



Earth Trust Trustee Report and Financial Statements

Covering the period 1 April 2022–31 March 2023

Thank you to our growing community

We are grateful to the following for their support of Earth Trust in 2022/23:

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Waitrose Wallingford
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Brightwell Bees
Emma's Ewesful Acres
Hedgecraft
Meadow Plant Nursery
Norton & Yarrow Cheese

Volunteer Groups and Community Supporters

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Abingdon Mothers' Union of the Diocese of Oxford
Adaptimmune Staff Team
BBC Oxford Walking Group
Harwell Harriers
St Birinus School
Wallingford 1155
Merton College
Sheffield University Korfbal Club
Thames Valley Orienteers

All of our donors, volunteers and Friends

Earth Trust has been proud to work in partnership with the following in 2022/23

Project Partners

Digventures
Environment Agency
Natural England
North Wessex Downs AONB
Oxfordshire Community Foundation
Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP)
South Oxfordshire District Council
Sylva Foundation

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Welcome from Earth Trust CEO and Chair of Trustees

As the loss of our biodiversity and impacts of climate change are being felt across our planet by local communities, we find ourselves at a critical crossroads where the fate of our planet and our economic future intersect to shape life on Earth. Our work is more relevant than ever.

This impact report shows how we are responding to some of the most perilous issues facing our planet and the profound need for local action to drive broader, transformational change. Our recent impact is shown here through the lens of practical activity, objectives, outcomes and influencing over the last 12 months. Together with our supporters, we are building communities to enable real change to happen.

The challenges facing our planet are undeniable. Temperature records are being broken, wildfires are spreading on a larger scale than ever before, storms are intensifying, and flooding is occurring on an unprecedented level.

We are no longer spectators of a distant environmental crisis, but active participants in a global emergency. The climate is changing faster than our ability to adapt, and the time for real action is now.

While the scale of the environmental crisis is global, the power to mitigate it lies with us and in our local communities. Local actions ripple outwards, catalysing wider change. The choices we make in our neighbourhoods, schools and workplaces are the building blocks of a more sustainable future. The fate of the planet, our willingness to be part of change and our economy are interconnected, and they all hinge on our collective effort to explore, learn and adapt.

The declining health of our environment is a universal concern that affects every living being on this planet. It transcends age, politics, county boundaries and ideologies, and will affect future generations. Eco-anxiety is now prevalent, but particularly felt amongst young people who are troubled by lack of action, or lack of commitments towards climate and nature targets. The health of our environment unites us in a shared vulnerability, but also as a common responsibility. The power of people united for a common cause is immense and this impact report shows the transformational impact of collective action.

Amid these challenges, the Earth Trust community stands as a beacon of hope and a testament to the impact that an 'on the ground' organisation can have. Dedicated to finding new solutions to our climate challenges, to enable nature recovery and provide opportunities for people to benefit from nature, we have supported significant change in the way policymakers think about access to green spaces; we have championed and influenced for Green Infrastructure Standards, and continue to build cross-sector partnerships and collaborations to build nature in to people's lives.

Located in Oxfordshire, Earth Trust has not only been at the forefront of local environmental stewardship but has also emerged as a regional, at times national, demonstrator of innovative approaches to tackling global issues. Its unique position as a local and national influencer places us at the forefront of organisations driving meaningful change.

At the heart of the Trust's mission lies a deep commitment to education and engagement. To create lasting change, we must empower this and the next generation with knowledge and inspire them to become champions of the environment. Earth Trust is not content with merely being a catalyst for change; with the enormity of the challenges, and the pace at which climate change is happening, we need to be bolder, louder and more impactful.

We recognise the importance of sharing learning and expertise, fostering a culture of collaboration and knowledge exchange. We are actively working to broaden and deepen our networks, working across sectors to share the challenge and collectively co-create solutions.

Through this impact report, we explore Earth Trust's journey, the accomplishments of its inspirational community of changemakers, and the challenges facing us and all of society. We reveal the potential for local actions to drive global change, emphasising the collective efforts needed to build a more sustainable world which is resilient, healthy and underpinned by thriving ecosystems. Our work continues, and our voice grows louder, as we inspire others to join our collective force for good.

Jayne Manley, Chief Executive Officer and Ian Davidson, Chair of Trustees

Earth Trust's belief is that together we can build a more sustainable world for generations to come

Ian Davidson, Chair of Trustees



Championing accessible natural green spaces for everyone

Imagine a society where accessible, engaging green spaces enable nature and people to thrive in balance. Where everyone has access to nature-filled green spaces close to where they live, work and play. Where we all have a deep understanding of our ecosystem, and our role in caring for it.

