

Registered in England and Wales under Company Number: 02287928
Registered Charity number: 700638



**Sheffield &
Rotherham**
Wildlife Trust

SHEFFIELD WILDLIFE TRUST

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED:
31 MARCH 2025**

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

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

Reference & Administrative Information	
Charity Name:	Sheffield Wildlife Trust
Charity Working Name:	Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust
Charity Registration Number:	700638
Company Registration Number:	2287928
Registered Office & Operational Address:	Victoria Hall, 37 Stafford Road, Sheffield, S2 2SF

Board of Trustees	
Sarah Blandy	Kris Mackay
Dr Stephen Campbell	Dr Scott McKenzie (to 17-Oct-2024 AGM)
Antony Davies (from 17-Oct-2024 AGM)	Oscar Morton
Sarah Dew	Ben Stone - Chair
Helen Francis - Vice Chair	Christopher Tomson (to 17-Oct-2024 AGM)
James Hall	Dominic Tydeman-White - Treasurer
Thomas Hocking (from 17-Oct-2024 AGM)	Mary Wilton
Siobhan Laird	

Secretary	Liz Ballard
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Senior Management Team	
Liz Ballard	Chief Executive
Alison Gardner	Head of Fundraising and Communications
Paul Harrington	Head of Finance & Support Services
Roy Mosley	Head of Conservation and Land Management
Rob Seeley	Wildscapes Consultancy Manager
Cathy Slater	Head of Community Engagement

Providers of Professional Services	
Auditors:	C J Woodhead & Co Ltd, 158 Hemper Lane, Greenhill, Sheffield, S8 7FE
Accountants:	Tingle Ashmore Ltd, Enterprise House, Broadfield Court, Sheffield, S8 0XF
Bankers:	Unity Trust Bank plc, Four Brindleyplace, Birmingham, B1 2JB
Legal advisors:	Freeths, Fifth Floor, 3 St Paul's Place, 129 Norfolk Street, Sheffield, S1 2JE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust

Our Charitable Objects:

1. For the benefit of the public, to advance, promote and further the conservation, maintenance and protection of:
 - a. Wildlife and its habitats;
 - b. Places of natural beauty;
 - c. Places of zoological, botanical, geographical, archaeological or scientific interest;
 - d. Features of landscape with geological, physiographical, or amenity value;

In particular, but not exclusively, in ways that further biodiversity.

2. To advance the education of the public in:
 - a. The principles and practice of sustainable development;
 - b. The principles and practice of biodiversity conservation.
3. To promote research in all branches of nature study and to publish the useful results thereof.
4. To promote public access to and appropriate use of open spaces, places of natural beauty and places of zoological, botanical, geographical, archaeological or scientific interest, for the purpose of enjoyment, exercise and recreation.

The Trust aims to achieve these objectives by working in partnership with other organisations and individuals, looking to deliver multiple benefits to as wide a cross section of society as possible.

In May 2021, the Board of Trustees adopted a refreshed Strategy 2030:

Our Vision

Throughout Sheffield & Rotherham, from our streets & neighbourhoods to the wider countryside, there will be an abundance of nature that is protected, cared for and experienced by everyone.

Our Mission

For the benefit of nature and people in Sheffield & Rotherham, working with our members, volunteers, local people, partners and the wider Wildlife Trust family, and by acting locally and thinking globally, we will:

- Turn around the ecological emergency and put nature in recovery by; securing enough land and water that's great for nature, bringing back wildlife and empowering people to take action, care for and respect nature.
- Ensure everyone in Sheffield & Rotherham can experience and enjoy the benefits that nature brings.
- Work with nature to help solve the climate crisis.

Our Outcomes

- 1) Nature is in recovery and helping solve the climate crisis
- 2) People are taking action for nature
- 3) Everyone can experience and benefit from nature
- 4) Corporate Outcome: We are a well-run organisation, continuously reducing our impact on the environment.

In setting out the Vision, Outcomes and the proposed activities for the year, the Board of Trustees gave careful consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

Achievements & Performance 2024/5

In 2024/25 the Trust continued working towards our refreshed Strategy 2030. Below are some of the highlights and challenges from the year, with reference to our 'Look Forward in 2024/25' from the previous Trustees' Annual Report:

We would like to thank our funders, volunteers, loyal membership and supporters for all your help in achieving the highlights and successes set out below.

Outcome 1: Nature is in recovery and helping solve the climate crisis

- Agree a 'nature recovery network' for Sheffield & Rotherham that helps us to prioritise our work with partners and monitor progress
Nature Recovery Network/Local Nature Recovery Strategy work has continued including the development of a pipeline of six programmes covering over 2000 ha.
- Support all 4 Local Authorities working with the Mayoral Combined Authority to develop a South Yorkshire Trees & Woodland Strategy agreeing targets to 2030 - 2050.
Have continued to support Local Authorities in developing woodland strategies and tree planting plans. South Yorkshire Trees & Woodland Strategy Plan has been prepared.
- Deliver 180 ha of resilient new woodland creation in South Yorkshire through the SY Woodland Partnership
Woodland totalling 35.69 ha was planted (43,985 trees) and a further 79 ha is in development. Additionally, 7.8 km of hedgerow was planted.
- Deliver 90% of our ongoing biodiversity improvements on our Nature Reserves and continue to monitor their ecological condition to inform our management
93% of biodiversity objectives were achieved. The following surveys have been completed: Bird Species Richness (Greno Woods complex); Bog Assessment (Blacka Moor); [Vegetation Assessment (Hammond's Field)]; Crayfish (Wyming Brook), Woodland Condition (Blacka Moor, Moss Valley, Fox Hagg, Wyming Brook), Breeding Bird Territory (Ughill, Hammond's Field); Grassland Survey (Ughill); Bats survey (Ughill); Photos (Ughill).
- Secure the future of the SCC Nature Reserves we manage by agreeing a new long-term lease
Not achieved as heads of terms from SCC were delayed (received in January 2025). We are currently negotiating terms with SCC.
- Develop Ughill as a nature-friendly 'test & learn' farm, restoring 90ha and maintaining 38ha of SSSI in good ecological condition.
Through a combination of grazing and cutting, 41 ha is being restored and a plan for managing the SSSI is in place. Sustainable Farm Incentive funding of £24k/annum has been secured and capital works to move the access track, create a wetland and plant 7.6 ha of woodland have been completed. An initial white clawed crayfish feasibility study was completed.
- Influence at least 4 other farms to participate in Environmental Land Management schemes (ELMs) that support nature recovery (as part of our Sheffield Lakeland 10-year Legacy)
6 farms have been engaged via our land management advice work including specific advice on ELMs.
- Restore nearly 4 km of habitat and natural flood risk improvements along river corridors in Sheffield & Rotherham, working with the Environment Agency
Further work was delivered in the Upper Loxley. The main Rotherham Rivers 3 works have been completed (riffle, ponds/scrapes, ditches). The latter resulted in a 48 biodiversity unit gain.

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- Influence Local Authorities to protect and improve the ecological condition of both public and private Local Wildlife Sites
Attended Local Wildlife Site Partnership meetings with RMBC but little progress with Sheffield.
- Influence the South Yorkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy by participating in the Advisory Group and working groups
We attended and influenced the evidence, delivery and engagement working groups and the advisory group as best we could.
- Influence the Sheffield Local Plan with the aim of strengthening the protection, restoration and creation of the nature recovery network
Influenced to some degree but the Plan has been delayed.
- Continue to support the Sheffield Street Tree Partnership
A range of support work was completed including establishing an engagement working group and planning and delivering the Urban Tree Festival.
- Identify resources to support a Species Recovery programme
The SCC Species Survival funded project for Great Crested Newts at Woodhouse commenced and seed corn funds for further survey and research work into upland water voles was secured.
- Deliver water vole habitat improvements across a number of sites in Sheffield & Rotherham and seek opportunities to increase capacity
The water vole project near Penistone was completed adding to the research base of upland water voles and a mink control meeting for Yorkshire was held.
- With partners continue to explore opportunities for the re-introduction of beavers in South Yorkshire
We have worked with partners to prepare a 'short list' of potential beaver sites for further feasibility study and consultants have been appointed.

We achieved 74% of our Outcome 1 tasks as set out in our business plan.

In summary, We have delivered the majority of our business plan targets for nature recovery with good species records on our Nature Reserves and ongoing development of our 'nature-friendly' farm at Ughill. We were disappointed with the progress made by SYMCA on the South Yorkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

Outcome 2: More people are taking action for nature

- Support more people to take action in their daily lives with over 1000 visits to our online Community Action Toolkit.
The Community Action Toolkit pages were viewed 2,335 times over the year by 845 users. 960 visits to the Community Action Toolkit were tracked via Nature Recovery Sheffield (NRS) newsletters.

