024 was the warmest year for the planet on record. Over the next 5 years, we are likely to exceed the 1.5˚C threshold that once felt avoidable when we first became a charity.

Alongside these unfortunate 'firsts', we celebrate our own transformative 'firsts'. Our volunteers and dedicated staff team have run hundreds of events and projects from home energy advice and food redistribution to water testing, urban greening and sharing of skills and things.

Our hub, ZERO, has been a welcoming home for learning, action and connection. The generosity of local residents, funders and partners, has enabled the Charity to grow from a volunteer movement into a replicable model for measurable, local climate action.

Zöe Franklin MP described climate change as "the biggest threat to our existence" and cited our work as an example of local action deserving of national support.

As we look to the next five years to 2030, we will remember that when communities act together and speak with one voice to those in power, climate and environmental action become unavoidable and the future we want becomes possible.

Impact snapshot

220+

Volunteers powering local climate action across Guildford

735+

Events delivered - from talks and workshops to hands on action

3

Community hubs - Friary Street, High Street and Walnut Tree Close



2020
First volunteer meeting. Zero Carbon Guildford becomes a registered charity.



2024
UK's first community-led water testing lab opens. New premises at 168 High Street. Strategy refreshed.



2021
ZERO opens on Friary Street. First major crowdfunding campaign.



2023
Hosting our first Environmental Hustings, Zero Carbon Guildford referenced in Surrey County Council's Climate Action Plan.



2025
Merger with Guildford Environmental Forum, New premises on Walnut Tree Close, Five years of community led action.

POWERED BY PEOPLE

Zero Carbon Guildford is built on the energy, commitment and collaboration of our community - volunteers, staff, members and trustees working together to take practical local action for climate and nature. Our structure supports strong governance and effective day-to-day delivery, while keeping participation open, inclusive and firmly community-led.

Working together at ZERO



Project & Activity Teams

Where volunteers and staff turn ideas into action

Zero Carbon Guildford's work is delivered through a wide range of projects and activities led by volunteers and staff. Projects vary in size, funding and structure, and each has a named lead (voluntary or paid) who works closely with the operations staff team and project volunteers to deliver agreed goals.

To support collaboration across this work, we introduced **ZERO Nights** in late 2024 - fortnightly open sessions that bring volunteers and staff together to shape activities, share ideas and strengthen our community.

Operations Panel

Supporting day-to-day running and teamwork

The Operations Panel oversees the day-to-day running of Zero Carbon Guildford. Formed in November 2024, it brings together volunteers, operational staff and at least two trustees to make practical decisions that support delivery across the charity. These are decisions that need wider input than individual project teams and do not require full trustee approval.

The panel has up to 15 members and we will refreshing it regularly, helping share the workload, prevent burnout and welcome new volunteers who want to play a more active role in shaping ZERO's work.

Trustees

Helping guide ZERO's direction



The trustees have ultimate responsibility for governing Zero Carbon Guildford and setting its overall direction. They ensure the charity stays true to its purpose, manages its finances responsibly, addresses risk, and remains accountable to members.

Trustees can have specific responsibilities within the Board, such as Chair, finance, or environmental reporting. This year, we added the role of Youth Trustee (16-19 years old), which continues our dedication to including diverse perspectives in the direction of the charity.

Trustees are recruited through an open application process and elected at the Zero Carbon Guildford AGM. They meet at least quarterly to review progress and make major decisions. Between meetings, they use online tools to stay connected and make timely decisions.



TOGETHER AT ZERO

Everything Zero Carbon Guildford achieves is made possible by people. Our staff, volunteers and members work together to turn shared values into practical local action, each playing a vital role in supporting, delivering and shaping our work. Together, they form a strong, connected community at the heart of ZERO.

Our volunteers

At the heart of everything we do

Zero Carbon Guildford is powered by people. More than 220 active volunteers generously give their time, skills and energy across everything we do - from running the Community Fridge and the Library of Things, to delivering projects, supporting events, sharing expertise and shaping decisions. We welcome volunteers from all backgrounds and support people to get involved in ways that fit their interests, skills and availability.

Our members

Shaping ZERO's future

Membership of Zero Carbon Guildford is open to everyone who supports our aims. By joining, members stay connected with our work and play an important role in shaping the future of the charity through their vote at the Annual General Meeting.

LIVING WAGE EMPLOYER

Our staff team

Supporting our community-led work

Thanks to successful fundraising, we grew our staff capacity during 2024, strengthening the support behind our volunteer-led work. By the end of the year, Zero Carbon Guildford had a central team of four working across all projects: Steph, Nick, Bronwen and Debs.

We also employ staff to deliver key projects, including the HEAT service, led by Anna, Paul, Celine and Alison, and the Community Fridge, led by Kate. Looking ahead to 2026, we will be expanding the team further by recruiting coordinator roles for the River Testing project and a non-domestic Energy Assessor, strengthening our ability to support communities and local businesses.

In 2025, we said goodbye to Mark and Sam in their staff roles. We thank them both warmly for their dedication and invaluable contribution to Zero Carbon Guildford since its early days, and hope to continue seeing them involved in the ZERO community.







ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Reducing our own footprint matters, and we hold ourselves to the same standards that we encourage in others.

Our own impact

We continue to monitor and reduce our environmental impact across our operations and supply chain. Moving buildings and changes in our ways of working have significantly reshaped how we operate as a charity, and throughout this transition we have remained focused on driving down emissions in line with our commitment to reach net zero by 2030.

By reviewing our energy use, waste, and the goods and services we purchase, we recalculated our total emissions at 14.28 tCO_2e for our second year of reporting. This represents a 42.5% reduction compared with the previous year, driven largely by improvements within Scopes 1 and 2. While emissions associated with Scope 3 have increased, this reflects growth in activity and increased spending on goods and services to support our expanding work and community impact.