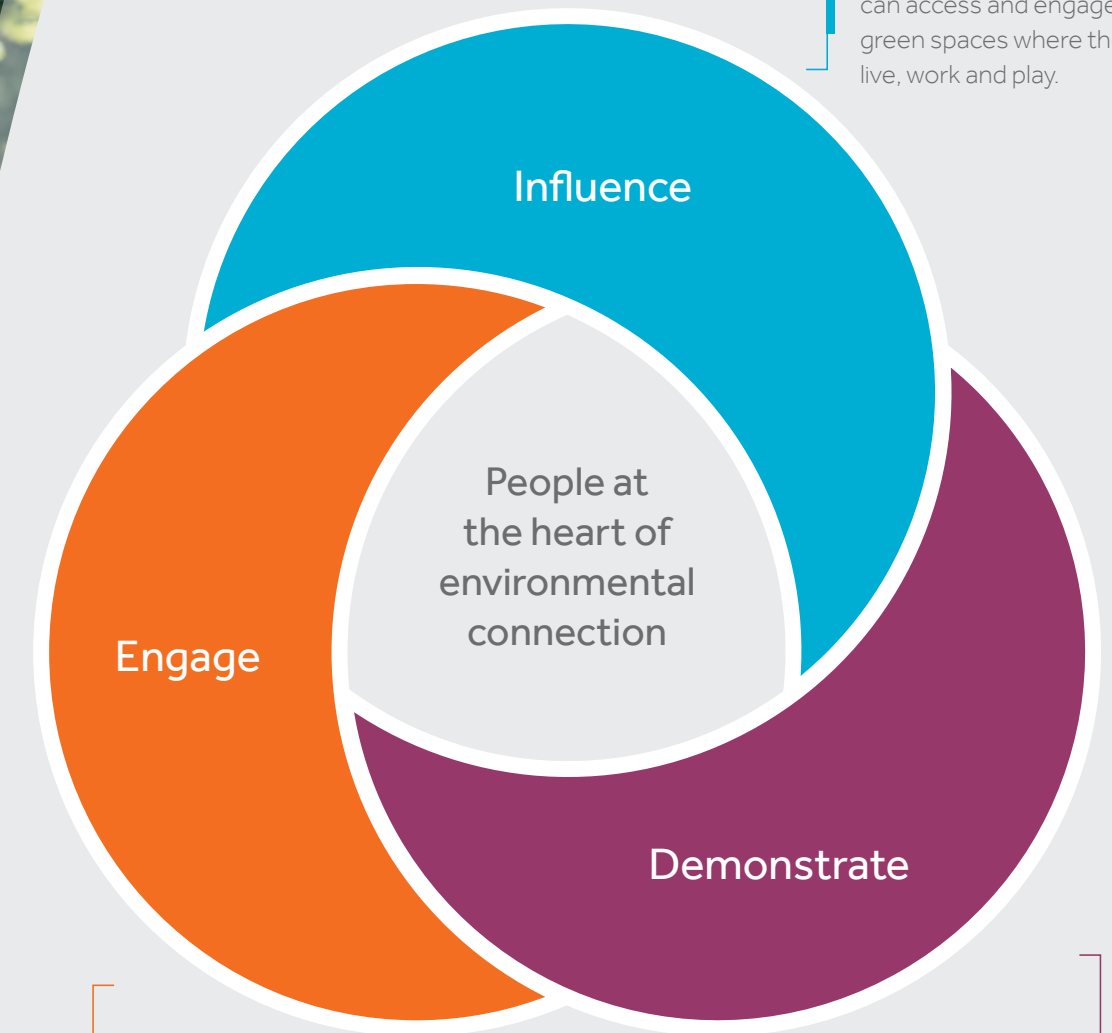
This is the vision that Earth Trust are working towards, as we inspire people to address climate change, nature loss and a wellbeing crisis with the power of natural green spaces.

Demonstrate. Engage. Influence.

We understand that engaging people in nature can help to build a better world. A world where people understand their environment, the vital role healthy natural places can play in supporting biodiversity and addressing climate change, and their own role in caring for it.

For over 40 years Earth Trust has played a significant role in Oxfordshire, working to nurture and improve the green spaces in our care and to offer opportunities for others to experience them.

We use the places we care for to demonstrate nature based solutions and the power of engaging people with the natural world, in order to influence for more accessible and better green spaces – leading to people making good decisions for the environment and our planet, at home and through their work.



We influence decision makers so that more people can access and engage with green spaces where they live, work and play.

We engage and inspire people with the environment, empowering us all to make change happen.

We care for and improve the spaces we manage to demonstrate their role in addressing the climate, ecosystems and health crises facing our world

Connecting communities for change:

Our strategy 2022-2027

We are facing a triple threat of biodiversity loss, climate change, and health & wellbeing. Humans have caused these crises, and it's our collective responsibility to take action, now.

With the world in crisis, we recognise that we need to be louder and bolder in sharing our experience of balancing the needs of nature with the needs of people. To engage more people – in more ways – with the natural world. And, to do more than ever to ensure we are making a difference where it counts, prioritising our efforts on the big challenges we face, both nationally and regionally.

Earth Trust are rapidly growing a diverse community of individuals and partners, to achieve the following strategic goals:

- Managing a wide range and scale of green spaces
- Ensuring everyone has access
- Making our voice heard
- Engaging more people – in more ways – with nature
- Modelling financially sustainable land management
- On our way to net zero



See Earth Trust strategy for more.



Earth Trust is a values-led organisation, committed to putting people at the heart of connection to nature, and learning together to make change happen.



Strategy

Key achievements and impact: April 2022 to March 2023

During this year we focused on creating real world change by developing projects and partnerships to enable us to:

- Demonstrate best practice in nature-based solutions for climate, biodiversity, health and wellbeing.
- Build a connected, engaged community of support and action committed to championing accessible natural green spaces
- Establish a thriving, commercially-active, joined-up Centre for Earth Trust and its Farm

In order to deliver our strategy, we are transforming the way we work. Alongside significant achievements in delivering impactful work we have also been working this year to grow a healthy, engaged team who live the values of Earth Trust, and enable an efficient, effective, smooth-running organisation. We continue to diversify our income to deliver financial sustainability.





Environment Agency fish survey found **9 species** thriving with healthy numbers of fry at our new wetland

530m of hedgerow traditionally laid

280 new trees planted to supplement natural regeneration that's supported by the management processes in our woodlands

40+ farmland bird species, including 21 identified as being of conservation concern, were observed at Earth Trust

Carbon audit revealed farm operations are carbon negative at **-968.02 tonnes** per year

Wallingford Castle Meadows received **Green Flag award** for 15th consecutive year and the Green Heritage Site accreditation for 9th year in a row

1,429 tonnes of carbon captured by our woodlands



Demonstrate

We have continued to pioneer and demonstrate the impact of nature based solutions with new learning and research partnerships.

Showcasing the role of wetlands in the fight against climate change and biodiversity loss.

Last year, we completed construction of the largest wetland habitat restoration project on the River Thames – known as River of Life II. Our ongoing monitoring work continues to generate new learning about the impact of wetland restoration, including new evidence generated on carbon capture potential of wetland habitat restoration with Bangor University. The Environment Agency's first fish survey at River of Life II indicates that the 46,000m² of wetland areas we have created are providing a perfect breeding ground for supporting wildlife and enhancing biodiversity.

Recognition for UK's first biodiversity offsetting agreement

Earth Trust signed the UK's first formal biodiversity offsetting agreement with Taylor Wimpey in 2013, demonstrating how new partnerships can enable growth in business and improve the natural environment. The contribution and significance of Bushey Bank was recognised this year by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) 2022 Award for 'Best Practice – Small Scale Mitigation'.

Delivering Britain's first ever Tested Oak Seed Orchard

To achieve the UK target to increase tree and woodland cover to 16.5% of total land area by 2050, tree planting rates in England need to treble by 2025. We are working with Future Trees Trust to develop a dedicated orchard and source of valuable genetic resources for oak tree planting across the UK – the first of its kind in the UK.



Our Impact

Engage

We have been connecting more – and more diverse – people to nature.