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- At least 140 supporters & members contacting their MP candidates to raise nature concerns and protection as part of a General Election campaign.
The general election was called in May 2024 to be held in July 2024 and communications were sent out to members and supporters encouraging them to write to their local MPs. 34 people sent emails, 7 to two MPs that we know of, and approximately 132 emails were sent to Prospective Parliamentary Candidates. Sarah Champion MP for Rotherham was engaged re the neonics campaign and the state of nature and that more needed to be included in new governments targets. The neonics and hidden peat campaigns were sent to warm contacts and generated 137 and 152 signatures respectively. We supported Sheffield Parents for the Future in a workshop to write to MPs about moorland burning and the impacts on wildlife, environment and people - 4 MPs were contacted and Abtisam Mohammed MP got back to us enthusiastically to meet and talk about the issue.
- Deliver 3 events (60 people) to promote our Strategy2030, General Election asks and opportunities to take action for nature to our members
In July 2024, an online event focussed on Strategy 2030 was attended by 48 members and 35 non members (a total of 83 people). 59 members attended the Trust's AGM in October 2024 promoting Strategy 2030.
- Grow our Volunteer Ranger team to encompass 5 more sites (including Yorkshire Water locations) in order to increase on site presence and visitor engagement.
We have had 72 Active Volunteer Rangers during 2024/25 who between them have completed 407 patrols (average 34 per month). 890 patrol hours were completed during the year (including 102 patrol hours reported on new sites only). 21 induction sessions (for 41 new Volunteer Rangers) and 5 training sessions were held. 11 sites in total were covered by our Volunteer Rangers in 24/25, including four new sites added this year - Carbrook Ravine, Crabtree Ponds, Damflask (Yorkshire Water) & Woodhouse Washlands.
- Undertake visitor surveys and footfall counts at 1-2 sites to improve our understanding of our visitors
We supported our Volunteer Rangers with three online sessions about engaging with visitors. Volunteer Rangers then supported onsite surveys and visitor stands at Woodhouse Washlands and Wyming Brook , engaging with nearly 70 people on issues such as dog control and ground nesting birds. Footfall counters were installed on the path from the main entrance to Greno in February with the first month's data collected and analysed. To remain at Greno until early April to give a second month's data and will then be moved to Wyming Brook at the start of 25/26. We saw an overall improvement in dogs on leads for the year with 52% observed with dogs on leads during breeding bird season at key sites. Still much more to do!
- Deliver 'take action for nature' sessions to 5 local schools, giving advice about how they can improve their school grounds for nature recovery.
1059 children were asked if they would like to help wildlife this year and 947 children said yes (89%). 8 grounds assessments were completed in local schools over the year and another 1,000 children reached through assemblies. Three schools have since reported that improvements have been made following grounds assessment. Sessions with smaller groups of young people were held where participants took an individual action such as planting sunflowers, seed bombs, bird feeders (104 individuals).
- Reach over 100 staff of local businesses, promoting opportunities for them to take action for nature
21 Companies were engaged through Wild Work Days this year, involving 441 employees. A Wild Work Day video was produced and shared on our social media to encourage others to do the same.

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"It was a pleasure to participate and work together with the Wild Work team, everyone was really friendly and super nice. Not only we did some incredible work for the nature, we also met some lovely people. So it's a win win."

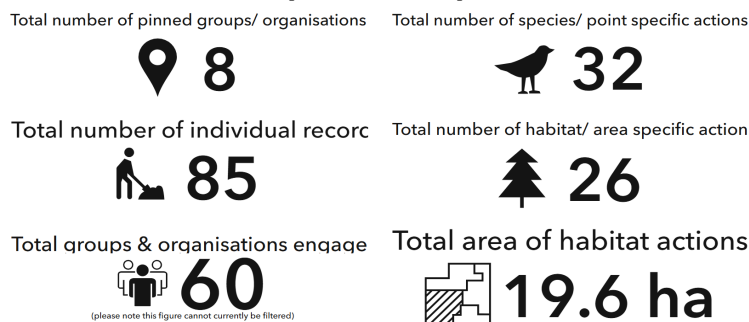
-Wild Work Day Attendee, Fragomen LLP

- Support local Community Groups to improve their local area for nature and plot their activities on our Community Action Map, doubling the number of groups plotted to 70.
The Trust's Community Nature Advisers have provided ecological advice and support to 10 community sites including Handsworth St Mary's Church Community garden; Graveyard and Glebe land Tinsley Chai group, Lichford Open space & Dore and Totley Golf club. We responded to 115 members of the public and groups raising concerns about our local wildlife or threats to nature and green spaces.

Darnall Unity Hub: *A Community Nature Advisor visited their proposed community garden to listen to and understand the community's needs and how they want to be involved. Together we have co-designed the space, mapping the area and setting out wildlife gardening projects that the community can take forward themselves.*

19.586ha of land has been added to the Community Action Map this year by 16 groups and 7 individuals. Some of the groups adding their actions to the map this year include, Lichford Open Space Heeley, Handsworth Glebe land, Friends of Lynwood Gardens, Cube Foundation and Tinsley Chai group at Tinsley Recreation Park (with community forestry team).

Community Action Map Overview



- Support and grow our volunteers, increasing overall volunteer hours by 5% and supporting 3 self-led volunteer groups.
A total of 547 active volunteers were recorded in 24/25, (Just over double our target of 270 and a 27% increase on 23/24) of which 66% (351) were new volunteers to the trust. The total hours recorded across these and all other types of volunteering were 17,567 (a 10% decrease on 23/24). There was a significant increase in new active volunteers to the latter part of the year, so it is likely we will see an increase in volunteer hours next year. 24 volunteers participated in 3 self-led volunteer groups (walling, scything and coppicing). 3 wildlife champions and 18 women signed up as volunteers for Tinsley Community Wildlife Friendly Zone. 3 people volunteer to improve communication between the Trust and the BAME community.

Thank you to all our volunteers for the fantastic support you give to nature and people in Sheffield & Rotherham!

- Secure additional funds to support our ongoing programme of community organising and empowerment, reaching more diverse and under-represented communities through Nature Recovery Sheffield & Rotherham.
The Nature Recovery Sheffield (NRS) project began its delivery in 24/25 with the team being recruited and projects getting underway. 14 groups and 35 individuals were engaged with Nature Recovery Sheffield. The funding has played a crucial role in broadening participation in

Nature Recovery Sheffield from communities across Sheffield in nature recovery. The Trust has built stronger relationships within local neighbourhoods and community groups, particularly in Page Hall and Darnall/Tinsley.

Tinsley Community: *"Now we are organised, we are ready to advocate for our community, to have a voice in our green spaces, to share our stories and inspire others. We want people to see our positive work in the community. We care about our local area and want to make it better for wildlife and the community."*

Tinsley Chia Women's Group: *"The Tinsley Chai group's journey has shown us that when communities feel ownership over the process, they become powerful advocates for their green spaces." - NRS report Year 1, Lucy Graham.*

Thank you to the National Lottery Heritage Fund and all the Lottery Players for supporting our Nature Recovery Sheffield Community Programme!

- Continuing to stand up for wildlife by responding to local threats, campaigns and calls to action as needed.
Stalls were held at three events with partners (Sheffield Museums, Don Catchment Rivers Trust, & Action on Plastic) promoting key campaigns for protecting wildlife (influencing new Government's planning & nature policies; decisions on the use of Neonicotinoids) and associated e-actions. Physical actions taken on the day were 24 seed bombs and 10 bird feeders as well as the public signing up to Nature Recovery Sheffield. 188 people were engaged and made seed bombs at Ferham Festival and Rotherham show.

We achieved 75% of priority Outcome 2 tasks as set out in our business plan.

In summary, the majority of our business plan targets for supporting more people to take action for nature. We also continued our journey of becoming more inclusive, engaging more widely through our Nature Recovery Sheffield programme, to reach more people from visible ethnic minority communities who are currently under-represented in our supporter community and the environmental sector in general.

Outcome 3: Everyone can experience and benefit from nature

- Respond to all enquiries from the public expressing concern about the loss of their local green space
The Trust responded to a total of 51 enquiries asking for advice and support to protect local greenspaces
- Develop and promote a Nature Equity Map to key decision and policy makers in Sheffield & Rotherham. Apply to our work to help prioritise our community organising.
The Nature Equity map has been developed and is informing priorities for project development and place based work in our communities. The map has been shared with key external stakeholders including local authorities, with some feedback that this is being referred to in development of their plans.
- Support 4 Nature Connectors embedded in local communities to support others to connect to nature &/or take action for nature
Support of community leaders in Page Hall including Page Hall Medical Centre, Oasis Community Hub and Jamia Masjid Ghausia to deliver nature connection and nature recovery activities. Significant changes seen due to proactiveness of key people and organisations in the area culminating in a successful Page Hall Environment Week (24th-28th March). Activities to support nature connection codelivered with community groups including Heeley Community

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Tenants and Residents Association, Caribbean sports club and Manor Castle Development Trust - 'Let's talk' men's wellness group

- Engage 1600 children in nature connection activities
1641 children engaged in nature connection activities through school sessions. 97% of teachers surveyed reported the children had learned something new about nature. In addition we delivered a successful workshop around green space design and community organising for children and young people at the Schools Climate Education South Yorkshire conference, reaching over 120 participants, receiving the highest workshop score from participants and voted best by more than half of the teachers.

Feedback on our sessions has included:

Teacher: "A fantastic and engaging workshop to help children to understand the seasons. The children loved all the hands-on opportunities throughout the session."

Children: "I liked making the boggarts and collecting things" "it was good walking in the fresh air" "finding the leaves was best" "I liked using sticks to make art pictures".

- Deliver a whole school approach to taking action for nature with 10 new primary schools
15 new schools were engaged this year, 13 primary, 2 secondary. In Rotherham we have collaborated with Anston Greenlands Primary where the Headteacher has developed and promoted a 'Rewilding Rotherham' schools award engaging over 20 local schools. In Sheffield a developing relationship with Owlbrook School is addressing improvements to school grounds and increased access to nature.

One teacher shared: *"Our children do not get many life experiences, and it was so lovely to take them somewhere close to school. It gave them confidence and motivation to go back and share their experiences with their families."*

Another added: *"It's amazing to see children so engaged in learning about the world around them. For some of these children, this is their first experience with nature. We hope it instils in them a love for their local area and a desire to protect these beautiful spaces for generations to come."*

- Deliver Wild Play events for over 300 children and 150 adults
Family activities delivered over the school holiday periods engaged 500 children and 235 adults in a wide range of nature based activities. 96% of parents surveyed reported that they/their child felt more connected to nature after the activity, with 93% saying they or they/their child felt more empowered to take action for nature.
- Continue to deliver our Wild at Heart Programme, reaching 500 people including GP referrals at Clifton Park.
Wild at Heart has supported 754 people through green social prescribing activities, with 24 sessions delivered in total with groups running at Clifton Park in Rotherham and Verdon Street in Sheffield.