Our decarbonisation initiatives

As Zero Carbon Guildford has grown, so too have the needs of our staff, contractors and volunteers. This has led to an increase in Scope 3 emissions linked to purchased goods and services. We recognise this challenge and are committed to continuing to review our procurement practices to reduce impacts over the longer term.

It is also important to note that our current reporting uses a spend-based methodology, which limits how clearly we can reflect environmentally responsible purchasing decisions. Over the coming years, we plan to gradually move toward activity-based reporting, allowing for more accurate measurement and better-informed decision making as we continue to reduce our environmental footprint.

What does this mean?

Measuring our emissions helps us see what is working and where we need to do better. As our work has grown, some impacts have increased, but overall we've significantly reduced our footprint by changing how we operate. By continuing to track and improve this, we can make smarter choices, be open about our impact, and keep moving towards a lower-carbon, more sustainable way of working.

What makes up our carbon footprint

Direct Emissions
Scope 1 (15.5%)
Emissions from gas used to heat ZERO at Walnut Tree Close.

Energy we use
Scope 2 (0.0%)
Emissions linked to the electricity and we buy to run our spaces and activities.

Everything else
Scope 3 (84.5%)
Emissions from the goods and services we buy, travel, equipment and waste.



OUR STRATEGY

Guided by our vision and mission, our work is shaped around four core areas: Education, Community, Action and Advocacy. These work areas reflect how we support people across Guildford and the wider Surrey area to learn, connect and take practical action together. By creating welcoming spaces for involvement and turning shared concern into real-world change, we help local action add up to wider impact, ensuring community voices help shape decisions that affect us all.

OUR VISION

A local community thriving through greener living and working.

OUR MISSION

To build a vibrant, connected community of residents, businesses and institutions, helping Guildford lead the way in finding solutions to the climate and nature crisis, in order to make Guildford a happier, healthier, fairer place to live and work.

WORK AREAS

EDUCATION

Inspiring local action on the climate and nature crises.

COMMUNITY

Bringing people together to create practical sustainability solutions.

ACTION

Supporting residents to reduce their environmental footprint together.

ADVOCACY

Using our experience to support others and accelerate positive systems change.



WORK AREA
EDUCATION

Inspiring and educating the local community, leading to increased awareness and likelihood to act on the climate and nature crises.

ZERO aims to engage and inspire a broad range of local people with a variety of events and opportunities that educate, support and provide them with agency to live more sustainable lives. Throughout 2025 we worked hard towards these goals and our move off the High Street only galvanised us further; we adapted our operating model from one which relied on a central location enabling residents to easily access us, to a model that supports and engages residents where they are around the community. This led to new partnerships with schools, the council and resident associations.

We organised some new larger events including Sustainable Fashion Week, the Guildford Home Energy Showcase and the South East Climate Alliance, where we had engaging conversations and effective communications with high numbers of attendees on a diverse range of topics. We continued with popular events from previous years including Great Big Green Week, open mic nights, and a charity quiz night hosted with George Abbot School.

We pride ourselves on the way we engage with residents and this year we have increased our knowledge and skills in communications to further improve those meaningful conversations. In 2025, our communications became more professional and consistent, with clear improvements in reach and engagement. Facebook engagement increased by 35%, Instagram reach rose by 66.8%, and our email community grew to 2,414 subscribers.

We were successful in winning a place on the Communicating Climate Change course led by the Media Trust and have been supported by marketing firm Joe Public. We continue to use research from Climate Outreach and More in Common and will always lean on our experience within our own community to shape how we engage with residents.

Plans for 2026:

- Develop annual calendar of events to focus resources on priority events with high reach and impact.
- Build an engagement model to make sure activities cater to all levels of engagement.
- Improve how we monitor and measure impact.



Trusted Energy Advice for Guildford Homes

After keeping our ear to the ground locally, it became apparent that concerns around rising energy bills and renewable energy alternatives were at the forefront of many residents' minds. What also stood out when listening to the local community was the plethora of conflicting information around heat pumps and available solar schemes, as well as the concern of choosing a trusted supplier. The energy team recognised this need within the community and created the Guildford Home Energy Showcase to support local residents with their energy needs.

It turned out to be an incredible day that combined high levels of engagement from 12 local exhibitors and informative talks from 9 different speakers. We engaged residents on energy efficiency, retrofit, renewables, community energy and even what to avoid when making decisions for a more energy efficient and cost effective home.

The event was run predominantly by our fantastic volunteers with roles on the day that ranged from High Street engagement, answering important home energy questions, serving tea and coffee throughout the day and taking feedback from residents on their experience of the event.

Over 150 residents attended the Energy Showcase, with 95% of them leaving positive feedback. Informative support was provided by impartial local people and exhibitors for residents who said they felt more informed after attending the event.

As the Guildford Home Energy Showcase proved to be a genuinely supportive event for residents, ZERO has decided to make it an annual event ahead of the winter months. We look forward to taking our learning from our first year and tailoring the event even further to meet the needs of residents in our second installment in 2026.









WORK AREA COMMUNITY

Building and nurturing a collaborative community to create and implement creative and practical solutions for sustainability.

Community continues to be at the heart of everything we do, with residents turning into friends, and friends volunteering together for projects that matter to them. We welcomed 58 new volunteers in 2025, from a wide age range - 50% over the age of 40 and 50% under 40. Our volunteer diversity reflects the growing diversity in Guildford, with over half of new volunteers being non-white British, and some identifying as disabled. We are committed to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) and our trustees and staff undertook a workshop to formalise how we progress EDI within everything we do at ZERO.

We have adapted volunteering opportunities to our new premises, with more outreach options including talks, stalls and urban greening. We continue to see high volunteer support in-house with our Community Fridge and River Testing projects. We run fortnighly ZERO Nights and quarterly Volunteer Socials to strengthen our internal community and ensure that volunteers remain the heart of ZERO.