Reducing barriers to green space access

The Growing Places project with Aspire Oxfordshire aims to give some of the most disadvantaged people in our communities a greater connection to their local landscape. This year, we piloted activities with the needs and interests of those who are facing homelessness and disadvantage at their heart.

Inspiring our future green leaders

Our education programme has been refreshed this year – ensuring that we offer the opportunity for young people to take their classroom-based learning and come to understand its importance in a real world setting. We have seen record breaking demand for immersive outdoor learning experiences from schools, with 3,472 pupils visiting from 85 schools.

Providing opportunities for action

Our volunteers carry out much of our vital work to champion accessible natural green spaces – our work wouldn't be possible without them. But volunteering also gives people an opportunity to engage with nature in a way that fosters social connection and wellbeing. This year, we have seen the highest ever recorded number of volunteering hours, with 187 people gifting us 15,797 hours of their time - a value of over £181,000.



24/7 public access resulted in **200K visits** across our 6 green spaces



240 trees planted on behalf of new UK citizens who settled in Oxfordshire in 2022 for Queens Green Canopy project



187 volunteers gifted us a combined total of **15,797 hours** of their time

3,472 school children participated in education visits

85 schools participated in our education sessions

26 public events, attended by **6,200+** participants

51% of our active volunteers are women



93 new volunteers were welcomed into our programme



PR reach extending beyond **300k** with 40+ opportunities to see/hear Earth Trust content in national & regional media

Social media reach of **460,000 users** (16% year on year growth) and 2x year on year growth in engagement



Advocating for nature & people at regional and national environmental networks, conferences & events

12 new partnerships with organisations actively supporting our work



Influence

We are supporting and encouraging our community to help make more change happen in pursuit of a world where nature and people can thrive together.

Making our voice heard

Building on our long history and experience of working to influence local policy and practice, we are now connecting local action to national change by joining forces with RSPB, National Trust, Eden project and others through environmental coalitions such as Wildlife & Countryside Link, South East Nature Partnership & EcoAttractions. Our Building Nature In event brought together a unique audience of 100+ representatives from planning, construction, social enterprise and environmental groups to enable cross-sector collaboration to develop an approach that puts people and nature at the heart of future developments.

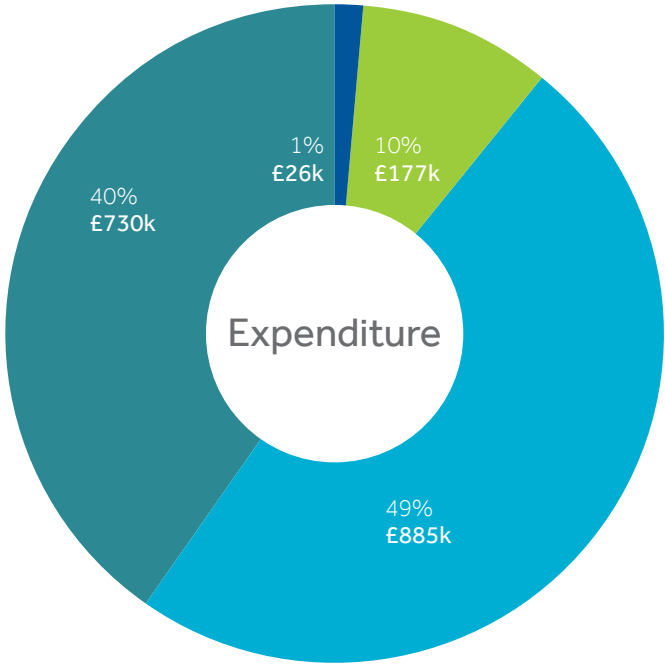
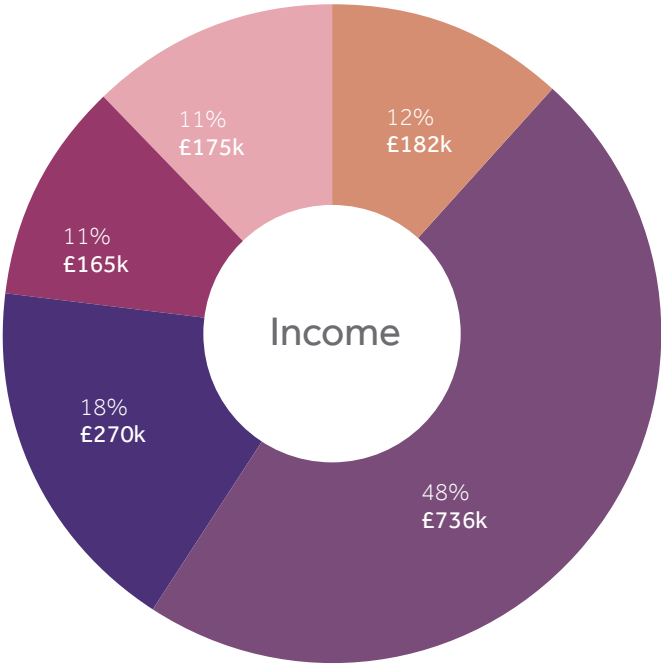
Standing up for nature

Collaborating with environmental coalitions, we lend our voice to national advocacy, fusing local action with broader change. We have actively empowered our community to drive change through campaigns such as Nature for Everyone, NetZero, Climate Coalition, People's plan for nature.

Facing the future of farming together

The path to sustainable farming is paved through our partnership with the local farming community, fostering regenerative practices and sharing insights for a brighter future. With funding from the Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) programme, Earth Trust is working with the North Wessex Downs AONB to create a local culture of sharing and learning for farmers and landowners. Paving the way for a farm innovation cluster, we convened a series of Regenerative Agriculture workshops, supporting farmers with the practicalities of shifting towards economically sustainable regenerative practices. We are also demonstrating, and loaning out new equipment for, best practice management of wildflower meadows and grasslands.

Income and expenditure



Grants and trusts **£182k**
Donations **£736k**
Farm income **£270k**
Learning and engagement **£165k**
Enterprise activities **£175k**
Total £1.5m

£177k Programmes for adults and children
£885k Programmes for landscape and wildlife
£730k Building communities for change
£26k Governance and administration
Total £1.8m



Financial summary

Total income to 31 March 2023 was £1.5 million (£3.1 million in 2021/22). Total expenditure for the same period was £ 1.8 million (£2.8 million in 2021/22).

Financial Year 2023 was a year of rebuilding our public-facing activities, including hire of our commercial and event spaces and reinvigorating our public programme of events and activities, whilst also looking to further develop Earth Trust centre in order to grow our capacity to welcome visitors in the future. Total unrestricted income was £1.5 million compared to £628k in 2021/22.

