



**Hampshire &
Isle of Wight**
Wildlife Trust

Hampshire and Isle of Wight
Wildlife Trust

Annual Report 2025/26

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by guarantee and registered in England No. 676313

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Foreword

For more than 65 years, we have protected the best places for wildlife in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, helped nature recover, and shown that positive change is possible. As pressures on the natural world continue to grow, so too does the movement determined to reverse them. Across our counties, more people, organisations and decision-makers are taking action for nature, helping turn local success into wider influence and lasting change.

That growing momentum is delivering real results on the ground. In Hampshire, record numbers of ground-nesting birds such as nightjar and woodlark were recorded on Trust-managed Ministry of Defence land, demonstrating what long-term habitat restoration at scale can achieve. At Swanpond Copse, dormice have returned for the first time since 2018, while in the River Hamble seagrass has begun to grow for the first time in almost a century. These are more than encouraging signs. They are clear evidence that sustained action can bring nature back.

These successes do not happen by chance. They are the result of long-term conservation, strong partnerships and growing public support. The same ingredients can be seen throughout this report: in councils and communities taking stronger action for nature; in initiatives such

as Watercress and Winterbournes restoring rivers and inspiring local stewardship; and in the Wilder Conference & Awards, which brought together the people, organisations and ideas needed to drive wider change.

They also remind us that nature’s recovery depends on more than individual projects. The natural systems that sustain our lives, from rivers and wetlands to woodlands and seagrass meadows, are every bit as important to our future prosperity as the built infrastructure on which we depend. Restoring and protecting them requires collective action and a shared commitment to change.

2025/26 provided an important opportunity to reflect and refine our focus as we refreshed our Wilder strategy to take us to 2030. We have seen that lasting nature recovery depends not only on restoring habitats and species, but also on influencing the systems that shape how our land, water and seas are managed. Our refreshed strategy therefore places greater emphasis on partnerships, communities and influencing decisions, helping create the conditions in which nature can recover and thrive for the long term.

That focus is increasingly important because the context around us is becoming more challenging. Nature is still too often framed as an obstacle to economic progress, when in reality it underpins our health, prosperity and resilience. Throughout the past year, we have challenged that false narrative, standing up for protections for irreplaceable

habitats while making the case that thriving natural systems are essential to thriving communities and economies. This has been particularly important as England’s devolution agenda continues to develop and decisions about the future of our places are made.

This report shows that nature’s recovery is possible. Across our counties, habitats are being restored, species are returning and more people are stepping forward to take action. But recovery is not yet happening at the scale or speed required. Meeting that challenge will require ambition, collaboration and determination from all of us.

To everyone who has supported our work over the past year, thank you. Together, we are helping create a future where both people and wildlife can thrive.



Debbie Tann

Debbie Tann MBE
Chief Executive

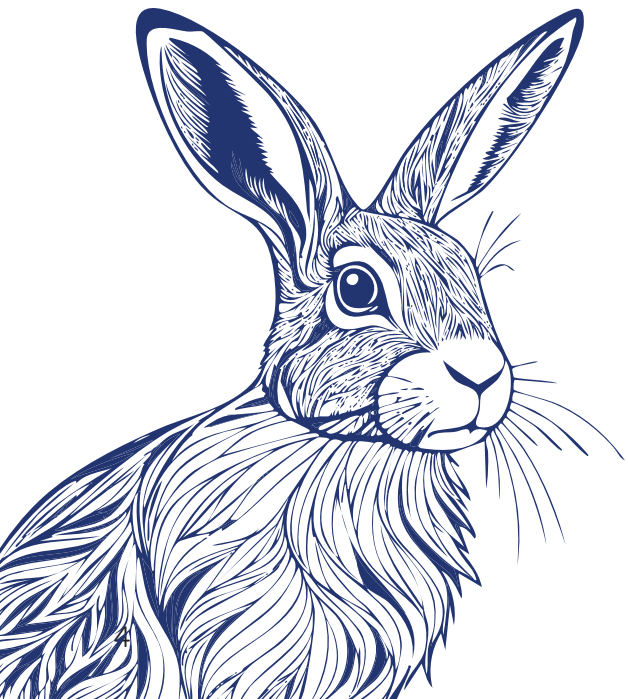
Prof Joy Carter

Prof Joy Carter CBE
Chair

: Our strategy

Our refreshed strategy has not fundamentally changed our vision for a wilder Hampshire and Isle of Wight where wildlife thrives, nature powers solutions, communities are connected, and both people and planet flourish.

What has changed is our understanding of how that vision will be achieved. Alongside delivering practical conservation on the ground, we will place greater emphasis on helping shape the conditions that enable nature's recovery at scale. This means working through partnerships, communities and influence to help ensure that decisions affecting land, water and sea deliver better outcomes for nature.



The five strategic priorities shown opposite provide the framework for all our work. Together, they recognise that nature's recovery depends not only on what happens on the ground, but also on the decisions, partnerships and people that shape our future.

A changing context

Despite the many successes we have seen through our work, we know that in the wider environment nature continues to decline. Alongside this, we are seeing climate impacts becoming more frequent and severe, and pressures on land and natural resources increasing.

At the same time, growing evidence shows that healthy natural systems are fundamental to resilient communities, a strong economy and a stable climate. Protecting and restoring individual sites remains essential, but nature's recovery must extend beyond reserve boundaries if it is to happen at the scale required. Success increasingly depends on the collective efforts of organisations, communities, businesses and decision-makers working towards shared goals.

Our refreshed strategy responds to that reality, strengthening our focus on collaboration, evidence and influence alongside practical conservation action.

A place-based approach

Nature's recovery begins with place. Every landscape and seascape across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight has its own distinctive

character, opportunities and challenges. From internationally important coastlines and seagrass meadows to chalk streams, ancient woodlands and urban green spaces, each place requires a tailored approach shaped by local needs and ambitions.

By organising our work through eight place-based programmes, we can bring together conservation, community engagement, partnership working and influence around the places where change needs to happen.

Our programmes: Wilder North Hampshire, Wilder New Forest, Wilder Wight, Wilder Chalk, Wilder Rivers & Wetlands, Wilder Seas, Wilder Coast and Wilder Towns & Cities will drive change and create momentum for nature's recovery across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

This approach recognises that nature does not operate within site boundaries. By working across entire landscapes and seascapes, we can connect habitats, support local action, build stronger partnerships and align effort around shared priorities. In doing so, we can deliver practical outcomes for wildlife while helping create healthier, more resilient communities and environments for everyone.





Key year-end statistics



4,926

hectares (12,172 acres) in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight managed by the Trust (2024/25: 4,917 hectares / 12,150 acres)



96%

of Trust SSSIs (Site of Special Scientific Interest) in favourable or recovering condition (2024/25: 96%)



108

Full Time Equivalent (FTE) contracted employees (2024/25: 107)



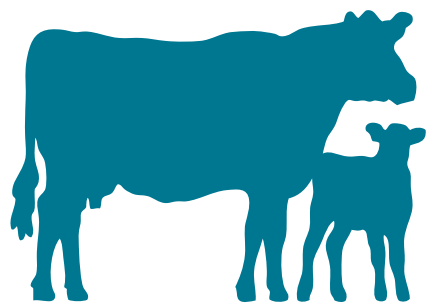
29,570

members and friends (2024/25: 29,103)



1

site acquired to support nature recovery – Court House Meadows (2024/25: six sites)



476

livestock animals owned by the Trust, enabling conservation grazing on the land we manage – 264 cattle, 194 sheep and 18 native ponies (2024/25: 267 cattle, 242 sheep and 12 native ponies)



52,866

social media followers across platforms including Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn (2024/25: 46,578)



1,550

volunteers (2024/25 1,407)

Nature in Recovery - Hampshire

Across Hampshire, we have continued to restore and reconnect some of the region's most important habitats – from heathland and chalk grassland to woodland, wetlands and urban sites – improving resilience to climate pressures while enabling more people to experience nature close to home.

Solent Coast

Protecting a coastal wetland

At Farlington Marshes, a year of significant challenge highlighted both the vulnerability and importance of this internationally important coastal wetland. Failures in key tidal infrastructure led to prolonged high water levels and damage to habitats including reedbed, but emergency temporary repairs helped begin to stabilise conditions while the Trust and Portsmouth City Council continued to press the Environment Agency for the long-term works needed to safeguard the reserve's future.

Test Valley

Safeguarding sand martins

At Testwood Lakes, practical conservation work helped secure a brighter future for one of the site's most remarkable spring arrivals. A new artificial nesting bank was created to



safeguard the only known breeding colony of sand martins in the Test Valley, giving these agile migratory birds a more secure place to nest and showing how targeted action can help wildlife flourish.

New Forest

Tree management and habitat restoration

At Roydon Woods, Scottish & Southern Electric (SSE) carried out planned tree management works to remove trees growing too close to power lines. By working closely with SSE, we ensured the work also supported our conservation goals, helping to restore open heathland habitat. Increasing light levels and creating more open areas will benefit heathland plants and wildlife, including ground-nesting birds such as nightjars and woodlarks, which rely on open, sparsely vegetated areas for breeding. Expanding and managing the open heathland will benefit plant communities and supply essential shelter and feeding areas for other species.

North Hampshire

Restoring rare heathland

At Hook Common, habitat restoration and road safety works helped bring back wooded heath, one of the UK's rarest habitats. By opening up around three hectares of dense birch and scrub, we restored the warm, sunlit glades and margins needed by heather, adders and ground-nesting birds such as tree pipit, helping recover the open, scattered structure that defines this threatened landscape.

New discoveries

At Pamber Forest, intensive moth recording by dedicated volunteers revealed the site's exceptional invertebrate interest, with at least 20 new species recorded and one early July session alone identifying 305 species. Among these were two moths never before found in Hampshire – *Gelechia scotinella* and *Haplotinea insectella* – highlighting the



Nightjar © David Tipling/2020VISION

importance of Pamber's ancient woodland, rides and bracken-covered glades for moths and other invertebrates.

Landscape-scale recovery

Work across Ministry of Defence land has continued to deliver habitat restoration at scale, improving and reconnecting extensive areas of heathland, grassland and woodland. These sites represent some of the region's largest continuous habitats and offer significant opportunities for long-term species recovery, with record numbers of ground-nesting birds such as nightjar and woodlark recorded on sites managed by the Trust.

Central Hampshire

Improved access

We replaced the ageing steps at St Catherine's Hill to improve access while protecting one of Winchester's most treasured wild places. The route has helped reduce erosion on fragile chalk grassland, discouraged off-path movement and safeguarded both the hillfort's archaeology and the wildlife-rich slopes that support butterflies including chalkhill blue, Adonis blue and silver-spotted skipper.

A new boardwalk improved access to Winnall Moors on the edge of Winchester while giving greater protection to the sensitive habitats beneath. By guiding visitors safely through meadows, reedbeds and wet woodland shaped by the River Itchen, it helped reduce wear on this important chalk stream landscape and maintain its role as a valued urban green space.

Hazel dormice highlights

19 hazel dormice surveys were carried out across seven sites. Based on peak count for a single visit for each site, the following data was recorded:



Site highlights included:

19 nests found at Deacon Hill Nature Reserve and six adults and seven juveniles found across four surveys.

50 nest boxes were installed at Eaglehead and Bloodstone Copses. After just six weeks, one nest box was found with one adult and five juveniles inside.

3 surveys were carried out at Noar Hill Nature Reserve with five nests and three adults recorded.

*Please note, dormice are a protected species. All monitoring has been done under license.



Nature in Recovery – Isle of Wight



On the Isle of Wight, a combination of landscape-scale restoration and targeted species work has continued to improve habitats whilst building resilience to flooding and climate change.

The Eastern Yar: a restored river system

Completion of the Eastern Yar River Restoration Project marked a major milestone in restoring one of the Isle of Wight's most important wetland landscapes. By reconnecting the river to its natural floodplain, creating swales and grips, and restoring habitats including wet grassland, fen and wet woodland, the project has strengthened the valley's resilience to flooding and climate change while creating richer conditions for wildlife. The floodplain can now hold an estimated 155 million litres of water (the equivalent of 62 Olympic-sized swimming pools), helping slow the flow downstream and bringing water back into parts of the landscape where it had not been able to move for decades.

Dormice return to Swanpond Copse

The return of hazel dormice after a seven-year absence offered one of the year's most hopeful signs of recovery. This rediscovery of one of the UK's most threatened woodland mammals followed years of targeted habitat management, including coppicing, thinning and ride management, helping create the dense understorey and connected woodland structure needed for this sensitive species to return.

Rare plant recovery at St Lawrence Field

Around 10,000 field cow-wheat plants were recorded, making it one of the reserve's strongest years in recent memory. As the only surviving native site for this rare wildflower, this tiny reserve offers a powerful reminder that careful, long-term management can help even the most fragile species to bounce back.

Looking ahead: species reintroduction

Progress towards a future beaver reintroduction gathered momentum this year. Following more than six years of planning, evidence gathering and engagement with local stakeholders, we ended the year ready to submit a licence application to Natural England in April 2026. The application seeks to establish a long-term, free-living beaver population in the Eastern Yar catchment, underpinned by robust management plans.



Rewilding highlights

The Trust's rewilding programme began over five years ago with the purchase of Wilder Little Duxmore on the Isle of Wight. The further acquisition of Wilder Nunwell in 2022 expanded this vision, creating more space for nature to recover.

Key results recorded across our rewilding projects so far:



Total bird count has almost trebled between 2021 and 2025 at Wilder Little Duxmore (2021: 430 birds recorded. 2025: 1,126 birds recorded).



Soil mineral nitrogen has decreased by 32.6% between 2021 and 2025 at Wilder Little Duxmore.



117% increase in the number of butterflies recorded per survey between 2022 and 2025 at Wilder Nunwell.



Total earthworm count increased by 66% at Wilder Nunwell between 2022 and 2024.



Nature in Recovery – Our local seas

Across the Solent, the Trust's marine work continues to demonstrate how collaboration, science and community engagement can drive recovery in one of the UK's most complex coastal environments.

Seagrass restoration at scale

During 2025, we recorded our most successful year yet for seagrass restoration in the Solent. More than 58,000 seagrass seeds were planted along the Hampshire and Isle of Wight coastline, helping expand rare underwater meadows at Calshot (Hampshire) and Seaview (Isle of Wight) and bringing back one of the UK's most threatened marine habitats.

This was matched by unprecedented volunteer efforts later in the year. More than 180 local volunteers contributed over

1,500 hours

across 42 field, laboratory and engagement sessions – more than trebling the previous year's effort. For the first time, intertidal planting also took place in the River Hamble, where seagrass had been lost since the 1920s. By winter, seagrass planted had taken root and begun producing flowers, marking the first confirmed growth in the river in almost a century.

Our restoration work would not be possible without our amazing volunteers. Thanks to support from FatFace Foundation, 15

volunteers have now trained to become Seagrass Survey Leaders, helping us to lead seagrass surveys for volunteers, increasing public engagement and data collection for our marine projects.

Planting spring 2026

- 94,400 *Zostera marina* seeds were planted at Seaview as part of the Solent Seagrass Restoration Project, supported by 35 volunteers.
- 100,700 *Zostera marina* seeds were planted at Calshot as part of the Solent Seascape Project, supported by 40 volunteers.

Solent Seascape Project: building long-term impact

As the project enters its fourth year, focus has shifted toward legacy-building skills,

knowledge and leadership within communities. Volunteers have been trained to monitor marine activity and collect data, while innovative tools such as iNaturalist are expanding citizen science capability.

Alongside this, intertidal surveys led by volunteers are strengthening understanding of coastal habitats, embedding long-term monitoring and local stewardship.

This work is helping ensure that recovery extends beyond individual projects, influencing behaviours and supporting long-term change.



Seagrass seed collection highlights

199,050

seagrass seeds were collected, sorted and safely stored ready for planting in spring 2026. **More than treble** the amount collected in 2024!



195,100 *Zostera marina* seeds collected at Seaview (Solent Seagrass Restoration Project site) and Calshot (Solent Seascape Project site).

3,950 intertidal *Zostera* seeds collected at Farlington. These will be planted on the Hamble in April 2026.