Our partnerships within the external community have really helped us expand our reach and prove that Guildford really is a collaborative place to live. This year we have welcomed new partnerships with Kindred Cloth Collective, Surrey Community Energy, Guildford Bike Users Group (GBUG) and more.

Plans for 2026:

- Establish a new volunteer-led events team to focus on events for the ZERO community.
- Develop and implement a structured Equity, Diversity and Inclusion strategy.
- Continue to improve volunteer support and communications.



ZERO Becomes a National Hub for Sustainable Fashion Week

The fashion industry has a significant environmental impact, from water use and pollution to carbon emissions.

ZERO featured as a national hub for Sustainable Fashion Week this year with a programme of activities aimed to engage, upskill and inspire a positive shift in our relationship with clothes. We held mending workshops, swap shops, print making and upcycling workshops throughout the week, as well as a talk about the impact of the industry on our UK rivers. During all events we discussed the changes residents wanted to see in the industry as well as the behaviour they were willing to change to reduce their personal impact.

A highlight of the week was the natural dye workshop at Rosamund Community Garden. Volunteers had grown specific crops used for dyeing, which were then picked during the workshop and used to dye socks and bags to show the cycle of natural dyeing. The ZERO Fashion team and the Rosamund Community Garden team pulled the two projects into one great event.

Our aim is to take the enthusiasm and learnings of our first Sustainable Fashion Week and make it an annual event at ZERO, with a longer term vision of creating a 'fashion commons' in Guildford, full of menders, dyers, and makers all sharing their skills and passion with the community.

> *The workshop was a fun experience in which we learnt the colour properties of the plants and the whole process of growing them from seeds to using their flowers to dye a bag ... the best part was doing it in the lovely Rosamund Garden!*
>
> **Mari, Dye Workshop Attendee**











Partnering with Surrey Community Energy

Renewable energy is essential as we move away from our reliance on unsustainable fuels, and we have the opportunity to create that infrastructure locally.

Zero Carbon Guildford has been working closely with the newly founded Surrey Community Energy (SCE) to support our mutual goals to develop more low carbon energy in Surrey. SCE helps to increase the amount of renewable energy generated in Surrey by raising capital through community share offers that is then used to fund energy projects for local organisations and businesses. While ZERO's HEAT project provides energy advice for residential properties, SCE facilitates clean energy installation for the community.

In 2025, a local nursing home was identified as SCE's first project location for solar panels. In 2026 the focus will be on raising the funds to get this project built and running, as well as getting the next two projects up and running as well.

By working together, Zero Carbon Guildford and SCE can benefit from sharing our knowledge and networks, as well as collaborating on initiatives such as the popular Guildford Home Energy Showcase events to raise awareness.

WORK AREA ACTION

Supporting local residents to reduce their environmental footprint and improve the local environment through collective action.

ZERO continues to run and partner on a diverse set of projects tackling different aspects of climate and nature impact. From offering home energy advice through the HEAT project to preventing food waste with the Community Fridge, and encouraging residents to borrow rather than buy by using the Library of Things, our projects focus on practical ways that residents can reduce their footprint while saving money and reducing waste.

We continue to work closely with other organisations to collaborate on a number of projects, firmly believing that by working together we can achieve more. For example, we provide storage space and volunteer support to the Surrey Hills Baby Clothes Library, partner with Water Rangers and the River Wey Trust to support community-led river testing, and provide a collection point for hard-to-recycle items with Terracycle.

The merger with Guildford Environment Forum has brought three exciting biodiversity projects into the mix: Rosamund Community Garden, the Mount Volunteers and the Guildford Swift Project. Not only do these projects directly benefit local nature recovery, they also provide opportunities for community engagement and wellbeing.

Plans for 2026:

- Continue to run and grow our existing projects
- Help residents travel more sustainably by developing a partnership project with the Guildford Bike Users Group (GBUG).
- Build on the success of Sustainable Fashion Week.
- Launch a new air quality and urban greening project.



Our Projects

HEAT - Home Energy Advice Team

The Home Energy Advice Team (HEAT) provides free, friendly home energy advice to help households across Surrey stay warmer and reduce their energy bills. Delivered by trained local residents known as Energy Champions, the service offers in-person visits and practical, independent advice tailored to each home.

In 2025, HEAT reached 38% more households than in 2024. Energy Champions use tools such as thermal imaging and hands-on assessments to help residents understand where heat is being lost and identify simple, low-cost actions, as well as longer-term improvements such as insulation or heating upgrades. Our follow up survey showed that three quarters of respondents had gone on to install at least one recommended measure.

HEAT was successful in securing funding to continue for another two years, with Zero Carbon Guildford leading a partnership of four local organisations to provide this service to Surrey residents. Our partners are Energy Action Redhill and Reigate, Circular Dorking and the Surrey Climate Commission.

2026 Focus

Using insights from visits to improve support, reaching households who do not qualify for grants, building trusted installer pathways, and engaging more landlords and tenants.



Impact snapshot

1,203

home energy surveys delivered across Surrey

1,000+

grant referrals for larger insulation works

48

new Energy Champions trained

> *The survey has led to us taking specific actions which we hope will...achieve more efficient, greener and economic solutions to our energy and heating needs.*

Richard, local resident







Guildford Library of Things

The free borrowing service run by the community for the community.

2025 was the first full year for the Library of Things to operate from, and in collaboration with, Guildford Library. With 1,750 loans through the year, serving over 500 active users, the project has consolidated its position as a key service saving residents money, space and carbon.

In autumn 2025, creative and quirky adverts for the Library of Things appeared all over Guildford, thanks to advertising agency Joe Public.

2026 Focus
Add to the inventory of 180+ items, continue to use creative advertising to attract new users to the Library of Things.

