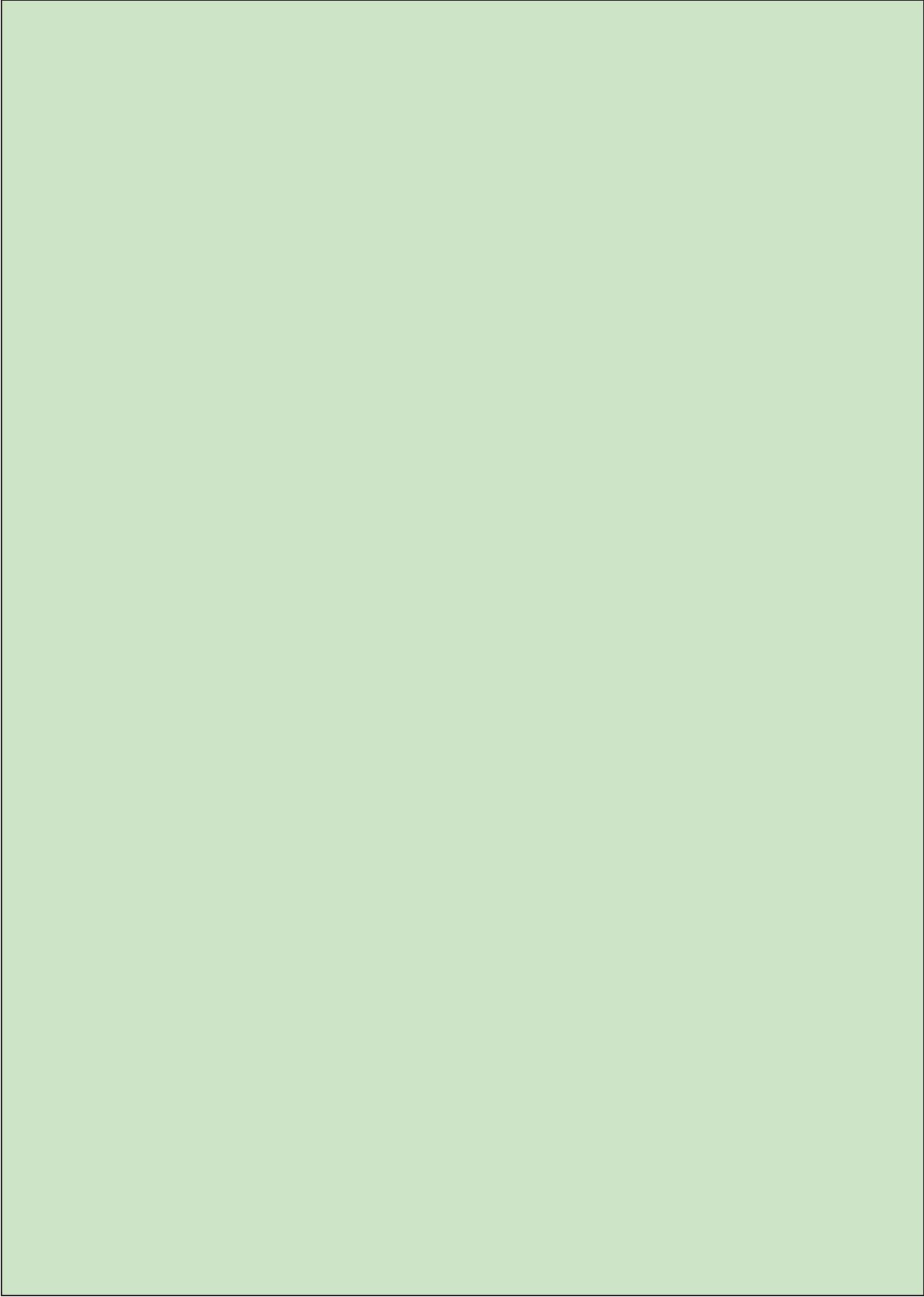


Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts Annual Report and Accounts 2018-2019





Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

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for the year ended 31 March 2019

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Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR AND POLICY REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2019

It has been an extraordinary year with a sudden uprising in environmental awareness and direct action on the streets by new groups such as Extinction Rebellion. But in Westminster, Brexit continued to dominate political debate with all the risks it brings to our existing environmental protections. As part of the coalition Greener UK we won an historic amendment to the Withdrawal Act which forced the Westminster Government's hand on environmental legislation. This, combined with a more ambitious and energetic Secretary of State for the Environment, had a remarkable effect. The first part of a Westminster Environment Bill was published in draft (although it was too weak in terms of the proposed watchdog) and a relatively progressive Agriculture Bill started its passage in Parliament. Neither this or the Fisheries Bill completed their journey however due to wider political deadlock.

Throughout this, The Wildlife Trusts sustained calls for a truly ambitious approach to nature's recovery in Westminster and the devolved nations. The latter was led by the Trusts in those nations who continue to influence their own decision-makers during a particularly difficult time for the Union. In Westminster, we presented the challenge paper Towards a Wilder Britain to 48 MPs calling for Nature Recovery Networks in law. We also held a major conference of over 250 Wildlife Trust people in September and developed a brilliant two-minute animated film of Wind in the Willows, viewed over 1.6 million times. The aim being to engage new audiences in calling for a Wilder Future, people who share our belief that nature is valuable in its own right, as well as being essential for our existence.

Over the new year we secured brilliant broadsheet and tabloid coverage of our marine review of the year. By securing 22,000 signatures for our Wave of Support campaign we helped encourage the Westminster Government to designate a full third batch of marine protected areas off the coast of England. We tackled the growing threat to marine wildlife from expansive proposals for offshore wind turbines by talking to the industry and government. Whilst very supportive of renewable energy generation, it has real impacts on our remaining harbour porpoises and kittiwakes as well as raising concerns for the seabed and coastal habitat damage from cabling.

We deepened relations with the National Lottery Heritage Fund as it went through a strategy review and continued to support major initiatives in the Trusts. People's Postcode Lottery's substantial unrestricted funds helped Trusts run Forest Schools in various locations. Our Bright Future, a major youth and environment programme funded by the National Lottery Communities Fund continued to

change lives across the UK. The young people involved agreed upon three priority policy changes they wanted to see and some took part in two fabulous Parliamentary receptions. Over a hundred young environmentalists had a chance to influence their MPs in Parliament. We were also delighted to win a £6.4m bid to the Westminster Government for Nature Friendly Schools which we started work on as the year ended.

68,000 people signed up to the fourth year of 30 Days Wild and a Care Home in Nottinghamshire blazed a trail by involving its residents in a random act of wildness every day in June. The positive impact of time outdoors connecting with nature led to reduced agitation and falls in the Care Home and inspired a 30 Days Wild Care Home pack for 2019 taken up by nearly 600 Homes.

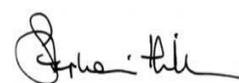
We were pleased at the growing profile we were securing for our cause in the mainstream press and social media and also with our long-term partnerships with businesses including Jordan's Cereals, Siemens, Vine House Farm, and Aggregate Industries.

We continued to roll out a new Customer Relationship Management system and, along with a group of Trusts, we moved to a new finance system. We developed our Talent and Skills programme for people in our movement and continued with our annual conferences, open days, seminars and webinars. This year TWT Council also undertook a full Stakeholder Review, with a trustee visiting every Trust and holding confidential structured interviews. An independent consultant analysed these views and we shared her report.

Finally, we were sad that our wonderful President Emeritus Professor Aubrey Manning OBE passed away in October. We were pleased the great man had full recognition in the Obituaries and on Radio 4's Last Word.



Peta Foxall
Chair



Stephanie Hilborne, OBE
Chief Executive



REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered name	Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT)
Also known as	The Wildlife Trusts (TWT)
Previously known as	Society for the Promotion of Nature Reserves (SPNR) Society for the Promotion of Nature Conservation (SPNC) Royal Society for Nature Conservation (RSNC)
Registered charity number	207238
Trading subsidiary	The Wildlife Trusts Services Limited
Head office address	The Kiln Waterside Mather Road Newark NG24 1WT
Principal bankers	NatWest Bank 225 High Street Lincoln LN2 1AZ
Investment managers	Sarasin & Partners LLP Juxon House 100 St Paul's Churchyard London EC4M 8BU
Pension scheme administrators	Capita Employee Benefits Ltd 65 Gresham Street London EC2V 7NQ
Solicitors	Andrew & Co LLP St Swithin's Court 1 Flavian Road Nettleham Road Lincoln LN2 4GR
Auditor	Saffery Champness LLP 71 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4BE

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2019

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

RSWT is a body corporate, incorporated under the Royal Charter of 2 March 1976, as amended in 1981, 1994, 1998, 2003 and 2007.

Patron	HRH The Prince of Wales	
President	Tony Juniper CBE	to 22 April 2019
Presidents Emeritus	Sir David Attenborough OM CH CVO CBE FRS FLS FZS FSA FRSGS Prof Aubrey Manning OBE FRSE FRSB Simon King OBE	died 20 October 2018
Vice Presidents	Prof J Chris Baines Nick Baker Ellie Harrison Prof David Macdonald CBE FRSE Bill Oddie OBE Julian Pettifer OBE Prof Sir Robert Worcester KBE	from 28 November 2018
TWT Council:		
Chair	Peta Foxall	
Vice Chair	Bill Stow CMG	to 28 November 2018
Hon Secretary	Stewart Goshawk	
Hon Treasurer	Michael Power	to 28 November 2018
	Genevieve Landricombe	from 28 November 2018
Chair of TWT England	Prof Rod Aspinwall OBE	to 28 November 2018
Policy Committee	Steve Garland	from 28 November 2018
Other Trustees:	Carole Nicholson (Chair of Audit) Peter Young Ian Brown Ruth Sutherland Anne Selby Jennifer Fulton Jonathan Hughes Rob Pickford OBE David Jordan OBE	to 25 January 2019 from 28 November 2018 from 28 November 2018
Chief Executive	Stephanie Hilborne OBE	

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2019

Appointment and induction of Trustees

TWT Council comprises the Chair, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, one Wildlife Trust-nominated Trustee from each of Scotland, Wales and Ulster, the Chair of The Wildlife Trusts England Policy Committee and four other Trustees nominated by the English Wildlife Trusts. Trustees are elected by the corporate members at the Annual General Meeting. TWT Council appoints a Vice Chair.

The Chair is elected to serve a single five-year term. Honorary Officers are elected, and other Trustees are appointed or elected, for up to two terms of three years. TWT Council may also have two additional members possessing specialist skills, knowledge or expertise, as assessed by a skills audit.

The Chair introduces new Trustees at their first TWT Council meeting. New Trustees are also given access to a dedicated intranet website which includes the charity's key documents, including its Royal Charter, Governance Handbook, Financial Standing Orders, latest Annual Report and Accounts, Five Year Plan, budget, minutes of recent TWT Council meetings, relevant Charity Commission publications, and the Charity Trustee Network's 'Code of Conduct for Trustees'. New Trustees are also invited to attend induction sessions at the RSWT's office in Newark at the earliest convenient opportunity to receive introductory briefings on key work areas.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the group and parent charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the Royal Charter. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the group and parent charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2019

Organisational structure

The Royal Charter gives TWT Council the powers to:

- administer the affairs of RSWT under the Bye-laws,
- exercise all the powers of RSWT, subject to the Bye-laws, and
- determine the policy of RSWT.

TWT Council, as RSWT's governing body, is ultimately responsible, and directly accountable, to the charity's corporate members, the 46 independent Wildlife Trusts. TWT Council operates a number of sub-committees and panels. The main committees of The Wildlife Trusts Council are:

- The Wildlife Trusts England Policy Committee
- The Wildlife Trusts Countries Committee
- The Wildlife Trusts Resources and Audit Committee
- The Wildlife Trusts Strategic Development and Research Committee
- The Wildlife Trusts Marketing and Development Committee

And main boards overseeing partnership programmes and grants:

- Biffa Award Grants Board
- Our Bright Future Steering Group
- Red Squirrels United Partnership Management Board

TWT Council is the primary leadership group for The Wildlife Trusts (TWT), aiming to deliver its stated purpose and mission. It also aims to lead TWT in pursuit of excellent collective governance, ensuring a TWT strategy is in place and that the role of the central charity is clearly identified and effectively delivered.

TWT England Policy Committee has delegated authority to set English policy issues relating to our outcomes ranging from people being closer to nature to marine conservation.

TWT Countries Committee's purpose is to focus on building trust and understanding between the respective parts of the UK and headline political discussions relating to coordinating policy across the four countries.

TWT Strategic Development and Research Committee has responsibility for recommending TWT's development and research priorities to TWT Council and for allocating grants from the Strategic Development Fund that further TWT's agreed strategic objectives.

TWT Resources and Audit Committee has responsibility for the operational effectiveness of TWT as well as for overseeing the central charity's own resources.

TWT Marketing and Development Committee's purpose is to support the development of the movement's strategic approach to marketing, fundraising, mass communications and external reputation.