The progress achieved this year means we continue to move towards our goal of financial sustainability. The Trust's unrestricted general funds for the year to 31 March 2023 were in surplus by £104k (compared with a deficit of £341k in 2021/22).



Reserves and assets

Earth Trust has a significant capital base to enable our charitable activities and support our long term financial stability. Overall reserves stand at £15.1 million (2022: £15.3 million). The majority of reserves (79%) is held in the form of land, buildings and investment properties.

Our most significant asset is the value of green space land and buildings from which we operate, most recently enhanced by the construction of our Earth Lab and Innovation Hub buildings. In addition to these functional properties, Earth Trust owns four investment properties. These investment properties are held along with an investment portfolio (£2.91 million), which includes treasury bills (£1.00 million) and listed investments (£1.91 million), in order to generate income in support of our charitable objectives.

Only £480k (2022: £490k) are available as 'free' reserves .

Reserves policy

Free reserves are defined as general funds of the charity that are freely available to spend. Earth Trust requires these reserves to:

- Ensure funds are available to provide working capital for day to day trading
- Cover short term fluctuations in income
- Allow the charity to continue to operate and recover from an unexpected incident such as pests and disease, health and safety or safeguarding event and of a sudden and material drop in income
- In addition, reserves are used to enable organisational transition to deliver greater impact for our cause (accessible green spaces for all) which include capital expenditure and provide funds available to support delivery of our strategic projects or matched funding for these.

The required reserves are calculated and assessed according to an overall risk profile, and in doing so all major sources of income and long term expenditure requirements are reviewed. The total estimated cost of these risks is then compared to the total value of the reserves held. The reserves held are calculated based on the "general funds" available to the charity less the "fixed assets" figure, since these fixed assets are required for the functional operation of the charity, and the designated funds.

The current level of reserves required to cover risk on the basis of our calculation is £880,000. At the balance sheet date the charity held combined free and expendable endowment reserves of £1.4m, the latter of which, in line with previous Reserves policies, is available for release in extreme circumstances. This is calculated as the total Reserves less fixed assets, designated funds and restricted funds to generate the technically available reserves figure. In addition, the organisation is in a strategic growth period and the Trustees therefore consider it appropriate to retain higher reserves to support ongoing investment in the organisation in support of sustained and geared growth. Trustees have currently designated £1.5 million towards infrastructure development however, Trustees have acknowledged that, in the short term, some of these funds may be needed for day to day business operations. At the balance sheet date £1.5 million of its reserves in relation to the infrastructure development have been excluded from the £1.4m noted above.

Based on the level of Reserves shown above the Trustees are comfortable that there are sufficient Reserves available to meet the needs of the charity should the events noted above occur.

The level of reserves and their makeup is monitored by the Finance and Risk committee on a quarterly basis and the Board reviews the reserves policy annually in line with the annual audit process.

Investment powers and policy

The investment policy is reviewed annually by the Chair of the Finance and Risk Committee following a discussion with the investment managers and is approved by the full Trustee Board. We have an ethical investment policy, in line with our values and charitable purpose. In the next financial period, we are aiming to review our investment portfolio, with a view to strengthening the criteria we use for identifying alignment with our charitable objects and ethical criteria. The Trust's investment portfolio is managed by Evelyn & Partners. Reports are produced quarterly and discussed at meetings of the Trust's Finance and Risk Committee.

Listed investments are held in two portfolios governed by a mandate for each:

- Strategic Fund invested for a total return, balanced portfolio with the emphasis on capital growth. This is to be conducted in the context of a medium risk background; and
- Operational Fund invested for liquidity.

Governance Summary

Earth Trust is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The directors of Earth Trust are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law and are ultimately responsible for the management of Earth Trust (non-executive directors).

In line with plans to improve the culture of inclusivity across Earth Trust, the Board are reviewing how they ensure that representation on the board is inclusive of diverse experience and background, and during the period has begun a skills audit to identify the future skills requirements needed to support the Board.

The liability of the Trustees, as members, is limited to £10. The terms of the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association exclude the power to raise funds by the means of taxable trading, where such trading falls outside its charitable objects.

Board of Trustees

On 31 March 2023, the Board of Trustees, chaired by Ian Davidson, consisted of seven Trustees with diverse skills and experience of relevance to the Trust and its activities. The full Board meets quarterly, with the ability to call additional meetings when necessary. The Board has the power to set up sub-committees, and has a long established Finance & Risk Committee and a Safety Committee. Time-limited, theme-focused Working Groups involving Trustees, staff and external advisers/experts are used to develop important work areas.

Trustees delegate the day to day administration of Earth Trust to the Chief Executive who works with a team of senior managers operating within an agreed framework of authority limits. The Trustees retain control over all decisions relating to capital expenditure, investments and financial payments exceeding pre-agreed limits.

Trustee appointment, recruitment and training

All Trustees are volunteers and therefore are not remunerated for their trusteeship. We have the ability to pay legitimate expenses.

The Trustees continue to refresh the Board, when gaps in skills are identified or as terms come to an end and seeking to make new appointments to strengthen the skills needed to guide the organisation.

New Trustee appointments receive an induction at Earth Trust centre which covers their obligations as Trustees and Members of the Board. They are provided with the terms of reference for Trustees, the articles of the charity and other key documents such as strategic and financial plans.

Trustees are invited – and encouraged to attend - events and activities with staff and volunteers, to support further understanding of the detailed workings of the charity.

Leadership and management

The Board of Trustees delegates' day to day leadership and running of Earth Trust to the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive, with a Senior Management Team, manages the Trust, supported by staff and volunteers.

Remuneration

Earth Trust aims to ensure that all members of staff are paid appropriately according to the nature of their work and experience, the function and skills requirements of their role and in line with our organisational pay strategy and pay structure which is benchmarked against the market rate for the sector. No Senior Manager is involved in decisions relating to their own remuneration

Volunteer support

Earth Trust would not be able to meet its charitable objectives without the time and energy of volunteers.

Volunteers undertake practical conservation, improve access arrangements, help run events and learning activities, collect, input and analyse data, fundraise, and help with office reception and administration roles.

Risk management

The Trust has a range of risk assessments that govern different functional areas of work which are reviewed regularly. Our comprehensive Risk Register details all potential, identified risks measuring likelihood and impact and allowing for the implementation of any potential mitigation.