> *Absolutely fantastic. Saved money. Saved the environment by not buying a one-off and really impressed by the quality. Really easy process too. I am telling all my friends.*
>
> Michelle, Library of Things user



Impact snapshot

27.3
tonnes of CO_2e saved

£145k
saved for residents compared to buying the items they borrowed





Community Fridge

The Community Fridge shares good-quality surplus food with the local community, helping reduce food waste and support wellbeing. In 2025, over 32 tonnes of food were saved and shared, with more than 11,000 visits to the fridge. The move to Walnut Tree Close increased capacity, with improved storage and freezers enabling more 'use-by' food to be safely shared. We also employed a project coordinator for the first time, to increase the project's longevity.

2026 Focus
Supporting and upskilling volunteers, improving signage, expanding outreach, and connecting with other Community Fridges to share learning and impact.



Impact snapshot

32+
tonnes of surplus food shared

11,000+
visits to the Community Fridge



Impact snapshot

200+
water tests carried out by ZERO volunteers

47
sites monitored by volunteers

River Testing

The river water testing lab at ZERO is a collaboration between Water Rangers, the River Wey Trust and ZERO, supporting a community-led programme monitoring rivers and streams across the River Wey catchment. In 2025, trained volunteers completed over 800 water quality tests, generating high-quality data that strengthens local understanding, contributes to national conversations on water quality, and makes the lab one of the most active volunteer testing hubs in the area.

2026 Focus
Strengthening volunteer engagement, expanding testing activity, and using data more actively to support healthier rivers.

Terracycle

ZERO continues to provide a collection point for Terracycle, offering local people a way to recycle hard-to-recycle items, while encouraging wider behaviour change around waste. Funds raised through Terracycle in Guildford are donated to Kicks Count, a locally-founded national charity for prevention of stillbirth and neonatal death. New posters, videos and event attendance helped raise awareness of what can – and can no longer – be recycled. As national recycling schemes changed, the project focused on keeping information clear and accessible for the community.

2026 Focus
Exploring new funding options, improving public guidance, and finding ways to recycle even more difficult materials.



Impact snapshot

33.3kg
of rubbish recycled through ZERO

3,364
water bottles worth of rubbish prevented from being incinerated

Sustainable Business Network

In 2025, the Sustainable Business Network ran four 'lunch & learn' webinars, with expert content provided by Ali Fisher (Plans with Purpose), Mike Jones (5D Net Zero), Charlie Thefaut (Surrey Wildlife Trust) and Rebecca Trudgett (Switchfoot Accounting). Thanks to all of them for their time and support for local businesses.

We have also spent time in 2025 developing two new strands of the SBN project which we are excited to be launching in 2026. We were successful in securing funding from Surrey County Council to deliver a business resilience and decarbonisation course for local small and medium-sized businesses,



and will also be launching a new service, Energy Check, providing free energy assessments for small charities and local businesses.

2026 Focus
Aiming to engage 50-70 businesses through the business resilience course and Energy Check project, supporting them to reduce emissions and energy bills.

Impact snapshot

350+
clothing boxes loaned since 2021

32
families actively supported in 2025



Surrey Hills Baby Clothes Library

The Surrey Hills Baby Clothes Library successfully relaunched this year in partnership with ZERO, welcoming new families and rebuilding momentum after a period of change. Demand grew steadily, with many families benefiting from good-quality baby clothes while saving money and reducing waste. New funding and a dedicated website have helped strengthen the foundations for future growth, ensuring the library is easier to find and ready to support more families.

2026 Focus
Expanding capacity, improving systems and reaching more families through health and community settings.

Impact snapshot

6
bike rides in the local area in 2025

30+
people taking part in 2025



Explore & Restore

Over the summer months we held a series of fun community bike rides to help participants explore safe and enjoyable cycling routes, restore connection with nature, socialise and boost their confidence on two wheels. The rides were designed to overcome common barriers to cycling and encourage more active travel.

2026 Focus
We are looking for volunteers to help run similar events next year - get in touch if you are keen to support active travel with ZERO.

Rosamund Community Garden



Rosamund Community Garden is a legacy Guildford Environmental Forum project and a welcoming, volunteer-led space bringing people together around nature, food and wellbeing. The site includes a two-acre garden and orchard, alongside 15 acres of recovering north-facing chalk grassland managed with support from Surrey Wildlife Trust and Buglife.

The garden offers local residents and groups opportunities to grow food, learn new skills, spend time outdoors and connect with others, while supporting biodiversity and climate resilience. During 2025, it continued to grow as a vibrant community space. The hand-built cob roundhouse, known as the Hub, is now in regular use, with final touches underway.

New growing areas, including a small forest garden, and expanded composting and additional wildlife habitats have strengthened the garden's long-term resilience, alongside a rainwater collection system added to the Hub roof. The site welcomed a growing mix of community, school and corporate groups, hosted its busiest apple-pressing event yet, and supported seasonal grazing with Belted Galloway cattle, cared for by a dedicated team of trained local volunteers.

2026 Focus

Develop a more sustainable funding model, explore paid staffing, complete Hub improvements including solar power, expand education and wellbeing activities, and welcome even more groups and volunteers.

Impact snapshot

6

DofE students
Gold 1 • Silver 3 • Bronze 2

11

community and school groups attending the garden regularly

> *I love how magical the garden feels, like a little nature oasis that is so good for personal reflection.*
>
> Lisa, Garden Visitor







The Mount Volunteers

The Mount Volunteers is a legacy Guildford Environmental Forum project and a community-led conservation group caring for an important area of chalk grassland overlooking Guildford. Working closely with Guildford Borough Council, volunteers carry out hands-on conservation to protect and restore this rare and biodiverse habitat, while learning new skills and contributing to local nature recovery.