Feedback from participants included:

"Wild at Heart has eased my mind, and made me feel less anxious."

"I very much enjoy the time doing craft activities with Wild at Heart. I have learned new things and been made aware of different ways of conservation, recycling and many ways to help the planet."

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We have also delivered training in green social prescribing to 87 community and health professionals enabling others to bring nature connection into their practice;

'I now feel confident to try some individual nature connection activities with the families I work with' (Social Worker who attended the Green Social Prescribing Training)

- Identify resources to continue and sustain our Wild at Heart programme beyond 2025
Funding has been secured from Synergy to support delivery in Sheffield over 2025-26, and our contract with Voluntary Action Rotherham to support the Clifton Park group has also been renewed. A further Reaching Communities lottery bid has been submitted, pending a decision in May 2025. Work continues with strategic partners to explore development of a 'shared investment fund' to provide longer term sustainable funding to support delivery of Green Social Prescribing across South Yorkshire.

We achieved 77% of priority Outcome 3 tasks as set out in our business plan. Evaluations and case studies gathered, evidence the great benefits to our participants that a closer connection to nature can bring to their health & wellbeing.

Corporate Outcome: We are a well-run organisation, limiting our impact on the environment.

- Continue to improve our finance systems now that we are cloud- based
We continued to improve our finance systems further, with monthly reporting becoming more streamlined with the integration of Xero.
- Better invest our funds to secure a better return on investment
Additional capacity in the Finance Team, achieved through the addition of a freelance bookkeeper, will now allow us to progress this review of our investment approach. This review is key to how we will better fund our future growth, invest in our people, and support our nature reserves.
- Communicate our Strategy 2030 more widely and seek support for our ambitions
89 members and friends of the Trust attended an online event setting out our Strategy 2030 on 4/7/24. A theory of change, internal strategy overview and infographic were all produced as well as a strategy 2030 logo and 'badges' to identify each outcome area. The website was updated to reflect the strategy and a short animated video was produced with all resources being shared with staff to use across their materials and presentations.
- Develop and grow our ecological consultancy Wildscapes to support our financial sustainability
Wildscapes year 24/25 started with approximately 75% of all income already secured by April 2024. This, alongside further development puts Wildscapes in a forecast position of generating c.£1.4m income, producing another £100k in unrestricted surplus by year end for the Trust. Wildscapes has further diversified over the last 12 months, focussing on delivering a broader range of services to a wider range of clients, and continues to develop new opportunities. A website and marketing overhaul is underway to further support growth into coming years, alongside additional business and budget strategies.
- Assess our potential to achieve an ISO standard
A working group was established and ISO gap analysis undertaken for ISO 14001 - Environmental Management. An internal audit is underway further informing the gap analysis. Some delays in progressing due to staff shortages but the Trust is in a strong position to apply for the ISO certification with significant policies in place.

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- As part of work to increase inclusiveness and diversity across the Trust, deliver 25 walks and talks - reaching 200 people from under-represented groups and 25 talks to young people, engaging 500 young people about employment in the sector
We delivered 42 walks, talks and listening sessions, reaching over 2,200 people from across our diverse communities using a variety of different approaches to introduce new audiences to the work of the Trust. We also reached nearly 2,000 young people through 25 awareness raising talks about our work.
- Deliver 40 low level/simple level conservation tasks or 'micro-volunteering' opportunities across Sheffield & Rotherham for 150 new volunteers
Over 150 people took part in low-level conservation tasks and other micro-volunteer activities across 19 sites including 5 Yorkshire Water sites
- Continue to support our staff and volunteers with good line management/leadership and training & development
Staff and volunteer survey returns were positive. Over 95% of staff have regular 1to1s and report good line management and support. 80% of staff responded that they agreed/strongly agreed that the Trust was a well-run organisation. Over 250 training places were accessed by staff.

Volunteer Survey Headlines 2025



- Continue to reduce our carbon footprint by refreshing some of our fleet
We replaced our flatbed for a new more efficient model but were not yet able to purchase a low carbon electric flatbed.
- Recruit 100 new members and undertake a membership upgrade campaign.
248 new members were recruited bringing the total number of members to 2,985. The retention rate this year stayed high at 91.15% (above 90% target) and the average value of new members was £72.16 (above target of £57). Membership income this year was also above target at £185,320 and £64,947 income from Gift Aid (total £250,267). There were 88 responses to the voluntary membership upgrade campaign providing a combined annual increase in membership of £3,239.

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Thank you to all our members for your ongoing support

- Grow our corporate partners to 25 nature-friendly businesses, financially contributing to our work
We grew our corporate partners to 21 Corporate members, contributing over £20k to our work. 37 Wild Work Days were attended by businesses bringing in over £6,000 of income.
- Submit at least 2 strategic bids to deliver our Strategy 2030.
We successfully bid to the Community Lottery Fund to support our Nature Recovery Sheffield programme. We were one of only 4 successful Stage 1 bids to the Forest for the Nation Government competition, but sadly were unsuccessful Stage 2. Our current focus is on a major Heritage Lottery Development Phase application for 'Nature Recovery Rotherham'.
- Increase our online presence by 10% across all our platforms
LinkedIn: Followers have grown to 2,458 (62% increase), Facebook: 12,267 (9.3% increase), Instagram: 3,002 (28.8% increase). The Trust has deliberately reduced activity on X/Twitter this year as we continue to work to grow other social media channels: Bluesky (followers 1,031), Threads (followers 594) and TikTok (followers 559).

In summary, we achieved 73% of priority Corporate Outcome tasks - the majority of those set out in our business plan. We continue to have a fantastic, thriving and extremely positive volunteer and member community with 90% of staff responding to the staff survey agreed/strongly agreed that the Trust is a good organisation to work for.

Looking Ahead 2025/26 and beyond

As part of Business Planning, staff and Trustees reviewed and updated our Key Drivers and Strengths & Weaknesses analysis. This is then used to inform our Annual Business Plan for the coming year, as well as the Budget and Risk Management Plan.

The key priorities identified in our Annual Business Plan for 25/26 are below:

1. Nature is in recovery and helping solve the climate crisis

- With partners, develop and deliver our project pipeline to support our 30x30 'nature recovery network' for Sheffield & Rotherham.
- Deliver 50ha of resilient new woodland creation in South Yorkshire through the SY Woodland Partnership
- Register and market at least 2 units at >£25k worth of BNG units from Trust sites
- Secure the future of the SCC Nature Reserves we manage by agreeing a new long-term lease
- Further develop Ughill as a nature-friendly 'test & learn' farm, creating 4ha of improved habitat
- Influence at least 4 other farms to participate in ELMS schemes that support nature recovery (as part of our Sheffield Lakeland 10-year Legacy)
- Develop sustainability plan for SY Woodland Partnership
- Influence Local Authorities to protect and improve the ecological condition of both public and private Local Wildlife Sites
- Develop a Nature Recovery Rotherham strategic landscape-scale bid
- Continue to support the Sheffield Street Tree Partnership
- Identify resources to support a Species Recovery programme

2. More people are taking action for nature

- Support more people to take action in their daily lives with over 1,200 visits to our online Community Action Toolkit.
- Develop a new community newsletter to reach a more diverse community groups and leaders

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- Support 5 Volunteer Rangers/large site to promote positive visitor behaviour and increase site presence
- Undertake footfall counts at 1-2 sites to improve our understanding of our visitors
- Undertake 10 school grounds assessments, giving advice about how to improve school grounds for nature recovery.
- Reach over 350 staff of local businesses, promoting opportunities for them to take action for nature
- Support at least 10 more Community Groups to improve their local area for nature and plot their activities on our Community Action Map
- Maintain our 300 volunteer and 10,000 hours of support
- Recruit 150 new contacts to become part of our Nature Recovery Sheffield community for action.
- Secure additional funds to support our ongoing programme of community organising and empowerment, through Nature Recovery Rotherham
- Continuing to stand up for wildlife by responding to local threats, campaigns and calls to action as needed – with a focussed advocacy campaign on 'Water great for nature'

3. Everyone can experience and benefit from nature

- Respond to the majority of enquiries from the public expressing concern about the loss of their local green space
- Engage 1,600 children in nature connection activities
- Deliver a whole school approach to taking action for nature with 10 new primary schools
- Deliver Wild Play events for over 860 people (families)
- Engage 72 young people in a Youth Ranger programme
- Continue to deliver our Wild at Heart Programme, reaching 500 people including GP referrals at Clifton Park.
- Grow our nature connection activity with the Page Hall community as part of Nature Recovery Sheffield
- Identify resources to continue and sustain our Wild at Heart programme beyond 2025

Corporate Outcome: SRWT is a well-run organisation, limited our impact on the environment

- Continue to improve our finance processes and controls
- Better invest our funds to secure a better return on investment
- Assess our potential to achieve an ISO standard
- As part of work to increase inclusiveness and diversity across the Trust, deliver 25 walks and talks - reaching 200 people from under-represented groups and 25 talks to young people, engaging 500 young people about employment in the sector
- Continue to support our staff and volunteers with good line management/leadership and training & development
- Continue to reduce our carbon footprint by refreshing some of our fleet
- Recruit 300 new members totalling 3,130 memberships.
- Grow our corporate partners to 25 nature-friendly businesses, financially contributing to our work
- Submit at least 2 strategic bids to deliver our Strategy 2030.
- Increase our online presence by 10% across all our platforms

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**Financial Review****Income**

The Trust's consolidated income for the year ended 31 March 2025 was as follows:

Income Stream	Year to 31 Mar 2025	Year to 31 Mar 2024	Variance	Commentary
Grants	£1,657,971	£2,672,326	-£1,014,355	Driven by one-off funding in 2024 for Ughill Farm.
Contract Income	£1,523,294	£1,344,246	+£147,548	Positive growth in Wildscapes contracts.
Donations and Legacies	£378,758	£418,813	-£40,055	
Trading Activities	£28,980	£89,483	-£60,503	Absence of timber sales (Greno Woods) in 2025.
Enforcement Undertakings	£0	£266,667	-£266,667	A formal, legally binding, voluntary agreement from a company that has breached environmental law (e.g. pollution offences). None were received in 2025.
Investments	£41,368	£31,612	+£9,756	Income payments from the Centenary Riverside endowment fund and savings account interest
Total Consolidated Income	£3,630,371	£4,823,147	-£1,192,776	

Expenditure

Total expenditure in the year was £3,659,333, which is very similar to 2024 (£3,894,900).