The Risk Register is reviewed at quarterly Trustee meetings and the Senior Management Team act as required to ensure that necessary risks are minimised and managed as appropriate.

Public benefit statement

The Board continuously reviews the activities of Earth Trust against its charitable objectives and its Strategic Vision. The Board is satisfied that all activities are related to these objectives and that no specific issues to the detriment of these objectives have been identified.

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

Earth Trust's public and economic impacts are, like its vision and activities, wide-ranging and multi-faceted. The Board can demonstrate that the management of accessible, engaging natural green spaces for all can help address the challenges of climate change, loss of biodiversity, and public health and wellbeing, which is made worse for those in disadvantaged communities who have little or no access to nature.

Earth Trust uses the green spaces we manage to engage and inspire people and to demonstrate nature-based solutions that we hope others will take and use elsewhere. Through our projects, we strive for sustainability, balancing people's access and dependency on natural resources - such as food and water - with thriving biodiversity and healthy ecosystems.

People benefit regardless of their age, background and ability. The impact of the public benefit we provide goes beyond that experienced by individuals themselves or the boundaries of local community greenspaces. Our impact is also regional and the significance and learning from our projects gives us national resonance as well.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

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

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

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

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

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

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

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

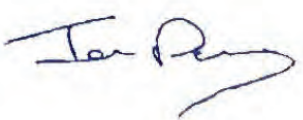
This report has been prepared having taken advantage of the small companies' exemption in the Companies Act 2006.

Disclosure of information to the auditors

We, the Directors of the company who held office at the date of approval of these Financial Statements as set out above each confirm, so far as we are aware, that:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and
- we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken as directors in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

Signed:



Ian Davidson, Chair

Date: 11/12/2023

Independent auditor's report to the Trustees of Earth Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Earth Trust (the "parent charitable company") and its subsidiary (the "group") for the year ended 31st March 2023 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Group and Charity Balance Sheets, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes 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's and parent charitable company's affairs as at 31st March 2023, and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial

statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

- adequate and sufficient accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or

- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of Trustees

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

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

- Enquiry of management, those charged with governance and the entity’s solicitors around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Enquiry of entity staff in tax and compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias.

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

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 auditor’s report.

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

Use of our report

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

Benjamin Hayes FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Wenn Townsend Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

30 St Giles, Oxford, OX1 3LE

11/12/23

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities
(Including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2023	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2022
Income and		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Endowments from:											
Donations and legacies	2	878,282	-	21,348	-	899,630	255,068	-	2,484,196	-	2,739,264
Charitable activities	3	496,985	-	-	-	496,985	306,917	-	-	-	306,917
Other trading activities	4	47,353	-	-	-	47,353	9,190	-	-	-	9,190
Investments	5	83,730	1,300	-	-	85,030	57,036	-	-	-	57,036
<hr/>											
Total income and endowments		1,506,350	1,300	21,348	-	1,528,998	628,211	-	2,484,196	-	3,112,407
Expenditure on:											
Raising funds	6	204,999	-	-	-	204,999	163,974	-	-	-	163,974
Charitable activities	7	1,171,351	181,626	209,571	24,194	1,586,742	783,848	161,292	1,699,774	25,473	2,670,387
Other	8	26,129	-	-	-	26,129	20,947	-	-	-	20,947
<hr/>											
Total expenditure		1,402,479	181,626	209,571	24,194	1,817,870	968,769	161,292	1,699,774	25,473	2,855,308
Net gains/(losses) on revaluation of Investments	15	-	18,146	-	(59,693)	(41,547)	-	617	-	22,580	23,197
<hr/>											
Net income/(expenditure)		103,871	(162,180)	(188,223)	(83,887)	(330,419)	(340,558)	(160,675)	784,422	(2,893)	280,296
Transfers between funds	21	(112,866)	905,463	(792,597)	-	-	490,040	(115,013)	(375,027)	-	-
<hr/>											
Net movement in funds		(8,995)	743,283	(980,820)	(83,887)	(330,419)	149,482	(275,688)	409,395	(2,893)	280,296
Reconciliation of funds:											
Total funds brought forward	21	489,717	10,155,078	1,384,114	3,258,913	15,287,822	340,235	10,430,766	974,719	3,261,806	15,007,526
<hr/>											
Total funds carried forward	21	480,722	10,898,361	403,294	3,175,026	14,957,403	489,717	10,155,078	1,384,114	3,258,913	15,287,822
<hr/>											
Analysis of net assets between funds											
Fixed assets – Earth Trust	-	-	6,106,615	-	1,777,829	7,884,444	-	5,370,206	-	1,789,990	7,160,196
Fixed assets – Earth Innovation	13,460	-	2,232,117	-	-	2,245,577	13,460	2,244,689	-	-	2,258,149
Investment properties	-	-	1,540,000	-	-	1,540,000	-	1,540,000	-	-	1,540,000
Investments	500,000	-	1,019,628	-	1,397,197	2,916,825	-	1,000,182	-	1,468,923	2,469,105
Cash and current investments	(60,775)	-	-	403,294	-	342,519	303,402	-	1,384,114	-	1,687,516
Other current assets / liabilities	28,037	-	1	-	-	28,038	172,855	1	-	-	172,856
<hr/>											
		480,722	10,898,361	403,294	3,175,026	14,957,403	489,717	10,155,078	1,384,114	3,258,913	15,287,822

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.
The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.

Balance Sheet

Company number 04381522

	Note	Group 2023 £	Charity 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Charity 2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14	10,130,021	7,884,444	9,418,345	7,160,196
Investments	15				
- Investment in subsidiary company		-	1	-	1
- Loan to subsidiary company		-	2,490,978	-	2,320,253
- Listed investments		2,849,574	2,849,574	2,421,252	2,421,252
- Cash held by investment manager		67,252	67,252	47,853	47,853
- Investment property		1,540,000	1,540,000	1,540,000	1,540,000
		14,586,847	14,832,249	13,427,450	13,489,555
Current assets					
Stocks	16	103,958	103,958	86,348	86,348
Debtors	17	249,370	186,421	341,805	312,118
Cash at bank and in hand		342,519	307,020	967,797	921,751
Cash held pending investment		-	-	719,719	719,719
		695,847	597,399	2,115,669	2,039,936
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(325,291)	(305,643)	(255,297)	(171,710)
Net current assets		370,556	291,756	1,860,372	1,868,226
Total assets less current liabilities		14,957,403	15,124,005	15,287,822	15,357,781
Net assets		14,957,403	15,124,005	15,287,822	15,357,781
Charity Funds					
Unrestricted funds - Operational	21	469,861	469,861	448,380	448,380
Unrestricted funds - Trading co	21	10,861	-	41,337	-
Designated funds	21	10,898,361	11,075,824	10,155,078	10,266,374
Restricted funds	21	403,294	403,294	1,384,114	1,384,114
Permanent endowment	21	1,384,253	1,384,253	1,384,253	1,384,253
Expendable endowment	21	1,790,773	1,790,773	1,874,660	1,874,660
Total charity funds	21	14,957,403	15,124,005	15,287,822	15,357,781

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 11th December 2023

The notes form part of the financial statements.