701.50 volunteer hours spent collecting seed. 626 hours collecting *Zostera marina* seed over 24 collections (15 at Seaview and 9 at Calshot). 75.5 hours spent collecting intertidal *Zostera* at Farlington.

∴ Nature as a Solution

Nature-based solutions are playing an increasingly important role in addressing environmental challenges while helping nature recover at scale.

Across land and sea, we are showing how working with natural systems can reduce flood risk, improve water quality, store carbon and create more space for wildlife.

Delivering nature-based solutions

The year saw continued progress in delivering nature-based solutions across the region. Arcadian Ecology also marked its 10th anniversary, a significant milestone that reflects a decade of supporting land managers and organisations with professional ecological services and practical, evidence-based solutions for nature recovery.

Projects across our estate continue to test and demonstrate a range of approaches. At sites such as Drews Farm and Stubbington Meadows, habitat bank work is exploring more diverse interventions including the development of traditional orchards alongside more established habitat restoration, helping to increase resilience and broaden the range of habitats being created.

On the Island, areas of land are being created at Wilder Little Duxmore to support rare or endangered species, including neutral grassland, mixed scrub, species-rich hedgerows with trees, and rare chalk grassland.

Developers contribute to this work by purchasing biodiversity credits, helping them meet environmental requirements which cannot be fully achieved within their own sites.

Species recovery

Partnership projects are also enabling species recovery alongside habitat restoration. Working with Bristol Zoological Society, Marwell Zoo and other partners, we are supporting the release of endangered white-clawed crayfish to Hampshire chalk streams. These conservation breeding and reintroduction efforts are helping to boost existing wild populations while also working towards creating biosecure 'ark sites' for future releases, providing a vital safeguard for this species.



Working at landscape scale

We are increasingly working with landowners and partners to deliver nature-based

solutions beyond our own landholding, helping to drive change at a wider scale.

Through our role as a Responsible Body, the Trust and Arcadian Ecology & Consulting are supporting the delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain and enabling the long-term protection of habitats through conservation covenants. This work is helping to ensure that environmental gains are secured for the future.

Rewilding and research

Alongside practical delivery, we continue to build the evidence base for nature-based solutions and the wider benefits they can bring.

Work with the University of Southampton is helping improve understanding of how different landscapes, including rewilding sites, support health and wellbeing. Research at sites such as Wilder Nunwell is exploring how people use and experience these environments, and which aspects of nature contribute most strongly to wellbeing.

Alongside this, citizen science activity, including fixed-point photography, continued to support monitoring and engagement, helping track environmental change over time while involving more people directly in nature's recovery.

Measuring impact

The impact of this work is increasingly visible, with early signs of recovery being recorded across restored habitats.

At sanctuary sites, for example Old Street in Stubbington, species such as the southern

marsh orchid are now returning, and provide a tangible indicator of progress, demonstrating how restoring and protecting habitats can quickly begin to support wildlife.

Climate resilience

We are also working to better understand and respond to the impacts of climate change on our operations, reserves and wider work. During the year, we produced a report based on the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts' Resilient Nature framework, assessing progress against 21 adaptation principles and highlighting both achievements and areas requiring further attention, including risks to buildings and infrastructure.

To take this work further, we are using a climate adaptation toolkit to understand how individual sites may be affected by future climate impacts and to identify practical adaptation actions that can help protect them.

Staff have also continued to record the impacts of recent extreme weather events, including drought, heat and storms, across the Trust's sites. As these risks increase, this monitoring is providing valuable insight into how reserves are changing and where resilience will need to be strengthened. Together, this work is helping us adapt our nature reserves, operations and decision-making to a changing climate.

This year, we have successfully completed the following Biodiversity Net Gain and habitat creation projects



300m of hedgerows planted at Wilder Little Duxmore.



315m of watercourse enhanced and **235m** of new watercourse created at Wilder Nunwell restoring natural processes and the functionality of the Monktonmead Brook and wetland.



4.5 hectares of previously arable land at Deacon Hill seeded with a brush-harvested wildflower seed mix perfect for chalk.



150m of watercourse enhanced at Keyhaven so water flows naturally down the historic channel.



12 oak and field maple field trees planted at Keyhaven.

People Taking Action – Campaigning and advocacy



Protecting nature at scale requires strong policy, effective planning safeguards, and growing public and political momentum. During 2025/26, the Trust worked to influence national reforms, defend protected sites, and build long-term support for nature recovery across Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and beyond.

Planning and Infrastructure Bill: defending protections for nature

We continued to campaign for stronger safeguards in the Planning and Infrastructure Bill. While Government amendments introduced some additional environmental safeguards during the year, we maintained that the Bill still risks weakening protections for nature.

In particular, we supported amendments to strengthen protection for chalk streams and to prevent Part 3 applying where it could harm wildlife, while continuing to warn against a “cash to trash” approach that would allow damage

to be offset through payments rather than avoided in the first place.

Nature-positive devolution: putting nature at the heart of decision-making

We are working to ensure nature recovery is embedded in England’s devolution agenda, including stronger environmental duties and alignment with Local Nature Recovery Strategies. We partnered with Arup to produce a report examining how devolution could help build a nature-positive economy across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, providing evidence to support more ambitious regional decision-making.

Working in collaboration with Jenny Riddell-Carpenter MP and other Wildlife Trusts involved in the Devolution Priority Programme, we also hosted a parliamentary reception titled ‘Powering nature-positive prosperity through the Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill’, helping build political



momentum for putting nature at the heart of future devolved powers and investment.

Tipner West: protecting internationally important habitats

Since 2019, we have worked alongside partners to oppose proposals to develop Tipner West, a site of international importance for wildlife which is protected for its coastal habitats and bird populations.

This year, that work secured a major outcome. The Government confirmed that the environmental harm of the development, including the loss of protected habitat and impacts on internationally important species, outweighed the benefits and rejected the proposals.

Following a brief period of uncertainty, that decision was reaffirmed, securing continued protection for the site.

This was a major win for nature and a clear demonstration that sustained advocacy can protect even the most threatened places. It also underlines the urgent need to maintain strong planning protections as wider reforms continue to evolve.

Rights of the River: growing legal and political momentum

Momentum continued for recognising the

legal rights of rivers, with Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council granting ‘personhood’ rights to local rivers, the first decision of its kind in the region.

This reflected a growing movement to recognise rivers as living systems, not just resources, with rights such as the right to flow, to be free from pollution, to support biodiversity and to be restored. By giving rivers stronger legal recognition, this approach helps communities and decision-makers defend them from pollution, over-abstraction and inappropriate development.

Further progress followed as additional councils, including East Hampshire District Council, committed to embedding river rights principles into policy and future decision-making. Together, these decisions have helped build legal and political momentum for stronger protection of Hampshire’s globally rare chalk streams.

Save Our Chalk Streams: mobilising public and political support

We mobilised public support for chalk stream protection, generating thousands of responses to national consultations and contributing to cross-party political pressure for stronger safeguards in planning reform.

Advocacy highlights



5,490 responses to the Save Our Chalk Streams e-action.



4 councils passed Rights of the River motions.



2 River Rights Forums delivered.



606 responses to the Nuclear Regulatory Review consultation.



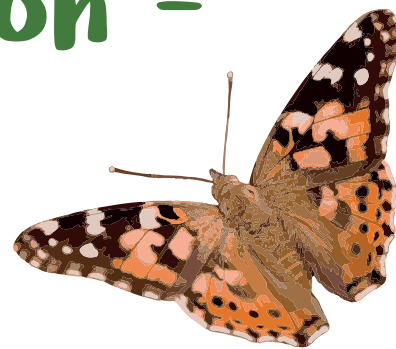
12 MP meetings, plus **5** follow-up meetings.



Engagement with **4** local plans and **6** planning applications.



People Taking Action - Communities and individuals



Nature's recovery depends on people, and this year has seen growing participation, leadership and action across communities.

Community action

Communities across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight continued to demonstrate the power of collective action for nature. Working alongside residents, schools, housing providers and local groups, we helped create and enhance more than 12,400 square metres of space for nature, supported over 200 people to develop ecological and community leadership skills, and empowered volunteers to champion wildlife in their neighbourhoods. From transforming shared green spaces in Mansbridge to supporting over 50 communities with practical advice and action, our community work is creating a lasting legacy of people taking action for nature where they live.

Inspiring the next generation of nature champions

Through Wilder Schools and our Education Centres, we supported teachers, schools and young people to build a lasting connection

with nature. At Swanwick Lakes, tailored support helped a local primary school embed outdoor learning into everyday teaching, giving staff the confidence to run a weekly outdoor club and make greater use of their grounds. Meanwhile, our innovative 'Save Our Chalk Stream' outdoor escape challenge engaged 776 pupils and 66 staff, helping shape new approaches to nature-based learning and action.

Save Our Salmon: coordinated action for the River Itchen

In response to severe declines in returning salmon, we worked with partners to launch a coordinated response for the River Itchen, addressing water quality, habitat, abstraction and migration barriers.

Recognising people making a difference

This year saw national recognition for our staff and supporters' achievements, reflecting the dedication of those who go above and beyond to support nature's recovery.

Chief Executive Debbie Tann MBE was named

in the ENDS Power List 2025, recognising the Trust's growing influence and leadership in shaping environmental policy and nature recovery at a national level. Her inclusion in the Campaigner category recognised her pioneering leadership of the Trust's nutrient neutrality work, helping to restore degraded land into thriving habitats that reduce pollution and support wildlife. It also highlighted her role in driving the Trust's ambitious Wilder 2030 strategy, which sets out a bold vision for nature's recovery across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Senior Nature-Based Solutions Officer Tom Hilder received the Rising Star Award at the inaugural Schöffel Country Countryside Awards, celebrating his contribution to large-scale habitat restoration and community leadership. Tom's work extends beyond site management, supporting local schools, engaging communities, and helping build long-term stewardship for nature.

Membership & Supporter Assistant Tracey Middleton completed a 50km 'Run to the Sea' ultramarathon, raising over £1,000 to support the Trust's work – a powerful example of personal commitment translating into real impact.

Together, these contributions reflect a growing movement for nature built not only on projects and programmes, but on the passion, commitment and leadership of the people driving change.

Wilder Conference & Awards

The Wilder Conference & Awards brought

together leaders, partners and local champions from across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, creating a shared moment to reflect on progress and set the direction for what comes next. It also marked the launch of our refreshed strategy, placing a sharper focus on how lasting change happens through partnerships, communities and influence, as well as through practical action on the ground.

Through discussions on changing the system and changing places, the event underlined a clear shift in focus: from delivering individual projects to shaping the wider systems, decisions and collaborations needed to drive nature recovery at scale. It reflected the growing momentum behind a more joined-up, place-based approach to change.

Sixteen awards celebrated the people and organisations helping make that change possible, recognising the leadership, creativity and commitment of individuals, schools, businesses and community groups taking action for nature in their own places and communities.



Watercress and Winterbournes: a lasting legacy for rivers

The National Lottery Heritage Fund-supported Watercress and Winterbournes project came to a close this year, marking a major milestone in long-term efforts to protect and restore some of our region's most important chalk streams.

Over five years, the project brought together communities, land managers and partners to improve river habitats, tackle water quality challenges and build a stronger connection between people and the rivers on their doorstep.

While the programme has ended, its legacy continues. The partnerships, knowledge and local leadership it has created are already supporting ongoing action across the Test and Itchen catchments.

Key highlights from the project:

 **5km+** chalk stream restored.

 **3km** of river opened for fish passage.

 **3,500+** children engaged.

 Community-led monitoring and citizen science established.

Marketing & Fundraising

The Trust has a dedicated and experienced in-house Marketing & Fundraising team. As our work evolves, these areas become increasingly important – not only for generating income, but for building a movement for nature, inspiring action and strengthening the partnerships needed to deliver change.

Our work would not be possible without our fantastic members and supporters, and the thousands of people who engage with our communications. Thank you.

Marketing & Communications: Growing reach, awareness and engagement

This year saw continued growth across communications channels. Social media audiences grew to more than 52,000 followers, newsletter subscribers reached 35,628, and the Trust's overall digital visibility rose sharply, helping more people encounter, understand and engage with nature recovery.

Across channels, compelling storytelling, campaigns and event-led content helped bring nature recovery vividly to life, showing both the scale of the challenge and the role people can play in addressing it. On site, new and improved signage helped visitors better understand the Trust's work, navigate reserves more confidently and feel more connected to wildlife and wild places. Our membership magazine Wild was also refreshed, with a more modern and engaging look, stronger people stories

and more striking photography that gave greater prominence to impact, action and community. Together, these changes strengthened connection with members, elevated the Trust's profile and helped broaden our appeal to new audiences.

Media and PR activity also saw increased coverage across press, web, TV and radio at both regional and national level. This included BBC Panorama featuring our nutrient neutrality work in the Solent, and BBC's The One Show highlighting our work with red squirrels on the Isle of Wight. National coverage also included The Guardian on beaver recovery, reflecting growing levels of interest in the future of species reintroduction and nature recovery.

Our fundraising approach

We raise funds through membership, individual donations, public appeals, gifts in Wills, corporate partnerships, community fundraising and applications to charitable trusts and grant-making organisations.

The Trust is registered with the Fundraising Regulator. We strictly adhere to charity law and follow the relevant codes of practice to ensure that our fundraising activities meet the highest possible standards. In the event of any breach of those standards, our complaints procedure is available on our website. We received no reportable fundraising complaints during 2025-26.

Our fundraising is carried out by skilled staff,

with support from our fundraising partners. The Trust's face-to-face fundraising is delivered by South West Wildlife Fundraising Limited (SWWFL), which concentrates wholly on increasing membership for its owning Trusts and client Trusts. We regularly monitor and review third-party agencies who conduct fundraising activities on our behalf to ensure they meet the high standards we require and expect of them.

Membership

Thanks to the generosity of our members, the Trust's membership income continues to provide a vital foundation for our work. Membership contributed crucial unrestricted funding for the Trust (£1.56m – a 4% year-on-year increase) and also demonstrated an enduring commitment from people who choose to stand with us and make nature recovery possible.

A particular highlight was a record result from our half-price campaign which recruited 238 new members – widening our reach and encouraging more people to take their first step in supporting nature.

SWWFL recruited 67% of the Trust's new members during the year, while digital channels provided 23%. The total number of members and supporters of the Trust grew by 467.

Fundraising

Our partners, supporters, members and friends contributed to a strong year across our fundraising and philanthropy income streams. This included an increase in the volume of significant donations from individuals who supported work including

land purchase, trainee positions, reserves management, and education and community activities.

One of the year's most significant moments came when more than 1,000 members and supporters helped secure a new sanctuary site for wildlife in the Meon Valley. This incredible response to an urgent appeal, together with generous support from local residents and South Downs National Park Authority, enabled us to complete the purchase of Court House Meadows.



Gifts in Wills

Gifts in Wills play a crucial role in funding the Trust's ongoing battle to preserve and protect our natural world. We are deeply grateful to those who have chosen to give in this way, with £464,077 gifted during 2025-26. We will ensure these funds have the greatest possible impact for nature.

Marketing & Fundraising highlights

Growing support



29,570 members and supporters (2025: 29,103).



238 new members recruited through half-price campaign.



35,628 supporters who are subscribed to our e-newsletters.

Fundraising for impact



£464,077 income from gifts in Wills.



£884,954 raised through appeals, donations and fundraising.

We are hugely grateful to all the members and supporters who generously donate to the Trust. A list recognising support across the year can be found on pages 82 and 83.



Effective and resilient organisation

We continue to strengthen our effectiveness and resilience to ensure we can deliver our work at scale and respond to a changing operating environment.

Staff wellbeing

Creating a supportive, flexible and engaging workplace remains a priority. We continue to support flexible working, enabling staff to balance their roles while maintaining high levels of engagement and performance.

In February 2026, we launched a new learning management system WildLearn, improving the delivery, monitoring and reporting of safety and compliance training. This marks an important step in developing a structured learning and development framework to support ongoing staff development.