Net Income

The consolidated net income for the year was -£40,732 (2024: £968,649) bringing the value of funds carried forward into 2026 to £4,845,297.

Wildscapes CIC

Wildscapes enjoyed another profitable year in 2025 with a surplus of £111,596 (2024: £76,432). All profits will be distributed via Gift Aid to the Trust. Gift Aid of £76,432 was distributed in the year to 31 March 2025.

Centenary Riverside endowment fund

The Trust's endowment fund investment made a loss in the year of £11,770. This follows a surplus of £40,402 in 2024.

Wildlife Trust Pension Scheme

The Trust participates in a defined benefit pension scheme (the Wildlife Trust Pension Scheme), which closed to new members almost 15 years ago. Even though the scheme closed, the charity still has a financial responsibility to pay the future pensions promised to those former employees.

During the year ended 31 March 2022, the trustees of the charity were made aware of a potential issue relating to the defined benefit section of the Wildlife Trust Pension Scheme. A detailed investigation has now established that there is a financial liability to employers who participated in that section, and that Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust's share of the total liability is £141,696. It had been agreed with the Pension Trustee that this liability will be paid off over a six-year period.

In the year to March 2024 the Trustees designated £200,000 of funds for the potential liability. Now that the liability is known, these funds have been undesignated and a specific provision made

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in the accounts. In the year to March 2025 our provision for the pension scheme is £71,784 (2024: £ nil).

Free cash reserve

The Trust's free cash reserve, after taking into account 12 months' deficit payments to the Wildlife Trust Pension Scheme, is now £616,530 (2024: £381,275).

Again we would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have given to Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife over the past year. Your contributions are vital in enabling us to continue our important work to protect and conserve local wildlife.

Principal Funding Sources

The Trust's primary sources of income can be seen in the tables in notes 1 and 2.

Unrestricted income was generated as a result of primary purpose trading through Wildscapes CIC (delivery of ecological services and countryside management services), land management and conservation services delivered under contract by the Trust, of training and education service contracts, and through the development of the Trust's membership.

Fundraising Activities

Aside from the submission of applications for restricted grant funds and financial support from charitable trusts, the organisation's main fundraising activities have focused on generating support from individuals, primarily through the Trust's membership scheme.

These activities have been carried out by staff directly employed by the Trust with limited use of a freelance bid writer to support development of some larger scale grant applications. No fundraising agencies have been used by the Trust directly, but we do participate in a scheme called Join Anywhere, which is managed and run by the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts. Membership recruitment has been carried out primarily through digital activities and campaigns using our website, social media and emails to contacts who have given their permission for the Trust to get in touch with them about fundraising.

The Trust is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and works to the Codes of Fundraising Practice to ensure that all fundraising activities are legal, open, honest and respectful. The communication preferences of our donors are recorded and respected and we take care not to approach vulnerable people or to apply undue pressure upon anyone in order to support the charity.

A log is used to record and review any complaints received, including those regarding fundraising activities. Any complaints are dealt with promptly and fully investigated in line with the complaints procedure as published on the organisation's website.

Investment Policy

In May 2008 the Trust signed a lease with Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC) for the land which was to become Centenary Riverside Nature Reserve. At the same time RMBC gave the Trust a lump sum endowment of £435,906 with the intention that it should be invested to provide a regular income over the life of the lease. Due to the uncertain state of the financial markets at the time, a little over £200k was invested in the M & G Charifund, and the remainder in a Charities Aid Foundation deposit account (now in a Nationwide Building Society savings account). In August 2011 a further £200k was invested in funds managed by CCLA.

Other than the endowment, the only investments held by the Trust are the fixed assets required to continue running its operations: its Headquarters Building, Victoria Hall; and the Heritage Assets Greno Woods, Low Spring Wood, Springwood Lane and Ughill Farm.

Unrestricted cash reserves are held primarily to enable the Trust to cover its outstanding financial liabilities, in the event that it ceases to trade, and to enable it to cash-flow its operations from week

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to week through the year (see under Financial Reserves Policy, below). Little interest is generated from the Trust's current account.

Financial Reserves Policy Statement

Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust recognises that, as a charity, it has a particular responsibility to manage its finances properly and that the Trust can and should be held to account by its donors for how their money has been utilised.

The Trust will administer its finances prudently and keep suitable accounting records in order to be able to evidence proper use of charitable income to all stakeholders.

Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust will manage its charitable assets in a responsible and prudent way, ensuring that any assets held by the Trust are used in the most appropriate way to contribute to the achievement of the Trust's charitable objects without jeopardising the sustainability of the charity. It will work to balance the day-to-day needs of the Trust's operations (delivering its charitable objects) with the need to have adequate financial reserves to ensure its viability as a functioning business.

The Trust will accumulate and maintain a sufficient level of cash reserves to carry out its operations and to wind up the charity should the need arise. The trustees consider that the ideal level of reserves as at 31 March 2025 would be £180,000. The Charity's free cash reserves at 31 March 2025 were £616,530. Where unrestricted cash reserves are accumulated in excess of the levels stated, the Trust will agree how those reserves can best be used to fulfil the objects of the charity.

Excess funds will be invested as described in the full policy.

Governance

Governing Documents

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, which constituted itself out of an unconstituted forerunner organisation (Sheffield City Wildlife Group), set up in 1985. It was legally incorporated and registered as a charity on 19 April 1988. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up or dissolved, any property remaining after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities will be transferred to some other charitable institution or institutions that has (have) Objects similar to the Objects of the Trust – subject to a restriction on the way in which that charity (or charities) is further entitled to distribute the property in question amongst its own members at a future date.

Both the Trust's Memorandum and Articles of Association were updated in 2007 to reflect changes in legislation and to bring it into line with other Wildlife Trusts across the UK with whom the Trust is working closely (see under "Related Parties", below). The Trust's Memorandum of Association was updated again in 2012 to reflect Charity Commission guidance with regard to the payment of expenses to Trustees. The Articles of Association were also amended in 2014 to simplify the length of term a Trustee could remain on the Board.

Recruitment & Appointment of Trustees

The directors of the company are also charity Trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles form the Board of Trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the Trustees of the Board are individuals elected from the paid up membership of the Trust. Trustees are elected to serve a 3 year term. They can stand for a second consecutive term if elected by the membership at the AGM.

The recruitment of new Trustees is undertaken by an open process of advertising the role to the Trust's membership and the wider public well in advance of the AGM. This includes promotion on

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the Trust's website, through the membership magazine, e-newsletters, press releases, social media, volunteer centres and various networks.

Each year the Board undertakes an audit of skills, and areas of strength and weakness are identified and fed into the recruitment process.

During the reporting period, the Annual General Meeting took place on 17th October 2024.

The Trust's governing documents state that Trustees who have completed one three-year term of office have to stand down, but are eligible for re-election to a second three-year term:

- Dr Scott McKenzie stood down
- Christopher Tomson stood down
- 2 new trustees were elected: Antony Davies and Thomas Hocking

After the AGM, at the first meeting of the new Board, Trustees are elected to specific roles and responsibilities. In the reporting period these were as follows: Ben Stone (Chair), Helen Francis (Vice Chair), and Dominic Tydeman-White (Treasurer).

Trustee Induction & Training

Trustees are offered a 1:1 meeting with the Chair as well as the CEO when they begin their first term with the Trust. They are also provided with a Governance Handbook (covering key procedures and job roles) and a Trustee Information Pack (including many of the Trust's critical governance documents, e.g. Memorandum & Articles of Association, Becoming a Trustee (Charity Commission publication), Audited Accounts, Strategic Outcomes, Annual Business Plan, Organisational Risk Plan, Adopted Budget, Policy schedule etc.). New Trustees are also invited to an informal Exec Team lunch.

Trustees are encouraged to participate in the activity of the Trust's Outcome and Working Groups, which are run by staff and volunteers, and deal with the development of strategic work, policy and practice, coordination of activity, dissemination of good practice and sharing of expertise across the Trust.

During the summer, a site visit is offered to the Board which involves visiting a Nature Reserve or project with the CEO and members of the Exec team to look at and discuss a more specific aspect of the organisation's work away from the formal setting of a Board meeting. In the autumn, a Strategic Development session is held, again as a more informal opportunity for the Board to share ideas and proposals for the strategic direction of the Trust with the Exec Team.

Trustees regularly complete a skills audit and are encouraged to attend occasional training sessions e.g. free charity governance sessions with local legal firms, financial management within the Trust as well as visit the Trust's website (www.wildsheffield.com), the national website of The Wildlife Trusts (www.wildlifetrusts.org) and the Charity Commission's website (www.charity-commission.gov.uk) to find out about the role and responsibilities associated with being a charity Trustee.