Signed on behalf of the board of Trustees



Stephen Dance - Chair of the Finance and Risk Committee

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

		2023 Note £	2022 £
Cash flow from operating activities	22	(23,265)	245,099
Net cash flow from operating activities		(23,265)	245,099
Cash flow from investing activities			
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(905,462)	(452,232)
Payments to acquire new investments		(500,000)	-
Receipts from disposal of investments		-	1,000,000
Dividends received		21,703	24,153
Rents received from investment properties		62,027	32,883
Net cash flow from investing activities		(1,321,732)	604,804
Movement in cash and cash equivalents		(1,344,997)	849,903
Net increase/ (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			
Cash and cash equivalents at 1st April 2022		1,687,516	837,613
Cash and cash equivalents at 31st March 2023		342,519	1,687,516
Cash and cash equivalents consists of:			
Cash at bank and in hand		342,519	967,797
Cash at bank and in hand pending investment		-	719,719
Cash and cash equivalents at 31st March 2023		342,519	1,687,516

The notes form part of the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) General information and basis of preparation

Earth Trust is a Company Limited by guarantee in the United Kingdom. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 2 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are outlined in the Trustees Report.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

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

In applying the financial reporting framework, the Trustees have made a number of subjective judgements, for example

in respect of significant accounting estimates. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The nature of the estimation means the actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. Any significant estimates and judgements affecting these financial statements are detailed within the relevant accounting policy below.

(b) Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Where restricted funds are received in respect of capital projects, associated costs are capitalised as fixed assets and a fund transfer is shown in the accounts to the designated capital reserve as it is deemed that the restriction has been met at the point of spending this money.

Endowment funds represent those assets which must be held permanently by the charity, principally land and buildings. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the charity and is included as unrestricted income. Any capital gains or losses arising on the investments form part of the fund. Investment management charges and legal advice relating to the fund are charged against the fund.

(c) Income recognition

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

For donations to be recognised, the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained, then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Donated facilities and donated professional services are recognised in income at their fair value when their economic benefit is probable, it can be measured reliably and the charity has control over the item. Fair value is determined on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity, i.e. the amount the charity would be willing to pay in the open market for such facilities and services. A corresponding amount is recognised in expenditure.

No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with the SORP (FRS 102). Further detail is given in the Trustees' Annual Report.

Where practicable, gifts in kind donated for distribution to the beneficiaries of the charity are included in stock and donations in the financial statements upon receipt. If it is impracticable to assess the fair value at receipt or if the costs to undertake such a valuation outweigh any benefits, then the fair value is recognised as a component of donations when it is distributed and an equivalent amount recognised as charitable expenditure.

Gifts in kind donated for resale are included at fair value, being the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale. Where estimating, the fair value is practicable upon receipt it is recognised in stock and 'Income from

other trading activities'. Upon sale, the value of the stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds are recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'. Where it is impracticable to fair value the items due to the volume of low value items they are not recognised in the financial statements until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

Fixed asset gifts in kind are recognised when receivable and are included at fair value. They are not deferred over the life of the asset.

For legacies, entitlement is the earlier of the charity being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received. At this point income is recognised. On occasion legacies, will be notified to the charity where it is not possible to measure the amount expected to be distributed. On these occasions, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed.

Income from trading activities includes income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the charity. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred.

The charity receives government grants in respect of farming activities. Income from government and other grants are recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met, then these amounts are deferred.

Investment income is earned through holding assets for investment purposes such as shares and property. It includes dividends, interest and rent. Where it is not practicable to identify investment management costs incurred within a scheme with reasonable accuracy the investment income is reported net of these costs. It is included when the amount can be measured reliably. Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method and dividend and rent income

is recognised as the charity's right to receive payment is established.

Other income includes the conversion of endowment funds into income which arises when capital funds are released to an income fund from expendable endowments or when a charity has authority to adopt a total return approach to its permanent endowment fund. It also includes other income such as gains on disposals of tangible fixed assets.

(d) Expenditure recognition

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

- Costs of raising funds includes fundraising and development costs;
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes costs in furtherance of the charity's stated objectives and activities; and
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into the categories above.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

Grants payable to third parties are within the charitable objectives. Where unconditional grants are offered, this is accrued as soon as the recipient is notified of the grant, as this gives rise to a reasonable expectation that the recipient will receive the grants. Where grants are conditional relating to performance then the grant is only accrued when any unfulfilled conditions are outside of the control of the charity.

(e) Support costs allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs, governance costs, administrative and payroll costs.

They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management carried out at Headquarters. Where support costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources. Overheads have been allocated on a percentage of overall expenditure basis.

Fund-raising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

The analysis of these costs is included in note 9.

(f) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its expected useful life as follows:

Freehold land	0%
Freehold buildings	2% Straight Line Basis
Plant, machinery and motor vehicles	20% Straight Line Basis
Fixtures and fittings	20% Straight Line Basis

(g) Investment properties

Investment properties for which fair value can be measured reliably without undue cost or effort are measured at fair value at each reporting date with changes in fair value recognised in 'net gains / (losses) on investments' in the SoFA.

(h) Investments

Investments are recognised initially at fair value which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at fair value with changes recognised in 'net gains / (losses) on investments' in the SoFA

if the shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably. Other investments are measured at cost less impairment.

(i) Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing stock to its present location and condition. Cost is calculated using the first-in, first-out formula. Provision is made for damaged, obsolete and slow-moving stock where appropriate. Donated stocks are included at fair value as described in (c) above.

(j) Cash

Cash balances include £2,496 (2022: £1,230) of funds held with our investment managers Evelyn and Partners, £338,785 (2022: £962,477) held in our NatWest bank accounts, £nil (2022: £719,719), the 2022 balance being held as a deposit pending the purchase of Bessie's Field.