During the year, progress has also been made in strengthening policies and support systems to safeguard staff. This includes the development and embedding of policies covering Sexual Harassment, Bullying and Harassment, and Domestic Abuse, alongside training such as conflict management.

Investment in organisational infrastructure has continued, with improvements to digital tools and the planned introduction of a new HR information system in 2026/27 to support more efficient and effective working.

Wellbeing is supported via a dedicated

wellbeing budget, equivalent to 1% of staff costs, which supports services such as Occupational Health and the Employee Assistance Programme.

Our volunteers

Volunteers continue to play a vital role in delivering the Trust's work and supporting our wider impact. During the year, 1,550 volunteers contributed 28,500 hours, supporting activity across reserves, communities and projects.

We continue to strengthen volunteer support through coordination, training and development, ensuring volunteers are well supported and able to contribute effectively.

Work is also under way to introduce a new volunteer management system, Assemble, which will enhance the volunteer experience by improving recruitment, onboarding, communication, engagement and recognition.

In addition, resource is being reallocated within the People team to better support volunteers, those who manage them, and to further develop a strategic approach to volunteering across the organisation.

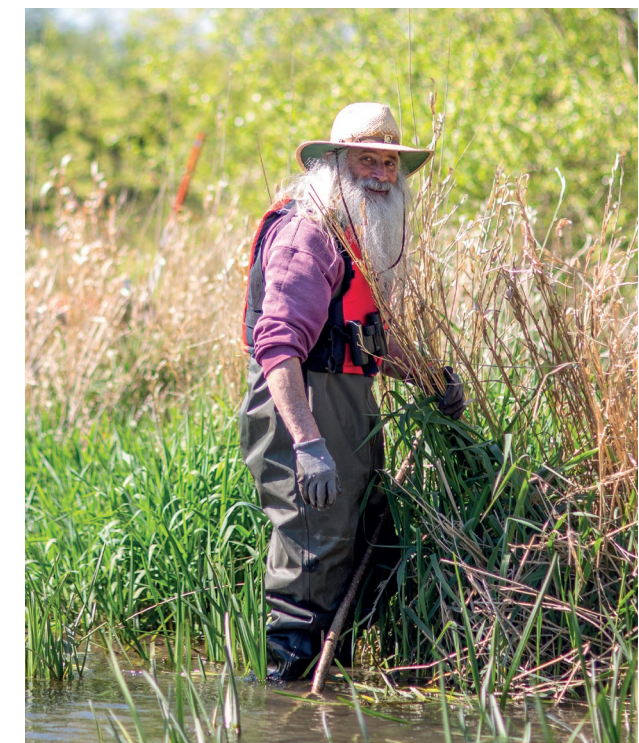
Equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI)

We are committed to becoming a more inclusive and representative organisation. Work continues to embed equality, diversity and inclusion across all areas, with a

focus on building a diverse workforce and volunteer community, creating an inclusive organisational culture, and improving access and participation.

During the year, we achieved Disability Confident employer status, alongside progressing changes to create a more inclusive working environment for people with disabilities. Work has also continued to strengthen policies and practices relating to protected characteristics.

An EDI working group supports this work, helping to drive progress, ensure accountability and embed inclusive practice across the organisation.





Business transformation

During the year, we continued to advance our business transformation programme, focusing on strengthening digital capability, improving efficiency, and supporting better decision-making.

Key progress has been made in embedding core systems and processes. The first full year of budgeting and reforecasting has been completed using the new financial system, providing ongoing robust financial oversight. Enhancements to core data systems and digital tools have also improved data quality, streamlined workflows, and strengthened engagement with supporters.

Investment in organisational infrastructure has supported a more capable and resilient workforce. New platforms for staff training and cyber security have been introduced, alongside improvements to system security, where the Trust is performing significantly above sector benchmarks. A new role was created during the reporting period to facilitate business transformation; and have an oversight of Facilities & IT, business systems, and governance, and support the Trust in working more effectively in delivering meaningful impact towards our Wilder 2030 strategy.

Work has also progressed to modernise operational processes, introducing tools to improve consistency and reduce manual effort across teams. In parallel, we have begun exploring the potential of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, to support future delivery.

Overall, these developments are strengthening our digital foundations and



enabling more efficient, insight-led delivery of its strategic objectives.

Environmental impact

We are committed to reducing our environmental impact and contributing to the transition to a low-carbon future, having set a target along with The Wildlife Trusts to have net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

To do this, we have developed a Net-Zero Pathway; marking out the steps that we need to take to reach this goal. This will involve reducing our direct consumption of fossil fuels to as close to zero as possible and ensuring plans are put in place for areas where this is harder to achieve.

Throughout this process, we have continued to reduce emissions from our direct operations, including energy use in our buildings and fuel used in Trust-owned vehicles. We have also worked to improve climate literacy amongst staff, rolling out training to build understanding of the issues we face so all staff have the same base level of understanding.

Climate resilience

We are also working to understand and respond to the impacts of climate change on our operations, reserves and wider work.

This includes:

- Assessing current and future climate risks
- Adapting management approaches to increase resilience
- Learning from on-the-ground experience across sites and projects

This work is helping to ensure the Trust can continue to operate effectively in a changing climate.



Managing strategic risks

Proactive risk management enables the Trust to anticipate and respond to challenges in our complex operating environment, supporting informed decision-making and the effective management of risk. Risk is managed by the Executive Team and overseen by Trustees, with a comprehensive register that is regularly reviewed and updated. Mitigation measures are in place to minimise impact and ensure organisational and financial sustainability.

Principal risks are those that could significantly affect our work, reputation or ability to achieve our ambitions without effective mitigation, and, given the long-term nature of our work, many remain consistent year on year. A summary of these principal risks and their mitigations is set out below.

Risk	Mitigating action
Environmental challenges	
The nature emergency, in particular wildlife declines and threats to habitats.	Our strategy has been updated to reflect the need to address the underlying systemic causes of the ongoing climate and nature crisis. We'll continue to deliver a clear and convincing explanation of the need to address both the nature and climate emergencies, and the Trust's role in delivering solutions.
Climate change	We are already seeing climate impacts on many of our reserves with increased risk of flooding, drought and fires impacting the Trust's ability to deliver works, as well as changes to species distribution and composition. We have continued to develop a climate resilience and adaptation plan to help us cope with the inevitable risks ahead.
Major disruption caused by environmental events (e.g. ash dieback, avian influenza, bovine TB, bluetongue, foot and mouth disease and other outbreaks) impacting habitats, species, livestock and the Trust's ability to manage sites.	We monitor environmental threats and work with partners to respond quickly to outbreaks. Regular site inspections, biosecurity measures and risk-based management reduce impacts, while resilient habitat management helps minimise vulnerability to disease.
Financial challenges	
Uncertainty in emerging nature finance markets (including biodiversity net gain and carbon markets), which are evolving and subject to regulatory and market change.	Nature-based solutions have been a vital income stream in recent years; however, we recognise increasing short-term uncertainty due to government policy changes and a more competitive market. We continue to take a cautious, evidence-led approach, strengthening our expertise, working with trusted partners, and maintaining strong governance and a diversified funding base to remain competitive and resilient.

Uncertainty in the wider economic environment, including cost-of-living pressures, rising energy and material costs, and changes in government, could result in increased costs and reduced income, impacting the Trust's ability to deliver its strategy and maintain long-term operations.	We regularly review and adapt our fundraising and income strategies to maintain diverse and flexible income streams, including nature-based solutions. Strong financial planning, forward budgeting and contingency allowances, alongside ongoing performance monitoring and targeted investment in priority income areas, help manage cost pressures and support long-term financial resilience and sustainability.
Political and societal challenges	
Government policy changes – Changes in government policy, including planning reform, devolution and local government reorganisation, and measures to accelerate economic growth, may weaken environmental protections or adversely impact the Trust's ability to influence outcomes and deliver its strategy.	We proactively monitor and respond to policy developments, including devolution and local government restructuring, engaging with decision-makers and partners to influence outcomes. Through advocacy, campaigning and evidence-led work, we seek to strengthen protections for nature while adapting our approach to remain effective in a changing policy environment.
Culture, polarisation and public engagement – Increasing societal polarisation, misinformation and disconnection from nature may reduce support for nature's recovery and contribute to anti-social behaviour on Trust nature reserves, impacting wildlife, staff and resources.	We work to build public understanding and connection with nature through engagement programmes, education and targeted communications, helping to counter misinformation and strengthen support for nature's recovery. Alongside this, we implement behaviour change approaches and on-site management to reduce anti-social behaviour, supported by clear visitor guidance and partnership working.
Reputational damage arising from increased scrutiny of our work, partnerships or public positions, from misuse of the Trust's brand, or from misuse of AI could impact public trust, partnerships and our ability to deliver our strategy.	We apply robust governance and due diligence processes when entering partnerships, ensuring alignment with our values and charitable objectives. Clear brand, and communications and AI guidelines support consistent and appropriate use of the Trust's identity, resources and tools, while proactive communications and stakeholder engagement help us manage issues and respond effectively to scrutiny.
Internal challenges	
Data security – Cyber attacks and other threats to data security could result in loss, breach or misuse of sensitive information, impacting operations, legal compliance and reputation.	We maintain robust data protection and cyber security processes, supported by ongoing delivery of our IT strategy with our provider, Aura. A focus on cyber security is a key priority, alongside the development of finance and CRM systems and a wider digital transformation programme, helping to strengthen system security, resilience and data management across the Trust.
Operational and regulatory compliance – Failure to comply with legal, regulatory or governance requirements could result in financial, operational or reputational impacts.	We maintain strong governance, risk management and compliance frameworks, with clear oversight by Trustees and committees. Regular review of policies, processes and risk registers, alongside defined accountability and reporting structures, helps ensure compliance and effective management of regulatory obligations.
Workforce capacity and resilience – Challenges in recruiting and retaining staff, capacity gaps, an ageing volunteer base and succession planning, alongside wellbeing pressures, may impact the Trust's ability to deliver its strategy.	We invest in recruitment, retention and succession planning to build a skilled and resilient workforce, supported by competitive employment practices and staff development. Ongoing focus on volunteer engagement and wellbeing, alongside organisational planning, helps ensure sufficient capacity and capability to deliver our work.

Managing operational risk



The Trust is committed to maintaining high standards of governance, ensuring that risks are identified, managed and mitigated effectively across all areas of work.

Safeguarding and child protection

Safeguarding remains a priority across the Trust's activities. Oversight is provided through a dedicated Safeguarding and Child Protection Committee, chaired at Trustee level and supported by the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), deputy and committee secretariat. The committee works closely with the Executive Team to ensure safeguarding is embedded throughout the organisation.

A comprehensive safeguarding policy, together with DBS checks, training and employment procedures, provides a strong framework to protect children and adults engaging with us.

During the year, we strengthened our focus on how safeguarding is delivered in practice. Members of the Safeguarding and Child Protection Committee attended events, activities and meetings across the organisation to better understand how procedures are applied on the ground. This has helped identify areas for improvement and ensure consistent good practice. A total of 11 safeguarding concerns were reported during the year. None required referral to statutory agencies, and all were managed appropriately and reported in a timely manner.

To support this further, a new reporting process has been introduced, enabling staff to log safeguarding concerns through the Trust's internal system alongside health and safety reporting. This provides clearer oversight, strengthens data security and makes reporting more accessible for staff.

Data protection

The Trust takes its responsibilities under data protection legislation seriously, ensuring that personal data is managed securely and appropriately. No reportable data breaches occurred during the year.

Data protection is overseen by a dedicated lead, supported by a deputy, secretariat and Trustee oversight. A staff-led Data Protection and Cyber Security Working Group meets quarterly to review policies, procedures and emerging risks, ensuring that our approach remains robust and up to date.

Health and safety

The Trust continues to prioritise the health, safety and wellbeing of staff, volunteers and visitors across all of its operations.

A Trustee-led audit, carried out between 2024 and early 2025, reviewed the Trust's health and safety culture and management systems. This included analysis of documentation, staff feedback and interviews. The findings were presented to the Executive Team and Council, with a programme of improvements identified and

progress implemented throughout 2025/26. Progress against these improvement areas continues to be monitored, with the aim of completing all actions by December 2026.



The introduction of the Trust's T100 reporting system during the year has made it easier for staff and volunteers to report health and safety incidents and concerns, strengthening the organisation's ability to identify and manage risk. During the year, 95 near-miss incidents were reported by staff and volunteers, a welcome increase on the previous year. While these incidents did not result in harm, an increase in positive health and safety culture means that recording every near miss gives us valuable opportunities to identify potential hazards, take preventative action and improve safety across the organisation.

During the year, no major accidents were recorded. Two accidents involving staff or volunteers required treatment at a GP surgery or hospital, while one

incident met the reporting criteria under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR). Following review, the Health and Safety Executive did not undertake further investigation. A further 48 accidents involving staff and volunteers resulted in minor injuries that were either treated on site or did not require first aid treatment.

All significant incidents are subject to internal review, with findings used to strengthen procedures, improve training and reduce future risk. This commitment to learning and continuous improvement helps ensure a safe and healthy environment for staff, volunteers and visitors.

Engagement with staff remains an important part of this approach. Quarterly Health and Safety Committee meetings provide a forum for representatives from across the organisation to raise concerns, share feedback and support continuous improvement.





: Looking ahead

2026/27 objectives

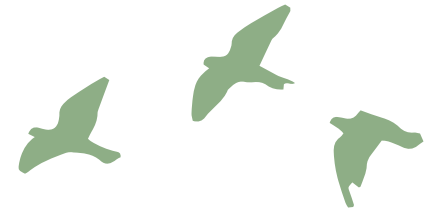
Thriving nature

- Expand nature's recovery across priority landscapes, seascapes and river catchments to restore nature at scale.
- Ensure our estate is managed to high ecological standards, demonstrating best practice in wildlife management and adapting to climate change, informed by strong monitoring and evidence.
- Support species recovery, including the return of keystone species.
- Apply rewilding approaches where appropriate across priority landscapes and partnerships.
- Deliver and expand marine habitat restoration, strengthening the protection and management of marine environments.
- Develop and deliver high-integrity nature-based solutions and ecological services, contributing to the financial sustainability of the estate and wider work of the Trust.

Powerful partnerships

- Lead and coordinate partnership working to deliver nature recovery at landscape and seascape scale.
- Lead and coordinate place-based programmes that bring the strategy to life, integrating action across conservation, communities and policy.
- Develop collaborative approaches to river catchment restoration, marine recovery and regenerative land management.
- Demonstrate the value of investing in nature recovery and increase income to support delivery of our ambitions.
- Work with landowners, businesses and public bodies to scale up nature recovery, building capacity and capability beyond the Trust.

During the year, we refreshed our strategy to ensure our work remains relevant, ambitious and responsive to the scale of the nature and climate emergency. The following priorities set out our focus for the year ahead, aligning our activities across five key areas to deliver meaningful and lasting change.



Connected communities

- Inspire people to connect with nature and take action, growing a movement that reflects and engages diverse communities.
- Expand volunteering, events and community-led action, and remove barriers to participation to improve access to nature-rich spaces.
- Embed nature within school life and education, creating meaningful roles for young people in nature recovery.
- Grow the Team Wilder movement and supporter network, deepening engagement and enabling sustained action, and strengthening the public voice for nature.
- Enhance engagement and interpretation across our sites to improve visitor experience and encourage positive behaviours.
- Provide training and skills to communities, organisations and businesses, and increase income for community programmes.

Nature-positive society

- Strengthen our role as a trusted voice for nature, using evidence, advocacy and communications to drive change.
- Mobilise public and political support and hold decision-makers to account, embedding nature recovery in policy and decision-making.
- Play a leading role in shaping and supporting delivery of Local Nature Recovery Strategies and influencing planning and policy frameworks.
- Champion nature-based solutions and demonstrate the economic and social value of nature, using evidence, insight and experience to influence policy and practice.
- Promote environmental justice and equitable access to nature and its benefits.