Risk Management

The Board of Trustees has conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. The Trust's Organisational Risk Plan has been established to address the most significant and urgent aspects of the organisation's risk profile, and this was reviewed at least quarterly throughout the year. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the charity faces. The Trust's normal performance management processes are used to manage the identified risks, along with the rest of the Trust's activities, and progress reports to Trustees (every 3 months) highlight areas of significant risk and the ways in which they are being managed. Procedures are in place to ensure the health & safety of staff, volunteers, clients and visitors to the Trust's sites and premises, and of those participating in (or affected by) any of the Trust's activities, and to ensure compliance with health and safety legislation. Health & Safety issues are included in

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progress reports to Trustees (made every 3 months). All the Trust's adopted procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charity.

Organisational Structure

Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust has a Board of Trustees of up to 13 members (the Officers of the Trust – Chair, Vice chair, & Treasurer – plus up to 10 other elected members), who meet quarterly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. At present the Board has 13 members from a variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the charity (engagement, ecology, communications, finance, law, sustainability). Meetings of the Board are attended by the Trust's Chief Executive (and members of the Senior Management Team and other staff as and when appropriate), who present reports representing the professional views of the Trust's staff, with no voting rights. The Chief Executive acts as Company Secretary.

A scheme of delegation is in place and day to day responsibility for the running of the organisation (provision of the services, delivery of projects and programmes, management of staff and budgets, promotion, publicity and leadership of the organisation) rests with the Chief Executive, who further delegates operational matters within the framework of the Trust's 2030 strategic plan and annual plans (and their associated budgets) to her Senior Staff Team (Head of Finance & Support Services, Head of Community Engagement, Head of Fundraising and Communications, Head of Conservation & Land Management, Wildscapes Consultancy Business Development Manager). Overall, the Chief Executive is responsible for ensuring that the charity delivers the projects, programmes and services specified and that key performance indicators are met.

The Senior Staff above are each responsible for ensuring the delivery of the projects, programmes and functions within their individual departments, for developing new projects and programmes relating to the work of their departments, for ensuring the consistent application of policies and procedures within their teams and for working together to develop coherent Trust-wide plans, strategies and programmes of work. Heads of departments and Managers are also responsible for ensuring that members of their teams continue to develop their skills and working practices in line with good practice.

The Head of Finance & Support Services has overall responsibility for ensuring that the Trust's finances are appropriately (and legally) acquired, managed, invested, spent and accounted for, and works alongside the Chief Executive to develop the Trust's financial systems, policies and procedures, and to submit financial reports to the Board of Trustees.

Key Management Remuneration

The Trust considers the Board of Trustees and the Senior Management Team to be the key management personnel of the charity for the direction and control of the Trust on a day to day basis. All trustees give their time freely and no director received remuneration in the year. The pay of the senior staff is reviewed annually and increased in accordance with contractual terms. The remuneration of the CEO is the only role that falls above the £60,000 reporting threshold.

Related Parties

Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust is entirely independent (in terms of both decision-making and strategic direction, and also financially). It is one of 46 Wildlife Trusts that work cooperatively throughout the UK to carry out broadly similar activities, aimed at achieving very similar charitable objectives (the protection and enhancement of the natural environment for the benefit of both people and wildlife, and the increased knowledge and understanding of the natural world). In addition, Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust has other charitable objectives to these: to promote research into nature study and to promote access to open spaces and places of natural beauty etc. Each individual Trust has its own specific geographic area of coverage. Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust operates primarily within the area of the Sheffield local authority boundary and the Rotherham local authority boundary up to the M1 and M18 corridors. This ensures the Trust works to its strengths in terms of local delivery whilst also providing clarity with neighbouring Trusts,

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Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire. An Agreed Way of Working defines this operating area and was agreed with Yorkshire Wildlife Trust in 2013.

The Trust works collaboratively on a number of projects with individual Trusts as well as taking forward joint agendas on issues of mutual concern at a national level. Trusts also share knowledge, expertise, skills and experiences across the movement, to mutual benefit. Between them, the Wildlife Trusts are the sole members of the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT), which is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. RSWT helps to co-ordinate the Trusts at UK and English levels, supports and develops the networking and communication functions of the partnership and assists in the delivery of a wide range of functions that are better done collectively (and centrally) than by individual Trusts or small ad hoc groups of Trusts working together. Each of the individual Trusts makes a financial contribution to RSWT each year, to cover the costs of delivering each of the Trusts' necessary UK and English functions. Assisted by RSWT, the Trusts develop, deliver and constantly review a Corporate Strategy for the movement, which leads year on year to an increasingly integrated and effective operation across the Wildlife Trust movement.

Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust is the sole owner of its trading subsidiary, Wildscapes Community Interest Company (CIC). This company was set up in August 2006 and began trading on 1 April 2007.

Responsibilities of the Trustees in relation to the financial statements

The trustees (who are also directors of Sheffield Wildlife Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to auditors

Each of the directors has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditors are aware of such information.

Auditors

In the interest of independence and value for money, it is Trust policy to review the provision of audit services at least every five years. A competitive tender process was carried out in the year 2022-23 leading to the appointment of new auditors. In accordance with section 485 of the

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Companies Act 2006, a resolution concerning the appointment of auditors of the company was put to the Annual General Meeting.

This report was approved by the Board on 23 October 2025 and signed on its behalf by

Ben Stone
Chair of Trustees

AUDITOR'S OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of Sheffield Wildlife Trust (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31st March 2025 which comprise the Consolidated and Parent Statement of Financial Activities and Income and Expenditure Accounts, the Consolidated and Parent Balance Sheets, the Consolidated and Parent Cash Flow Statements and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 st March 2025, and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

BASIS FOR OPINION

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

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

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

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

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

OTHER INFORMATION

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF SHEFFIELD WILDLIFE TRUST

inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

OPINIONS ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

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

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

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 18, the trustees (who are also the directors of the parent charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We have been appointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with those Acts.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF SHEFFIELD WILDLIFE TRUST

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

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

Based on our understanding of the charity and the environment in which it operates we identified the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to health and safety, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements being the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, Charity SORP, payroll tax and VAT.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements, including the risk of overriding internal controls, and determined that the principal risks related to the incorrect classification and recognition of income and posting inappropriate journal entries. Audit procedures performed included the following:

- Discussion with management regarding their knowledge or suspicion of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- Evaluating management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;
- Reviewing agreements, contracts and correspondence from funders for significant receipts;
- Identifying and testing journals, in particular those for large amounts, unusual descriptions or those for year-end adjustments;
- Reviewing the minutes of trustee' meetings.

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

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the group's or the parent charitable company's financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the group's internal control.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF SHEFFIELD WILDLIFE TRUST

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the group's or parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the group or parent charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation (i.e. gives a true and fair view).
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members and its trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



C J Woodhead (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of C J Woodhead & Co Limited
158 Hemper Lane
Greenhill
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S8 7FE
Dated: 8 October 2025

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES AND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies (inc. membership)	1	293,684	85,074	-	378,758	418,813
Charitable activities						
Grants	2	1,500	1,656,471	-	1,657,971	2,672,326
Contracts	2	1,366,301	156,993	-	1,523,294	1,344,246
Other trading activities	3	22,268	6,712	-	28,980	89,483
Investments	4	15,970	-	25,398	41,368	31,612
Other income - enforcement payment		-	-	-	-	266,667
Total income		1,699,723	1,905,250	25,398	3,630,371	4,823,147
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	5	127,715			127,715	110,630
Charitable activities	6	1,709,621	1,821,997		3,531,618	3,784,270
Total expenditure		1,837,336	1,821,997	-	3,659,333	3,894,900
Net gains/(losses) on investments	13	-	-	(11,770)	(11,770)	40,402
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		(137,613)	83,253	13,628	(40,732)	968,649
Transfers between funds	17	114,328	(99,727)	(14,601)	-	-
Actuarial gain/(loss) on Wildlife Trust pension		(71,784)	-	-	(71,784)	-
Net movement in funds		(95,069)	(16,474)	(973)	(112,516)	968,649
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		2,453,608	1,777,049	727,156	4,957,813	3,989,164
Total funds carried forward		2,358,539	1,760,575	726,183	4,845,297	4,957,813

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

PARENT STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES AND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies (inc. membership)		370,116	85,074	-	455,190	456,328
Charitable activities						
Grants		1,500	1,656,471	-	1,657,971	2,672,326
Contracts		1,231,215	156,993	-	1,388,208	1,243,285
Other trading activities		22,268	6,712	-	28,980	89,483
Investments		15,970	-	25,398	41,368	31,612
Other income - enforcement payment		-	-	-	-	266,667
Total income		1,641,069	1,905,250	25,398	3,571,717	4,759,701
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds		127,715			127,715	110,630
Charitable activities		1,683,706	1,821,997		3,505,703	3,759,586
Total expenditure		1,811,421	1,821,997	-	3,633,418	3,870,216
Net gains/(losses) on investments	13	-	-	(11,770)	(11,770)	40,402
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		(170,352)	83,253	13,628	(73,471)	929,887
Transfers between funds	17	114,328	(99,727)	(14,601)	-	-
Actuarial gain/(loss) on Wildlife Trust pension		(71,784)	-	-	(71,784)	-
Net movement in funds		(127,808)	(16,474)	(973)	(145,255)	929,887
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		2,336,318	1,777,049	727,156	4,840,523	3,910,636
Total funds carried forward		2,208,510	1,760,575	726,183	4,695,268	4,840,523