The Biffa Award Board has delegated powers to make grant offers in respect of our major grant fund, in accordance with the terms agreed with the respective funding bodies. The Biffa Award Board comprises six members, with RSWT and Biffa Group Ltd each appointing three members.

The Our Bright Future Steering Group involves all eight key partners overseeing this major programme of youth and environment work funded by £33m from the Big Lottery Fund.

The Red Squirrels United Project Management Board includes representatives from each of the partner organisations.

Trustee nominations and those for main committees are considered by a standing Nominations Advisory Panel before being presented to Council and onwards to the AGM in the case of Trustees.

Much of the organisation's work is undertaken by a team of staff, reporting to a Chief Executive who is accountable exclusively to TWT Council for achieving TWT's strategic objectives and for complying with TWT Council's policies.

Remuneration of key personnel

In accordance with the agreed job evaluation framework and available benchmarking information, the Chief Executive has delegated authority to agree salaries. He/she will normally do so in conjunction with HR

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2019

executives or, for Director level posts, with the input of key trustees. The Chief Executive's own salary is set by the Chair and Honorary Officers.

Fundraising

The individual Wildlife Trusts manage relationships with more than 840,000 members between them. These members make up our movement and when members are asked for financial contributions it is done in a responsible, respectful and ethical manner. The same applies to all our supporters including those giving one-off donations or legacies to RSWT or to their Wildlife Trust. We are always seeking to improve the ways in which we relate to supporters and RSWT helps Wildlife Trusts to develop and share best practice. To demonstrate our commitment to ethical fundraising practices, RSWT is an organisational member of the Fundraising Regulator and the Institute of Fundraising, and adheres to their recognised standards.

The Wildlife Trusts do not believe in approaching vulnerable people for financial support and we aim to avoid causing distress to anyone.

We always want to exceed the expectations of our members and supporters in everything we do. However, we know that there may be times when we do not meet our own high standards. When this happens, we want to hear about it, in order to deal with the situation as quickly as possible and put measures in place to stop it happening again. As such, we have a Complaints Policy in place, to enable members and supporters to contact us and express their concerns. Further information on our Complaints Policy can be found on our website: www.wildlifetrusts.org/complaints-policy

We are also committed to disclosing the number of complaints received. No complaints relating to RSWT's fundraising practices were received between 1 April 2018 – 31 March 2019.

We are proud of our corporate partnerships and seek to work with businesses with whom we share common cause. Any new collective corporate partnerships are subject to full scrutiny through well-established governance processes. Ongoing partnerships are governed by clear contractual obligations, relationship management and ongoing review and scrutiny by governance committees.

OBJECTIVES AND KEY ACTIVITIES

Supporting the work of The Wildlife Trusts

The Wildlife Trusts comprise 37 local Wildlife Trusts in England, five in Wales and a Trust for each of Ulster, Scotland, Isle of Man and Alderney. RSWT supports the whole federation and also represents the 37 English Trusts in advocating policy at an England level, including in Westminster. All 46 Trusts are corporate members of RSWT. A separate charity, Wildlife Trusts Wales, acts for the five Welsh Wildlife Trusts to ensure an effective interface with the Welsh Government.

In this way the federation benefits both from local ownership and from a voice at each country level and across the UK into the European Union.

Taken together The Wildlife Trusts are the greatest force for nature's recovery and people's connection to wildlife in the UK, working in the countryside, in cities and at sea.

The Wildlife Trusts' combined income is around £150 million, with over 840,000 members, including 150,000 junior members. There are 40,000 volunteers, including 600 Trustees, and more than 2,800 staff.

The Wildlife Trusts' vision is of people close to nature, with land and seas rich in wildlife.

Our mission is to bring about living landscapes, living seas and a society where nature matters.

We aim to:

- Ensure a wildlife-rich natural world contributes to the health and wellbeing of our society.
- Put a wildlife-rich natural world at the heart of education and learning for all.
- Make it normal for all housing, commercial and infrastructure development to contribute positively to nature's recovery, on land and at sea.
- Make farming and fisheries management positive forces for nature's recovery.
- Place wildlife-rich catchment and ecological solutions centre-stage in flood risk and drought management, and in water purification.
- Restore and maintain our soils as the foundation of sustainable food production and long-term carbon storage – particularly in peatlands.
- Shift the basis of the economy so that it fully reflects the true value of a healthy natural environment.

The financial statements in this Annual Report and accounts refer only to the income and expenditure of the central charity in The Wildlife Trusts, RSWT. Each Trust also produces its own annual report and accounts.

RSWT carries out three key external functions at a UK and England level which are to:

1. promote The Wildlife Trusts' cause,
2. manage key relationships and grants, and
3. influence government policy and decision making in favour of wildlife.

Within The Wildlife Trusts, RSWT also acts to:

4. provide infrastructure support to ensure The Wildlife Trusts operate effectively as a collective,
5. drive collective governance, strategy and evidence collation,
6. manage central resources, and
7. administer partnership programmes and grants.

How we have worked to achieve the above objectives is shown in the Achievements and Performance section beginning on page 10.

The impact of the movement's work on real places and real communities is astonishing in terms of: the land area managed for wildlife, which nears 100,000 hectares; the many places saved from the wrong form of development; and the hundreds of thousands of people inspired about, and learning about, wildlife.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
TRUSTEES' REPORT
for the year ended 31 March 2019

RSWT's impact is not on the ground in the same way. In the next five years RSWT will work to:

- Communicate the movement's beliefs, values and work effectively through the website, media and social media, and support Trusts with their own communications. This work will seek to grow appreciation of the value of a healthy world to society and the economy, to our health and wellbeing and future business.
- Build relations with key decision makers in Westminster, Whitehall, the private sector, grant givers, others in the sector and beyond, and support Trusts in this regard.
- Develop our influencing work and campaigns to achieve our charitable aims as they relate to: education and learning, health and wellbeing, housing and development, food, farming and fisheries, soil and water, and natural capital; building the case for progressive policies and legislation that contribute to nature's recovery.
- Continue to build the movement's effectiveness and efficiency by: investment in leadership training; ICT development programmes; and by support for income generation and financial management.
- Review strategies across the full range of our work within the context of our Development Strategy and Five Year Plan and invest in evidence gathering and benchmarking.
- Set and report against each year's key development priorities. Statistics are maintained on quantifiable aspects with other areas judged more subjectively.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

RSWT's contribution to achieving The Wildlife Trusts' vision during 2018/19 is set out below.

1. Promoting The Wildlife Trusts' cause

- Our media profile continued to grow, not least BBC's Countryfile and Springwatch, BBC and ITV News and various radio shows, as well as frequent coverage of key features in many national newspapers ranging from the Daily Mail to the Financial Times.
- Our social media audiences grew to over one million followers across all the main TWT accounts. This was boosted by the launch in March of our *Wilder Future Campaign* calling for statutory Nature Recovery Networks. This brilliant two-minute animation of Wind in the Willows had 1.6m views.
- Over 68,000 individuals signed up to 30 Days Wild in June, which was in its fourth year. 85% of participants were not members of Trusts. There was great coverage including a new audience of children introduced to Random Acts of Wildness via BBC Springwatch's new digital Wild Academy. We had a high-profile presence at the Countryfile Live and Birdfair events in August.
- Our '[Wave of Support](#)' e-campaign gathered 22,000 signatures for Marine Conservation Zones, and we were delighted that it had the full support and backing of RSPB and The National Trust who directed their members to our website.

2. Managing key relationships and grants

Grant funders

- Relations with the key lottery bodies able to invest in our cause deepened further with roundtables with National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) trustees, to discuss their future strategy. Our CEO was also involved in the parent Department of Culture, Media and Sport's review. The support of the NLHF remains fundamental to Trusts and generous grants allowed some major progress on the ground, not least in Suffolk.
- Strong relations with the Chair and CEO of the National Lottery Community Fund continued as this grant stream recognised the value of the environment to deprived communities and we celebrated the ongoing success of the £33m Our Bright Future programme.
- People's Postcode Lottery gave a generous £3.0m to the movement through RSWT and we attended their annual charity gala and other key events.
- We sustained positive relations with Banister Charitable Trust, reporting on the six current projects.
- We led a successful consortium bid to the Department for the Environment Food and Rural Affairs, winning £6.4m for a Nature Friendly Schools programme. The consortium consists of YoungMinds, Groundwork Trusts, Sensory Trust and the Field Studies Council.

The private sector

- Jordans Cereals continued to ensure their farmers received wildlife advice from local Wildlife Trusts and promoted membership of The Wildlife Trusts on cereal packs.
- We grew a new partnership with a number of house builders, following the launch of a new vision for future housing with wildlife in mind.
- We signed a new five-year contract with Vine House Farm, which we project will raise another £1 million for the movement over its course.
- More than 1,000 Siemens employees did Wild Wellbeing Days with their local Wildlife Trust and the results are impressive in terms of wellbeing and positive attitude.
- We signed a further partnership agreement with Aggregate Industries, involving funding for local Trust projects, a joint Leadership Award and the development of a natural capital approach for the business.
- We are providing management services to Network Rail, allocating and distributing £850k to habitat creation work as an offset to habitat lost during the electrification of the rail line through the Westcountry and South Wales and the construction of Crossrail. A total of £540k has been allocated to projects to date, including £26k to Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and £48k to Surrey Wildlife Trust.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2019

Government

- We met with tens of MPs from all parties and their constituent Trusts had hundreds of meetings during the year to build trust and understanding of the environmental implications of Brexit, of the value of nature to mental health and wellbeing and more and we spoke at fringe meetings at the Liberal Democrats, Labour and Conservative party conferences.
- Our parliamentary reception in November celebrated TWT's empowerment of young people throughout the UK and gave them the opportunity to have their voices heard by their MPs.
- A further Parliamentary reception focused on environmentally sustainable farming, was organised with Greener UK and Wildlife Countryside LINK, and attended by more than 50 MPs and Peers.

3. Influencing government (Westminster) policy and decision making in favour of wildlife

- We succeeded through Greener UK in securing an amendment to the EU Withdrawal Act, resulting in a Government commitment to introduce a new green watchdog and to enshrine the environmental principles in law, at least for England. More than 6,000 messages were subsequently sent to Defra via our e-action campaign to influence the wording of this new governance framework.
- We published our new report on how to create a Nature Recovery Network '*Towards a Wilder Britain*', and launched it at a drop-in event in Parliament attended by 48 MPs. We also published a document for the Secretary of State on *Achieving Nature's Recovery in practice*. We secured the support of other NGOs in Greener UK for putting this at the heart of any future Bill and championed it to Defra.
- We called for a clear purpose for the Agriculture Bill around sustainable land management, to deliver substantial funding for investment in ecological improvements and for a clear regulatory baseline, again promoting amendments to the Bill through Greener UK. We responded to Defra's Agriculture Consultation and met senior Defra civil servants responsible for the new Environmental Land Management System who reacted positively to our proposals. Our oral evidence to the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee was cited in the Committee's report on their inquiry into the consultation.
- We continued to challenge the badger cull, including submitting evidence to the Government's Bovine TB Strategy review; and to challenge damaging road proposals such as the Oxford to Cambridge motorway and High Speed 2. HS2 believe no net loss of biodiversity is enough but we want to see net gain if the scheme does go ahead. We met with them to discuss our concerns and gave evidence to the Hybrid Bill Select Committee. We also continued to engage with Highways England on the next Roads Investment Strategy and the designated funds – working on improving the current process.
- We promoted the designation of further Marine Conservation Zones and influenced the Government's Fisheries White Paper, meeting with the opposition spokesperson on fisheries to encourage him to support agreed Greener UK policies and influence the Fisheries Bill.
- Our work continued to establish effective underwater noise management in the Southern North Sea's candidate Special Area of Conservation; securing the support of the Seabed Users Development Group. To raise the profile of the problem and challenge government we formalised a proposal for an offshore wind farm levy for this area, which would deliver strategic monitoring and mitigation. Lack of underwater noise management is also an issue we raised with the developer and Planning Inspectorate regarding Hornsea Three and Norfolk Vanguard offshore wind farms. We support renewable energy but not at any cost to the natural environment and the scale of proposed offshore development could lead to the extinction of the harbour porpoise in UK waters. So we also met with the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy to discuss the 'Review of Offshore Wind Farm Consents in the Southern North Sea.

4. Provide infrastructure support to ensure The Wildlife Trusts operate effectively as a collective

- Great conferences were held for The Wildlife Trusts' Chairs and Chief Executives in Cornwall and Chester, and a successful AGM in November had fantastic talks from internal and external contributors.
- RSWT open days were attended by over 80 people from across the movement and hundreds participated in leadership programmes, conferences, seminars and webinars.
- Our Campaign conference in September allowed over 250 Trust people to draw together a plan for raising the profile of our ambitions for nature's recovery, ultimately informing the *Wind in the Willows* film.
- The Wildlife Trusts new website platform was launched with 28 Trusts going live throughout the year – this provides for better imagery and an easier journey for users.
- A new Customer Relationship Management system is being taken up by Trusts saving them money and guaranteeing a better product, with six Trusts going live in the year. Similarly, WildNet, the movement-wide intranet continued to grow and associated Trust intranets were launched. Our new finance system,

Xledger, went live for RSWT and four Trusts on 1 April 2018, with a further four Trusts working together to go live on 1 April 2019.