Future-ready team

- Develop a resilient, inclusive and high-performing organisation with the skills, systems and culture needed to deliver the strategy.
- Deliver the scale and diversity of funding required, embedding a strong culture of fundraising and philanthropy.
- Invest in staff and volunteers, supporting wellbeing, leadership and continuous development.
- Strengthen digital infrastructure, data and ways of working to improve effectiveness, collaboration and impact.
- Ensure strong governance, compliance and risk management to support effective decision-making and long-term sustainability.
- Decarbonise operations and lead by example on environmental sustainability.
- Grow our movement by inspiring more people to support the Trust as members, donors and volunteers, strengthening relationships and increasing long-term support and investment in nature recovery.



Financial Review

Our Financial Strategy

Despite an external landscape which remains challenging and a difficult year for some of our income streams, the Trust remains in a strong overall financial position thanks to robust financial reserves, prudent budgeting, disciplined financial management, and the success of our income generation strategy.

While we are confident in the Trust's financial health, we are also aware of the need for a sustainable operating model and continue to focus on long-term resilience. As with previous years, we will invest strategically in our two parallel income generating strategies: fundraising and nature-based solutions (NBS).

The overall outturn for the year is a surplus of £117k. There is an operating deficit of £129k, which includes an unrealised loss on investments of £121k and before the revaluation gains on fixed assets of £247k. Although it was another challenging year for NBS revenue, we expect this to increase again and it will be a key objective for our team to remain agile in responding to an evolving external environment and the green finance and nature market opportunities that could bring. The Trust also remains focused on growing our base of supporters – individuals, corporates, grant funders and charitable trusts and foundations – with fundraising central to achieving our charitable aims and the ambitious objectives laid out in the refreshed Wilder 2030 strategy.

Alongside growing our income, we closely manage expenditure in the face of rising costs, guided by strict budget controls and a strong value-for-money approach. At the same time, we recognise the importance of investing in the essentials that keep us running effectively and able to deliver the best outcomes for nature – which is why we are embarking on a wide-ranging business transformation plan to ensure the Trust is as efficient as possible moving towards 2030 and beyond. Underpinning our financial strategy is our financial reserves policy which can be found on page 39.



Financial summary: Income and expenditure

Income

The Trust faced a challenging year in terms of income – with a 5.9% reduction compared with the previous year. Total incoming resources for the year were £9.3m (2025: £9.9m). Income from donations, legacies and membership dropped to £2.9m (2025: £3.7m), largely due to a dip in legacy income and an unbudgeted major gift of £500k in the previous year, although membership continued to grow with a 4.2% increase in income from subscriptions to £1.56m (2025: £1.5m).

The Trust's Nitrate Mitigation Programme invoiced £716k (2025: £1.67m) from nitrate credit sales at our two rewilding sites on the Isle of Wight – Wilder Little Duxmore and Wilder Nunwell. While the external policy landscape contributed to a challenging year in terms of NBS income, the programme continued to support nature's recovery by mitigating and reducing the impact of planned housing development and through the ongoing nature recovery seen at the new nature reserves on formerly intensively managed agricultural land. We have an obligation to manage Wilder Little Duxmore and Wilder Nunwell for 125 years, so a proportion of income from credit sales is

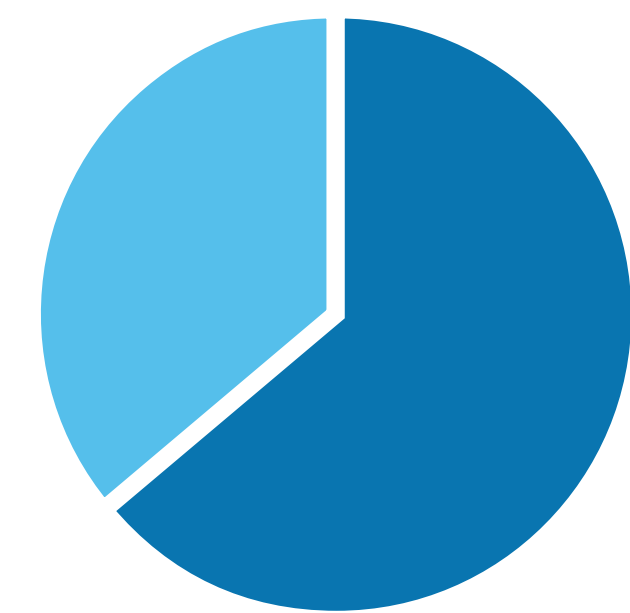
transferred into the long-term designated fund set up for this purpose. In 2025/26, we transferred £372k (2025: £721k) into this fund (shown in note 16).

Unrestricted income is critical for the Trust as it can be spent wherever the need is greatest, supporting all aspects of our work. Unrestricted income made up 64% of total income, amounting to just under £6m. This 15% decrease was largely due to reduced NBS sales and lower legacy income of £464k (2025: £878k). Unrestricted legacy income was £457k (2025: £592k). Although legacy income can be highly variable, it is a vital source of income which we expect to grow in future years. The Trust does not budget for legacy income, meaning that unrestricted legacy income received in the year is put into designated funds for spending in future years, as determined by Trustees.

Restricted income grew to £3.31m, making up 36% of total income. This is an increase of 17% on the previous year. Restricted funds must be used for a specific project or purpose and includes income from grants, corporate partners and any restricted legacies or donations where the donor has specified the funds must be used for a particular purpose. Restricted income from legacies

was £6.4k (2025: £286k). Other restricted income for charitable activities (including from restricted donations) totalled £2.86m (2025: £2.54m). Arcadian Ecology continued trading for its 10th year with profit generated of £94k. The profit is donated to the Trust and the donation will be shown in the 2026/27 accounts.

Total income 2024/25



- Total restricted income: £3.31m – 36% of total income
- Total unrestricted income: £5.98m – 64% of total income

Expenditure

Total annual expenditure increased by 16.7% to £9.3m (2025: £7.97m), with £7.9m (2025: £6.8m) spent on charitable activities, meaning 85% of our total expenditure went towards charitable activities. This includes management of our nature reserves, conservation projects, land management advice, education, training, community engagement and campaigning for stronger environmental protections. We also continue to invest in fundraising activities to grow our income in order to increase the overall impact of the Trust's work.

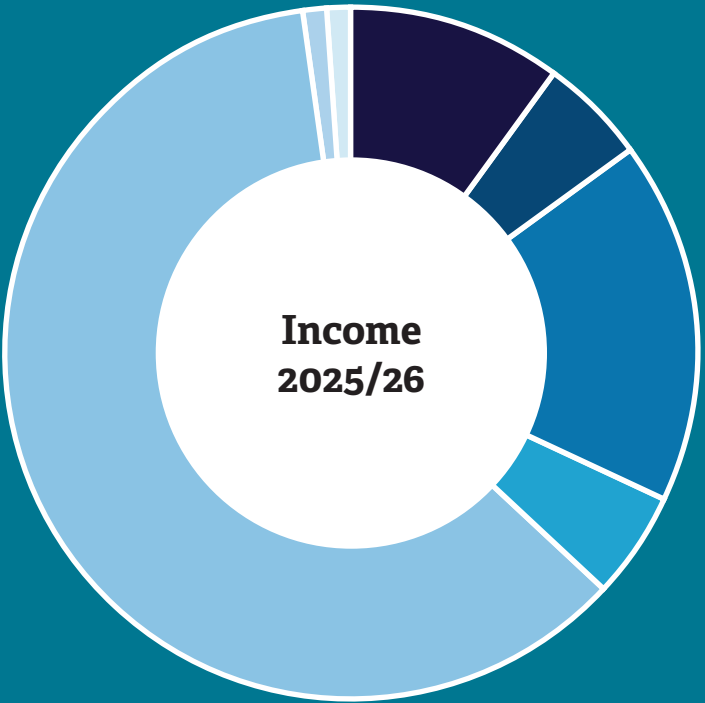
Total expenditure includes support costs of £1.61m (2025: £1.64m). Support costs include IT, finance, human resources, facilities and governance costs, and represent 17.3% of total expenditure (2025: 20.6%). Support costs are allocated proportionally across all activities based on staff numbers. The governance costs (£141k) include professional fees and staff costs allocated to governance activities and represent 1.5% of our total expenditure (2025: 1.5%). Also included in the support costs is the annual contribution we make to the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts at £94k (2025: £90k), which funds national policy, advocacy and coordination work on behalf of The Wildlife Trusts across the UK.

Total staff costs for the year totalled £4.35m (2025: £4.1m) which equates to a 5.9% increase due to the recruitment of several new roles across all departments. These staff costs include an average annual pay increase

of 3% after a salary review and benchmarking exercise for all roles, with employer pension contributions remaining the same. Operating costs are expected to continue rising, with increases in material costs and inflation both major factors.



For every £1 spent by the Trust during 2025/26, 85p went towards charitable activities.



- Donations: £884,954 (10%)
- Legacies: £464,077 (5%)
- Membership: £1,560,294 (17%)
- Activities for generating funds: £492,486 (5%)
- Conservation & education: £5,709,008 (61%)
- Investment: £133,616 (1%)
- Other income: £50,723 (1%)

Income analysis

Total income: £9,295,158 (2025: £9,876,625)

Donations, legacies and membership:

£2,909,325 – 31.3% of total income (2025: £3,710,327 – 37.6%)

Comprising £884,954 donations (2025: £1,334,938), £464,077 legacies (2025: £878,451) and £1,560,294 in membership income (2025: £1,496,938)

Conservation, education and engagement activities:

£5,709,008 – 61% of total income (2025: £5,600,335 – 57%)

Including £715,727 nature-based solutions (2025: £1,670,220)

Activities for generating funds

£492,486 – 5.3% of total income (2025: £372,275 – 3.8%)

Investments

£133,616 – 1.4% of total income (2025: £175,162 – 1.8%)

Other

£50,723 – 0.5% of total income (2025: £18,527 – 0.1%)

Expenditure analysis

Total expenditure: £9,303,366 (2025: £7,970,871)

Conservation, education and engagement activities:

£7,070,790 – 76% of total expenditure (2025: £6,339,249 – 79%), including £311,967 nature-based solutions (2025: £102,313)

Cost of generating voluntary income:

£1,398,517 – 15% of total expenditure (2025: £1,168,558 – 15%)

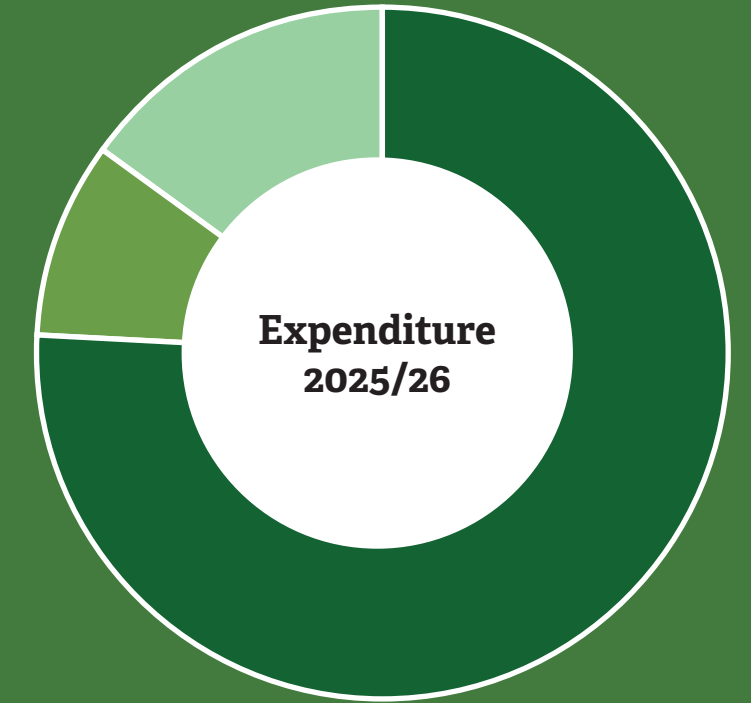
Membership services:

£834,059 – 8.9% of total expenditure (2025: £463,064 – 6%)

Overall staff costs included in total expenditure:

£4,349,883

Including £3,693,365 (81%) spent on charitable activities



- Conservation, education & engagement activities: £7,070,790 (76%)
- Membership services: £834,059 (9%)
- Cost of generating voluntary income: £1,398,517 (15%)



Financial reserves

Financial Reserves

The Trust holds three categories of funds: Restricted Funds, Endowment Funds and Unrestricted Funds. As at 31 March 2026, the Trust had total funds of £26.3m (2025: £26.2m) of which £16.8m was unrestricted (2025: £17.8m), £9.5m (2025: £8.4m) was restricted, with the small permanent endowment fund of £4.5k being fully utilised in accordance with the terms during the year.

Restricted funds

There are two types of restricted funds – project funds which are restricted donations and grants where the purpose for which they can be used is determined by the donor, and heritage assets bought with restricted funds. Restricted project funds totalled £5.2m (2025: £4.5m) and restricted heritage assets totalled £4.3m (2025: £3.9m). These funds include income that has been received in advance to fund major multi-year nature recovery projects. Further details of these funds and the purposes for which they're held are provided in Note 16.

Unrestricted funds

The Trust's unrestricted funds comprise both liquid funds and assets and are there to support the achievement of our strategic objectives. Unrestricted funds are shown

in two types – designated funds and the general fund, as detailed below and in Note 16. These funds, which arise from various sources including gifts in Wills, donations and surpluses generated from the Trust's day-to-day operations, are free from any restrictions and, as such, Trustees can determine how best to allocate them.

Total unrestricted funds as at 31 March 2026 amounted to just over £16.8m (2025: £17.8m), of which £10.3m was unrestricted tangible fixed and heritage assets (2025: £10m). Total unrestricted funds are split into Designated Funds and General Funds:

Designated Funds

Total designated funds held at 31 March 2026 were £7.2m (2025: £7.6m). Trustees have designated some of the Trust's unrestricted funds to support the delivery of the Wilder Strategy and associated business plan. Designated funds also include the Nature-Based Solutions fund to support the long-term costs associated with the 125 years land is held for nitrates mitigation – this fund's value at year end was £3.2m (2025: £3.3m). Further details in Note 16.

General Funds

The general funds at year end totalled £9.6m (2025: £10.2m). These are funds free from

any restrictions and therefore Trustees can decide how the funds are allocated. The general fund represents unrestricted fixed and heritage assets of £10.3m (2025: £10m), £3.2m (2025: £4.5m) in free reserves which are available to support the Trust's annual operating expenses and also includes funds that represent the current assets, liabilities and fixed asset investments on the balance sheet as shown in Note 17.

Free Reserves

Free reserves are calculated by deducting unrestricted tangible fixed assets and unrestricted heritage assets from total unrestricted funds, including designated funds (see Note 17). At year end, free reserves totalled £3.2m (2025: £4.5m) which equates to 6.1 months of unrestricted expenditure (2025: 7.9 months). Although our free reserves exceed our policy of four months at the end of March 2026, the Trust has set deficit budgets in recent years and plans are in place to bring our free reserves back into line with our policy level during the next cycle of our business plan.

Financial Reserves Policy

The Trust's Financial Reserves Policy is to hold sufficient free reserves to provide working capital and a buffer of liquid funds to cover temporary shortfalls caused by an unforeseen loss of income, cash flow volatility or an unexpected increase in costs or risk exposure.

Should any of these circumstances arise,

these free reserves are intended to ensure that the Trust can meet its contractual obligations. This demonstrates a prudent approach and commitment to long-term financial stability and planning.

Another factor is that the Trust's monthly cash flow is highly variable during the financial year, with many funds being received towards the end of the year or after projects have been completed. This means that free reserves are also needed to fund the charity's activities during the year to cover the timing gap between expenditure and income. Cash flow is monitored daily by Trust staff and reviewed quarterly by the Trust's Business and Finance Committee.

With all of this in mind, the Trust's policy is to hold liquid funds in free reserves sufficient to cover four months of unrestricted expenditure. This level of reserves, supported by the generosity of our donors and the strength of our strategic plan, ensures we remain well-positioned to navigate future challenges while continuing to invest in nature and communities.

Investment policy and performance

The Trust has managed its main investment portfolio through CCLA since 2019. This ethical investment portfolio is managed in accordance with our investment strategy and risk profile, which aims to preserve capital value and generate a reasonable income.