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

			As at 31 March 2025		As at 31 March 2024
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		304,773		311,572
Heritage assets	12		2,167,008		2,167,008
Investments	13		636,213		647,983
			<u>3,107,994</u>		<u>3,126,563</u>
Current assets					
Inventory					
Debtors	14	761,584		1,292,282	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,411,366		1,023,998	
		<u>2,172,950</u>		<u>2,316,280</u>	
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	363,863		485,030	
Net current assets			1,809,087		1,831,250
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>4,917,081</u>		<u>4,957,813</u>
Creditors					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	16		-		-
Wildlife Trusts pension provision			(71,784)		-
Net assets			<u>4,845,297</u>		<u>4,957,813</u>
Represented by funds					
General	17,18		569,643		418,864
Designated	17,18		1,788,896		2,034,744
			<u>2,358,539</u>		<u>2,453,608</u>
Restricted	17,18		1,760,575		1,777,049
Endowment	17,18		726,183		727,156
			<u>4,845,297</u>		<u>4,957,813</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the board on 23 October 2025 and signed on its behalf by

Ben Stone, Chair of Trustees
Company registration number 2287928

PARENT BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

			As at 31 March 2025		As at 31 March 2024
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		304,773		311,572
Heritage assets	12		2,167,008		2,167,008
Investments	13		636,213		647,983
			<u>3,107,994</u>		<u>3,126,563</u>
Current assets					
Inventory					
Debtors	14	997,245		1,805,931	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,230,549		600,278	
		<u>2,227,794</u>		<u>2,406,209</u>	
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	568,736		692,249	
Net current assets			1,659,058		1,713,960
Total assets less current liabilities					
			<u>4,767,052</u>		<u>4,840,523</u>
Creditors					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	16		-		-
Wildlife Trusts pension provision			(71,784)		-
Net assets			<u>4,695,268</u>		<u>4,840,523</u>
Represented by funds					
General	17,18		419,614		301,574
Designated	17,18		1,788,896		2,034,744
			<u>2,208,510</u>		<u>2,336,318</u>
Restricted	17,18		1,760,575		1,777,049
Endowment	17,18		726,183		727,156
			<u>4,695,268</u>		<u>4,840,523</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the board on 23 October 2025 and signed on its behalf by

Ben Stone, Chair of Trustees
Company registration number 2287928

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	2025	2024
	£	£
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS		
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	368,450	789,987
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Dividends and interest	41,368	31,612
Purchase of fixed assets	(22,450)	(175,180)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets		300
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	18,918	(143,268)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Repayment of finance lease	-	(940,000)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	-	(940,000)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	387,368	(293,281)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	1,023,998	1,317,279
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	1,411,366	1,023,998
Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities		
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	(40,732)	968,649
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	29,249	27,401
(Gains)/losses on investments	11,770	(40,402)
Dividends and interest	(41,368)	(31,612)
(Increase)/decrease in inventory	-	-
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	530,698	(365,407)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(121,167)	231,358
Pension contributions	-	-
Donation of heritage asset	-	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	368,450	789,987

PARENT CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	2025	2024
	£	£
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS		
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	611,353	503,483
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Dividends and interest	41,368	31,612
Purchase of fixed assets	(22,450)	(175,180)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets		300
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	18,918	(143,568)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Repayment of finance lease	-	(940,000)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	-	(940,000)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	630,271	(580,085)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	600,278	1,180,063
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	1,230,549	599,978
Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities		
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	(73,471)	929,887
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	29,249	27,401
(Gains)/losses on investments	11,770	(40,402)
Dividends and interest	(41,368)	(31,612)
(Increase)/decrease in inventory	-	-
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	808,686	(616,839)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(123,513)	235,048
Pension contributions	-	-
Donation of heritage asset	-	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	611,353	503,483

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in compliance with:

- FRS 102 (The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland).
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102).
- The Companies Act 2006.

The Trust is considered a Public Benefit Entity.

Going Concern

The Trustees have prepared forecasts and budgets covering a period of at least 12 months from the approval date of these accounts. This assessment has considered the Trust's free reserves (£544,746), the current economic climate, and the committed cash flow for the defined benefit pension scheme liability repayment. Based on this, the Trustees confirm that no material uncertainties exist regarding the Trust's ability to continue operating for the foreseeable future.

Group Financial Statements

These financial statements consolidate the results of the Trust and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Wildscapes Community Interest Company, on a line-by-line basis.

Income Recognition

Income is recognised when the charity has a right to the funds, all performance conditions are met, and the income is probable and measurable.

- Grants: Recognised immediately when entitlement and performance conditions are met; not deferred.
- Legacies: Recognised when the Trust is notified of an executor's intention to distribute funds and the amount is measurable.

Volunteer Help

The value of the extensive support received from volunteers is not recognised (capitalised) in these financial statements due to the impracticality of reliable measurement.

Fund Structure

Funds are categorised as follows:

- Unrestricted Funds: Used for the general charitable objects at the Trustees' discretion.
- Designated Funds: Unrestricted funds internally earmarked by Trustees for specific projects or representing the value of the charity's own capital assets.
- Restricted Funds: Must be spent on particular purposes specified by the donor.
- Endowment Funds: Expendable funds restricted for the upkeep of the Centenary Riverside Nature Reserve project.

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis, inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

- Charitable Activities: Costs directly related to fulfilling the Trust's objects.
- Governance Costs: Expenditure related to the day-to-day running of the charity.
- Support Costs: Allocated to activities based on the percentage of their total cost.

Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Assets are stated at cost less depreciation (except for Heritage Assets). Depreciation is calculated over the expected useful lives of the assets.

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

<u>Asset Type</u>	<u>Rate and Method</u>
Freehold Building	4% Straight Line
Shipping Containers	10% Reducing Balance
Motor Vehicles	25% Reducing Balance
Office/Other Equipment	25% Reducing Balance

Heritage Assets

Woodland owned and maintained for conservation and educational purposes is treated as a Heritage Asset. These assets are not depreciated and are recognised on the Balance Sheet at cost (or fair value if donated). Maintenance costs are expensed as incurred.

Fixed Asset Investments and Leases

- Investments: Listed investments are stated at market value.
- Leases: All leases are treated as operating leases, with annual rentals charged to the Statement of Financial Activities.

Pensions

The Trust is one of 16 participating Employers in the Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"), a UK registered trust based pension scheme that provides defined benefits. Pension benefits are linked to the members' final pensionable salaries and service at their retirement (or date of leaving, if earlier). The Trustee of the Scheme is responsible for running the Scheme in accordance with the Scheme's Trust Deed and Rules, which sets out their powers. The Trustee of the Scheme is required to act in the best interests of the beneficiaries of the Scheme.

The Trustee is required to carry out an actuarial valuation every 3 years. The Trust's liabilities have been calculated based on the last actuarial valuation of the Scheme, performed by the Scheme Actuary as at 1 April 2024. The results of the calculations and the assumptions adopted are shown below. The Employers have agreed a funding plan with the Trustees, whereby contributions are made into the Scheme in order to remove the funding deficit based on each Employer's share of the total Scheme liabilities.

In addition, the charity makes employer contributions to an auto-enrolment pension scheme in favour of certain other members of staff. The pension charge in the Statement of Financial Activities is the amount of contributions payable by the charity.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered

Creditors

Creditors are recognised when the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. These are initially recognised at transaction value and are subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Legal status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, and has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Consolidated income from donations and legacies					
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Membership	185,252	-	-	185,252	180,676
Gifts	88,432	85,074	-	173,506	217,913
Legacies	-	-	-	-	224
Core grant (SCC Parks, Woodlands & Countryside)	20,000	-	-	20,000	20,000
Other	-	-	-	-	-
	293,684	85,074	-	378,758	418,813
Income from donations and legacies for the year was £378,758 (2024: £418,813) of which £293,684 was unrestricted (2024: £295,972) and £85,074 was restricted (2024: £122,841).					

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. Consolidated income from charitable activities					
Grants	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Banister Charitable Trust	-	-	-	-	90,000
Biffa	-	35,775	-	35,775	-
Big Lottery Reaching Communities Fund - URN RC/5/010447906 (Wild at Heart)	-	128,271	-	128,271	93,813
Ecological Restoration Fund	-	-	-	-	100,000
E.On	-	-	-	-	12,000
Environment Agency	-	47,898	-	47,898	28,645
FCC Communities Foundation	-	38,350	-	38,350	-
Heritage Fund	-	509,485	-	509,485	571,174
Landfill Communities Fund	-	28,534	-	28,534	930,743
National Forest Company	-	146,360	-	146,360	-
NHS South Yorkshire	-	67,712	-	67,712	-
People's Postcode Lottery	-	-	-	-	26,000
Primary Care Sheffield	-	23,238	-	23,238	-
Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts	-	195,993	-	195,993	382,297
Rural Payments Agency	-	68,102	-	68,102	79,231
Sheffield City Council	-	115,944	-	115,944	-
South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority	-	43,000	-	43,000	120,000
Woodland Trust	-	112,019	-	112,019	25,092
Yorkshire Water	-	20,000	-	20,000	-
Other	1,500	75,790	-	77,290	213,331
	1,500	1,656,471	-	1,657,971	2,672,326
Grant income for the year was £1,657,971 (2024: £2,672,326) of which £1,500 was unrestricted (2024: £3,000) and £1,656,471 restricted (2024: £2,669,326)					

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Contracts	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Environment Agency	-	96,993	-	96,993	179,705
Yorkshire Water	-	-	-	-	-
Other contract income (inc Wildscapes CIC)	1,366,301	60,000	-	1,426,301	1,164,541
	1,366,301	156,993	-	1,523,294	1,344,246

Contract income for the year was £1,523,294 (2024: £1,344,246) of which £1,366,301 was unrestricted (2024: £1,061,270) and £156,993 restricted (2024: £282,976)

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
3. Consolidated income from other trading activities					
Timber sales	-	-	-	-	80,636
Grazing	-	4,366	-	4,366	7,696
Other	22,268	2,346	-	24,614	1,151
	22,268	6,712	-	28,980	89,483

Income from other trading activities in the year was £28,980 (2024: £89,483) of which £22,268 was unrestricted (2024: £80,636) and £6,712 restricted (2024: £8,847).