(k) Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

(l) Impairment

Assets not measured at fair value are reviewed for any indication that the asset may be impaired at each balance sheet date. If such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, or the asset's cash generating unit, is estimated and compared to the carrying amount. Where the carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount where the impairment loss is a revaluation decrease.

(m) Leases

Assets acquired under finance leases are capitalised and depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and the expected useful life of the asset. Minimum lease payments are apportioned between the finance charge and the reduction of the outstanding lease liability using the effective interest method. The related obligations, net of future finance charges, are included in creditors.

Rentals payable and receivable under operating leases are charged to the SoFA on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

(n) Employee benefits

When employees have rendered service to the charity, short-term employee benefits to which the employees are entitled are recognised at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid in exchange for that service.

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for the benefit of its employees. Contributions are expensed as they become payable.

(o) Tax

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

(p) Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the Trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The Trustees have considered the level of funds held, including the expendable endowment investment fund which is available to be liquidated at short notice, and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. They have carried out a stress test using a number of possible outcomes and have concluded that the budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves held for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

Notes to the Financial Statements

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Group 2023	Charity 2023	Group 2022	Charity 2022
	£	£	£	£
Gifts	717,467	717,467	1,116,786	1,116,786
Grants	182,163	182,163	1,622,478	1,622,478
	899,630	899,630	2,739,264	2,739,264

3 Income from charitable activities

	Group 2023	Charity 2023	Group 2022	Charity 2022
	£	£	£	£
Sale of crops and grazing licences	270,285	270,285	154,591	154,591
School visits and community work	29,373	29,373	-	-
Service income	55,754	55,754	60,555	60,555
Other income	42,428	42,428	32,819	32,819
Earth Innovation activities	80,266	-	47,283	-
Gift Aid	18,879	18,879	11,669	11,669
	496,985	416,719	306,917	259,634

4 Income from other trading activities

	Group 2023	Charity 2023	Group 2022	Charity 2022
	£	£	£	£
Earth Trust Centre Hire	47,353	47,353	9,190	9,190
	47,353	47,353	9,190	9,190

5 Income from investments

	Group 2023	Charity 2023	Group 2022	Charity 2022
	£	£	£	£
Dividends – equities	23,003	23,003	24,153	24,153
Rental income	62,027	62,027	32,883	32,883
	85,030	85,030	57,036	57,036

6 Expenditure on raising funds

	Group 2023	Charity 2023	Group 2022	Charity 2022
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising	161,409	161,409	129,643	129,643
Support costs (note 9)	43,590	43,590	34,331	34,331
	204,999	204,999	163,974	163,974

Notes to the Financial Statements

7 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs (Note 9)	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Land Management	431,598	453,049	884,647	2,307,333
Communication and Engagement	256,226	268,960	525,186	228,072
Earth Innovation	176,909	-	176,909	134,982
	864,733	722,009	1,586,742	2,670,387

8 Other Expenditure

	Group 2023	Charity 2023	Group 2022	Charity 2022
	£	£	£	£
Investment manager fees	12,033	12,033	13,312	13,312
Governance Costs	14,096	14,096	7,635	7,635
	26,129	26,129	20,947	20,947

9 Allocation of support costs

Support costs - 2023		Earth Trust Centre and Investments	Land Mgmnt	Engagement	Total
	Basis of allocation	£	£	£	£
Management	Support	29,761	309,320	183,633	522,714
Materials	costs x %	862	8,962	5,320	15,144
Information technology	of activity	1,590	16,525	9,811	27,926
Depreciation	/ overall	3,524	36,624	21,742	61,890
Establishment	cost	13,151	136,687	81,146	230,984
Management charge		(5,298)	(55,069)	(32,692)	(93,059)
Total		43,590	453,049	268,960	765,599

Support costs - 2022		Earth Trust Centre and Investments	Land Mgmnt	Engagement	Total
	Basis of allocation	£	£	£	£
Management	Support	20,751	413,167	40,840	474,758
Materials	costs x %	161	3,197	316	3,674
Information technology	of activity	940	18,708	1,849	21,497
Depreciation	/ overall	7,491	149,151	14,743	171,385
Establishment	cost	8,977	178,732	17,667	205,376
Management charge		(3,989)	(79,424)	(7,851)	(91,264)
Total		34,331	683,531	67,564	785,426

Notes to the Financial Statements

10 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	193,786	173,418

11 Auditor’s remuneration

The auditor’s remuneration amounts to an audit fee of £8,750 (2022: £8,250), audit and accounts preparation for the subsidiary company of £3,450 (2022: £3,250) and other services totalling £1,896 (2022: £780) along with a prior year accrual difference of £nil (2022: -£4,645).

12 Trustees’ and key management personnel remuneration and expenses

The Trustees neither received nor waived any remuneration or expenses during the year (2022: £nil). The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel is £259,359 (2022: £364,727). The Trust considers its key employed management personnel comprise J Manley, I Nutt, S Huggett and D Lewis.

13 Staff costs and employee benefits

The average monthly number of employees and full time equivalent (FTE) during the year/period was as follows:

	2023 Number	2023 FTE	2022 Number	2022 FTE
Raising funds	4	3	4	3
Charitable activities	13	8	20	9
Support Services	13	10	11	8
	30	21	35	20

The total staff costs and employees’ benefits was as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	789,242	668,171
Social security	77,164	62,090
Defined contribution pension costs	52,627	44,661
	919,033	774,922

One employee received total employee benefits (excluding pension costs) of £80,000 - £90,000 (2022: one) and one employee received total employee benefits (excluding pension costs) of £60,000 - £70,000 (2022: two).