5. Driving Collective Governance, Strategy & Evidence Collation

- Our five-year Development Strategy for the movement summarising our beliefs, values and theory of change was published in A5 form and became the cornerstone of our external relations; whilst new mini-strategies for each of eight key aims were drafted. Evidence sections for each of these were developed.
- We continued working with the University of Essex to research the health and wellbeing data gathered through the Siemens relationship, and to investigate how different language and activities can help drive positive behaviour change. We also secured investment for the University of Essex to review our impact data and advise on the project evaluation.
- We took part in the initial phase of a Defra commissioned investigation into the motivations and behaviours of young people and now also sit on the steering group for the research.

6. Managing central resources

- We continued to work on the ongoing challenges of Section 75 issues in relation to The Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme, successfully negotiating and implementing a flexible apportionment arrangement that has enabled RSWT to remain as a participating employer in the Scheme. Meanwhile, facing onerous and costly legislation aimed at commercial master trust pension arrangements, the Defined Contribution section of the Scheme has been closed. RSWT worked with affected Trusts to support them in setting up new pension arrangements for affected employees.
- We completed a full Stakeholder Survey, with a member of TWT Council visiting every Trust in person to hold a structured interview with recorded results analysed by an external consultant. Results will be used to inform the next RSWT five year plan 2020-2025

7. Administering Partnership Programmes and Grants

Grant-making policy

Grants are made subject to the terms and conditions placed upon RSWT by the relevant funding bodies. Biffa Award grants are subject to the approval of a board comprising nominees of Biffa and RSWT. Detailed criteria and procedures for applying for grants from Biffa Award can be found on the website: www.biffa-award.org. Grants from RSWT's own unrestricted funds are made at the discretion of TWT Council.

Biffa Award programme

A major part of RSWT's turnover relates to the administration and distribution of Landfill Communities Funds through the Biffa Award programme. Our work in this area seeks to distribute these funds to achieve the maximum benefit for the environment, local communities and UK biodiversity.

The strategies, activities and achievements for these programmes during 2018/19 are described below. Details of the grants offered during the year can be found in Note 30.

The Biffa Award programme aims to support organisations in England and Northern Ireland in improving their local community and the environment. The programme funds projects which either:

- provide or improve public amenities for communities, or
- contributes to rebuilding biodiversity.

Such projects must be within five miles of a Biffa operation or 10 miles of a Biffa landfill site. The distance criteria is increased to within 15 miles of a Biffa operation in the case of environmental projects.

Key Activities & Achievements

A total of £5.9 million of Biffa Award grants were awarded this year to 48 organisations in England and Northern Ireland. Cumulatively, £175 million has now been awarded since 1997 across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2019

Highlights of the year included:

- the launch of a new Partnership scheme allocating 60% of income to Built Environment and Natural Environment projects. The first round of funding distributed £1.6m to three Built Environment projects. Four Natural Environment projects were awarded £1.7m in round two.
- The team exceeded the Government's challenge to maintain the Programme's administration charges within 7.5% of project expenditure, coming in at 7.3% of project expenditure.
- A three year Environmental project with Buglife has completed. The project exceeded its initial targets creating nine new buzzing cities in Bristol, Ipswich, Leeds, Leicester, St Austell, Birmingham, Cardiff, Plymouth and York. The project established 80 buzzing hotspots per city and engaged more than 11,700 people across 973 sites.

Our Bright Future

Leading a consortium of eight partner organisations, TWT oversees a £33.2m portfolio of 31 projects across the UK. All the projects enable young people to build their skills and confidence, their leadership capability, their connection to the environment and make a genuine positive difference to the environment. The National Lottery Community Fund support means that each project will be embarking on different work to engage young people with the environment, empowering them as people and as environmental leaders. Work will go into building relations with the 200 organisations involved in the projects, for the benefit of at least 100,000 young people in activities ranging from creating social enterprises to campaigning for nature conservation.

Key Activities & Achievements

- All 31 projects launched in March 2016; by the end of March 2019, projects had already engaged with more than 90,000 young people.
- A parliamentary event was held at Westminster on 5 March, with 50 MPs, more than 30 project staff and 55 young people attending. Nineteen MPs were photographed with the pledge 'I support schools having at least one hour per day of lesson time outside'.
- The programme's innovative Share Learn Improve ethos has continued to strengthen a collective programme identity for the 31 projects who work together to share ideas, learnings and best practice.

Red Squirrels

Red Squirrels United is one of the largest non-native invasive species projects in Europe seeking to conserve red squirrels in nine main areas across the UK. The project consists of eight partners led by TWT involving Forest Research, Red Squirrels Trust Wales, Newcastle University and four Wildlife Trusts. The project is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund (£1.4m) to match fund a €1.6m EU LIFE14 grant.

Key Activities & Achievements

- During the year the project has made excellent progress on project deliverables and engaging the wider community with excellent levels of regional media coverage and television appearances
- Seven new volunteer groups were created in 2018. Five in Northern Ireland, one in Merseyside and one in North Wales
- The Mourne in Northern Ireland are now virtually clear of grey squirrels and Anglesey remains grey squirrel free
- The third annual knowledge fair was held in March 2019, Southport, Liverpool. The focus was on evolving management techniques for grey squirrel control and red squirrel conservation and provided an important opportunity for knowledge sharing and lesson learning. It also provided an opportunity for UK-wide networking for red squirrel conservationists and allowed us to link with other UK and EU funded projects.
- TWT also works alongside Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels, led by the Scottish Wildlife Trust.

Nature Friendly Schools

TWT led a consortium to secure £6.4m from the Department for Education for the new Nature Friendly Schools project, which will bring thousands of children closer to nature. Teachers will receive training to link outdoor learning to the National Curriculum, students will visit local nature reserves or parks, and have the opportunity to experience wildlife on their doorstep through new nature areas in school grounds. The partnership includes a number of English Wildlife Trusts, YoungMinds, Groundwork, Field Studies Council and Sensory Trust. Project set up activity will begin in summer 2019.

Key factors relevant to achievement of RSWT's objectives

The continued support of our corporate members, the 46 individual Wildlife Trusts, remains key to the ability of RSWT to continue to achieve its objectives.

The recognition and support of all those we work closely with and their trust in our knowledge and capability are also key.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

RSWT's public benefit is enshrined in its charitable objects, as set out in the Royal Charter, being: 'to promote the conservation and study of nature, the promotion of research into such conservation and to educate the public in understanding and appreciating nature, in the awareness of its value and in the need for conservation'.

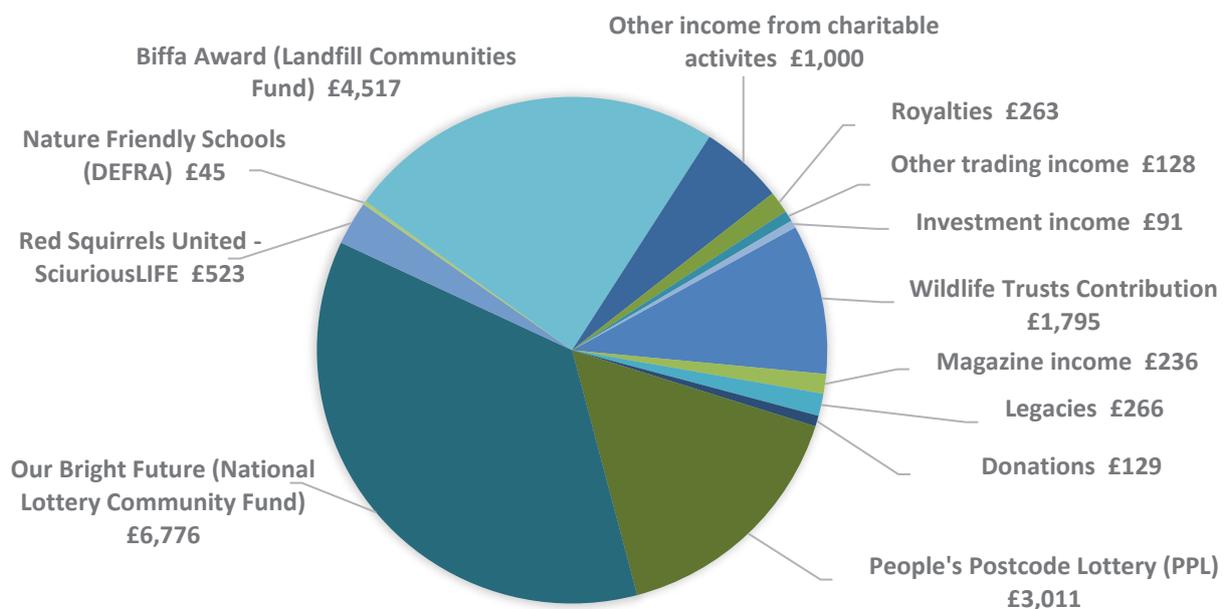
RSWT fulfils its objects and delivers its public benefit through two main strands of activity: Supporting the work of The Wildlife Trusts, and distributing grant funding to a wide range of external organisations through RSWT's Grants Unit programmes.

FINANCIAL REVIEW OF THE YEAR

Statement of Financial Activities

Incoming resources

2018/19 Total Income £18,781 (£'000)



RSWT is very grateful for bequests included in legacy income from the estates of the following individuals:

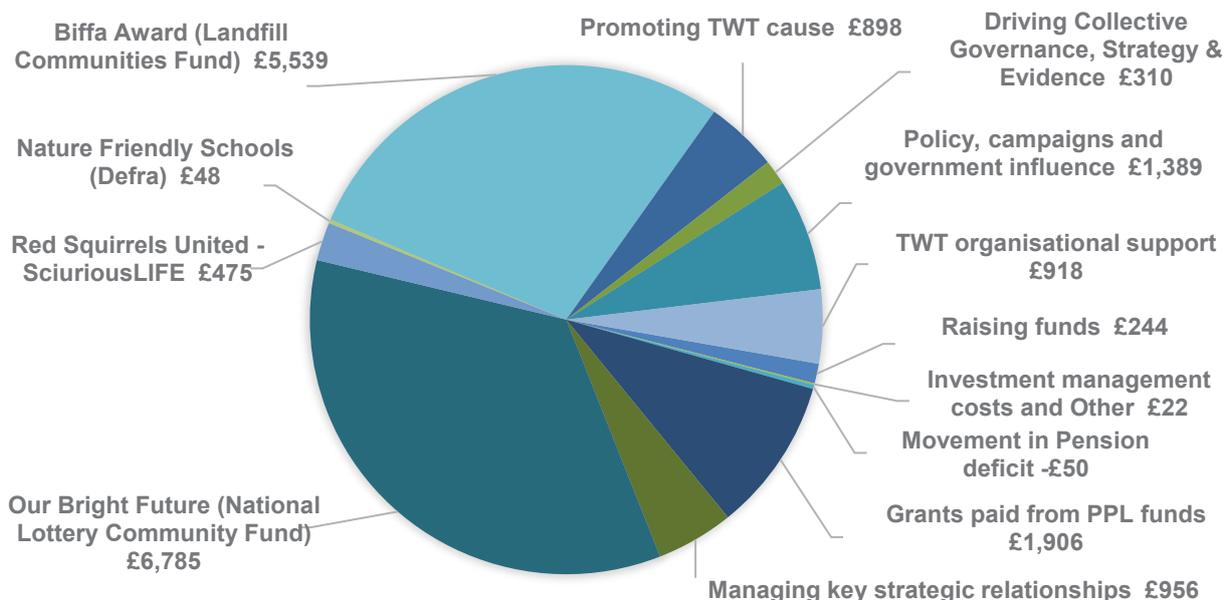
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Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
TRUSTEES' REPORT
for the year ended 31 March 2019

Resources expended

Total expenditure during the year amounted to £19.4 million (2018: £19.5 million) of which expenditure on charitable activities totalled £19.2 million (99% of the total).