In 2025, volunteers continued vital scrub clearance, supported by strong turnout, new funding and growing partnerships. Monitoring showed clear biodiversity gains, with excellent butterfly transect results, including sightings of the nationally endangered Small Blue butterfly following habitat improvements. Green Hairstreak, Dingy Skipper and Grizzled Skipper were also recorded, alongside strong recovery of orchids, cowslips and field scabious.

The year also included the unveiling of a new nature information board on the Mount to raise awareness of the variety of nature on the Mount and our work to protect it, as well as moth trapping, invertebrate surveys and new funding from Surrey County Council to support tools, insurance and habitat enhancement, strengthening the Mount's future as a valued local nature site.

2026 Focus
Deepening collaboration with Buglife, delivering botanical surveys and education events, and exploring wellbeing activities such as outdoor yoga on the Mount.



Impact snapshot

725

volunteer hours spent on scrub removal in 2025

372

butterflies recorded during a single transect walk on the Mount



Urban Greening

Four practical projects were delivered this year, bringing nature and climate resilience into places with limited green space. Supported by private-sector and local authority funding, the work opened up new opportunities to green busy town-centre and school sites. Projects ranged from rooftop biodiversity gardens and flood-resilience tree planting to sustainable drainage and reflection gardens, all focused on creating healthier, more resilient everyday spaces. Volunteers played a key role in delivering visible, lasting improvements that communities can enjoy and care for.

2026 Focus
Working more closely with schools, expanding climate-resilience measures, and building on the Surrey Schools Climate Resilience project.



Impact snapshot

300+

trees planted

70m²

green roof installed



Impact snapshot

243

swift boxes installed since 2021

3

awareness stalls held in local parishes

Guildford Swift Project

Following the merger with Guildford Environmental Forum, Zero Carbon Guildford is proud to support the Guildford Swift Project, which helps protect Guildford's swifts through habitat creation, community action and conservation awareness. Volunteers play a vital role by installing and monitoring nest boxes, protecting nest sites, supporting swift recovery, contributing to surveys and raising awareness, all with the shared ambition of making Guildford a welcoming 'Swift Town'.

2026 Focus
Install 100 swift boxes, grow volunteer involvement, and introduce improved monitoring with a digital population map.

WORK AREA
ADVOCACY

Sharing our experience to support others and to advocate for positive climate and environmental change from local decision makers to accelerate systems change.



As Surrey moves towards Local Government Reorganisation, Zero Carbon Guildford has been invited to a number of consultation events and activities, where we have been able to put forward the importance of prioritising climate and nature within the new local authority structure.

We have also engaged our Member of Parliament, Zöe Franklin. Zöe attended an action day shortly after ZERO moved to our new premises, taking part in a Water Blitz training event, helping sort clothes for the Surrey Hills Baby Clothes Library and meeting participants of one of our Explore & Restore bike rides.

In July, a group of volunteers from ZERO took part in the Act Now Change Forever mass lobby of Parliament, organised by the Climate Coalition. At that event we were able to put across concerns across all the issues we work on. Following that meeting, Zöe Franklin mentioned us in Parliament, saying "Community actions groups such as Zero Carbon Guildford are doing the kind of work in my constituency that we should back at a national level."

We also see it as important to support community climate action beyond Surrey, and we have continued to share our experience with and encourage similar projects elsewhere. This includes support for specific projects, such as the Library of Things, to set up in other areas, as well as being part of national campaigns.

Plans for 2026:

- Zero Carbon Guildford will be participating in the Our Future Surrey campaign ahead of the local elections, calling for climate and nature to be high priorities for councillors elected to the two new unitary authorities for Surrey. We are working with community groups across Surrey on this initiative.
- Following the local elections in May we will review our priorities and approach.



Taking Community Voices to Parliament

On 9th July 2025, 23 representatives of the ZERO community headed into London to take part in the Act Now, Change Forever mass lobby of Parliament. We joined with over 5,000 other people who came into Westminster to meet with their MPs and put forward a collective demand for more and better action on climate and nature.

Ahead of the event, we got together at ZERO to plan out what we wanted to say, enabling us to hear from those who couldn't make it on the day. We also gathered messages for Zöe Franklin MP from a wide range of ZERO volunteers and members of the public, which we put together into a book of hearts for her to take away.

The meeting with Zöe Franklin was encouraging: we were able to put across a wide range of concerns and present evidence and data from our experience running community projects. One of our overarching requests was to ask Zöe to be a more vocal advocate and champion of climate action. She followed up by mentioning us in Parliament in the summer.

We'll be looking out for future opportunities to continue the relationship with Zöe, and are always keen to hear from volunteers who want to be involved in this work.









OUR FINANCES

Careful financial management gives us the stability to take action, support our community, and deliver sustainable, community-led climate work.

The majority of our costs are for staff and projects, with some overhead costs. Most of our costs are covered by grants, which are a good way to fund specific needs and in some cases can secure funding for many years. In 2025, we resuccessfully raused £7.5k through crowdfunding and are hugely grateful to those who donated. We will continue to look for funding opportunities from existing and potential funders, as well as from our community.

Trustees aim to hold free reserves equivalent to 9–12 months of current expenditure, providing stability and flexibility as the organisation develops. As our activity grows, including hiring additional staff, the current expenditure rises and therefore the amount of reserves we need to maintain also grows. We have agreed that foreseeable closedown costs should also be included, such as moving and storage costs should we be served notice on our current building.