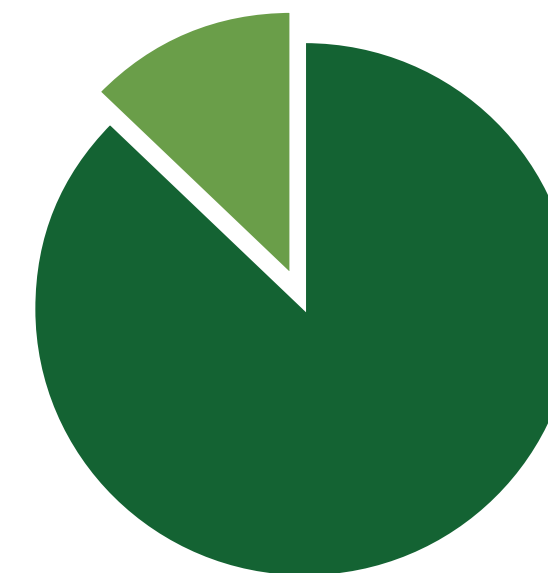
The funds are regularly reviewed and screened to ensure that the investments are

ethical and not in conflict with the Trust's charitable objectives.

In 2022, the Trust diversified its investment portfolio through investment in an ethical bonds fund which is managed by Hargreaves Lansdown.

The Trust's overall investments show an unrealised loss of £121k (2025: unrealised loss £94k). Investment income of £133k (2025: £175k) was received during the year.

Total funds held by the Trust at year end



Of the Trust's £26.3m total funds, just 12% (£3.2m) are free reserves – the liquid funds available to spend on any aspect of the Trust's work.



Financial Statements

Independent Auditor's Report

to the members of Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

For the year ended 31 March 2026

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2026 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activity, Balance sheets, the consolidated cashflow statement 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 affairs of the group and parent charitable company as at 31 March 2026 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.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the

course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report which includes the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Annual Report which includes the Directors' Report and the Strategic 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 the parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report and Strategic Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate 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 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.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 85, 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 the 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 and the 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 the parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with regulations made under that Act.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the group and parent 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 specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are detailed below.

Identifying and assessing risks related to irregularities:

We assessed the susceptibility of the group and parent charitable company's financial statements to material misstatement and how fraud might occur, including through discussions with the trustees, discussions within our audit team planning meeting, updating our record of internal controls and ensuring these controls operated as intended. We evaluated possible incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements. We identified laws and regulations that are of significance in the context of the group and parent charitable company by discussions with trustees and updating our understanding of the sector in which the group and parent charitable company operate.

Laws and regulations of direct significance in the context of the group and parent charitable company include The Companies Act 2006 and guidance issued by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Audit response to risks identified:

We considered the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items including a review of financial statement disclosures. We reviewed the parent charitable company's records of breaches of laws and regulations, minutes of meetings and correspondence with relevant authorities to identify potential material



misstatements arising. We discussed the parent charitable company’s policies and procedures for compliance with laws and regulations with members of management responsible for compliance.

During the planning meeting with the audit team, the engagement partner drew attention to the key areas which might involve non-compliance with laws and regulations or fraud. We enquired of management whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations or knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud. We addressed the risk of fraud through management override of controls by testing the appropriateness of journal entries and identifying any significant transactions that were unusual or outside the normal course of business. We assessed whether judgements made in making accounting estimates gave rise to a possible indication of management bias. At the completion stage of the audit, the engagement partner’s review included ensuring that the team had approached their work with appropriate professional scepticism and thus the capacity to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council’s website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities.

This description forms part of our auditor’s report.

Use of our report

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

Saffery LLP

Casidhe Baleri (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Saffery LLP

Midland House
2 Poole Road
Bournemouth
BH2 5QY

Statutory Auditors

Date: 09/09/2026

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

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
INCOME FROM:						
Donations and legacies	2	801,071	547,960	-	1,349,031	2,213,389
Charitable activities	3	4,502,928	2,766,374	-	7,269,302	7,097,273
Other trading activities		492,486	-	-	492,486	372,275
Investments		133,616	-	-	133,616	175,162
Other		50,723	-	-	50,723	18,526
Total		5,980,824	3,314,334	-	9,295,158	9,876,625
EXPENDITURE ON:						
Raising funds	4	1,398,517	-	-	1,398,517	1,168,558
Charitable activities	5	5,726,452	2,173,889	4,508	7,904,849	6,802,313
Total	5	7,124,969	2,173,889	4,508	9,303,366	7,970,871
Net (losses)/gains on investments	12	(121,274)	-	-	(121,274)	(94,274)
Net income		(1,265,419)	1,140,445	(4,508)	(129,482)	1,811,480
Transfers between funds	16	(6,359)	6,359	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Revaluation of Heritage/Fixed assets	10	246,794	-	-	246,794	-
Net movement in funds		(1,024,984)	1,146,804	(4,508)	117,312	1,811,480
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:						
Total funds brought forward		17,828,169	8,384,834	4,508	26,217,511	24,406,031
Total funds carried forward		16,803,185	9,531,638	-	26,334,823	26,217,511

The 2025 figures include Restricted Fund income of £2,823,842, Restricted Fund expenditure of £1,055,626, leaving Restricted Fund net income of £1,768,217

Continuing Operations

All incoming resources and resources expended arise from continuing activities

Balance Sheets as at 31 March 2026

	Notes	Group		Charity	
		2026 £	2025 £	2026 £	2025 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible fixed assets	10	9,502,354	9,173,591	9,502,354	9,173,591
Heritage assets	11	5,124,096	4,682,299	5,124,096	4,682,299
Investments	12	4,631,658	4,266,491	4,631,858	4,266,691
		19,258,108	18,122,381	19,258,308	18,122,581
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock		177,020	147,530	177,020	147,530
Debtors	13	2,975,908	2,815,471	3,099,903	2,785,234
Cash at bank and in hand		5,056,720	6,121,269	4,740,373	6,036,581
		8,209,648	9,084,270	8,017,296	8,969,345
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(1,103,722)	(989,140)	(945,873)	(947,631)
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		7,105,926	8,095,130	7,071,423	8,021,714
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		26,364,034	26,217,511	26,329,731	26,144,295
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after one year	15	(29,211)	-	(29,211)	-
NET ASSETS					
		26,334,823	26,217,511	26,300,520	26,144,295

	Notes	Group		Charity	
		2026 £	2025 £	2026 £	2025 £
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY	16				
Endowment funds		-	4,508	-	4,508
Restricted funds		9,531,638	8,384,834	9,531,638	8,384,834
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds		7,192,087	7,672,441	7,192,087	7,672,441
General fund		9,611,098	10,155,728	9,576,795	10,082,512
TOTAL FUNDS		26,334,823	26,217,511	26,300,520	26,144,295

The notes at pages 50 to 79 form part of these financial statements.
The financial statements were approved by Trust Council on 1 September 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

Joy Carter CBE
Chair

Richard Green-Wilkinson
Honorary Treasurer

Consolidated Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes (below)	2026 £	2025 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Cash generated from operations	a	(46,014)	(343,345)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		(46,014)	(343,345)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(223,912)	(462,932)
Purchase of heritage assets		(441,798)	(496,900)
Sale of fixed assets		-	-
Transfer to investments from cash		(486,441)	458,051
Interest received		133,616	175,162
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		(1,018,535)	(326,619)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	b	(1,064,549)	(669,964)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		6,121,269	6,791,233
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		5,056,720	6,121,269

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

a) Reconciliation of net incoming resources to net cash flow from operating activities

	2026 £	2025 £
Net incoming resources for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	117,312	1,811,480
Depreciation	141,676	118,925
Losses / (Gains) on Investments	121,274	94,274
Interest received	(133,616)	(175,162)
(Increase) / Decrease in stock	(29,490)	7,660
(Increase) / Decrease in debtors	(160,437)	(1,005,193)
Increase / (Decrease) in creditors	143,793	(1,195,329)
Revaluation of fixed assets	(246,794)	-
Profit on disposal	268	-
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	(46,014)	(343,345)

b) Analysis of changes in cash and cash equivalents

	2026 £	2025 £
Balance brought forward	6,121,269	6,791,233
Net cash (outflow)/inflow for year	(1,064,549)	(669,964)
Balance at 31 March 2026	5,056,720	6,121,269

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2026

Note 1 - ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments which are included at market value. The financial statements are presented in pound sterling (£) which is the functional and presentational currency of the charity. All amounts have been rounded to the nearest £1, unless otherwise stated.

Going Concern

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis. The Trustees have reviewed future prospects and activities, along with future funds and cashflows. Having evaluated these the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to operate for the foreseeable future, being at least 12 months.

Consolidation

The financial statements incorporate the results of Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust and its wholly owned subsidiaries, prepared on a line by line basis. Exemption has been taken from including the statement of financial activities of Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust in accordance with section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial

Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Legacies and donations are accounted for when receipt of the income is probable. Wherever possible, donated assets have been included at a reasonable estimate of their value to the Trust.

Membership income

Membership subscriptions are accounted for when received irrespective of the period of membership, since any cancellation in membership will not result in a refund for any proportion of unused subscriptions.

Legacy income

The Trust agreed a new policy which provides a methodology which enables Trustees to determine which legacies should be accrued for under financial standards requirements, whilst mitigating the risk of considering income that has not yet been received.

Volunteer contributions

No value is ascribed to the unpaid contributions of time and skills provided by volunteers due to the difficulty in attributing an economic value.

Nature-Based Solutions income

Income generated through sales of environmental credits (such as for nutrient neutrality or biodiversity net gain) is split such that some is used within the year, and a proportion is set aside in Designated Funds to pay for the long-term management of the land, in line with the legal obligations (e.g. nutrient neutrality obligations last for 125 years) and the needs of the individual site.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis inclusive of any VAT that cannot be recovered and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have

been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Costs of raising funds include the costs incurred as a result of raising donations, developing legacy income and applying for grants. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit and legal fees.

Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable for the year are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Finance leases

Leases are classified as finance leases whenever the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to the lessees. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

Assets held under finance leases are recognised as assets at the lower of the assets fair value at the date of inception and the present value of the minimum lease payments. The related liability is included in the statement of financial position as a finance lease obligation. Lease payments are treated as consisting of capital and interest elements. The interest is charged to profit or loss so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability.

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred over the term of the lease.

Stock

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost or net realisable value except for livestock, which is valued at an average market value on each balance sheet date.

Taxation

The Trust is exempt from direct taxation on its charitable activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided with the intention of writing off the costs of the tangible fixed assets over their useful lives. The Trust's capitalisation threshold is £10,000, an increase from £5,000 in 2024/25 and the provision is calculated using the straight line method from the quarter it is purchased in, over the following periods:

Plant and machinery	3-5 years
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Motor vehicles	5 years
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Freehold and leasehold buildings and land are not depreciated.	
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Leased Assets	Depreciated over the term of the lease
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Freehold property is included in the balance sheet at revalued amounts.

No depreciation is provided on freehold property. It is the Trust's practice to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair and to make improvements thereto from time to time and accordingly the Trustees consider that the lives of these assets are long, and residual values are high so that their depreciation is insignificant.

Heritage assets

The Trust defines its nature reserves as Heritage Assets. Nature reserves purchased by the Trust are shown on the balance sheet at original cost or valuation at the date of acquisition where known. Where Heritage Assets have been donated to the Charity they are recognised initially at their fair value where practicable. No value is placed on assets where their costs or valuation is not available and such information cannot be obtained at a cost commensurate with the benefit to the users of the accounts and to the charity. As permitted by SORP FRS 102, no depreciation is charged on Heritage Assets. Note 11 provides further information.

Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at market value based on the bid price valuation provided by the Trust's investment portfolio managers, CCLA and Hargreaves Lansdown for the Trust's ethical bond fund, as required by SORP (FRS 2019). Any diminution in value is deducted if, in the opinion of the investment managers, it is considered necessary. The investments are administered by CCLA and Hargreaves Lansdown on behalf of the Trust. Investment income is accounted for when received by the Trust or its appointed agent.

Investment gains and losses

Realised and unrealised gains and losses on investments arising from the valuation of investments are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Fund accounting

The permanent endowment fund represents donations made where the donor requested that the capital be invested and the income either added to the capital or used to cover expenditure, depending on the conditions of the endowment.

Restricted funds are funds for which the donor has specifically restricted the purpose for which they can be used. The amounts in the funds represent the monies still remaining available for future expenditure, or funds represented by assets purchased partly or fully from restricted funds.

Unrestricted funds

These are funds free from any restrictions and Trustees can decide what they are spent on. Unrestricted funds are shown in two types as detailed below:

Designated funds are funds for which Council has specifically designated the purpose for which they can be used. The amounts remaining in the funds represent the monies still remaining available for future expenditure.

General funds represent the unrestricted net

assets of the charity, excluding designated funds. All income is allocated to the general fund unless restricted by the donor or specifically designated by Council. The revaluation reserve represents the cumulative unrealised gains arising on the revaluation of the charity's freehold property. The reserve is not regarded as a realised gain and is therefore not available for distribution. Any subsequent impairment or downward revaluation of the property is charged against the reserve to the extent that a balance remains.

Free Reserves Policy is set at four months of unrestricted expenditure. The policy is set to hold sufficient free reserves to provide working capital and to provide a buffer of liquid funds to cover temporary shortfalls caused by an unforeseen loss of income, cash flow volatility or an unexpected increase in costs or risk exposure. Free reserves are calculated by deducting unrestricted tangible fixed assets and unrestricted heritage assets from total unrestricted funds, including designated funds (see Note 17). Although our free reserves exceed our policy of four months at the end of March 2026, we anticipate this returning to our four months policy level in the next two years. The Trustees review the reserves policy annually by assessing the risks facing the organisation. The Revaluation reserve forms part of the unrestricted funds however, it is not available to fund operational expenditure.