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
4. Consolidated investment income					
Interest receivable	15,970	-	-	15,970	7,129
Dividends receivable	-	-	25,398	25,398	24,483
	15,970	-	25,398	41,368	31,612

Investment income in the year was £41,368 (2024: £31,612) of which £nil was restricted (2024: £7,129) and £25,398 endowment (2024: £24,483).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
5. Consolidated expenditure on raising funds	£			£
Staff costs	76,068	-	76,068	65,598
Membership publication costs	21,995	-	21,995	20,746
Direct debit fees	9,388	-	9,388	8,515
Other	20,264	-	20,264	15,771
	127,715	-	127,715	110,630
Consolidated expenditure on raising funds in the year was £127,715 (2024: £110,630) all of which was unrestricted (2024: £110,630).				

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
6. Consolidated expenditure on charitable activities	£	£	£	£	£
Biodiversity and Land Management	1,642,849	1,484,132	-	3,126,981	3,299,123
Community Education and Learning	66,772	337,865	-	404,637	485,147
	1,709,621	1,821,997	-	3,531,618	3,784,270
Consolidated expenditure on charitable activities in the year was £3,531,618 (2024: £3,784,270) of which £1,709,621 was unrestricted (2024: £1,654,012) and £1,821,997 was restricted (2024: £2,130,258).					

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
7. Consolidated support costs (including governance costs)	£	£
Staff costs	256,460	296,113
Depreciation and loss on disposal (see note 11)	29,249	27,401
Governance (see note 8)	77,451	83,916
Information Technology	17,902	31,618
Insurance & affiliation fees	47,758	48,193
Light & heat	5,748	13,829
Office costs	7,722	9,853
Rent & rates	24,186	18,140
Repairs & maintenance	6,283	12,557
Telephone & fax	1,014	1,211
Training	5,665	18,442
Vehicle costs	4,713	6,398
Other	72,710	60,116
	556,861	627,787

	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
8. Consolidated governance costs	£	£
Strategic management costs	15,686	15,222
Audit charges	11,880	17,840
Final salary pension scheme fees	37,588	36,492
Statutory accounts preparation	12,199	14,002
Other	98	360
	77,451	83,916

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	2025	2024
9. Staff costs and numbers	£	£
Salaries and wages	1,737,320	1,688,878
Employers' national insurance	158,011	142,292
Redundancy	3,358	2,959
Pension contributions:		
Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme	37,588	36,492
Stakeholder Pension Schemes	144,302	142,606
1 employee had benefits in excess of £60,000 (2024: 1).		
The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Chief Executive and Senior Management Team. The total remuneration of the charity's key management personnel was £331,436 (2024: £300,270).		
The number of employees who received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 is as follows:		
	2025	2024
	No.	No.
£60,001-£70,000	1	1
The charity trustees neither received nor waived any remuneration during the year (2024: £nil). During the year no expenses (2024: £nil) were reimbursed to trustees.		
	2025	2024
9. Staff costs and numbers	No.	No.
Average staff head count	73	85

	2025	2024
10. Consolidated net income/(expenditure) for the year	£	£
The is stated after charging:		
Auditor's remuneration:	11,880	17,840
Depreciation (see note 11)	29,249	27,307
Loss on disposal	-	94

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Freehold building	Plant and equipment	Total
11. Tangible assets - group and parent	£	£	£
Cost:			
As at 1 April 2024	546,872	258,499	805,371
Additions	-	22,450	22,450
Disposals	-	(80,672)	(80,672)
As at 31 March 2025	546,872	200,277	747,149
Depreciation:			
As at 1 April 2024	314,699	179,100	493,799
Charge for the year	3,681	25,568	29,249
Eliminated on disposal	-	(80,672)	(80,672)
As at 31 March 2025	318,380	123,996	442,376
Net book value:			
As 31 March 2025	228,492	76,281	304,773
As 31 March 2024	232,173	79,399	311,572

12. Heritage assets - group and parent

Heritage assets include Greno Woods, Low Spring Wood and Springwood Lane, ancient woodland and land at Ughill Farm held to conserve the habitats of wildlife and the environment generally.

Viridor Credits and National Heritage Memorial Fund have legal charges over Greno Woods which will only be called upon if the land is sold or transferred.

Five year summary of heritage asset transactions:

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost brought forward	2,167,008	2,055,383	728,648	728,648	688,648
Additions in year	-	111,625	1,326,735	-	40,000
Cost carried forward	2,167,008	2,167,008	2,055,383	728,648	728,648

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Listed investments
13. Fixed asset investments - parent and group	£
Market value	
As at 1 April 2024	647,983
Additions at cost	-
As at 31 March 2025	647,983
Net decrease on revaluation as at 31 March 2025	(11,770)
As at 31 March 2025	636,213
As at 31 March 2024	647,983
<p>The above represents an investment held primarily for an investment return. The above investments held at market value had an original cost of £402,000.</p>	

	Group		Parent	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
14. Debtors	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	429,030	548,089	14,695	16,788
Amounts due by subsidiary company	-	-	649,996	1,044,950
Grants in arrears	327,998	700,986	327,998	700,986
Other debtors	4,556	43,207	4,556	43,207
	761,584	1,292,282	997,245	1,805,931

	Group		Parent	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
15. Creditors	£	£	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year				
Trade Creditors	149,594	102,758	149,594	102,758
Amounts due to subsidiary company	-	-	177,420	177,420
Taxation and social security	114,317	218,611	149,170	252,310
Accruals and deferred income	99,952	163,661	92,552	159,761
	363,863	485,030	568,736	692,249

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

16. Deferred income	£		
At 1 April 2024	-		
Released to income in the year	-		
Deferred in the year	35,350		
As at 31 March 2025	<u>35,350</u>		
Deferred income relates to contract income received in advance of the performance of the relevant activity.			

17. Analysis of charity funds - Group					
Unrestricted funds:					
	Balance at	Movement in	Movement in		Balance at
	1 April	resources	resources		31 March
	2024	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	2025
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	418,864	1,668,223	(1,782,899)	265,455	569,643
Designated funds	2,034,744	-	(94,721)	(151,127)	1,788,896
	<u>2,453,608</u>	<u>1,668,223</u>	<u>(1,877,620)</u>	<u>114,328</u>	<u>2,358,539</u>

	Balance at	Movement in	Movement in		Balance at
	1 April	resources	resources		31 March
	2023	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	947,511	1,440,878	(1,536,698)	(432,827)	418,864
Designated funds	902,292	-	(227,944)	1,360,396	2,034,744
	<u>1,849,803</u>	<u>1,440,878</u>	<u>(1,764,642)</u>	<u>927,569</u>	<u>2,453,608</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Restricted funds:					
	Balance at	Movement in	Movement in		Balance at
	1 April	resources	resources		31 March
	2024	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Support functions	92,149	113,904	(68,350)	(68,671)	69,032
Community Engagement	122,727	333,910	(337,865)	20,462	139,234
Biodiversity and Land Management	1,562,173	1,457,436	(1,415,782)	(51,518)	1,552,309
	1,777,049	1,905,250	(1,821,997)	(99,727)	1,760,575
Endowment fund	727,156	25,398	(11,770)	(14,601)	726,183

	Balance at	Movement in	Movement in		Balance at
	1 April	resources	resources		31 March
	2023	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Support functions	77,389	124,483	(73,831)	(35,892)	92,149
Community Engagement and Learning	190,243	291,835	(398,158)	38,807	122,727
Biodiversity and Land Management	1,174,458	2,941,468	(1,658,269)	(895,484)	1,562,173
	1,442,090	3,357,786	(2,130,258)	(892,569)	1,777,049
Endowment funds	697,271	64,885	-	(35,000)	727,156

17. Analysis of charity funds - Parent					
Unrestricted funds:					
	Balance at	Movement in	Movement in		Balance at
	1 April	resources	resources		31 March
	2024	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	2025
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	301,574	1,641,069	(1,788,484)	265,455	419,614
Designated funds	2,034,744	-	(94,721)	(151,127)	1,788,896
	2,336,318	1,641,069	(1,883,205)	114,328	2,208,510

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Balance at	Movement in	Movement in		Balance at
	1 April	resources	resources		31 March
	2023	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	868,983	1,377,432	(1,512,014)	(432,827)	301,574
Designated funds	902,292	-	(227,944)	1,360,396	2,034,744
	1,771,275	1,377,432	(1,739,958)	927,569	2,336,318

Restricted funds:					
	Balance at	Movement in	Movement in		Balance at
	1 April	resources	resources		31 March
	2024	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Support functions	92,149	113,904	(68,350)	(68,671)	69,032
Community Engagement	122,727	333,910	(337,865)	20,462	139,234
Biodiversity and Land Management	1,562,173	1,457,436	(1,415,782)	(51,518)	1,552,309
	1,777,049	1,905,250	(1,821,997)	(99,727)	1,760,575

Endowment funds	727,156	25,398	(11,770)	(14,601)	726,183
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Restricted funds:	Balance at	Movement in	Movement in		Balance at
	1 April	resources	resources		31 March
	2023	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Support functions	77,389	124,483	(73,831)	(35,892)	92,149
Community Engagement	190,243	291,835	(398,158)	38,807	122,727
Biodiversity and Land Management	1,174,458	2,941,468	(1,658,269)	(895,484)	1,562,173
	1,442,090	3,357,786	(2,130,258)	(892,569)	1,777,049
Endowment funds	697,271	64,885	-	(35,000)	727,156