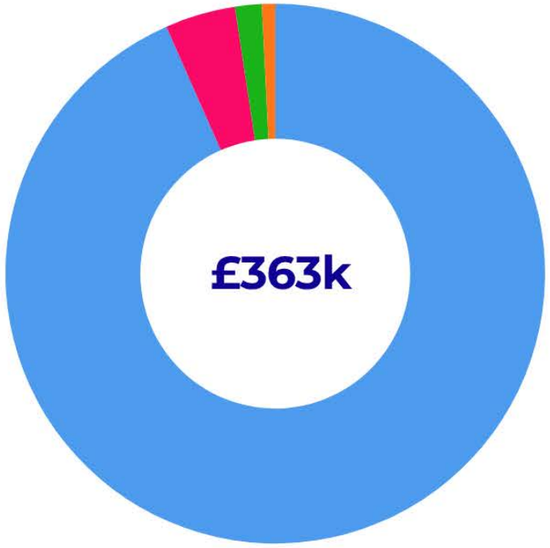
Funds not immediately required are managed carefully and in line with our values, and are held with Triodos Bank, chosen for its strong environmental and ethical credentials.

Alongside sound financial management, our work is powered by people. We are deeply grateful to the 220+ volunteers who give their time and skills across our projects, supported through coordination, training and regular opportunities to connect.



Financial Summary

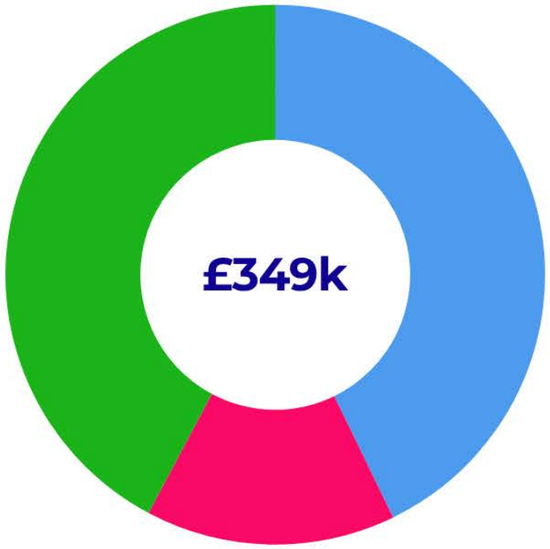
Income



- Grants and contracts (93%)
- Donations and gifts (4%)
- Earned income (cafe, events, room hire) (2%)
- Other (1%)

The majority of our income comes from grants and contracts to deliver the activities and projects outlined in our strategy. Multi-year grants are an important part of this, giving us greater security. In 2026 we will be reviewing our fundraising strategy with a focus on long term resilience.

Expenditure



- Staff costs (43%)
- Rent and overheads (15%)
- Project running costs (42%)

Staff costs cover operational staff, who work across the whole of ZERO's strategy and activities (covering communications, volunteer and project support and operations), and staff employed to deliver specific project activities. Project running costs include all the non-staff elements of running our projects.

Financial Review and Policies

The trustees are pleased to record a surplus of £13,831 (2024: £46,105). This was largely as a result of the National Lottery and Community Energy grants won during the year. We also report that Reserves increased in the period by the same amount of £13,831 (2024: £46,105).

Reserves policy and future developments

The policy of the trustees is to maintain free reserves at a level of 9 -12 months of core, unrestricted expenditure as well as reasonable end-of-contract costs and cover for short-term funding gaps for essential roles. As of 31 December 2025, Zero Carbon Guildford had free reserves of £117,814 (2024: £77,581). This amount is increasing in line with the charity's increasing expenditure and is in line with our policy and necessary to achieve the sustained provision of our objects.

Investment policy

Zero Carbon Guildford's Constitution gives the trustees the power to invest money not immediately required for its purposes in line with the Trustees Act 2000.

The majority of surplus funds to date have been held in an interest-bearing account with a bank, Triodos Bank, which has met our environmental and ethical criteria.

Contribution by Volunteers

The charity is overwhelmingly grateful for the varied and unstinting efforts of over 220+ volunteers who have been and continue to be involved in a large range of the charity's activities. Zero Carbon Guildford would not be operating or meeting the objects of the charity without the amazing and varied contributions of all our volunteers.

To encourage further volunteer support, we have a volunteer coordinator and hold regular volunteer meetings and social events. We welcome ideas to make the involvement of our volunteers even more enjoyable.

Financial Review and Policies (continued)

Risk management

The trustees regularly monitor the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charity, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate its exposure to the major risks.

The key risk of Zero Carbon Guildford is the difficulty in managing short term leases. We aim to make the most of premises while we have them, and for periods where we are without a building, we adopt a flexible operating model to allow us to continue to meet our objectives.

Recruitment and training of trustees

Zero Carbon Guildford Trustees are competent persons who through residence, occupation or employment or otherwise have specialist knowledge of the area of benefit.
Members can nominate themselves for a trustee role, trustees are then voted in by members at the AGM.

New trustees will, upon appointment, be provided with an Induction pack which will cover:

- The obligations of trustees and the sub-committee structure and terms of reference
- The Constitution and any subsequent amendments made to it
- The current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts and management accounts
- Charity Commission trustee literature
- Future plans and objectives

Charity Information for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	1192880	
REGISTERED OFFICE	Zero Carbon Guildford 46 Broad Street Guildford Surrey GU3 3BG	
BANKERS	Triodos Bank UK Deanery Road Bristol BS1 5AS	
	Metro Bank PLC One Southampton Row London WC1B 5HA	
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Helen Lee FCA 55 Wodeland Avenue Guildford Surrey GU2 4LA	
TRUSTEES	Olivia Carpenter-Lomax	Chair
	Katherine Clowser	Treasurer
	Kerry Lewis	Secretary
	Carol Dunnett	
	Eris Roberts	Appointed 26 March 2025
	Helen Harris	
	Isabel Robson	
	Jack White	
	Jenny Bannerman	Appointed 5 May 2025
	Maddie Evans	
	Meghna Das	
	Prashant Kumar	
	Steve Davis	
	David Stokes	Resigned 26 March 2025
	Stuart Cook	Resigned 26 March 2025

Charity Information for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Statement of trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources, and application of resources, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be 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 proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and, where relevant, the Charities Act 2022, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of its constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by



Olivia Carpenter-Lomax - Chair of Trustees
March 2026

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Members of Zero Carbon Guildford

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Zero Carbon Guildford CIO
I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Zero Carbon Guildford CIO ("the Charity") for the Year Ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and, where relevant, the Charities Act 2022 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity'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 material 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 accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) 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.