Critical estimates and judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charities' accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2026

2025/26 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Note 2 - Donations and Legacies	2026 £	2025 £
Donations and Fundraising	884,954	1,334,938
Legacies	464,077	878,451
	1,349,031	2,213,389

In 2026, £548k (2025: £1,133,267) related to restricted donations and legacy income

Note 3 - Income from Charitable Activities	Unrestricted Income £	Restricted Income £	Endowment Income £	2026 £	2025 £
Land Management & Estate	2,086,470	65,920	-	2,152,390	2,418,903
Nature Recovery	76,655	1,628,670	-	1,705,325	498,228
Ecology and Nature Based Solutions	678,537	550,350	-	1,228,887	2,238,671
Advocacy, Education & Engagement	100,972	521,434	-	622,406	444,533
Membership	1,560,294	-	-	1,560,294	1,496,938
	4,502,928	2,766,374	-	7,269,302	7,097,273

In 2026, £1,916,856 (2025: £1,690,575) related to restricted charitable activity income

Note 4 - Expenditure on raising funds2026
£2025
£

Expenditure on sales and commercial income	1,398,517	1,168,558
The sales and commercial expenditure above relates to unrestricted spend		

Note 5 - Total Expenditure	Staff costs £	Other direct costs £	Support costs £	2026 £	2025 £
Land Management & Estate	1,036,772	1,541,282	538,576	3,116,630	3,619,603
Nature Recovery	575,302	786,106	259,687	1,621,095	426,689
Ecology and Nature Based Solutions	761,037	573,249	241,097	1,575,383	1,233,695
Advocacy, Education & Engagement	567,800	142,586	342,058	1,052,444	1,059,261
Membership	108,637	356,429	74,231	539,297	463,065
Expenditure on Charitable activities	3,049,548	3,399,652	1,455,649	7,904,849	6,802,313
Expenditure on raising funds	656,518	587,592	154,407	1,398,517	1,168,558
	3,706,066	3,987,244	1,610,056	9,303,366	7,970,871

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

	2026 £	2025 £
Depreciation - owned assets	141,676	118,925
Profit on sale of fixed assets	-	-
Operating leases - land and buildings	22,868	21,785
Auditors' remuneration - provision of audit services	20,500	20,694
Auditors' remuneration - non audit services	1,670	1,726

Note 6 - Analysis of Support Costs	Raising funds £	Land Management & Estate £	Nature Recovery £	Ecology & Nature Based Solutions £	Advocacy, Education & Engagement £	Membership £	2025/26 Total £	Basis of Allocation £
IT	33,368	116,389	56,120	52,102	73,921	16,042	347,942	No. of staff
Finance	38,540	134,428	64,818	60,178	85,378	18,528	401,870	No. of staff
Premises	29,753	103,781	50,040	46,458	65,913	14,304	310,249	No. of staff
Human Resources	39,255	136,924	66,021	61,295	86,963	18,872	409,330	No. of staff
Governance	13,491	47,054	22,688	21,064	29,883	6,485	140,665	No. of staff
	154,407	538,576	259,687	241,097	342,058	74,231	1,610,056	

Note 6 - Analysis of Support Costs for the year prior 2024/25	Raising funds £	Land Management & Estate £	Nature Recovery £	Ecology & Nature Based Solutions £	Advocacy, Education & Engagement £	Membership £	2024/25 Total £	Basis of Allocation
IT	37,649	185,984	37,859	48,850	88,103	14,687	413,132	No. of staff
Finance	37,202	183,778	37,410	48,270	87,057	14,512	408,229	No. of staff
Premises	29,733	146,884	29,900	38,579	69,580	11,598	326,274	No. of staff
Human Resources	34,285	169,366	34,476	44,485	80,231	13,374	376,217	No. of staff
Governance	10,888	53,788	10,949	14,128	25,480	4,247	119,480	No. of staff
	149,757	739,800	150,594	194,312	350,451	58,418	1,643,332	

Note 7 - Trustees' Remuneration and Benefits

No Directors (Trustees) or persons connected with them have received or waived any remuneration during the year (2025: none)

2 Directors (Trustees) received reimbursements of expenses for travelling during the year of £306 (2025: £265)

Note 8 - Staff costs	2026 £	2025 £
Salaries and Wages	3,646,846	3,518,053
Social Security Costs	426,920	317,593
Pension Costs	276,118	270,595
	4,349,884	4,106,241

The number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2026	2025
Cost of Generating Funds	12.4	9.4
Finance and Administration (includes Governance)	15.5	16.5
Charitable Activities	127.0	118.0
	154.9	143.9

The number of employees includes a higher number of termed, trainee and variable hour contract staff in 2025/26

FTE staff number	108.0	107.2
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	2026 £	2025 £
Senior Management Team Salaries for 7 staff (2025: 7 staff)	517,756	521,190

	2026	2025
The number of employees whose benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:		
£60,001 - £70,000	2	2
£70,001 - £80,000	-	-
£80,001 - £90,000	-	1
£90,001 - £100,000	1	-

Note 9 - Pension Scheme

The Trust operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Trust in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charged to the Statement of Financial Activities was £276k (2025: £261k).

Note 10 - Tangible fixed assets - Group and Charity	Freehold Properties £	Long Leasehold Land £	Freehold Land £	Plant and Machinery £	Total £
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Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2025	2,414,817	2,912,161	3,529,996	1,218,667	10,075,641
Additions	-	-	15,000	208,912	223,912
Disposals	-	-	-	(136,950)	(136,950)
Revaluation	(8,049)	-	254,843	-	246,794
As at 31 March 2026	2,406,768	2,912,161	3,799,839	1,290,629	10,409,397

Depreciation					
At 1 April 2025	-	-	-	902,050	902,050
Charge for the year	-	-	-	141,676	141,676
Depreciation on disposals	-	-	-	(136,683)	(136,683)
As at 31 March 2026	-	-	-	907,043	907,043

Net Book Value					
As at 31 March 2026	2,406,768	2,912,161	3,799,839	383,586	9,502,354
At 1 April 2025	2,414,817	2,912,161	3,529,996	316,617	9,173,591

Note 10 continued

Tangible Fixed Assets are all functional assets used in furtherance of the Trust’s objectives. Included in the net book value of plant and machinery are leased vehicles with a net book value of £37,560 (2025: £Nil).

The Trust’s three freehold properties are Beechcroft House, Dawkins Cottage and Brick Kiln Farm Cottage. These Assets were revalued in March 2026 by Skinner Holden and the updated values are included in the table above.

The Freehold Land included above as Tangible Fixed Assets consists of: Tawny Barn Field, College Copse Farm, Hockley Meadows Farm, Brick Kiln Farm and Tawny Barn Field, these were revalued in March 2026 and the updated values are included in the table above.

The long leasehold land relates to the Nunwell land.

	Value from 31 March 2026 £	Value from 31 March 2025 £	Value from 31 March 2021 £	Value from 31 March 2017 £
Historic Value of Freehold Properties and Land;				
Beechcroft	1,000,000	1,280,000	1,280,000	1,200,000
Brick Kiln Cottage	750,000	527,317	527,317	622,969
Dawkins Cottage	656,500	607,500	607,500	575,000
	2,406,500	2,414,817	2,414,817	2,397,969
Tawny Barn	200,000	81,092	81,092	81,092
Brick Kiln Farm	470,000	412,683	412,683	450,000
College Copse Farm	1,310,000	1,070,000	1,045,000	985,466
Hockley (Whitehouse Meadows) Farm	340,000	579,941	490,000	430,466
Little Duxmore Farm	1,330,000	1,051,280	913,800	-
Nunwell Farm	2,800,000	2,912,161	-	-
Chilcombe NBS Land	262,000	350,000	-	-
	6,712,000	6,457,157	2,942,575	1,947,024

Note 11 - Heritage Assets – Group and Charity	2025/26 £	2024/25 £	2023/24 £	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Cost or valuation					
At start of period	4,682,299	4,185,399	3,595,399	3,245,399	2,293,399
Additions – all purchased	441,797	496,900	590,000	350,000	952,000
Heritage Assets not previously valued	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At end of period	5,124,096	4,682,299	4,185,399	3,595,399	3,245,399
Net Book Value					
Year End	5,124,096	4,682,299	4,185,399	3,595,399	3,245,399
Prior Year	4,682,299	4,185,399	3,595,399	3,245,399	1,587,710

Heritage Assets are defined as tangible property with historical, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities which are held and maintained principally for their contribution to knowledge and culture.

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust defines its nature reserves as Heritage Assets as they are held for the purposes of conservation, and managed to preserve, enhance and/or restore their biodiversity value, and are intended to be kept indefinitely or, for leasehold sites, until such time as the lease ends.

Nature reserves purchased by the Trust are shown on the balance sheet at original cost or valuation at the date of acquisition where known. Where Heritage Assets have been donated to the Charity they are recognised initially at their fair value where practicable. No value is placed on assets where their costs or valuation is not available and such information cannot be obtained at a cost commensurate with the benefit to the users of the accounts and to the charity. As permitted by SORP FRS 102, no depreciation is charged on Heritage Assets.

The Trust continues to acquire new land for the purposes of conservation in accordance with its acquisitions policy – this policy consists of a scoring system which enables Trustees to make an informed decision on which acquisitions are of the highest priority. These would include land of high wildlife value which is at risk, land which extends and connects the Trust’s existing nature reserves, or land of low biodiversity value which can be restored or rewilded. Sites acquired are classified as heritage assets where appropriate at the time of acquisition. Heritage Assets held by the Trust as at 31 March 2026 are listed overleaf in tables 1 and 2. The Trust would only dispose of a heritage asset in exceptional circumstances, for example if compulsory purchased, and in this case would follow the charity commission disposal process.

Table 1. Heritage Assets: Freehold Nature Reserves

Name	Location	Size (hectares)
Alverstone Mead	Sandown, Isle of Wight	28.6
Arreton Down	Newport, Isle of Wight	19
Bartley Heath	Hook	91
Bere Copse	Soberton	4
Broughton Down	Broughton	24
Chappetts Copse	West Meon	12
Chiddles Moor	Sandown, Isle of Wight	4.9
Copythorne Common	Cadnam	15.4
Coulters Dean	Buriton	7.5
Court House Meadows	West Meon	8.6
Deacon Hill	Winchester	10
Emer Bog	North Baddesley	53.4
Fletchwood Meadows	Ashurst	5
Greywell Moors	Odiham	13
Hill Heath Farm	Newchurch, Isle of Wight	14.4
Hockley Meadow	Winchester	9
Hoe Road Meadow	Bishop's Waltham	3
Holmsley Gravel Pit	Bransgore	3
Kittenocks	Havenstreet, Isle of Wight	10.5
Kitt's Grave	Martin	36
Knighton Down	Brading, Isle of Wight	13.4
Linwood	Appleslade	10.5
Lower Knighton Moor	Newchurch, Isle of Wight	13.4
Lower Test, The Crescent	Nursling	5
Lymington Reedbeds	Lymington	43.1
Mapledurwell Fen	Basingstoke	0.4
Martin's Wood	Newchurch, Isle of Wight	8.5

Table 1. Heritage Assets: Freehold Nature Reserves (continued)

Name	Location	Size (hectares)
Micheldever Spoil Heaps - North	Micheldever	3
Morton Marsh	Sandown, Isle of Wight	13.9
Ningwood Common	Cranmore, Isle of Wight	11.7
Parsonage Farm	Newchurch, Isle of Wight	27.1
Pewit Island	Portsmouth Harbour	1.2
Portchester SWBG site	Portsmouth Harbour	8
Ron Ward's Meadow	Tadley	10
Royden Lane	Brockenhurst	2.2
Roydon Woods	Brockenhurst	379.7
Sandown Meadows	Sandown, Isle of Wight	18
Sandy Down	Brockenhurst	4.9
Shutts Copse	West Meon	4
Southmoor	North Langstone	11.3
St Clair's Meadow	Soberton	15.8
St Lawrence Bank Field	Whitwell, Isle of Wight	5.1
St Lawrence Undercliff Woods	St Lawrence, Isle of Wight	1.5
Swanpond Copse	Ryde, Isle of Wight	19.7
Upper Inhams Copse	Silchester	18
Upper Titchfield Haven	Hill Head	13
Upper Winnall Moors	Winchester	26
Weavers Down Bog	Longmoor	3
Whitehouse Meadows	Cove	1
Wick Hill Hanger	Selbourne	8
Winnall Moors West	Winchester	21.5
		1094.2

Table 2. Heritage Assets - Leasehold Nature Reserves

Name	Location	Size (hectares)
Ancells Farm	Fleet	12
Baddesley Common	North Baddesley	28
Blashford Lakes	Ringwood	91
Bouldnor Forest	Bouldnor, Isle of Wight	36
Old Burghclere Lime Quarry	Burghclere	3
Eaglehead & Bloodstone Copses	Brading, Isle of Wight	10
Farlington Marshes	Portsmouth	120
Upper Flexford	Chandler's Ford	11
Lower Flexford	Chandler's Ford	9
Headley Gravel Pit	Headley	7
Hook Common	Hook	74
Hookheath Meadows	Southwick	14
Hythe Marshes	Hythe	9
Lymington & Keyhaven Marshes	Lymington	320
Long Aldermoor	Minstead	3
Lower Test	Totton	157
Lower Winnall Moors	Winchester	15
Manor House Farm	Totton	90
Milton Locks	Portsmouth	0.4
Noar Hill	Selborne	12
Pamber Forest	Silchester	194
St Catherine's Hill	Winchester	47
Swanwick Lakes	Fareham	28
Testwood Lakes	Totton	65
		1355.4

Note 12 - Fixed Asset Investments				
	Group		Charity	
	2026	2025	2026	2025
	£	£	£	£
Investments	4,631,658	4,266,491	4,631,858	4,266,491

GROUP

	Listed investments	Unlisted investments	Cash and settlements pending	Totals
	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2025	4,262,491	4,000	-	4,266,491
Additions	1,015,865	-	-	1,015,865
Disposals	(529,424)	-	-	(529,424)
Investment (losses) / Gains	(121,274)	-	-	(121,274)
At 31 March 2026	4,627,658	4,000	-	4,631,658
Net Book Value				
At 31 March 2026	4,627,658	4,000	-	4,631,658
At 1 April 2025	4,262,491	4,000	-	4,266,491

Of the £3.65m investments held at 31 March 2026, all holdings are held in the UK.

CHARITY

	Listed investments	Unlisted investments	Cash and settlements pending	Totals
	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2025	4,262,491	4,200	-	4,266,691
Additions	1,015,865	-	-	1,015,865
Disposals	(529,424)	-	-	(529,424)
Investment (losses) / Gains	(121,274)	-	-	(121,274)
At 31 March 2026	4,627,658	4,200	-	4,631,858
Net Book Value				
At 31 March 2026	4,627,658	4,200	-	4,631,858
At 1 April 2025	4,262,491	4,200	-	4,266,691

The unlisted investments represents the charity’s 100% interest in HIWWT Trading Limited and Arcadian Ecology & Consulting Limited and the interest in each subsidiary amount to 100 ordinary shares of £1 giving an historical cost of £200.

Of the £3.65m investments held at 31 March 2026, all holdings are held in the UK.

All investments are held to preserve capital value and generate a modest income for use in the activities of the Trust.

Note 13 - Debtors				
	Group		Charity	
	2026	2025	2026	2025
	£	£	£	£
Trade Debtors	1,966,402	1,464,683	1,900,506	1,351,880
Other Debtors	903,480	1,320,142	903,480	1,320,142
Prepayments and Accrued Income	85,123	30,646	85,123	30,646
Amounts Due from Group Undertakings	-	-	174,570	82,566
Taxation	20,903	-	36,224	-
	2,975,908	2,815,471	3,099,903	2,785,234

Note 14 - Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	Group		Charity	
	2026	2025	2026	2025
		£	£	£
Trade Creditors	347,462	219,796	330,316	199,693
Other Creditors	38,665	27,722	31,763	27,804
Accruals	627,149	496,400	493,349	492,662
Taxation and Social Security	82,097	245,222	82,097	227,472
Lease Liabilities	8,349	-	8,349	-
	1,103,722	989,140	945,874	947,631

Note 15 - Creditors: Amounts Falling Due After One Year

	Group		Charity	
	2026	2025	2026	2025
	£	£	£	£
Lease Liabilities	29,211	-	29,211	-
	29,211	-	29,211	-

Note 16 - Analysis of Charitable Funds for the Current Year 2025/26							
	Balance at 1 April 2025	Incoming resources & fund transfers in	Outgoing resources & funds expended	Balance before movements at 31 March 2026	Investment Gains/(Losses)	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Designated Fund:							
Land Acquisition & Management	1,807,082	-	(177,697)	1,629,385	-	228,859	1,858,244
Wilder 2030	2,457,707	-	(641,754)	1,815,953	-	228,859	2,044,812
Business Infrastructure	108,990	-	-	108,990	-	-	108,990
Nature Based Solutions	3,298,662	4,615	(123,236)	3,180,041	-	-	3,180,041
Total designated funds	7,672,441	4,615	(942,687)	6,734,369	-	457,718	7,192,087
General Fund	10,155,728	5,976,209	(6,182,282)	9,949,655	(121,274)	(464,077)	9,364,304
Revaluation Reserve	-	-	-	-	246,794	-	246,794
Total Unrestricted Funds	17,828,169	5,980,824	(7,124,969)	16,684,024	125,520	(6,359)	16,803,185

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Advocacy, Engagement & Education	33,020	450,500	(462,105)	21,415			21,415
Badger Appeal	10,872	-	-	10,872			10,872
Beaver Project	22,742	-	(14,000)	8,742			8,742
Brough Naturalists' Fund	21,950	-	-	21,950			21,950
College Copse Farm	6,970	-	-	6,970			6,970
Donations & Legacies - Hampshire	338,009	-	(18,409)	319,600		6,359	325,959
EA Water Projects	63,902	-	-	63,902			63,902
Education Development Fund	18,440	-	-	18,440			18,440
Emer Bog and Heathlands	17,675	-	-	17,675			17,675
Estates Support and Ecology	48,059	569,714	(615,773)	2,000			2,000
Fishlake Meadows	45,123	-	-	45,123			45,123

Note 16 - Analysis of Charitable Funds for the Current Year 2025/26 (continued)							
	Balance at 1 April 2025	Incoming resources & fund transfers in	Outgoing resources & funds expended	Balance before movements at 31 March 2026	Investment Gains/(Losses)	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£