2018/19 Total Expenditure £19,440 (£'000)



Trading activities

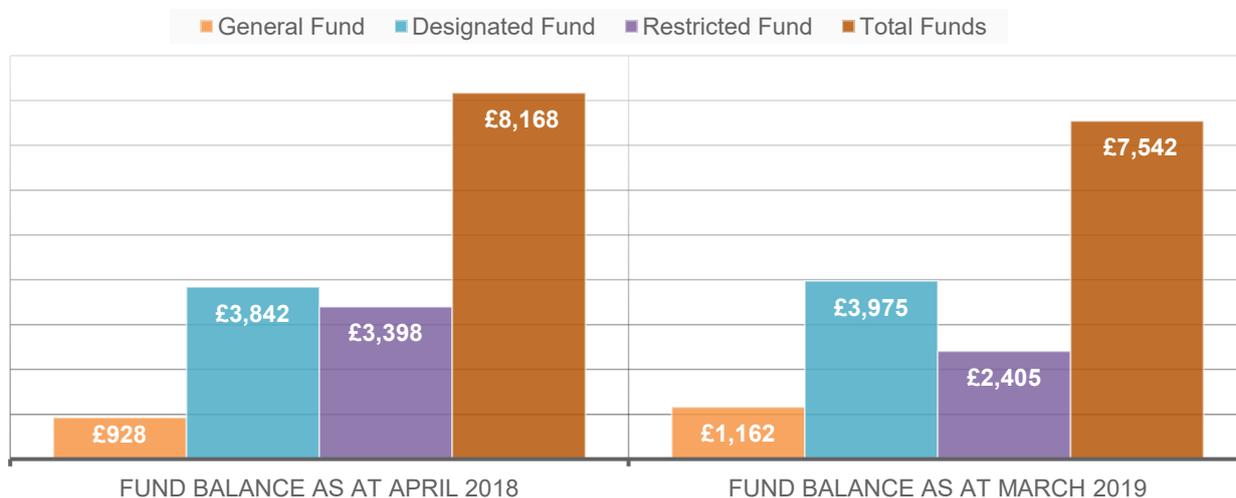
The charity's trading subsidiary, The Wildlife Trusts Services Limited, provides services to Wildlife Trusts. Subsidiary turnover was £614,000 (2017/18: £295,000), primarily relating to income from corporate relationships. After making a net gift aid donation to the charity of £101,000 (2017/18: £33,000), the subsidiary reported a net profit before tax of £0 (2017/18: £0).

Investment gain/loss

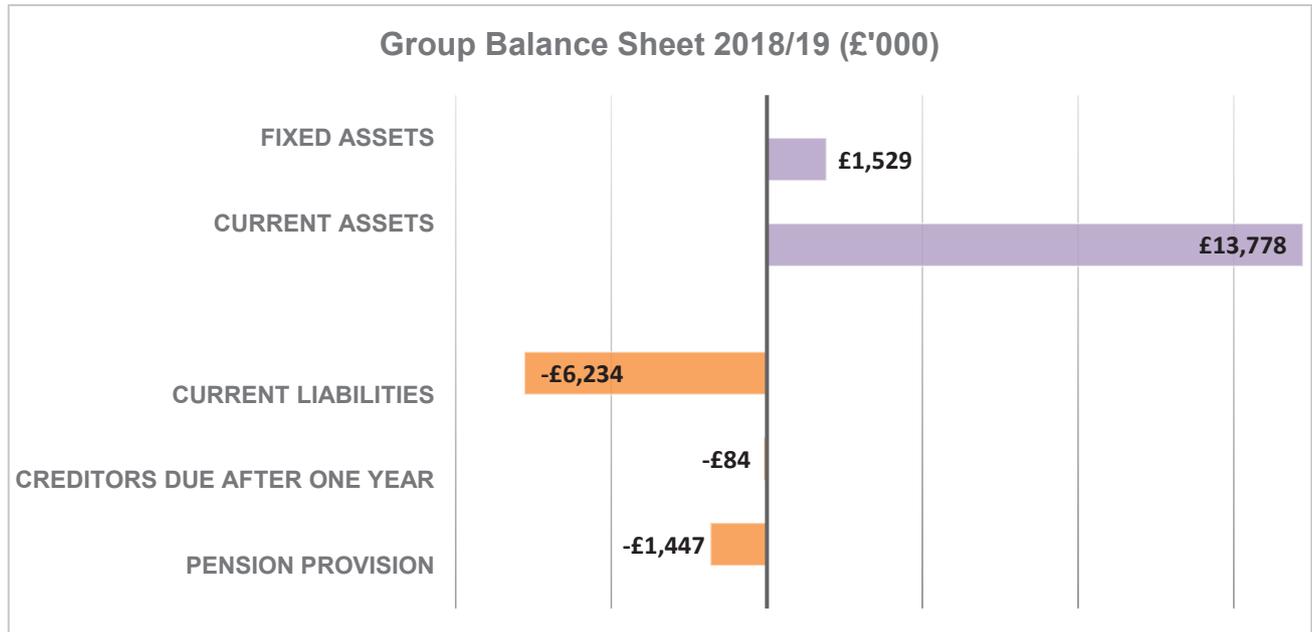
Our Sarasin Alpha Fund investments reported a gain of £44,000 (2017/18: £3,000) reflecting the movement in investment markets over the year.

Net movement in funds and fund balances

Fund Balances 2018/19 (£'000)



Balance Sheet

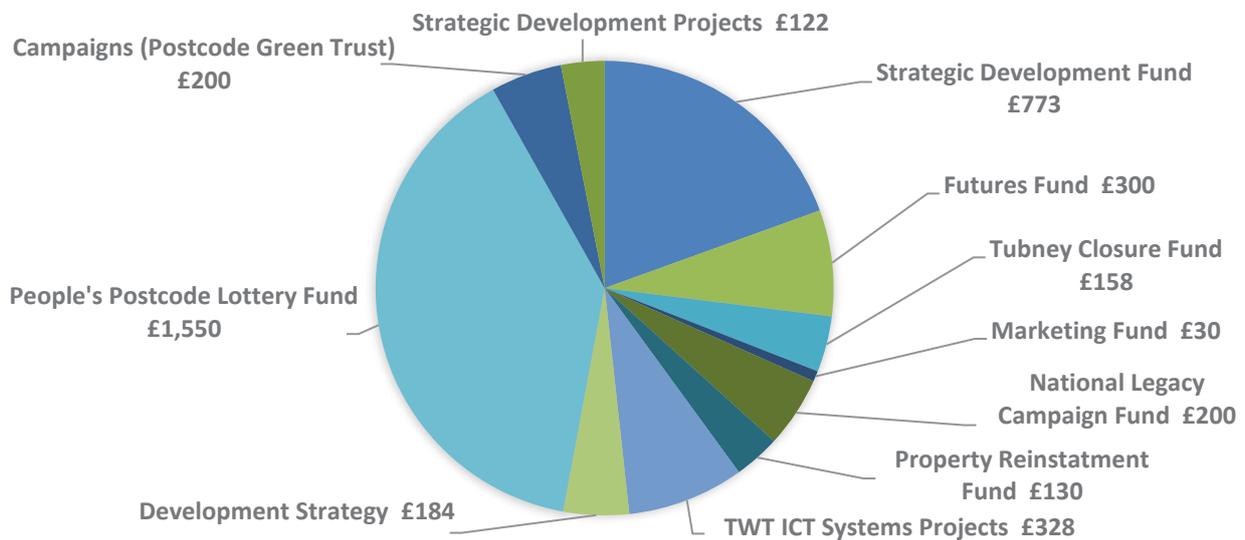


Financial Reserves

Designated funds

Designated funds are those unrestricted reserves that the Trustees have designated for particular purposes.

2018/19 Designated Funds £3,975 (£'000)



Free reserves

Free reserves provide the working capital requirements of the charity, whilst providing a buffer of liquid funds in case of any short-term decline in income, unexpected increase in costs or risk exposure. They are intended to ensure that contractual obligations to staff, premises and funding partners can be met. RSWT calculates its free reserves by deducting fixed assets from its general unrestricted funds.

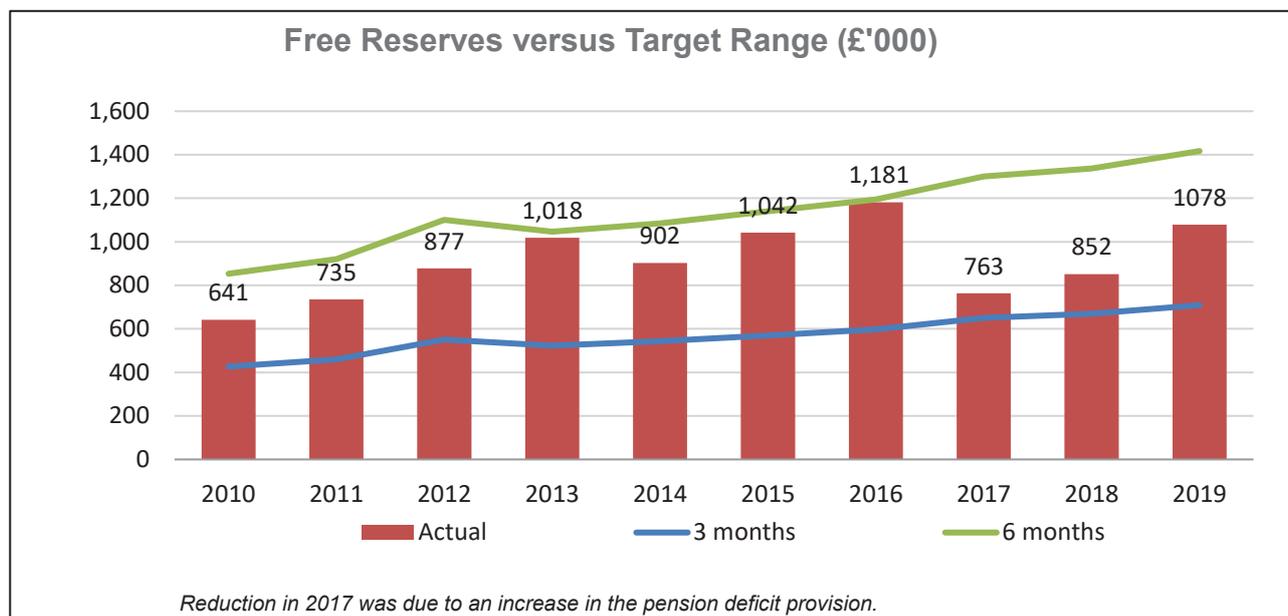
Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
TRUSTEES' REPORT
for the year ended 31 March 2019

Free Reserves Calculation	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
General Unrestricted Funds	1,162	928
Less: Tangible Fixed Assets	<u>(84)</u>	<u>(76)</u>
Free Reserves	<u>1,078</u>	<u>852</u>

The Trustees seek to maintain a level of free reserves of between three and six months' establishment and non-project staff costs. This currently equates to a range of £0.7 million to £1.4 million. The current level of free reserves is £1.1 million, falling within the target range and equating to approximately 4.6 months' core costs.

core costs.

The level of free reserves in recent years, compared with the target range, is shown in the chart below:



Investment policy

RSWT's Royal Charter empowers the Trustees to invest any funds not immediately required by the charity in any security authorised for the investment of Trust funds. The Trustees' investment objective is to maximise the charity's total return from investments, consistent with a moderate level of risk and a socially responsible investment policy.

Pension Commitments

The last full actuarial valuation of the Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme, as at 1 April 2016, reported a scheme deficit of £5.9 million.

In accordance with the revised schedule of contributions, RSWT's deficit recovery payments increased by 26% to £179,028 per annum, from August 2018, and will increase thereafter by 3% per annum. The repayment plan has been extended and it is anticipated that the deficit will be eliminated by August 2026. The total commitment at 31 March 2019 amounted to £1.58 million (2018: £1.66 million). The present value of this commitment, when discounted at the current yield on AA rated 15 year+ corporate bonds of 2.35% (2018: 2.58%), amounted to £1.45 million (2018: £1.48 million). This liability is reflected in the balance sheet, in accordance with FRS102.

Related parties

RSWT, together with a number of Wildlife Trusts, jointly participate as employers within The Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme, which is described in Note 12.

The charity has a wholly-owned trading subsidiary, The Wildlife Trusts Services Limited, which provides services on a commercial basis to The Wildlife Trusts and makes an annual gift aid donation to RSWT.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Support for The Wildlife Trusts

During the coming year, RSWT will continue to support the work of The Wildlife Trusts by:

- Ensuring that our beliefs are shared widely and raising the profile of nature's plight, the urgency for its recovery, and the need for people to be close to nature, exposing key risks and telling powerful stories.
- Supporting Trusts in their interface with the public and with their supporters to help recruit and retain members and funding.
- Deepening common cause with key partners, including the key Lottery bodies and corporate partners based on our beliefs and mission.
- Influencing the Westminster government and working with colleagues in the devolved nations to influence the future of environmental regulation, nature conservation, agriculture and fisheries after Brexit, assuming this goes ahead.
- Continuing to champion the need for world-leading environmental laws and governance that recognises nature's recovery is fundamental to our society, includes ambitious targets for recovery and a spatial approach.
- Pressing for designation and protection of marine protected areas and influencing decisions affecting these sites, not least fisheries and offshore developments.
- Supporting Trusts with take up and implement shared ICT systems including the Customer Relationship Management system and Collective Web platform; providing high- quality programmes of Talent and Skills training; and increasing the diversity of our staff and trustees.