Helen M. L. Lee

Name: Helen Lee
Relevant professional qualification: FCA
Address: 55 Wodeland Avenue, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 4LA
Date: March 2026

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

		Year ended 31 December 2025			Year ended 31 December 2024		
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	**Total funds**	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	Notes	£	£	**£**	£	£	£
INCOME FROM							
Donations and gifts		7,823	211,353	**219,177**	7,055	134,836	141,892
Crowdfunded donations		7,491	-	**7,491**	-	-	-
Charitable activities		131,722	-	**131,722**	117,091	-	117,091
Other trading activities		1,719	-	**1,719**	580	-	580
Bank Interest		2,886	-	**2,886**	2,476	-	2,476
Total income	2	151,642	211,353	**362,995**	127,202	134,836	262,039
EXPENDITURE ON							
Raising Funds		-	-	**-**	-	-	-
Charitable activities	3	110,778	238,385	**349,164**	139,607	76,326	215,934
Total expenditure		110,778	238,385	**349,164**	139,607	76,326	215,934
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		40,863	(27,032)	**13,831**	(12,405)	58,510	46,105
Transfers between funds		(631)	631	**-**	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		40,232	(26,401)	**13,831**	(12,405)	58,510	46,105
Total funds brought forward		77,581	64,492	**142,073**	89,986	5,982	95,968
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		117,814	38,091	**155,905**	77,581	64,492	142,073

The notes on pages 47 to 55 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2025

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	**Total funds**	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
		£	£	**£**	£	£	£
		2025	2025	**2025**	2024	2024	2024
FIXED ASSETS							
Tangible fixed assets	8	2,729	-	**2,729**	10,423	-	10,423
		2,729	-	**2,729**	10,423	-	10,423
CURRENT ASSETS							
Inventories		-	-	**-**	-	-	-
Debtors	9	-	65,846	**65,846**	21,105	-	21,105
Cash at bank and in hand		133,973	(27,755)	**106,218**	97,882	64,492	162,374
		133,973	38,091	**172,064**	118,987	64,492	183,479
CREDITORS							
Amounts falling due within one year	10	18,888	-	**18,888**	51,829	-	51,829
NET CURRENT ASSETS		115,085	38,091	**153,176**	67,157	64,492	131,649
NET ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		117,814	38,091	**155,905**	77,581	64,492	142,073
FUNDS	11						
Unrestricted funds		117,814	-	**117,814**	77,581	-	77,581
Restricted funds		-	38,091	**38,091**	-	64,492	64,492
TOTAL FUNDS		117,814	38,091	**155,905**	77,581	64,492	142,073

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on March 2026 and signed on their behalf by



Olivia Carpenter-Lomax - Chair of Trustees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and, where relevant, the Charities Act 2022. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is entitled to the income, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Income is deferred only when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future Period.

Legacies are included when the charity is advised by a personal representative of an estate that payment will be made and the amount can be quantified.

Gift Aid receivable is included in income where there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

Income (continued)
Donated goods, services and facilities are only recognised where practicable and the measure can be measured reliably.

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the financial statements but is described in the trustees' annual report.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Capitalisation and depreciation of tangible fixed assets
All tangible fixed assets are included at cost. Items of fixtures, fittings and equipment with a cost of less than £500 are not capitalised.

Depreciation has been provided as follows:
- Fixture & fittings - 50% per annum, straight line basis

Cash at bank and in hand
Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Inventories
Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Provision is made for damaged, obsolete and slow moving stock where appropriate

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Debtors and creditors receivable/payable within one year
Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.
Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the charity pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the charity has no further payment obligations.

The contributions are recognised as an expense in profit or loss when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals as a liability in the Balance Sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the charity in independently administered funds.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

2. Income

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Donations and gifts	4	**7,823**	7,055
Grants	11	**211,353**	134,836
Crowdfunded donations		**7,491**	-
Refreshments and zero waste shop		**2,267**	4,622
Event income		**1,804**	3,275
Contract income		**127,650**	109,195
Hire of premises		**1,719**	580
Interest income		**2,886**	2,476
		362,995	262,039

We are hugely grateful to all parties in respect of our donations, grants and contracts.

3. Charitable activities cost

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages & Salaries	**149,450**	81,504
Rent	**6,400**	23,056
Other property costs	**9,111**	7,256
Contract direct costs	**60,621**	69,344
Cost of shop sales	**1,288**	4,600
Restricted fund direct costs	**86,791**	9,914
Other running costs	**35,502**	20,260
	349,164	215,934

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

4. Income

Many volunteers provided and continue to provide a significant amount of time and materials on the store presentation of Zero Carbon Guildford and with the ongoing day-to-day activities. We are very grateful indeed for the amount of time and skill that has been given by all our volunteers. These have not been recognised in the accounts.

5. Net Income / (Expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):.

	2025 £	2024 £
Independent examiner's fees	-	-

6. Trustee remuneration, expenses and related party transactions

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any benefits from an employment with Zero Carbon Guildford or a related entity. Some trustees are very involved with the day-to-day running of the charity and ZERO.

Trustees' expenses
Trustees' expenses of £72 (2024: £373) were paid during the Year Ended 31 December 2025. All expenses were incurred directly in the course of the charity's operations and repaid on production of appropriate vouchers and authorisation.

Related party transactions
There were no related party transactions in the year to 31 December 2025.

Donations from trustees or other related parties
The charity received donations from trustees, and organisations connected with trustees, during the year. All such donations were given freely and without conditions. No trustee or related party received any benefit from these donations, and they did not influence the decisions of the board.