RESTRICTED FUNDS CONTINUED

IOW Capital Depreciation Fund	42,923	-	(11,986)	30,937			30,937
IOW Land Management	19,111	5,000	-	24,111			24,111
IOW Legacy Funds	864,960	-	(31,577)	833,383			833,383
IOW Projects	559,228	-	-	559,228			559,228
Kates Meadow Fund	3,150	-	-	3,150			3,150
Manor House Farm	210,706	-	(38,496)	172,210			172,210
Marine, Solent Seascape (ELP) Project	180,413	66,239	-	246,652			246,652
MP Assemble Fund	-	25,000	-	25,000			25,000
Meon Valley	-	65,000	-	65,000			65,000
NATS Swanwick	63,120	-	(2,000)	61,120			61,120
Nature Recovery	-	660,725	(660,725)	-			-
New Forest Land Advice	16,649	46,665	-	63,314			63,314
New Forest Land Non Native Plants	70,532	-	(43,184)	27,348			27,348
Parsonage Farm Fund	22,385	-	-	22,385			22,385
Reaching Communities	14,320	473	-	14,793			14,793
Responsible Body	-	16,207	-	16,207			16,207
Richard Hedley Fund	4,648	-	-	4,648			4,648
SE Wildlife Trusts Strategic Dev. Fund	14,919	-	-	14,919			14,919
Southern Damselfly - HCC	50,000	-	-	50,000			50,000
Southern Water Ecol.I Resilience	50,000	600,000	-	650,000			650,000
Southern Water Fish Pass	200,000	-	-	200,000			200,000

Note 16 – Analysis of Charitable Funds for the Current Year 2025/26 (continued)							
	Balance at 1 April 2025	Incoming resources & fund transfers in	Outgoing resources & funds expended	Balance before movements at 31 March 2026	Investment Gains/(Losses)	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
RESTRICTED FUNDS CONTINUED							
Southern Water Section 20	473,997		(29,301)	444,696			444,696
St Clair's Meadow	28,000	-	-	28,000			28,000
SWWFL Research	2,048	-	-	2,048			2,048
Test and Itchen Catchment Project	13,696	-	-	13,696			13,696
Wader & BG S106 Mitigation	450,000	367,014	-	817,014			817,014
Watercress & Winterbournes Project	405,673	-	(239,924)	165,749			165,749
Wilder Hampshire	98,860	-	(6,409)	92,451			92,451
Wilder Marine	10,500	-	-	10,500			10,500
Wilder Wight	5,000	-	-	5,000			5,000
Wildlife Investment Fund	27,365	-	-	27,365			27,365
Restricted Funds	4,528,965	2,872,537	(2,173,889)	5,227,613	-	6,359	5,233,972
Restricted Heritage Assets	3,855,869	441,797	-	4,297,666	-		4,297,666
Total Restricted Funds	8,384,834	3,314,334	(2,173,889)	9,525,279	-	6,359	9,531,638
Permanent Endowment Fund:							
Ted Wallace Fund	4,508	-	4,508	-	-	-	-
Total Endowment Funds	4,508	-	4,508	-	-	-	-
TOTAL CHARITABLE FUNDS	26,217,511	9,295,158	(9,303,366)	26,209,303	125,520	-	26,334,823

Note 16 continued

EXPLANATION OF CHARITABLE FUNDS

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Designated Fund:

Designated funds are set aside to support the delivery of the Trust's Strategic Plan and to help the Trust manage major risks.

Land Acquisition & Management	In the light of the continuing uncertainty around the agri-environment scheme income for land management post-Brexit, this fund was established in 2016, to help support the management of the Trust's land as well as the acquisition of new sites. Often land acquisition is funded on a case by case basis but this fund allows the Trustees to allocate match-funding to support grant applications or to top up appeals for new land. This fund is supplemented with unrestricted legacies with Trustee approval. Unrestricted legacies received in the year are transferred at the end of the year from unrestricted funds to designated funds to fund future plans within our 2030 strategy.
Wilder 2030	Following the successful launch of the Trust's 10-year vision and strategy - Wilder 2030 - Trustees agreed to establish this fund to support its delivery. The fund was made up by merging earlier designated funds that had been set aside for strategic development and made up of unrestricted legacies received. The fund will be drawn down with Trustee approval as part of the implementation of Wilder 2030 over a period of three to five years unless needed sooner. Unrestricted legacies received in the year are transferred at the end of the year from unrestricted funds to designated funds to fund future plans within our 2030 strategy.
Business Infrastructure	A fund to offset maintenance costs of buildings and fund the Trust's administrative software upgrades and move towards developing Business Intelligence systems.
Nature Based Solutions	This fund supports nature recovery through the creation of new nature reserves funded by the selling of nitrates credits. The Trust has an obligation to manage these sites for 125 years for which this fund will be used.

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Restricted funds are strictly tied to our specific projects. Often the Trust receives project funding in advance and so we need to 'ring fence' the monies for spending on the project, as agreed with the funder or donor. Sometimes the projects can run over a number of years. Normally the fund will close once the project is finished.

Advocacy, Engagement & Education	Funds held from major donors and grants funders towards the Education & Engagement projects in 2023/24.
Badger Appeal	Appeal funds to put towards research and practical control of bovine tuberculosis and deployment of vaccination where appropriate.
Beaver Project	Income from charitable Trusts, individuals and organisations for the IOW Beaver Project.
Brough Naturalists' Fund	Fund containing an in-memoriam donation given by Antoinette Brough in memory of her husband Dr. Peter Brough, a former and long-term supporter of the Trust. The donation was used to establish an annual prize fund of up to £500 per year to acknowledge and encourage the work of amateur naturalists.

College Copse Farm	Funds remaining from the College Copse Farm appeal, to be spent on upgrading the facilities there.
Donations & Legacies - Hampshire	Funding received from Major Donors & Legators to be spent on projects and land in Hampshire. Restricted legacies received in the year are transferred at the end of the year to the specific restricted funds to spend as per the restriction.
EA Water Projects	Funding received in advance for the Test and Itchen Catchment Project.
Education Development Fund	Major Donor funding towards on site capital improvements for education purposes.
Emer Bog and Heathlands	Funds for heathland restoration and ongoing management of Emer Bog Nature Reserve, funded via a developer's contribution.
Estates Support and Ecology	Funds held from grants funders towards the Ecology projects in 2023/24.
Fishlake Meadows	Funds received towards the ongoing management of Fishlake Meadows from Test Valley Borough Council.
IOW Capital Depreciation Fund	Funds held towards the future depreciation of capital purchases using major donor funds.
IOW Land Management	Donations towards the ongoing work on the Island.
IOW Legacy Funds	Living legacy from major donors towards the management of land and projects on the IOW, along with Income for land acquisition specifically for purchase of Kittenocks Meadows.
IOW Projects	Funding received from major donors for the acquisition of land on the Isle of Wight for conservation purposes.
Kates Meadow Fund	Restricted donation of £3,500 to be drawn down over 10 years at a rate of £350 per year. The donation from Mr Ray Hilllyer is to cover HIWWT costs when maintaining the Littleton church (Kate's) Meadow.
Manor House Farm	Funds received in advance towards the 50 years of management of Manor House Farm for the period of the agreement.
Marine, Solent Seascape (ELP) Project	Income towards the delivery of Solent Seascape (ELP) Project. Funds are received in dollars and subject to exchange rate, meaning we may be receiving more or less money than budgeted. This fund was set up to reduce the risk against the variability of this over the five-year programme.
MP Assemble Fund	Funds received from major donor towards Volunteer management system costs.
Meon Valley	Funds received from major donor and corporative partner towards Magic of the Meon Project.
NATS Swanwick	Funds received from NATS for the Wilder Schools Programme and work at Swanwick.
Nature Recovery	Funding from the Banister Trust for the ongoing maintenance of Parsonage Farm.
New Forest Land Advice	Grant funds received towards the New Forest Land Advice Project future work.
New Forest Land Non Native Plants	Grant funds received towards the Non Native Plants Project future work.

Parsonage Farm Fund	Funding from the Banister Trust for the ongoing maintenance of Parsonage Farm.
Reaching Communities	Grant funds received towards the Reaching Communities Project future work funded by The National Lottery Community Fund.
Responsible Body	Funds Held for future costs of Responsible Body.
Richard Hedley Fund	This fund was established to acknowledge the late Richard Hedley, former Trustee and one of the Trust's most long-standing supporters. Sadly, in May 2018, we also lost Jean Hedley MBE, former Chair and President of the Trust. The family are keen that this fund is continued for the support of ecology trainees. Any donations or other fundraising undertaken in memory of the incredible contribution made by both Richard and Jean Hedley will be added to the fund in accordance with their wishes.
SE Wildlife Trusts Strategic Dev. Fund	Funds set aside in agreement with the regional grouping of Wildlife Trusts for spending on strategic pan-regional projects.
Southern Damselfly - HCC	Funding received from HCC for the Southern Damselfly Project.
Southern Water Ecol.I Resilience	Funding received towards Southern Water Ecol.I Resilience future work.
Southern Water Fish Pass	Funding received towards Southern Water Fish Pass future work.
Southern Water Section 20	Funding received towards Southern Water Section 20 Project.
St Clair's Meadow	Funds received towards the ongoing management of St Clair's Meadow from donations from the local community.
SWWFL Research	Funds received from SWWFL towards future research work.
Test and Itchen Catchment Project	Funding received in advance for the Test and Itchen Catchment Project.
Wader & BG S106 Mitigation	Funds received towards the future management of the Wader & BG S106 Mitigation site.
Watercress & Winterbournes Project	Funds received towards the 5 year Watercress & Winterbournes Project funded by NLHF and donations from partners and individuals.
Wilder Hampshire	Funds held from major donors and grants funders towards conservation projects across Hampshire.
Wilder Marine	Funds held from grant funders towards our Marine projects.
Wilder Wight	Funds held from major donors and grant funders towards our IOW conservation projects.
Wildlife Investment Fund	Appeal income received held in a fund to use in the future when match funds are needed to secure grants from partners and individuals.

Note 16 - Analysis of Charitable Funds for the Prior Year 2024/25							
	Balance at 1 April 2024	Incoming resources & fund transfers in	Outgoing resources & funds expended	Balance before movements at 31 March 2025	Investment Gains/(Losses)	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Designated Fund:							
Land Acquisition & Management	1,938,875	245,867	(377,660)	1,807,082	-	-	1,807,082
Wilder 2030	2,567,954	120,781	(231,028)	2,457,707	-	-	2,457,707
Business Infrastructure	108,990	-	-	108,990	-	-	108,990
Nature Based Solutions	3,441,677	270,698	(63,713)	3,648,662	-	(350,000)	3,298,662
Total designated funds	8,057,496	637,346	(672,401)	8,022,441	-	(350,000)	7,672,441
General Fund	9,992,410	6,415,437	(6,242,845)	10,165,002	(94,274)	85,000	10,155,728
Total Unrestricted Funds	18,049,906	7,052,783	(6,915,246)	18,187,443	(94,274)	(265,000)	17,828,169

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Advocacy, Engagement & Education	85,820	336,403	(389,203)	33,020	-	-	33,020
Badger Appeal	10,872	-	-	10,872	-	-	10,872
Beaver Project	67,742	-	(45,000)	22,742	-	-	22,742
Brough Naturalists' Fund	21,950	-	-	21,950	-	-	21,950
College Copse Farm	6,970	-	-	6,970	-	-	6,970
Donations & Legacies - Hampshire	35,520	302,989	(500)	338,009	-	-	338,009
EA Water Projects	63,902	-	-	63,902	-	-	63,902
Education Development Fund	18,440	-	-	18,440	-	-	18,440
Emer Bog and Heathlands	17,675	-	-	17,675	-	-	17,675
Estates Support and Ecology	-	48,059	-	48,059	-	-	48,059
Fishlake Meadows	30,610	14,513	-	45,123	-	-	45,123
IOW Land Management	19,111	-	-	19,111	-	-	19,111
IOW Legacy Funds	381,170	535,763	(51,973)	864,960	-	-	864,960

Note 16 - Analysis of Charitable Funds for the Prior Year 2024/25 (continued)							
	Balance at 1 April 2024	Incoming resources & fund transfers in	Outgoing resources & funds expended	Balance before movements at 31 March 2025	Investment Gains/(Losses)	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£

RESTRICTED FUNDS CONTINUED

IOW Projects	573,132	66,096	-	639,228	-	(80,000)	559,228
IOW Capital Depreciation Fund	54,909	-	(11,986)	42,923	-	-	42,923
Kates Meadow Fund	3,150	-	-	3,150	-	-	3,150
Manor House Farm	221,206	-	(10,500)	210,706	-	-	210,706
Marine, Solent Seascape (ELP) Project	67,956	163,636	(51,179)	180,413	-	-	180,413
NATS Swanwick	-	63,120	-	63,120	-	-	63,120
New Forest Land Advice	82,323	23,997	(89,671)	16,649	-	-	16,649
New Forest Land Non Native Plants	-	75,347	(4,815)	70,532	-	-	70,532
Parsonage Farm Fund	22,385	-	-	22,385	-	-	22,385
Reaching Communities	-	14,320	-	14,320	-	-	14,320
Richard Hedley Fund	4,648	-	-	4,648	-	-	4,648
SE Wildlife Trusts Strategic Dev. Fund	14,919	-	-	14,919	-	-	14,919
Southern Damselfly - HCC	-	50,000	-	50,000	-	-	50,000
Southern Water Ecol.I Resilience	-	50,000	-	50,000	-	-	50,000
Southern Water Section 20	374,365	169,311	(69,679)	473,997	-	-	473,997
Southern Water Fish Pass	-	200,000	-	200,000	-	-	200,000
St Clair's Meadow	28,000	-	-	28,000	-	-	28,000
SWWFL Research	2,048	-	-	2,048	-	-	2,048
Test and Itchen Catchment Project	13,696	-	-	13,696	-	-	13,696
Wader & BG S106 Mitigation	-	450,000	-	450,000	-	-	450,000
Watercress & Winterbournes Project	458,717	-	(53,044)	405,673	-	-	405,673

Note 16 - Analysis of Charitable Funds for the Prior Year 2024/25 (continued)							
	Balance at 1 April 2024	Incoming resources & fund transfers in	Outgoing resources & funds expended	Balance before movements at 31 March 2025	Investment Gains/(Losses)	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
RESTRICTED FUNDS CONTINUED							
Wilder Hampshire	80,747	87,728	(69,615)	98,860	-	-	98,860
Wilder Marine	43,400	107,032	(139,932)	10,500	-	-	10,500
Wilder Wight	8,000	65,528	(68,528)	5,000	-	-	5,000
Wildlife Investment Fund	27,365	-	-	27,365	-	-	27,365
Restricted Funds	2,840,748	2,823,842	(1,055,625)	4,608,965	-	(80,000)	4,528,965
Restricted Heritage Assets	3,510,869	-	-	3,510,869	-	345,000	3,855,869
Total Restricted Funds	6,351,617	2,823,842	(1,055,625)	8,119,834	-	265,000	8,384,834
Permanent Endowment Fund:							
Ted Wallace Fund	4,508	-	-	4,508	-	-	4,508
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Endowment Funds	4,508	-	-	4,508	-	-	4,508
TOTAL CHARITABLE FUNDS	24,406,031	9,876,625	(7,970,871)	26,311,785	(94,274)	-	26,217,511

Note 17 - Analysis Of Net Assets Between Funds					
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Permanent Endowment Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	9,502,354	-	-	-	9,502,354
Heritage Assets	826,430	-	4,297,666	-	5,124,096
Fixed Asset Investments	1,631,658	3,000,000	-	-	4,631,658
Current Assets	(1,216,411)	4,192,087	5,233,972	-	8,209,648
Current Liabilities	(1,103,722)	-	-	-	(1,103,722)
Long Term Liabilities	(29,211)	-	-	-	(29,211)
Net Assets	9,611,098	7,192,087	9,531,638	-	26,334,823
Free Reserves Value					
	£3,205,117 (2025: £4,529,485)				
Free Reserves Months					
	6.1 months (2025: 7.9 months) Against Trust Policy of 4 months of unrestricted spend				

Note 17 - Analysis Of Net Assets Between Funds From Prior Year 2024/25					
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Permanent Endowment Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	9,173,591	-	-	-	9,173,591
Heritage Assets	826,430	-	3,855,869	-	4,682,299
Fixed Asset Investments	963,321	3,298,662	-	4,508	4,266,491
Current Assets	181,527	4,373,779	4,528,965	-	9,084,271
Current Liabilities	(989,139)	-	-	-	(989,139)
Long Term Liabilities	-	-	-	-	-
Net Assets	10,155,730	7,672,441	8,384,834	4,508	26,217,513
Free Reserves Value	£4,529,485 (2024: £5,127,584)				
Free Reserves Months	7.9 months (2024: 10.8 months) Against Trust Policy of 4 months of unrestricted spend				

Note 18 - Trading Subsidiaries			
a.	The wholly-owned subsidiary company, Arcadian Ecology and Consulting Limited , which is incorporated in England and Wales, donates its profits to the charity. The charity owns the entire share capital of 100 ordinary shares of £1.		
	Audited accounts for the subsidiary company are filed with the Registrar of Companies at Companies House.		
	A summary of the trading results is shown below:		
			2026 £
Turnover		- Third party	551,987
		- Group	-
Cost of sales		- Third party	(458,082)
Gross profit			93,905
Administration costs			-
Profit before taxation			93,905
Tax on profit on ordinary activities			-
Net profit			93,905
Share capital - 100 ordinary shares			100
			2026 £
Revenue Reserve			93,905

- b. The wholly-owned subsidiary company, **HIWWT Trading Limited**, which is incorporated in England and Wales. The charity owns the entire share capital of 100 ordinary shares of £1. The company was dormant throughout the current year.
- The registered address for the two subsidiaries is Beechcroft House, Vicarage Lane, Curdridge, Hampshire, SO32 2DP.