Administration of Partnership Programmes and Grants

Biffa Award programme

Under legislation, the standard rate of Landfill Tax will increase from £88.95 per tonne to £91.35 from 1 April 2019. For 2019/20 the maximum percentage Landfill Tax that a site operator may claim for contributions to environmental bodies will remain at 5.3%. The programme's target for the percentage of total funds which should go towards Partnership projects has been maintained at 60% for 2019/20. Programme income and expenditure is expected to reduce in 2019/20.

Our Bright Future

Over the coming year, young people will continue to shape the programme through membership on the Steering Group, Evaluation Panel and Youth Forum. The mid-term evaluation report will be published, and learnings shared with projects, other delivery organisations, funders and decision makers.

Red Squirrels United

Over the next year of delivery, the partnership will focus on disseminating outputs from the programme. Evaluations of the conservation actions, effectiveness of the partnership and social attitudes toward red squirrel conservation will be conducted to demonstrate the impact of the programme and the outcomes disseminated through relevant media channels. Best practice videos and best practice guides will be published, and a final knowledge fair will be held to showcase the success of the project.

Nature Friendly Schools

The project will connect with thousands of schools over three academic years, of which 375 schools will receive direct delivery from the consortium. In the coming year, approximately 96 schools (primary, secondary, special and alternative provision) will take part in the project and approximately £1.3m of funding will be drawn down across the consortium.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trustees have examined the principal areas of RSWT's work and considered the major risks arising in each of these areas. In the opinion of the Trustees, RSWT has established processes and systems which, under normal circumstances, should allow the risks identified by them to be mitigated to an acceptable level

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
TRUSTEES' REPORT
for the year ended 31 March 2019

in its day-to-day operations. RSWT also compiles and shares The Wildlife Trusts' benchmarks on governance, finances and other issues to support risk management across the wider movement.

All our external work to promote our mission is affected by uncertainties in the political, economic and policy environment across the UK and in England. Brexit is the overriding risk given the strong and well implemented environmental regulations associated with our membership of the European Union. Also, whilst farm policy could improve, it could also be starved of budget and trade decisions and economic pressures could lead to more environmentally damaging farming techniques being used in some sectors. Changes to key rules about fishing also carries risks.

We have excellent relations with other environmental groups and are working together with key partners to influence the Brexit policy areas listed above through policy and legislation and public campaigning. We were active in building relations with Ministers and MPs, and in promoting our views to Government and business sectors. We continue to have a leading role in influencing policy affecting marine wildlife; farmland wildlife and ecological health and in calling for more ambitious domestic environmental legislation.

Other major risks include the building of damaging new infrastructure, such as major new roads, destructive bypasses and vast new areas of housing. The risks are made worse by the lack of ecological expertise in local authorities, cuts to the government agencies, and weakened planning policy in England. In mitigation we are actively engaged in influencing central and local Government planning policy and decisions, campaigning publicly where necessary. We also engage with forward looking developers.

Media attacks on the charity sector continue and whilst public trust in charities did grow after the Referendum, the growing raft of new controls on charity activities combined with new data protection rules require us to invest significant time and energy in extra administrative checks. Our movement helps with trust as we are local and have 650 trustees, so an unusually close governance eye on day to day activities. We are ensuring highly effective communication of new guidance and rules to the Trusts. We are expressing our beliefs and explaining how our organisation works more effectively to the public and members through our new website.

Pension deficit payments remain high despite our Final Salary scheme closing in 2005. We have funds centrally to meet these needs and this is shown as a liability on the balance sheet. There remain other risks with the scheme including new regulations that inadvertently could affect our scheme (though mostly now mitigated), and ongoing risks related to Section 75 of the Pensions Act.

As with any organisation we are exposed to the risk of loss of income, failures in executive or governance performance and loss of key trustees or senior staff. Loss of ICT functionality is another ongoing risk. We have a full business continuity plan and our ICT systems are kept very up to date, and consistently and comprehensively backed up. Our principal funding from individual Trusts is committed to March 2020 but a new five-year plan will be presented to the movement in November 2019. November 2018 saw the election of a new Treasurer for The Wildlife Trusts, Genevieve Landricombe. Several highly successful new appointments were made to the senior team in 2018, meaning that there is a strong team behind the Chief Executive who is due to leave in October 2019 after 15 years in the role. A strong process will be put in place for the recruitment of a new Chief Executive.

This Trustees' Report was approved by the TWT Council and signed on its behalf.



Peta Foxall
Chair
16 July 2019

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF WILDLIFE TRUSTS

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts for the year ended 31 March 2019 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, the consolidated and society balance sheets, the consolidated cash flow statement and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group and parent charity's affairs as at 31 March 2019 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources 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 Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and the parent charity 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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the group's or the parent charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

AUDITORS' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2019

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- the group and the parent charity has not kept sufficient accounting records; or
- the parent's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page five, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group's and the parent charity'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 charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under that Act.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' 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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors 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 charity and the trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Saffery Champness LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
71 Queen Victoria Street
London
EC4V 4BE

Date: 23rd July 2019

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

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

for the year ended 31 March 2019

Accounting convention

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Basis of consolidation

RSWT's wholly owned trading subsidiary, The Wildlife Trusts Services Limited, has been consolidated on a line-by-line basis in the SOFA and balance sheet.

Incoming resources

Income is generally recognised on a receivable basis and is reported gross of related expenditure, where there is entitlement and the amount is reasonably certain and when there is adequate probability of receipt. The specific bases used are:

- Donations include grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature.
- Legacies are recognised when there is sufficient evidence to provide the necessary probability that the legacy will be received and the value of the legacy can be measured with sufficient reliability. Income is not recognised for legacies which remain subject to a life interest.
- Fundraising income, comprising corporate sponsorship and royalties, is recorded when receivable.
- Subsidiary trading income is the total amount received for goods and services provided, excluding VAT and trade discounts.
- Contractual income is recorded when receivable.
- Investment income is recorded when receivable.
- Grants and donations are recognised once entitlement and value have been confirmed in writing.
- Grants and donations that are subject to donor imposed conditions that specify the time period in which the expenditure of resources can take

place are accounted for as deferred income and recognised as a liability until the relevant accounting period in which RSWT is allowed by the condition to expend the resource. Grants and donations without such pre-conditions are not deferred, even if the resources are received in advance of the expenditure on the activity funded by the grant or donation.

- Direct beneficiary lottery income from People's Postcode Lottery is recorded net. RSWT has no ability to alter the price of tickets, determine the prizes or reduce the management fee. As such, PPL is treated as acting as the principal and not RSWT. Therefore, only net proceeds due to RSWT are recognised under People Postcode Lottery (PPL) income in the statement of financial activities.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been allocated to the appropriate heading in the accounts.

- Fundraising costs relate to expenditure incurred in raising voluntary income for RSWT, fundraising trading costs and investment management costs.
- Charitable activities' expenditure relates to expenditure on meeting RSWT's charitable objects. This includes the costs of fundraising on behalf of individual Wildlife Trusts and the costs of publications, the primary purpose of which is environmental education, awareness and advocacy. It also includes all grant-making programmes.
- Support costs, including finance, human resources, telecommunications, information systems, office accommodation, governance and general management, are fully apportioned to other cost categories, based on direct staffing levels.
- Governance costs are costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs include internal and external audit, legal advice for Trustees and costs associated with meeting constitutional and statutory requirements, such as the cost of Trustees' meetings and the preparation of statutory accounts. This category also includes costs associated with the strategic, as opposed to day-to-day, management of the charity's activities.

Grants paid and payable are included as a liability when a constructive obligation is entered into by RSWT, being the date a grant offer is communicated to the grant recipient and any conditions relating to the grant are outside the control of RSWT.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

for the year ended 31 March 2019

Volunteer help

Honorary Officers and Trustees provide support to RSWT and The Wildlife Trusts. It is not practical or feasible to place a value on the time volunteered in this respect by these persons or other temporary or occasional volunteers.

Pension costs

RSWT, together with a number of other employers, operates The Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme ('WTPS'). WTPS is a multi-employer Scheme and its actuary has advised RSWT that it is not possible to identify RSWT's share of the Scheme's underlying assets and liabilities on a consistent and reliable basis. Accordingly, the defined benefit element of the Scheme has been accounted for as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The pension charge shown in the accounts is therefore the amount payable by RSWT during the financial year. The movement in the provision for future deficit recovery payments is reflected within other recognised gains and losses.

RSWT also contributes to a group personal pension scheme on behalf of eligible employees. The contributions to this scheme are accounted for on an accruals basis.

Full details of RSWT's pension arrangements are given in Note 12.

Fund accounting

General funds can be used in accordance with the RSWT's charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated funds are funds set aside by the Trustees out of unrestricted funds for specific purposes or projects.

Unrestricted funds are the total of general and designated funds.

Restricted funds are funds set aside for undertaking an activity specified by the donor.

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

Tangible assets

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised and included at cost. The minimum capitalisation value for an individual fixed asset is £250.

Fixed assets, with the exception of freehold land, are depreciated so as to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, in equal annual instalments over their useful economic lives, as follows:

Property fixtures and fittings	5-15 years
Computer hardware	3 years
Computer software	3-5 years
Furniture and other office equipment	5 years
Vehicle	6 years

Investments

RSWT's investment in its trading subsidiary is stated at the lower of cost and net asset value and is treated as a fixed asset investment.

Marketable investments are stated at mid-market price at the balance sheet date. The movement shown in the consolidated statement of financial activities comprises both realised and unrealised gains and losses.

The gain or loss on investments is calculated after charging transaction costs but before deducting investment management fees, which are shown separately on the Statement of Financial Activities.

Concessionary Loans

The carrying amount of loans to Trusts is calculated from the original loan value adjusted for any repayments. As programme-related investments, no effective rate of interest is applied.

Current investments

Current investments represent funds held in interest bearing deposit accounts with notice periods of more than one day and less than 12 months.

Deferred income

Income which has been received, or is receivable, but which is subject to conditions which prevent its recognition in the current financial year is recognised as a liability in the balance sheet until the relevant accounting period in which RSWT is allowed by the condition to expend the resource.

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short

maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions

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

Finance leases

Finance leases are those where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership are assumed by the company. Obligations under such agreements are included in creditors net of the finance charge allocated to future periods. The finance element of the rental payment is charged to the statement of financial activities so as to produce a constant periodic rate of charge on the net obligation outstanding in each period.

Operating leases

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

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 March 2019

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total 2019 £'000	Total 2018 £'000
Incoming from:					
Donations and legacies	1	2,170	20	2,190	2,113
Charitable activities	2	1,094	12,003	13,097	14,245
Other trading activities	3	3,402	-	3,402	3,546
Investments	4	65	26	91	58
Other income	5	1	-	1	1
Total income		6,732	12,049	18,781	19,963
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	252	-	252	220
Charitable activities	7	6,544	12,644	19,188	19,280
Total expenditure	8	6,796	12,644	19,440	19,500
Net gains/(losses) on investments	16	44	-	44	3
Net income/(expenditure)		(20)	(595)	(615)	466
Transfers between funds	23	398	(398)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):					
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension schemes	12	(11)	-	(11)	4
Net movement in funds		367	(993)	(626)	470
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		4,770	3,398	8,168	7,698
Total funds carried forward		5,137	2,405	7,542	8,168

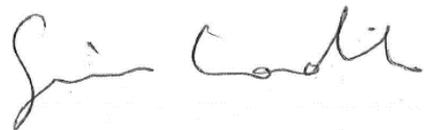
The statement of financial activities contains all gains and losses for the year and all activities relate to continuing operations.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
CONSOLIDATED AND SOCIETY BALANCE SHEETS
as at 31 March 2019

	Notes	2019		2018	
		Group £'000	Charity £'000	Group £'000	Charity £'000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	15	84	84	76	76
Investments	16	1,128	1,178	1,092	1,142
Social investments	17	317	317	396	396
Total fixed assets		1,529	1,579	1,564	1,614
Current assets					
Stock		6	6	5	5
Debtors	18	1,867	2,067	1,858	1,988
Investments	19	6,498	6,498	4,704	4,704
Cash at bank and in hand		5,407	4,639	6,897	6,643
Total current assets		13,778	13,210	13,464	13,340
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	20	6,234	5,716	5,178	5,104
Net current assets		7,544	7,494	8,286	8,236
Total assets less current liabilities		9,073	9,073	9,850	9,850
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	20	84	84	196	196
Net assets before pension provision		8,989	8,989	9,654	9,654
Pension provision	12	1,447	1,447	1,486	1,486
Total net assets	24	7,542	7,542	8,168	8,168
The funds of the charity:					
General funds		1,162	1,162	928	928
Designated funds	22	3,975	3,975	3,842	3,842
Total unrestricted funds		5,137	5,137	4,770	4,770
Restricted income funds	23	2,405	2,405	3,398	3,398
Total funds		7,542	7,542	8,168	8,168

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by RSWT Council on 16th July 2019 and signed on its behalf by:



Genevieve Landricombe
Hon. Treasurer

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 March 2019

Group	Notes	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	25	264	846
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends received		38	37
Interest received		30	15
Money market fund income received		23	6
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		1	1
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(52)	(45)
Net cash provided by investing activities		40	14
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting periods		304	860
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		11,601	10,741
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	25	11,905	11,601

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2019

1. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total 2019 £'000	Total 2018 £'000
Legacies	266	-	266	204
Wildlife Trusts' contributions	1,795	-	1,795	1,750
Donations	109	20	129	159
Total income from donations and legacies	2,170	20	2,190	2,113

The estimated value of legacies notified, but not included within the accounts, amounted to £790,000 (2018: £970,000), of which £51,000 (2018: £78,000) relates to life interests. The balance of £739,000 (2018: £892,000) relates to residual legacies, where the value of the legacy cannot yet be accurately ascertained.

2. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total 2019 £'000	Total 2018 £'000
Income from charitable activities:				
Biffa Award (Landfill Communities Fund)	-	4,517	4,517	5,803
Red Squirrels United - SciriousLIFE	-	523	523	518
Our Bright Future (National Lottery Community Fund)	-	6,776	6,776	6,859
Nature Friendly Schools (DEFRA)	-	45	45	-
Grants Team	-	11,861	11,861	13,180
Magazine Income	236	-	236	247
Other income	858	142	1,000	818
The Wildlife Trusts (England & UK functions)	1,094	142	1,236	1,065
Total income from charitable activities	1,094	12,003	13,097	14,245

The funding objectives of the Grants Team's funding bodies are set out in the Trustees' Report. The Wildlife Trusts (England & UK functions) income represents funds arising from the charitable activities of RSWT, acting in its capacity as the co-ordinating body of the England and UK functions of The Wildlife Trusts. Contributions made by individual Wildlife Trusts to RSWT are included within voluntary income, as detailed in Note 1.

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total 2019 £'000	Total 2018 £'000
Income from other trading activities:				
Royalties	263	-	263	178
Subsidiary trading income	128	-	128	54
People's Postcode Lottery (PPL) income	3,011	-	3,011	3,314
Total income from other trading activities	3,402	-	3,402	3,546

During the year RSWT received the proceeds of lotteries held by PPL from three draws (2018: four draws). RSWT has no ability to alter the price of tickets, determine the prizes or reduce the management fee. As such, PPL is treated as acting as the principal and not RSWT. Therefore, only net proceeds due to RSWT are recognised under People's Postcode Lottery (PPL) income in the statement of financial activities. The net proceeds received are analysed as follows:

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total 2019 £'000	Total 2018 £'000
Ticket Value	9,411	-	9,411	10,599
Prize Fund	(3,764)	-	(3,764)	(4,240)
Management Fee	(2,636)	-	(2,636)	(3,045)
Net proceeds received	3,011	-	3,011	3,314

4. INVESTMENTS

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total 2019 £'000	Total 2018 £'000
Income from investments:				
Dividends - UK	38	-	38	37
Loan Interest - SDF	3	-	3	4
Bank interest - UK	24	3	27	11
Money market fund income - overseas	-	23	23	6
Total income from investments	65	26	91	58

Money market fund income relates to income from the Deutsche Global Liquidity Series' Deutsche Sterling Managed Fund. The company is listed in Ireland.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
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5. OTHER INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total 2019 £'000	Total 2018 £'000
Other income				
Profit on sale of fixed assets	1	-	1	1
Total other income	1	-	1	1

6. EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total 2019 £'000	Total 2018 £'000
Costs of obtaining donations, legacies and grants*	123	-	123	161
Fundraising trading: costs of goods sold and other costs	121	-	121	50
Investment management costs	8	-	8	9
Total expenditure on raising funds	252	-	252	220

*Expenditure relates primarily to supporting individual Wildlife Trusts with their fundraising but corresponding income is not shown here as it is reported in individual Wildlife Trust accounts.

7. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total 2019 £'000	Total 2018 £'000
Expenditure on charitable activities by fund				
Administering major grant programmes	340	12,507	12,847	13,297
Policy, campaigns and government influence	1,316	73	1,389	973
TWT organisational support	918	-	918	1,217
Promoting The Wildlife Trusts' cause	897	1	898	695
Managing key strategic relationships (inc PPL)	2,799	63	2,862	3,020
Driving Collective Governance, Strategy & Evidence	310	-	310	145
Other	14	-	14	20
Movement of pension deficit provision (Note 12)	(50)	-	(50)	(87)
Total expenditure on charitable activities	6,544	12,644	19,188	19,280

8. TOTAL EXPENDITURE

	Direct Staff costs £'000	Other direct costs £'000	Grants expended £'000	Support costs £'000	Governance costs £'000	Total 2019 £'000	Total 2018 £'000
Expenditure on raising funds	36	180	-	24	4	244	211
Investment management costs	-	8	-	-	-	8	9
Raising Funds	36	188	-	24	4	252	220
Expenditure on charitable activities:							
Biffa Award (Landfill Communities Fund)	171	165	5,058	134	11	5,539	5,958
Red Squirrels United - SciriousLIFE	93	37	298	40	7	475	546
Our Bright Future (National Lottery Community Fund)	217	217	6,253	84	14	6,785	6,793
Nature Friendly Schools (Defra)	12	10	22	3	1	48	-
Grants Team	493	429	11,631	261	33	12,847	13,297
Policy, campaigns and government influence	536	517	142	166	28	1,389	973
TWT organisational support	243	561	-	98	16	918	1,217
Promoting The Wildlife Trusts' cause	350	374	1	148	25	898	695
Managing key strategic relationships (inc PPL)	259	385	2,116	87	15	2,862	3,020
Driving Collective Governance, Strategy & Evidence	113	19	137	35	6	310	145
Other	16	(2)	-	-	-	14	20
Movement of pension deficit provision (Note 12)	(50)	-	-	-	-	(50)	(87)
The Wildlife Trusts (England & UK functions)	1,467	1,854	2,396	534	90	6,341	5,983
Total expenditure	1,996	2,471	14,027	819	127	19,440	19,500

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
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8. TOTAL EXPENDITURE (Cont.)

The RSWT Grants Team distributes funds provided through major funding programmes. The detailed objectives for each of these programmes are included within the Trustees' report. Details of the grants offered within each programme are shown in Note 10. Full details are included within the Appendix.

The Society's activities on behalf of The Wildlife Trusts aim to ensure that the interests of the movement are represented at a UK and England level when a strong collective voice is required, and to provide leadership for its development.

An element of staff costs is contained within support and governance costs.

A provision for the liability to contribute to the deficit of the Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme has been made, as described further in note 12. This provision has been set against the unrestricted funds of the charity as there is no guarantee that the restricted funds employing the past members of the fund will continue for the period needed to cover the commitment. The release of the provision is therefore shown as a credit to unrestricted funds whereas contributions follow the allocation of salaries on an annual basis wherever possible.

Total Expenditure includes:	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Operating lease rentals:		
Land & buildings	38	38
Cars & office equipment	8	4
Auditor's remuneration:		
Fees payable to the Charity's auditor for the audit of the Charity's annual accounts	12	11
The audit of the Charity's subsidiary, pursuant to legislation	2	2
Accountancy services	1	1
All other services	7	4
Depreciation:		
On owned assets	44	26
On finance lease assets	-	4
Payments to Trustees:		
Trustees expenses	19	13

15 Trustees were reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties (2018: 13).

No Trustees were remunerated for their services during the year (2018: none). No Vice Presidents were remunerated for services during the year (2018: one Vice President, £12,000).

9. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	General				Premise				
	management	Finance	HR	IT	s and	Govern-	Total	Total	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	administrative	ance	2019	2018	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Expenditure on raising funds	4	6	4	5	5	4	28	46	
Expenditure on charitable activities:									
Biffa Award (Landfill Communities Fund)	13	18	11	14	78	11	145	135	
Red Squirrels United - SciriousLIFE	7	10	6	8	9	7	47	29	
Our Bright Future (National Lottery Community Fund)	14	21	13	17	19	14	98	89	
Nature Friendly Schools (Defra)	-	1	1	-	1	1	4	-	
Grants Team	34	50	31	39	107	33	294	253	
Policy, campaigns and government influence	31	43	26	34	32	28	194	165	
TWT organisational support	17	25	15	20	21	16	114	140	
Promoting The Wildlife Trusts' cause	26	36	23	29	34	25	173	96	
Managing key strategic relationships (inc PPL)	16	23	14	17	17	15	102	120	
Driving Collective Governance, Strategy & Evidence	6	9	5	7	8	6	41	32	
The Wildlife Trusts (England & UK functions)	96	136	83	107	112	90	624	553	
Total support costs 2019	134	192	118	151	224	127	946	852	
Total support costs 2018	125	159	101	138	215	114	852		

Support costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the weighted average number of staff directly engaged in those activities.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
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10. ANALYSIS OF GRANTS EXPENDED

Programme	Activities	Grants to	Grants to Administ-		Total	Total
	undertaken	Wildlife	other	ration and		
	directly	Trusts	instit-	support	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000	utions	costs	£'000	£'000
Biffa Award (Landfill Communities Fund)	-	832	4,226	481	5,539	5,829
Red Squirrels United - SciriousLIFE	-	185	113	177	475	546
Our Bright Future (National Lottery Community Fund)	-	1,534	4,719	532	6,785	6,793
Nature Friendly Schools (Defra)	-	-	22	26	48	-
Strategic Development Fund	-	137	-	22	159	95
People's Postcode Lottery Fund (Postcode Green Trust)	93	1,906	-	47	2,046	2,055
Strategic Opportunities Fund (Postcode Green Trust)	-	-	-	-	-	284
Campaigns (Postcode Green Trust)	327	92	-	14	433	-
Wildlife-rich Catchments and Healthy Soils (Banister Charitable Trust)	-	-	-	4	4	198
Local Partnerships Development Fund (Aggregate Industries)	-	63	-	-	63	-
Distribution of royalties (Vine House Farm)	-	132	-	-	132	142
Distribution of donations (Center Parcs)	-	15	-	-	15	-
Distribution of donations (Nestlé)	-	-	-	-	-	2
Distribution of donations (Britvic)	-	-	-	-	-	12
Nature Reserve to Local Wildlife Trust	-	-	-	-	-	37
Marketing Fund	-	-	-	-	-	70
Wild Flowers on the Verge (Rees Jeffreys Road Fund)	-	1	-	-	1	22
Marine Protected Areas Fighting Fund (Tubney)	13	18	30	-	61	9
Living Seas	-	2	-	-	2	-
Total grants expended	433	4,917	9,110	1,303	15,763	16,094

RSWT does not issue grants to individuals. A full list of grants expended during the year is included in Note 30.

11. STAFF COSTS

The movement in the year is after charging:	Note	2019	2018
		£'000	£'000
Wages & salaries		1,946	1,929
Holiday pay accrual		(4)	2
Social Security costs		190	186
Pension costs	12	389	320
RSWT Staff		2,521	2,437
Seconded staff costs		42	72
Total		2,563	2,509

The average number of employees, calculated on a head count basis, analysed by function was:

	2019	2018
	Number	Number
The Wildlife Trusts (England & UK functions)	27	27
Grants Team	12	12
Fundraising & Trading	6	5
Support & Governance	18	20
Total staff (Headcount)	63	64
Total staff (FTE basis)	60	59

The number of employees whose emoluments (including taxable benefits in kind but excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000, was as follows:

	2019	2018
	Number	Number
£100,000 - £109,999	1	1
£60,000 - £69,999	2	3
Total over £60,000	3	4

Payments made by the Society during the year into the the group personal pension scheme on behalf of the above members of staff amounted to £34,290 (2018: £27,899).

Of the charity's employees, six members of staff classify as key management personnel (2018: six). The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel during the year for their services to the charity was £424,499 (2017: £469,233).

During the year the charity made termination payments totalling £22,917 (2018: £30,000).

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
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12. PENSION COSTS

The Society operates two pension arrangements: a Royal London group personal pension, and The Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme. Auto-enrolment into the group personal pension scheme commenced in July 2014.

The Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme (WTPS)

The WTPS is a multi-employer scheme with RSWT acting as the lead employer on behalf of 25 other Wildlife Trusts. The Scheme's assets are held separately from those of the Society. The WTPS has two categories of membership: defined benefit and defined contribution.

The defined benefit or 'final salary' category closed to future accrual of benefits in October 2005. Due to ongoing matters regarding historical debts it is not currently possible to consistently identify the assets and liabilities of the WTPS that are attributable to RSWT. As allowed by section 28 of FRS 102 'Employee benefits', RSWT accounts for this scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. RSWT continues to make contributions to eliminate the scheme deficit. The level of contributions is agreed with WTPS trustees following triennial actuarial valuations. The latest triennial valuation (also known as the 'scheme funding assessment') was carried out for 1 April 2016 and has been updated to 1 April 2018 by a qualified independent actuary. The valuation at 1 April 2018 indicated that the scheme was 72% funded on an ongoing basis, with a funding shortfall of £5.2 million. The main assumptions used in this calculation are shown below:

Discount rate: pre-retirement	3.90%
Discount rate: post-retirement	1.65%
Price inflation: RPI%	3.20%
Price inflation: CPI%	2.40%

The latest recovery plan requires RSWT to make increased contributions towards the deficit of £179,028 from August 2018, increasing by 3% per annum for a period of 8 years until August 2026. This equates to 21.0% of the total contribution being paid by The Wildlife Trusts.