7. Staff costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries and wages	**141,899**	81,504
Social security costs	**4,807**	-
Pension costs	**2,744**	523
Total staff costs	**149,450**	82,027

No employees received employee benefits for the year of more than £60,000 (2024: nil).
The charity had an average of 7 employees (2024: 4), working on charitable activities.

8. Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures & Fittings	Totals
	£	£
COST		
At 1 January 2025	24,934	24,934
Additions	2,042	2,042
At 31 December 2025	**26,976**	**26,976**
DEPRECIATION		
At 1 January 2025	14,510	14,510
Charge for the year	9,735	9,735
At 31 December 2025	**24,245**	**24,245**
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31 December 2025	**2,729**	**2,729**
At 31 December 2024	10,423	10,423

9. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	**54,144**	11,902
Prepayments and accrued income	**11,287**	9,203
Other debtors	**415**	-
	65,846	21,105

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	**18,141**	49,829
Other tax and social security	**-**	1,477
Pension	**747**	523
	18,888	51,829

The deferred income includes £14,249 (2024: £20,693) deferred in relation to an insulation project with Surrey County Council, as well as £nil (2024: £18,069) received in advance in relation to the contract for managing the HEAT project.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

11. Movement in funds

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

Fund names	Purpose and Restrictions	Opening balance 2024	2024 Income	2024 Expenditure	Transfers (in)/out	Balances as at 31 December 2024	2025 Income	2025 Expenditure	Transfers in/(out)	Balances as at 31 December 2025
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds										
The National Lottery	Together for our Planet	-	86,078	57,504	-	**28,574**	86,170	89,033	-	**25,711**
Hubbub Foundation UK	Community Fridge	**982**	6,550	4,250	-	**3,282**	5,000	3,834	-	**4,448**
Community Energy South		-	22,300	1,972	-	**20,327**	21,545	36,499	-	**5,373**
Surrey Wildlife Trust	Urban Greening	-	2,000	2,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revdevco		-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
BUPA Groundwork		-	1,799	-	-	**1,799**	-	1,316	-	**483**
Surrey County Council	Thermal cameras	-	4,590	1,913	-	**2,678**	-	2,295	-	**383**
Library of Things	Library of Things	-	400	209	-	**191**	1,000	1,822	631	**0**
Surrey County Councillor Grants	Water testing	-	6,120	-	-	**6,120**	1,220	6,001	-	**1,339**
Nespresso	Urban Greening	**5,000**	-	3,479	-	**1,521**	-	1,167	-	**354**
Energy Redress	HEAT project	-	-	-	-	-	96,419	96,419	-	**0**
		5,982	134,836	76,326	0	**64,492**	211,353	238,385	631	38,091
Unrestricted Funds										
General Fund	General Purposes	**89,986**	127,202	139,607	-	**77,581**	121,101	86,213	(631)	**111,839**
Total Funds		**95,968**	**262,039**	**215,934**	**-**	**142,073**	**332,455**	**324,598**	**-**	**149,929**

At the year end, restricted expenditure in relation to Energy Redress Scheme had been temporarily financed from unrestricted funds pending receipt of grant income due in arrears. Other restricted funds are represented at the balance sheet date by cash at bank.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

11. Movement in funds (continued)

Money was received on the following projects during the year:

- In April 2024, the National Lottery Community Fund awarded a grant of £350k over 4 years to support the Charity in reaching more members of the community and empowering them to take action against climate change. The grant is paid in stages, with £86k being received in 2025.
- In April 2025, the Energy Industry Voluntary Redress Scheme awarded a grant of up to £586k over 2 years to support our Home Energy Advice Team ("HEAT") in reducing carbon emissions from hard to heat homes across Surrey. The grant is paid quarterly in arrears and £96k was receivable in 2025 with £31k cash received in the year.
- In September 2024, Community Energy South awarded a grant of £110k over 3 years to engage diverse communities and develop local community owned renewable energy. £22k was received in December 2024.
- The Community Fridge project started in January 2022, and Hubbub continued their support in 2025. It has attracted a large group of volunteers who collect food (that would otherwise have been thrown away) from sources such as the Co-op, Marks and Spencer and Waitrose, and distribute to members of the community.

Zero Carbon Guildford is hugely indebted to local individuals and organisations for their generosity, which has enabled these projects to become established in ZERO and developed for the future benefit of the community.

12. Financial commitments

At the year end, the Charity had no operating lease commitments (2024: £6,000).

WHY WE VOLUNTEER

Some messages from our Volunteers

> ZERO is one of the only places I feel comfortable enough to truly be myself. I treasure every person I have met here and every opportunity to grow.

> I love seeing the enthusiasm of volunteers getting stuck in to projects and truly making Guildford a better place.



> I love helping out at the Community Fridge such a great group of people!

> I really enjoyed being part of the sustainable fastion team and getting involved in multiple events such as the clothes swap shop.

> Great to be part of something making a difference.

Thank you to all our funders & supporters in 2025

Key funders

The National Lottery Community Fund

Hubbub Co-op Investment Fund

Energy Industry Voluntary Redress Scheme

Spacehive Crowdfunder

Community Energy Pathways

Your Fund Surrey Small Community Projects fund, sponsored by County Councillor Fiona Davidson

Special thanks to:

Ali Fisher (Plans with Purpose)

Joe Public, Advertising Agency

Clyde & Co LLP

Surrey County Coucil

And a massive thank you to every individual who has supported ZERO with either their time or through financial donations.

COMMUNITY FUND

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMUNITY ENERGY PATHWAYS

ZERO
carbon guildford

info@zerocarbonguildford.org
zerocarbonguildford.org

Charity Number is 1192880

ZERO, Riverside Business Centre, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, GU1 4UG