Note 19 - Operating Lease Commitments

The amount payable in respect of operating leases shown below are analysed according to the expiry of the leases.

	Land and buildings		Motor Vehicles	
	2026 £	2025 £	2026 £	2025 £
Within one year	22,868	21,785	57,402	-
Between two to five years	47,164	7,008	105,749	-
More than five years	259,528	120,888	-	-
	329,560	149,681	163,151	-

Note 20 - Related Party Disclosures

The Trust owns all 100 of the issued £1 ordinary shares of HIWWT Trading Limited, which is currently dormant. The Trust also owns all 100 of the issued £1 ordinary shares of Arcadian Ecology & Consultancy Limited which trades externally as well as acting as an ecology consultancy for the Charity. At 31 March 2026 Arcadian Ecology & Consultancy Limited owed The Trust £81,832 (2025: The Trust owed Arcadian £39,000).

At 31 March 2026 HIWWT Trading Limited owed the Trust £nil (2025: £nil).

South West Wildlife Fundraising Limited (SWWFL) is a subsidiary company wholly owned by eight Wildlife Trusts predominantly in the South West region, including Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust. The liability limited to £1. SWWFL sells membership through face to face fundraising for its 8 owning Trusts as well as 4 further client Trusts. There is an annual service charge and commission payments for each new member recruited. The total value paid to SWWFL in the year was £374k (2025:£242k) and as at the 31 March 2026 the Trust owed South West Wildlife Fundraising Limited £17,934 (2025: SWWFL owed the Trust £12,964).

Trustees made donations to the Charity totalling £5,050 during the year (2025: £5,022).

Note 21 - Ultimate Controlling Party and Members’ Guarantee

The Trust is controlled by its members; no one member has overall control.

Note 22 - Legal Status Of The Charity

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

Note 23 - Donors, Grant Funders and Legacies Received

The Trust receives help and support, financial and otherwise, from many individuals (including members who give additional donations over and above membership fees), companies, government agencies, grant-making bodies and other organisations. In addition, we receive gifts from many people who kindly remember the Trust in their will. We would like to thank all of our supporters, as these generous donations are vital to the Trust and we would not be able to continue our work without them.

A list of some our donors, grant funders, legacies and supporters can be found on pages 82-83.

Note 24 - CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

Amounts contracted for but not provided in the financial statement amounted to £134,629 as at 31 March 2026 and related to the acquisition of tangible fixed assets.

Charity Information



Our Supporters

Donations in memory of:

John Spencer Ashworth
Desmond Barker
Michael Baron
Dr Ian Brown
Pam Cooper
Steve Crabtree
Michael John (Mike) Creighton
Malcolm Dodd

Richard Edwin
Graham Flatt
Ian Harrison
Katharine Hilton
Eileen Horne
Barbara & Robert Hull
Leonard Kail
Malcom Kaill

Charles Roy Kellow-Webb
Gerald Charles Lancaster
Audrey Moss-Bradnam
Betty Munday
Cliff Oakley
Mark O'Neill
Keith James Parker
Rosalind Rayfield

David (Dave) Rounce
Elaine Searle
Peter Sitch
Tony Sitch
Jennifer Elizabeth Worsfold

Gifts in Wills from:

Janet Mary Steel Baker
Sheila Margaret Barrett
Michael Bettsworth
Mr S Bowles
David John Burris
Ruth Mary Cairns

Margaret Clark
Janet Christine Cope
Alan Hastilow Dunkley
Josephine Amy Gordon-Watson
Theodore Kingsford (Theo) Jarman

Leslie Alan Joyce
Stephen Ronald Miles
Philip George Osborn
Gillian Hawke Preston
Jane Margaret Robertson
Cora Smith

Elizabeth Anne Thorn
Jean Winifred Townsend
Shirley Ann Wall

Funding to support our work and projects:

We wish to express our sincere gratitude to individual donors, corporate supporters, local authorities and grant funders for their generous support. With their assistance, we were able to recruit new trainee staff members and achieve continued success in our education and engagement programmes. We are grateful to the partners and donors who contributed to the management of our nature reserves and wider conservation projects, fostering nature recovery across our two counties. We'd also like to thank all who have supported our work but wish to remain anonymous. The number of donors involved makes it impossible to name everybody individually but we are truly grateful for your support.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| • Bird Aware Solent | Forest Sustainable Communities Fund | • The National Lottery Community Fund |
| • Blue Marine Foundation - Endangered Landscapes & Seascapes Programme | • New Forest National Park Authority - Species Survival Fund | • The National Lottery Heritage Fund |
| • East Head Impact | • North Wessex Downs National Landscape | • The Northcott Trust |
| • Environment Agency - Water Environment Improvement Fund | • Portsmouth City Council | • The Scott (Eredine) Charitable Trust |
| • Forestry Commission England | • Rowan Bentall Charitable Trust | • Verderers of the New Forest |
| • Gallagher Community Fund | • Silchester Parish Council | • Wild New Forest |
| • Hampshire Ornithological Society | • South Downs Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) & Section 106 | |
| • James Tuttielt Charitable Trust | • South Downs National Park Authority - Volunteer Conservation Fund | |
| • John Swire 1989 Charitable Trust | • The Annabel Abbs and Matthew Street Family Foundation | |
| • Lymington & Pennington Town Council | • The Greening Campaign | |
| • Milford Conservation Volunteers | • The Marden Charitable Trust | |
| • New Forest Biodiversity Forum | | |
| • New Forest National Park Authority - New | | |

Charity Information

Organisational Structure

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust is a registered charity (No. 201081) and a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales (No. 676313). VAT registration number 238466579. The charity was founded and incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 28 November 1960, as Hampshire and Isle of Wight Naturalists' Trust Limited. On 4 June 1991 the charity changed its name to Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust Limited, later simplifying it to Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust on 19 December 2006. Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust is a member of the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (registered charity number 207238), we're one of 46 Wildlife Trust members throughout the UK which are collectively known as The Wildlife Trusts. The charity has two subsidiary trading companies. The work of the subsidiary companies is overseen by a board of Directors which is accountable to Council. Day-to-day management of the Trust's two subsidiary companies is delegated to the Chief Executive who oversees their activity.

Arcadian Ecology & Consulting Limited

Established in 2016; Company No. 10033962. Arcadian Ecology & Consulting delivers a range of chargeable services including ecological surveys and the provision of land management advice. As a subsidiary of the Trust, Arcadian abides by the Trust's policies and procedures and staff are subject to the same terms and conditions of employment. Staff employed by the Trust have Group employment contracts and can work in the charity and subsidiaries. In 2024/25 the equivalent of 4.2 FTE staff worked on Arcadian activities.

HIWWT Trading Limited

Established in 2013; Company No. 08478757. HIWWT Trading provides the Trust with a vehicle for the

potential development of other trading activities in the future, such as retail sales. This company is currently dormant.

Charitable Purpose

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust has two charitable purposes in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and as set out in our Articles of Association: 1. For the benefit of the public, to advance, promote and further the conservation, maintenance and protection of the environment. 2. To advance the education of the public in the principles and practice of sustainable development and biodiversity conservation. In support of these purposes, the Trust promotes research in all branches of nature study and the publishing of the useful results thereof. The Trust delivers its charitable purposes through its strategic objectives as described in this report.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. The Trust's public benefit is enshrined in its charitable objectives and activities, providing multiple benefits for the public which are wide-ranging and long-lasting.

- Our nature reserves are used extensively by the public for quiet recreation; many have access on clearly marked paths along with information and interpretation for visitors.
- The land we manage provides a range of other public benefits such as flood risk management, carbon storage, pollination, pollution control and aesthetic beauty.
- Government and businesses are now recognising the essential role that nature plays in supporting the economy, not least through

the provision of these public goods and services.

- Through providing advice and assistance to farmers and landowners, the Trust helps to support the rural economy and wider landscapes valued by the public.
- We deliver an extensive education and engagement programme, inspiring thousands of people of all ages – from schools, colleges, adult groups and the wider public – to enjoy contact with the natural world and benefit from its positive effect on health and wellbeing.
- Evidence and advice provided by the Trust to local government, private companies, landowners and communities helps to ensure that decisions on policies relating to land management, development, and public health take full account of the public benefit of wildlife and a healthy environment.

Governance

Council

Council is the Trust's governing body, made up of 10–15 members who serve as both Trustees of the charity and Directors of the company. Trustees are elected by the members at the Annual General Meeting. Trustees can serve for three consecutive terms of three years and then must stand down for a year becoming eligible to stand again. The exception is that of the Chair and the Honorary Treasurer who can stand for a fourth consecutive term. All Trustees are volunteers, give freely of their time and have no beneficial interest in the company or charity. To ensure that Council is equipped to carry out its responsibilities it carries out skills analysis of existing members, inducts new members into the charity and provides Trustee training as required.

As part of the Trust's commitment to diversity and inclusion, to attract younger and more diverse voices onto the Board, the role of Associate Trustee has also been created. Whilst Associate Trustees do

not have the full legal liabilities and responsibilities of an elected Trustee, which means they cannot vote on resolutions, make any major decisions, or give instructions to Council, they can participate in all Board meetings and are encouraged to bring a fresh perspective, provide input and comment on recommendations to Council. The role of Associate Trustee provides a training ground for a potential future role as a Trustee.

Responsibilities of Council

Council meets on a quarterly basis. Trustees are responsible for setting the charity's strategic objectives and policies and for ensuring they're achieved. Under the Companies Act, Trustees as Directors of the company must prepare the Report of the Trustees and the Financial Statements for each financial year in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. Company law requires the financial statements to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure of the charitable company 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 Charity Statement of Recommended Practice;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on a 'going concern' basis unless it is inappropriate to;
- presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of

the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They're responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. Council is also responsible for assessing, managing and monitoring strategic risks to the delivery of the charity's purposes.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware;
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Committees, Advisory Panels & Working Groups

Council is assisted by Governance Committees that meet regularly and report to Council each quarter:

- Business & Finance Committee – provides expertise and advice to Council on all business and financial matters, undertakes scrutiny of accounts, maintains oversight of investments and financial controls, develops policy and provides advice on business risk and resource management.
- HR & Remuneration Committee – advises Council on HR matters, develops policy and strategy, monitors key HR metrics and provides a forum to discuss staff structure and succession planning along with the Trust's volunteer strategy. The committee also has oversight of staff remuneration and benefits.
- Nominations Committee – leads Trustee recruitment, induction and training along with Board succession planning.
- Council is also assisted by several advisory panels,

working groups and operational committees that meet and report to Council as required. This includes a combined Arcadian Board and Nature-based Solutions Working group to oversee this growing area of our work.

Staff Remuneration

The Trust uses a job scoring system based on a model developed by the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts. The Chief Executive has delegated authority to set salaries for staff using this system, alongside information from the Trust's external benchmarking process. The external benchmarking process is conducted no more than every three to five years to ensure that salaries remain competitive with the external market. Salaries for senior posts are agreed with Trustees. The Chief Executive's salary is set by the HR and Remuneration Committee using a similar process of assessment and confidential benchmarking.

Auditors

An independent audit is performed annually to fulfil the charity's legal obligations and for Council to ensure that the financial statements have been properly prepared and give a true and fair view. The auditor's report to the members of the charity is given on pages 42–44.

Registered Auditors: Saffery LLP, Midland House, 2 Poole Road, Bournemouth Dorset, BH2 5QY

Principal Bankers: Unity Trust Bank plc, Four Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2JB

Investment Managers: CCLA Investment Management Limited, Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4ET

Hargreaves Lansdown, 1 College Square South, Anchor Road, Bristol, BS1 5HL

Solicitors: Knights, 3rd Floor, Cumberland House, 15–17 Cumberland Place, Southampton SO15 2BG.

Our People

President

Megan McCubbin

Vice Presidents

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu
Roger Harrison
Harvey Jones
Chris Packham CBE

Members of Council

David Jordan OBE	Chair / Retired October 2025
Professor Joy Carter CBE	Chair / Elected October 2025
Richard Green-Wilkinson	Treasurer
Oliver Cooper	
Rachel Coyle MBE	Chair of Business and Finance Committee, Director of Arcadian Ecology and Consulting Limited
Oliver Cox	Vice-Chair of Council, EDI Trustee, Chair of Nominations Committee
Ned Densham	Elected October 2025
Henry Gardener	Data Protection & Cyber Security Trustee
Helen McCormack	Safeguarding Trustee

Julian Roberts	Retired October 2025
Charlotte Rose	Chair of Conservation & Science Advisory Panel
Victoria Thorp	Health and Safety Trustee
William Vine	Director of Arcadian Ecology and Consulting Limited
Matt Prescott	

Other members of Council (non-voting roles)

Alex Nicol-Harper	Associate Trustee
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Management: Senior Staff

Deborah Tann MBE	Chief Executive
Martin De Retuerto	Director of Nature Recovery
John Durnell	Senior Director of Operations
Jamie Marsh	Director of Land Management
Hannah Terrey	Director of Advocacy & Engagement
Natasha Thorneloe	Director of Finance & Resources
Ian Wadley	Director of Marketing & Fundraising
Company Secretary	Natasha Thorneloe

Management

Day-to-day management of the Trust and its two subsidiary companies is delegated to the Chief Executive, according to a Scheme of Delegation approved by Council. The Chief Executive reports to Council and works with a team of executive directors to deliver the work of the charity. The Senior Director of Operations oversees the day-to-day management of the trading subsidiary, Arcadian Ecology and Consulting Limited.

Registered office and principal address

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Beechcroft House, Vicarage Lane, Curdridge, Hampshire SO32 2DP. Tel: 01489 774400. www.hiwwt.org.uk

Thank you

Thank you to all our members, staff, volunteers, donors, and funders for their commitment to nature conservation. We would not be able to carry out our vital work to safeguard the wildlife and wild places of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight without your generous support.



**Hampshire &
Isle of Wight**
Wildlife Trust

For a wilder Hampshire and Isle of Wight

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
Beechcroft House, Vicarage Lane
Curdrige, Hampshire SO32 2DP

01489 774400
hiwwt.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 201081 | Company Limited by guarantee and registered in England No. 676313

Front cover: Eurasian otter

Back cover: Adonis blue butterfly