The net present value of RSWT's contributions (discounted using a rate of 2.35%, which is based on iboxx's 15 year AA rated corporate bond yield) is £1.4 million. This has been recognised as a liability in RSWT's accounts.

Pension contributions in the year

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme	167	141
Group personal pension scheme	222	179
Total employer pension contributions	389	320

Employer contributions include contributions in respect of salary sacrifice arrangements made available to employees from August 2017.

Pension contribution liabilities

The following pension contributions were payable at the year-end and are included within creditors:

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme	15	12
Group personal pension schemes	21	17
Total pension contribution liabilities	36	29

Pension deficit provision

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Movement in provision:		
Provision brought forward	1,486	1,577
Cash contributions in the year	(167)	(141)
Unwinding of effective interest	35	35
Revised repayment plan	82	19
Subtotal	(50)	(87)
Movement in discount rate	11	(4)
Provision carried forward	1,447	1,486

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13. SUBSIDIARY COMPANY

RSWT's wholly owned trading subsidiary, **The Wildlife Trusts Services Limited** (company number: 02540956), provides a range of services to Wildlife Trusts and RSWT. Its trading performance and balance sheet are summarised as follows:

Profit and loss account

	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Turnover	614	295
Cost of sales	(403)	(162)
Gross profit	211	133
Administrative expenses	(110)	(100)
Gift Aid to the charity	(101)	(33)
Operating loss	-	-
Interest received	-	-
Interest payable	-	-
Loss on ordinary activities before tax	-	-
Taxation	-	-
Dividend	-	-
Loss for the year	-	-

Assets, liabilities and funds

Assets	805	206
Liabilities	(755)	(156)
Total net assets and shareholder's funds	50	50

WTS Ltd made a gift aid payment to RSWT for the year of £101,000.

RSWT charged WTS Ltd £102,000 in the year for staff and administration charges. WTS Ltd purchased a group life assurance deal for RSWT and seven other Trusts, and a finance software package for RSWT and eight other Trusts. RSWT paid WTS Ltd for its share of both of these services.

The inter-company balance WTS Ltd owed to RSWT at the accounting date was £237,000.

The above inter company transactions netted off on consolidation.

14. RSWT CHARITY RESULTS (EXCLUDING SUBSIDIARY)

	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
The summarised results of the parent charity are as follows:		
Total incoming resources	18,370	19,792
Total resources expended	(19,029)	(19,329)
Net incoming resources	(659)	463
Holding gains/(losses)	44	3
Actuarial (losses)/gains on Defined pension schemes	(11)	4
Net movement in funds	(626)	470
Funds brought forward	8,168	7,698
Funds carried forward	7,542	8,168

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15. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Group	Fixtures, fittings & equipment (finance lease) £'000	Freehold Land & buildings (owned) £'000	Fixtures, fittings & equipment (owned) £'000	Total £'000
Cost				
1 April 2018	22	10	425	457
Additions	-	-	52	52
Disposals	-	-	(5)	(5)
31 March 2019	22	10	472	504
Depreciation				
1 April 2018	22	-	359	381
Additions	-	-	(5)	(5)
Disposals	-	-	44	44
Charge for the year	-	-	44	44
31 March 2019	22	-	398	420
Net book value				
31 March 2018	-	10	66	76
31 March 2019	-	10	74	84
Charity				
Charity	Fixtures, fittings & equipment (finance lease) £'000	Freehold Land & buildings (owned) £'000	Fixtures, fittings & equipment (owned) £'000	Total £'000
Cost				
1 April 2018	22	10	341	373
Additions	-	-	52	52
Disposals	-	-	(5)	(5)
31 March 2019	22	10	388	420
Depreciation				
1 April 2018	22	-	275	297
Additions	-	-	(5)	(5)
Disposals	-	-	44	44
Charge for the year	-	-	44	44
31 March 2019	22	-	314	336
Net book value				
31 March 2018	0	10	66	76
31 March 2019	0	10	74	84

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
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16. INVESTMENTS

	2019		2018	
	Group £'000	Charity £'000	Group £'000	Charity £'000
Investments in subsidiaries				
The Wildlife Trusts Services Limited - £1 ordinary shares	-	-	-	-
The Wildlife Trusts Services Limited - 5% preference shares	-	50	-	50
Total subsidiary investment	-	50	-	50
Other investments at market value	1,128	1,128	1,092	1,092
Total investments	1,128	1,178	1,092	1,142

Analysis of movements in other investments

	Unrestricted	Total	Total
	Funds	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Group and charity			
Market value at 1 April	1,092	1,092	1,098
Less: Investment management fees	(8)	(8)	(9)
Add: Net gain on revaluation	44	44	3
Market value at 31 March	1,128	1,128	1,092

Other investments reflects holdings in Sarasin & Partners' Alpha Common Investment Fund for Endowments, a specialist fund diversified across a wide range of assets.

17. SOCIAL INVESTMENTS

	2019		2018	
	Group £'000	Charity £'000	Group £'000	Charity £'000
Amounts falling due within one year				
Loans to Trusts due within one year	154	154	129	129
Loans to Trusts due after more than one year	163	163	267	267
Total	317	317	396	396

The loans to Trusts balance relates to five Trust loans from the Strategic Development Fund. Repayment schedules vary between loans. In 2017/18 two Trusts were charged interest on their loans at Bank of England base rate plus 1%. The other loans being interest free. If loans are repaid late interest is charged at Bank of England base rate plus 7%.

18. DEBTORS

	2019		2018	
	Group £'000	Charity £'000	Group £'000	Charity £'000
Amounts falling due within one year				
Trade debtors	412	392	241	234
Amounts due from group undertakings	-	237	-	148
Other debtors	1	1	1	1
Prepayments and income receivable	1,454	1,437	1,612	1,601
Total	1,867	2,067	1,854	1,984

	2019		2018	
	Group £'000	Charity £'000	Group £'000	Charity £'000
Amounts falling due after more than one year				
Prepayments and income receivable	-	-	4	4
Total	-	-	4	4

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19. SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS

	2019		2018	
	Group £'000	Charity £'000	Group £'000	Charity £'000
Market value at 1 April	4,704	4,704	1,746	1,746
Net additions	1,794	1,794	2,958	2,958
Market value at 31 March	6,498	6,498	4,704	4,704

Short-term investments represent monies held on Deutsche Bank's Dublin based AAA rated money market funds and interest-bearing deposit accounts at UK banks, with notice periods of up to 12 months.

20. CREDITORS

	2019		2018	
	Group £'000	Charity £'000	Group £'000	Charity £'000
Amounts falling due within one year				
Trade creditors	410	319	127	123
Other taxes and social securities	184	184	47	47
Other creditors	23	23	20	20
Accruals	420	225	146	142
Grants payable	4,940	4,940	4,751	4,751
Deferred income	257	25	87	21
Total	6,234	5,716	5,178	5,104

	2019		2018	
	Group £'000	Charity £'000	Group £'000	Charity £'000
Amounts falling due after more than one year				
Grants payable	84	84	196	196
Total	84	84	196	196

21. ANNUAL OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

	2019		2018	
	Land & buildings £'000	Other £'000	Land & buildings £'000	Other £'000
Total operating lease commitments of the group and charity:				
Within one year	19	8	34	6
Between one and five years	-	18	-	-
After five years	-	-	-	-
Total	19	26	34	6

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22. DESIGNATED FUNDS

Group and charity	Balance	Movement in Funds			Balance
	1 April	Incoming	Expended	Transfers	31 March
	2018	resources	in year	in year	2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Strategic Development Fund	820	187	(159)	(75)	773
Futures Fund	350	-	-	(50)	300
Tubney Closure Fund	211	-	-	(53)	158
Marketing Fund	54	-	-	(24)	30
National Legacy Campaign Fund	200	92	(158)	66	200
Property Reinstatement Fund	120	-	-	10	130
TWT ICT Systems Projects	374	40	(176)	90	328
Development Strategy Fund	50	30	(69)	173	184
People's Postcode Lottery Fund (Postcode Green Trust)	1,227	3,011	(2,062)	(626)	1,550
Strategic Opportunities Fund (Postcode Green Trust)	248	-	-	(248)	-
Campaigns (Postcode Green Trust)	-	1	(433)	632	200
Strategic Development Projects	188	-	(146)	80	122
Total Designated Funds	3,842	3,361	(3,203)	(25)	3,975

The **Strategic Development Fund** supports strategically important initiatives for The Wildlife Trusts movement. £184,000 of legacy income was credited to the Fund this year. The current projects will go on for between one and three years. £137,000 of grants were made to Wildlife Trusts during the year. The fund also provides loans to Wildlife Trusts, reducing the cash available in the fund to £456,000.

The **Futures Fund** sets aside funds to meet future needs. £50,000 was released from the fund into General funds during the year.

The **Tubney Closure Fund** was created from funds arising on the transfer of Tubney Charitable Trust's remaining assets to RSWT in March 2012. It is anticipated that this fund will continue to be gradually released over the next five years to support the operations of the charity.

The **Marketing Fund** supports the costs of our marketing campaigns. £24,000 was transferred to General funds during the year.

The **National Legacy Campaign Fund** supports the costs of our legacy campaign. £66,000 was transferred from General funds during the year.

The **Property Reinstatement Fund** sets aside funds to meet the costs of refurbishing or relocating at the end of the charity's Newark office lease.

The **ICT Systems Project** sets aside funds for future development of TWT ICT systems, including a new Customer Relationship Management system and intranet.

The **Development Strategy Fund** provides funds to assist with the implementation of revised strategy across the Wildlife Trusts.

The **People's Postcode Lottery Fund** supports the Forest Schools initiative delivered by Trusts. £50,000 was transferred to General funds. The current balance of the fund will be used over the coming year.

The **Campaigns (Postcode Green Trust)** fund received transfers from People's Postcode Lottery. It is funding the Wider Future campaign. Wildlife Trusts are able to apply for a portion of money from the fund.

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23. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance	Movement in Funds			Balance
	1 April	Incoming	Expended	Transfers	31 March
	2018	resources	in year	in year	2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Group and charity					
Biffa Award (Landfill Communities Fund)	1,870	4,542	(5,201)	(371)	840
Red Squirrels United - SciriousLIFE	-	523	(475)	14	62
Our Bright Future (National Lottery Community Fund)	73	6,777	(6,785)	-	65
Nature Friendly Schools (Defra)	-	50	(45)	-	5
Grants Team funds	1,943	11,892	(12,506)	(357)	972
Building Momentum for <i>A Living Landscape</i> (Tubney)	1,111	-	-	(26)	1,085
Marine Protected Areas Fighting Fund (Tubney)	231	-	(48)	(4)	179
Wildlife-rich catchments and Healthy soils (Banister Charitable Trust)	4	-	-	(4)	-
John Ellerman Fisheries (John Ellerman Foundation)	48	-	(12)	-	36
Marine Projects (Tubney Marine Protected Area Fighting Fund)	27	-	(13)	-	14
Strategic Development Fund (Big Lottery Fund)	5	-	-	(5)	-
Natural Service Stations (Rees Jeffreys Road Fund)	7	-	-	(1)	6
Wildflowers on the Verge (Rees Jeffreys Road Fund)	6	-	(1)	(1)	4
Finance Systems Project (individual donor)	1	-	(1)	-	-
Henocq Law Trust Restricted Donation	15	15	-	-	30
Local Partnerships Development Fund (Aggregate Industries)	-	142	(63)	-	79
The Wildlife Trusts (England & UK functions)	1,455	157	(138)	(41)	1,433
Total Restricted Funds	3,398	12,049	(12,644)	(398)	2,405

Biffa Award funds are contributed by Biffa Group Ltd under the Landfill Communities Fund. In 2018/19 £361,000 was transferred from the fund to General funds to cover the administration costs of the programme. A further £10,000 of the fund contributed to the Designated Property Reinstatement Fund.

Our Bright Future is a grants programme funded by the Big Lottery Fund which has a portfolio of 31 projects across the UK.

Red Squirrels United - SciriousLIFE is a four-year project involving four Wildlife Trusts and three other partners.