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

18. Analysis of net assets between funds - Group					
	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	1,690,147	781,634	636,213	3,107,994
Net current assets	641,427	98,749	978,941	89,970	1,809,087
Less long term liabilities	(71,784)	-	-	-	(71,784)
Net assets	569,643	1,788,896	1,760,575	726,183	4,845,297
	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	1,692,702	785,878	647,983	3,126,563
Net current assets	418,864	342,042	991,171	79,173	1,831,250
Less long term liabilities	-	-	-	-	-
Net assets	418,864	2,034,744	1,777,049	727,156	4,957,813
18. Analysis of net assets between funds - Parent					
	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	1,690,147	781,634	636,213	3,107,994
Net current assets	491,398	98,749	978,941	89,970	1,659,058
Less long term liabilities	(71,784)	-	-	-	(71,784)
Net assets	419,614	1,788,896	1,760,575	726,183	4,695,268
	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	1,692,702	785,878	647,983	3,126,563
Net current assets	301,574	342,042	991,171	79,173	1,713,960
Less long term liabilities	-	-	-	-	-
Net assets	301,574	2,034,744	1,777,049	727,156	4,840,523

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**19. Leasing commitments****Operating leases**

At 31 March 2024, the charity had operating leases with total future minimum lease payments as follows:

	Group		Parent	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
Equipment	£	£	£	£
Amount falling due:				
Within one year	29,552	13,144	29,552	13,144
In the second to fifth years	8,655	7,754	8,655	7,754

At 31 March 2024, the charity had operating leases with total future minimum lease payments as follows:

	Group		Parent	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
Property	£	£	£	£
Amount falling due:				
Within one year	17,111	18,233	17,111	18,233
In the second to fifth years	17,711	18,233	17,711	18,233

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**20 . Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme (WTPS)****PENSION COST NOTE**

The Employer, the Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust, is one of the participating Employers in the Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"), a UK registered trust based pension scheme that provides defined benefits. Pension benefits are linked to the members' final pensionable salaries and service at their retirement (or date of leaving, if earlier). The Trustee of the Scheme is responsible for running the Scheme in accordance with the Scheme's Trust Deed and Rules, which sets out their powers. The Trustee of the Scheme is required to act in the best interests of the beneficiaries of the Scheme.

During the year ended 31 March 2022, the trustees of the charity were made aware of a potential issue relating to the defined benefit section of the Wildlife Trust Pension Scheme. A detailed investigation has now established that there is a financial liability to employers who participated in that section, and that Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust's share of the total liability is £141,696. It had been agreed with the Pension Trustee that this liability will be paid off over a six-year period.

There are two categories of pension scheme members:

- * Deferred members: former active members of the Scheme who are not yet in receipt of a pension.
- * Pensioner members: members who are currently in receipt of a pension.

FUTURE FUNDING OBLIGATION

The Trustee is required to carry out an actuarial valuation every 3 years.

The last actuarial valuation of the Scheme was performed by the Scheme Actuary for the Trustee as at 1 April 2024. This valuation revealed a funding shortfall of £4,519,000.

In respect of their share of the deficit in the Scheme as at 1 April 2024, the Employer has agreed to pay £24,897 pa from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2028 and £26,492 pa from 1 April 2028 to 31 March 2031. This amount includes an allowance for administration expenses and the Pension Protection Fund levy.

The Employer therefore expects to pay £24,897 to the Scheme during the accounting year beginning 1 April 2025.

ASSUMPTIONS

The results of the most recent formal actuarial valuation as at 1 April 2022 have been updated to 31 March 2025 by a qualified independent actuary. For the period of extra accrual the initial results of the 1 April 2024 actuarial valuation have been used as a start point. The assumptions used were as follows:

	Year ended 31 March 2025	Year ended 31 March 2024
Significant actuarial assumptions		
Discount rate	5.80% pa	4.85% pa
RPI inflation	3.30% pa	3.40% pa
CPI inflation	2.75% pa	2.75% pa
Other actuarial assumptions		
Revaluation of deferred pensions in excess of GMP	2.75% pa	2.75% pa
Pension increases:		
Pre 1 July 1996	5.00% pa	5.00% pa
Post 1 July 1996	3.15% pa	3.25% pa

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Mortality assumptions						
Mortality (pre-retirement)	In line with mortality after retirement			Nil		
Mortality (post retirement)	96% S3PMA / 95% S3PFA CMI 2022_M/F [1.25%] (yob), with A = 0.5%, S = 7.0, w2020 = 0%, w2021 = 0%, w2022 = 15% w2023 = 15%			96% S3PMA / 95% S3PFA CMI 2022_M/F [1.25%] (yob), with A = 0.5%, S = 7.0, w2020 = 0%, w2021 = 0%, w2022 = 25% w2023 = n/a		
Life expectancies (in years)						
	Males		Females	Males		Females
For an individual aged 65 in 2025	22.3		24.8	22.3		24.8
At age 65 for an individual aged 45 in 2025	23.6		26.2	23.6		26.2
RECONCILIATION OF SCHEME'S ASSETS AND DEFINED BENEFIT OBLIGATION (£)						
	Assets		Defined Benefit Obligation	Net position		
At 1 April 2024	619,840		(584,673)	35,167		
Benefits paid:						
Pensions	(21,064)		21,064			0
Transfers	0		0			0
Other	(7,004)		7,004			0
Employer contributions	37,589		0			37,589
Member contributions	0		0			0
Current service cost	0		0			0
Administration expenses	(21,525)		0			(21,525)
Past service cost	0		(141,696)			(141,696)
Settlements	0		0			0
Business combinations/bulk transfers	0		0			0
Interest income/cost	29,775		(27,684)			2,091
Remeasurement gains/(losses)						
Actuarial gains/(losses): Change of basis	0		58,885			58,885
Actuarial gains/(losses): Experience	0		7,171			7,171
Return on assets excluding interest income	(49,466)		0			(49,466)
At 31 March 2025	588,145		(659,929)	(71,784)		

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**ASSETS**

The fair value of the assets of the Scheme was:

Asset class	Year ended 31 March 2025 £	Year ended 31 March 2024 £
UK Equities	0	0
Overseas Equities	121,690	153,991
Diversified Credit Fund	63,203	0
UK Government Fixed Interest Bonds	0	70,035
UK Government Index Linked Bonds	0	54,646
UK Corporate Bonds	57,676	208,544
Alternatives	11,303	0
Cash	84,142	18,196
LDI	250,131	114,428
Total	588,145	619,840
The return on the assets was:		
Return		
Interest income	29,775	28,598
Return on assets less interest income	(49,466)	(13,549)
Total return on assets	(19,691)	15,049
RECONCILIATION TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION		
	Year ended 31 March 2025 £	Year ended 31 March 2024 £
Market value of assets	588,145	619,840
Present value of defined benefit obligation	659,929	584,673
Funded status	(71,784)	35,167
Irrecoverable surplus	0	0
Pension asset/(liability) recognised in the Statement of Financial Position before allowance for deferred tax	(71,784)	0

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AMOUNTS RECOGNISED		
Amounts recognised in profit and loss	Year ended 31 March 2025 £	Year ended 31 March 2024 £
Current service cost	0	0
Administration expenses	21,525	19,197
Past service cost	141,696	0
(Gain)/loss on settlements	0	0
(Gain)/loss on business combinations/bulk transfers	0	0
Net interest (ex irrecoverable surplus)	(2,091)	(1,875)
Interest on irrecoverable surplus	0	0
Amount charged/(credited) to P&L	161,130	17,322
Amounts recognised in Other Comprehensive Income	Year ended 31 March 2025 £	Year ended 31 March 2024 £
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit obligation	66,056	(1,986)
Actual return on assets less interest	(49,466)	(13,549)
Limit on recognition of assets less interest	0	0
Amount recognised in Other Comprehensive Income	16,590	(15,535)
PROJECTED AMOUNTS RECOGNISED IN P&L FOR YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2026		
Amounts recognised in profit and loss	Year ended 31 March 2026 £	
Current service cost	0	
Administration expenses*	22,235	
Past service cost	0	
(Gain)/loss on settlements	0	
(Gain)/loss on business combinations/bulk transfers	0	
Net interest (ex irrecoverable surplus)	4,087	
Interest on irrecoverable surplus	0	
Amount charged/(credited) to P&L	26,322	
* Administration expenses have been assumed to increase in line with RPI inflation. These figures may need to be revisited depending on actual cashflows over the year to 31 March 2026.		
SCHEME AMENDMENTS		
<u>I am not aware of any amendments, curtailments or settlements over the accounting period.</u>		

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**21. Related party**

The subsidiary, Wildscapes CIC, is 100% owned and consolidated into the group financial statements.

During the year, the charity incurred expenditure of £6,000 (2024: £0) for consultancy services provided by Growing Circles Limited, a company controlled by Kris Mackay, trustee. The consultancy involved Kris Mackay providing specialist expertise in community engagement to assist with a major funding application. The transaction was authorised by the Board of Trustees, excluding Kris Mackay, following a declared conflict of interest. There was no balance outstanding at 31st March 2025.

There were no other related party transactions requiring disclosure in either year.

22. Subsidiary undertaking

The company owns 100% of the share capital of Wildscapes Community Interest Company (company number 5911369). The subsidiary's principal activity is to create spaces and places where people and wildlife flourish together. The aggregate turnover of Wildscapes CIC amounted to £1,350,849 (2024: £1,004,535), with costs of £1,239,253 (2024: £928,103).

The assets of the subsidiary amounted to £661,505 (2024: £988,720) and liabilities were £511,476 (2024: £873,855).

During the year the subsidiary gift aided £76,432 to the charity (2024: £37,515).