Tubney Charitable Trust made a substantial contribution to our work on *A Living Landscape* and *Living Seas*, prior to its closure in March 2012.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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24. ANALYSIS OF GROUP NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Fund balances at 31 March 2019 are represented by:

Group	Note	Unrestricted		Restricted £'000	Total Funds £'000
		General £'000	Designated £'000		
Tangible fixed assets	15	84	-	-	84
Heritage assets		-	-	-	-
Investments	16	128	1,000	-	1,128
Social investments	17	-	317	-	317
Fixed assets		212	1,317	-	1,529
Stock		6	-	-	6
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	18	600	78	1,189	1,867
Debtors: amounts falling due after more than one year	19	-	-	-	-
Short-term investments	19	2,500	-	3,998	6,498
Cash and bank		482	2,880	2,045	5,407
Current assets		3,588	2,958	7,232	13,778
Grants payable: amounts falling due within one year		151	180	4,609	4,940
Other creditors: amounts falling due within one year		1,040	119	135	1,294
Current liabilities	20	1,191	299	4,744	6,234
Long term liabilities	20	-	1	83	84
Pension deficit	12	1,447	-	-	1,447
Total net assets		1,162	3,975	2,405	7,542

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
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25. NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Group	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities		
Net income / (expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(626)	470
Depreciation	44	30
Gain on investments	(44)	(3)
Investment management fees	8	9
Investment income	(91)	(58)
New loans issued to Trusts	(50)	(65)
Loan repayments received	129	110
Grant of Heritage asset	-	37
Gift of Land	-	(10)
Gain on sale of fixed assets	(1)	(1)
Decrease / (increase) in stock	(1)	-
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	(9)	(203)
(Decrease) / increase in creditors	905	530
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	264	846
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents		
	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Cash at bank and in hand	5,407	6,897
Cash deposits	6,498	4,704
Overdraft	-	-
Net cash and cash equivalents	11,905	11,601

26. CONTINGENT ASSETS

Future legacy income notified but not yet included within these financial statements is detailed in Note 1.

27. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Society is a member of a multi-employer pension scheme, as described in Note 12. In previous years, RSWT has declared a contingent liability to reflect the uncertainty surrounding a potential breach of the section 75 clause in the Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme (WTPS). During the year, RSWT and the WTPS trustee implemented a flexible apportionment arrangement, enabling RSWT to remain a participating employer in the Pension Scheme. No section 75 debt is to be crystallised and there is therefore no contingent liability to disclose. RSWT's pension provision is accounted for on the basis of the net present value of the deficit recovery payments that it continues to make on an ongoing basis, as detailed in Note 12.

28. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The charity, RSWT has one wholly owned subsidiary, The Wildlife Trusts Services Limited. An overview of transaction between the two organisation can be found in Note 13.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2019

29. COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

Group	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total 2018 £'000
Incoming from:			
Donations and legacies	2,095	18	2,113
Charitable activities	825	13,420	14,245
Other trading activities	3,546	-	3,546
Investments	51	7	58
Other	1	-	1
Total income	6,518	13,445	19,963
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	220	-	220
Charitable activities	6,019	13,261	19,280
Other			
Total expenditure	6,239	13,261	19,500
Gains on revaluation of fixed assets for charity's own use	-	-	-
Net (losses) / gains on investments	3	-	3
Net income/(expenditure)	282	184	466
Transfers between funds	363	(363)	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):			
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	4	-	4
Net movement in funds	649	(179)	470
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward	4,121	3,577	7,698
Total funds carried forward	4,770	3,398	8,168

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2019

30. GRANT EXPENDITURE

TWT Grants

	People's Postcode Lottery £'000	Strategic Developme nt Fund £'000	Other £'000	Grand Total £'000
Avon Wildlife Trust	71	-	1	72
Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust	5	49	9	63
Cheshire Wildlife Trust	70	-	2	72
Cornwall Wildlife Trust	-	10	-	10
Cumbria Wildlife Trust	5	-	5	10
Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	5	-	3	8
Devon Wildlife Trust	74	-	5	79
Dorset Wildlife Trust	-	-	2	2
Durham Wildlife Trust	-	-	1	1
Essex Wildlife Trust	-	-	5	5
Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust	6	1	4	11
Gwent Wildlife Trust	3	-	1	4
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust	8	-	11	19
Herefordshire Wildlife Trust	5	-	2	7
Hertfordshire & Middlesex Wildlife Trust	4	-	4	8
Kent Wildlife Trust	-	-	6	6
Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust	66	-	2	68
Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust	-	-	6	6
London Wildlife Trust	66	-	3	69
Manx Wildlife Trust	5	-	-	5
Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust	4	-	-	4
Norfolk Wildlife Trust	-	-	5	5
North Wales Wildlife Trust	-	-	1	1
Northumberland Wildlife Trust	205	-	2	207
Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust	66	-	5	71
Radnorshire Wildlife Trust	-	30	-	30
Scottish Wildlife Trust	505	38	8	551
Sheffield Wildlife Trust	76	-	1	77
Shropshire Wildlife Trust	-	-	2	2
Somerset Wildlife Trust	5	-	23	28
Staffordshire Wildlife Trust	-	9	27	36
Suffolk Wildlife Trust	9	-	6	15
Surrey Wildlife Trust	4	-	4	8
Sussex Wildlife Trust	1	-	7	8
Tees Valley Wildlife Trust	-	-	-	-
The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire	-	-	9	9
The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country Ltd	78	-	2	80
The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester & North Merseyside	121	-	3	124
The Wildlife Trust of South & West Wales	25	-	4	29
Ulster Wildlife	-	-	1	1
Warwickshire Wildlife Trust	71	-	2	73
Wildlife Trusts Wales	200	-	-	200
Wiltshire Wildlife Trust	-	-	6	6
Worcestershire Wildlife Trust	5	-	3	8
Yorkshire Wildlife Trust	230	-	38	268
Grants to Non-Trusts Under £25,000	-	-	52	52
Total TWT grants	1,998	137	283	2,418

Red Squirrels United - SciuriousLIFE

	£'000		£'000
Forest Research	4	The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester & North Merseyside	29
Newcastle University	10	The Wildlife Trust of South & West Wales	17
Northumberland Wildlife Trust Ltd	43	Ulster Wildlife Trust	96
Red Squirrels Trust Wales	99	Total Red Squirrels United - SciuriousLIFE grants	298

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2019

30. GRANTS EXPENDITURE (Cont.)

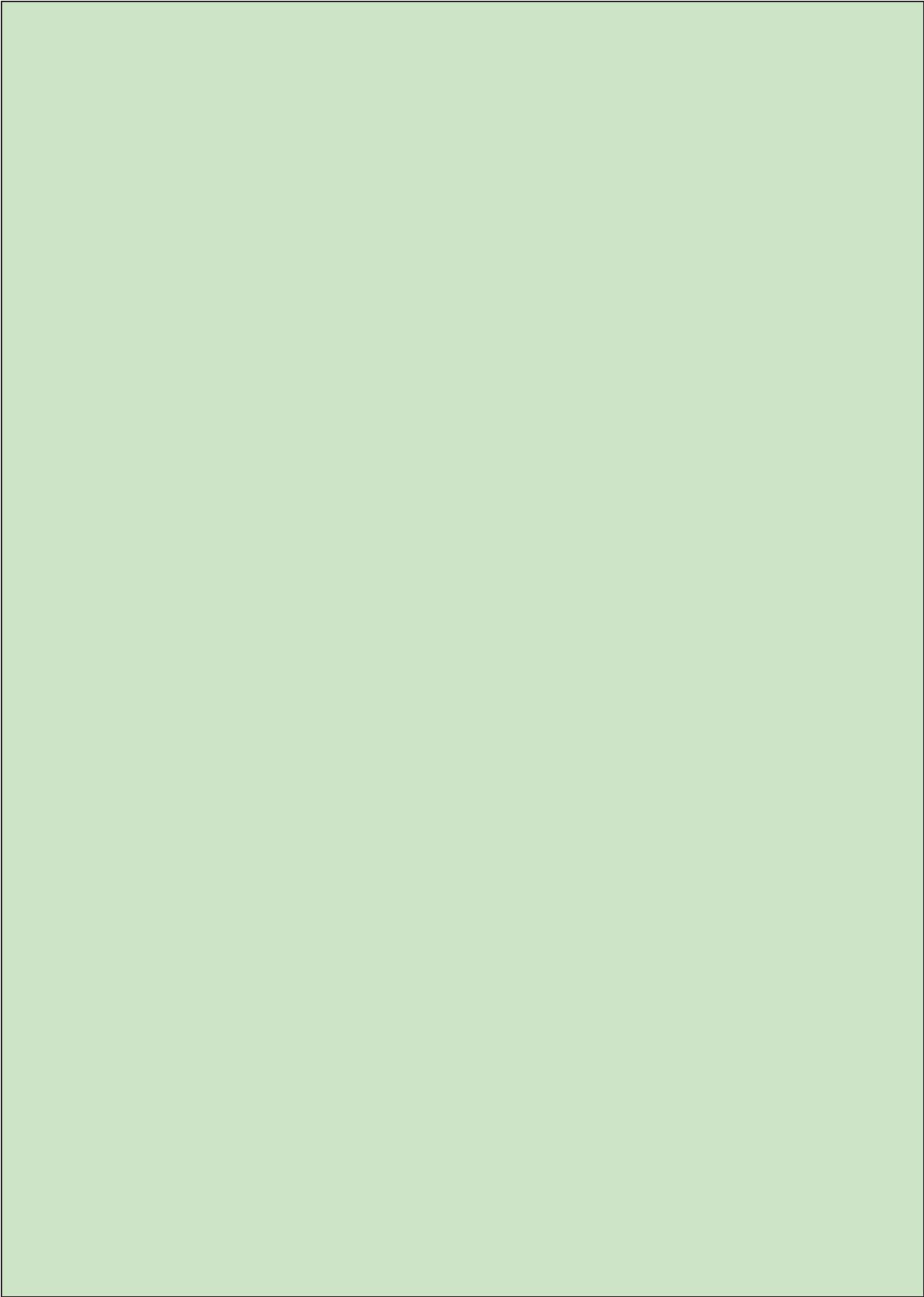
Biffa Award Grants

	£'000		£'000
Association of Independent Museums	333	Rainhill Village Hall Management	31
Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust	75	Rake Village Hall	75
Beulah Baptist Church	30	RSPB	806
Bodmin Road Church	58	Sacred Heart RC Church Hanley	53
Bridlington Club for Young People	75	Sawcliffe Farm Project	(50)
Bristol Aero Collection Trust	547	Southwark Playhouse Theatre Company	743
Butterfly Conservation South West	(19)	Spen Valley Civic Society	28
Christchurch PCC	26	Squash Nutrition	(2)
Crewe United Football and Social Club	69	St Agnes Church	(75)
Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	32	St Mark's Church, Reigate	40
Friends of Nidderdale AONB	(9)	St Michael & All Angels Church PCC, Abbey Wood	69
Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust	74	St Peters Church Bexleyheath	49
Godolphin Cross Community Association CIO	63	St. Hilda's Church	(30)
Hertfordshire & Middlesex Wildlife Trust	25	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust	318
Hertfordshire Building Preservation Trust	31	Surrey Wildlife Trust	10
Holy Ascension Church	60	Sussex Wildlife Trust	(1)
Holy Cross Church	31	Tees Valley Community Asset Preservation Trust	70
Leicester Progressive Jewish Congregation	75	The Pelham CIO	75
London Wildlife Trust	(1)	The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire	19
Maidstone United Reformed Church	(50)	The Woodland Trust	500
Mannings Heath Community Council	34	Warnham Village Hall	71
Mitcheldean Community Centre	(4)	Whitwell Parish Church	66
Mount Chapel	73	Wiltshire Wildlife Trust	390
Norfolk Wildlife Trust	493	Worcestershire Wildlife Trust	(1)
Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust	(600)	Wycombe Multicultural Organisation	36
Omersley Memorial Hall Management Committee	75	YMCA East Surrey	63
PCC of St Martins, West Acton	34	Grants to Non-Trusts Under £25,000	100
Peabody Community Foundation	(25)	Total Biffa Award grants	5,058

Our Bright Future Grants

	£'000		£'000
Avon Wildlife Trust	165	NUS	259
Belfast Hills Partnership Trust	111	Probe Limited	196
Centre for Sustainable Energy	210	RNIB (formerly Action for Blind People)	143
Cornwall Wildlife Trust	195	Shropshire Wildlife Trust	232
Down to Earth Project	267	St Mungo Community Housing Association	159
Falkland Stewardship Trust	237	The Learning through Landscapes Trust	315
Foundation for Social Entrepreneurs t/a UnLtd	207	The National Trust	263
Friends of the Earth Trust	201	The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester & North Merseyside	201
Global Feedback Limited	254	Ulster Wildlife	201
Groundwork London	209	UpRising Leadership	244
Groundwork UK	312	vInspired	107
Hill Holt Wood	143	Wiltshire Wildlife Trust	193
Impact Arts (Projects) Ltd	182	Womens Technology Training Limited	156
Middlesbrough Environment City Trust Ltd	183	Yorkshire Dales Millenium Trust	174
National Youth Agency	187	Yorkshire Wildlife Trust	183
North Wales Wildlife Trust	164	Total Our Bright Future grants	6,253

Figures in brackets indicate grants previously offered which have been underspent or withdrawn by the Fund



Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
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