Notes to the Financial Statements

14 Tangible fixed assets (Group)

Current year

	Land & Buildings	Fixtures & Fittings	Motor Vehicles	Plant & Machinery	Total
Cost					
At 1 April 2022	9,864,377	104,932	10,850	636,541	10,616,700
Additions	823,492	13,089	17,050	51,832	905,463
At 31 March 2023	10,687,869	118,021	27,900	688,373	11,522,163
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2022	846,396	87,231	1,447	263,282	1,198,356
Charge for the year	89,658	4,941	4,564	94,623	193,786
At 31 March 2023	936,054	92,172	6,011	357,905	1,392,142
Net Book Value					
At 31 March 2022	9,017,981	17,702	9,403	373,259	9,418,345
At 31 March 2023	9,751,815	25,849	21,889	330,468	10,130,021

Comparative year

	Land & Buildings	Fixtures & Fittings	Motor Vehicles	Plant & Machinery	Total
Cost					
At 1 April 2021	9,889,609	88,572	-	186,287	10,164,468
Additions	-	16,360	10,850	425,022	452,232
Disposals / transfers	(25,232)	-	-	25,232	-
At 31 March 2022	9,864,377	104,932	10,850	636,541	10,616,700
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2021	760,560	80,553	-	183,824	1,024,937
Charge for the year	85,836	6,677	1,447	79,458	173,418
At 31 March 2022	846,396	87,230	1,447	263,282	1,198,355
Net Book Value					
At 31 March 2021	9,115,588	8,019	-	15,924	9,139,531
At 31 March 2022	9,017,981	17,702	9,403	373,259	9,418,345

Notes to the Financial Statements

14 Tangible fixed assets (Charity)

Current year	Land & Buildings	Fixtures & Fittings	Motor Vehicles	Plant & Machinery	Total
Cost					
At 1 April 2022	7,930,592	104,932	10,850	200,881	8,247,255
Additions	726,761	13,089	17,050	34,461	791,361
At 31 March 2023	8,657,353	118,021	27,900	235,342	9,038,616
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2022	813,314	87,230	1,447	185,068	1,087,059
Charge for the year	52,768	4,941	4,564	4,839	67,112
At 31 March 2023	866,082	92,172	6,011	189,907	1,154,172
Net Book Value					
At 31 March 2022	7,117,278	17,702	9,403	15,813	7,160,196
At 31 March 2023	7,791,271	25,849	21,889	45,435	7,884,444
Comparative year					
Cost					
At 1 April 2021	7,930,592	88,572	-	186,287	8,205,451
Additions	-	16,360	10,850	14,594	41,804
At 31 March 2022	7,930,592	104,932	10,850	200,881	8,247,255
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2021	760,560	80,553	-	183,824	1,024,937
Charge for the year	52,754	6,677	1,447	1,244	62,122
At 31 March 2022	813,314	87,230	1,447	185,068	1,087,059
Net Book Value					
At 31 March 2021	7,170,032	8,019	-	2,463	7,180,514
At 31 March 2022	7,117,278	17,702	9,403	15,813	7,160,196

Notes to the Financial Statements

15 Fixed asset investments (Group – Current year)

	Cash held by investment manager	Listed Investments	Investment Property	Total
Cost/market value				
At 1st April 2022	47,853	2,421,252	1,540,000	4,009,105
Purchases	(157,188)	157,188	-	-
Disposals	167,614	(167,614)	-	-
Net transfers to investments	-	500,000	-	500,000
Investment gains/(losses)	20,870	(62,417)	-	(41,547)
Fees	(12,033)	-	-	(12,033)
At 31st March 2023	67,252	2,849,574	1,540,000	4,456,826

Fixed asset investments (Group – Previous year)

	Cash held by investment manager	Listed Investments	Investment Property	Total
Cost/market value				
At 1st April 2021	20,104	3,439,151	1,540,000	4,999,255
Purchases	(174,724)	174,724	-	-
Disposals	215,390	(215,390)	-	-
Net transfers to cash	-	(1,000,000)	-	(1,000,000)
Investment gains/(losses)	395	22,802	-	23,197
Fees	(13,312)	(35)	-	(13,347)
At 31st March 2022	47,853	2,421,252	1,540,000	4,009,105

Notes to the Financial Statements

15 Fixed asset investments (Charity – Current year)

	Investment in subsidiary company	Cash held by investment manager	Listed Investments	Investment Property	Total
Cost/market value					
At 1st April 2022	2,320,254	47,853	2,421,252	1,540,000	6,329,359
Purchases	-	(157,188)	157,188	-	-
Disposals	-	167,614	(167,614)	-	-
Loan movement in year	170,725	-	-	-	170,725
Net transfers to inv's	-	-	500,000	-	500,000
Investment gains/(losses)	-	20,870	(62,417)	-	(41,547)
Fees	-	(12,033)	-	-	(12,033)
At 31st March 2023	2,490,979	67,116	2,848,409	1,540,000	6,946,504

Fixed asset investments (Charity – Previous year)

	Investment in subsidiary company	Cash held by investment manager	Listed Investments	Investment Property	Total
Cost/market value					
At 1st April 2021	2,033,062	20,104	3,439,151	1,540,000	7,032,317
Purchases	-	(174,724)	174,724	-	-
Disposals	-	215,390	(215,390)	-	-
Additional loan in year	287,192	-	-	-	287,192
Net transfers to cash	-	-	(1,000,000)	-	(1,000,000)
Investment gains/(losses)	-	395	22,802	-	23,197
Property gains/(losses)	-	-	-	-	-
Fees	-	(13,312)	(35)	-	(13,347)
At 31st March 2022	2,320,254	47,853	2,421,252	1,540,000	6,329,359

Investment properties are included at an estimate of their market value at the reporting date. They have not been independently valued during the year however the Trustees are satisfied that after considering available information, the value has not materially changed since the last formal independent valuation.

Notes to the Financial Statements

16 Stocks

	Group 2023 £	Charity 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Charity 2022 £
Raw materials (crops)	103,958	103,958	86,348	86,348
	103,958	103,958	86,348	86,348

All stock held are crops for sale from our Arable Farming.

17 Debtors

	Group 2023 £	Charity 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Charity 2022 £
Trade debtors	69,702	9,792	47,610	19,552
Other debtors	-	-	1,212	-
Prepayments and accrued income	179,668	176,629	292,983	292,566
	249,370	186,421	341,805	312,118

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2023 £	Charity 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Charity 2022 £
Trade creditors	134,196	122,876	105,171	64,888
Other taxes and social security	(18,594)	(19,231)	13,782	13,782
Other creditors	(44)	(44)	20,398	7,668
Accruals and deferred income	209,733	202,042	115,946	85,372
	325,291	305,643	255,297	171,710

19 Leases

There are no minimum lease payments in either the charity or the group.

20 Deferred income

	Under 1 year £	Over 1 year £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
At 1st April 2022	40,300	-	40,300	3,800
Additions during the year	92,845	-	92,845	36,500
Amounts released to income	(40,300)	-	(40,300)	-
At 31st March 2023	92,845	-	92,845	40,300

Income has been deferred due to timing differences between the monies being received and the activities taking place.

Notes to the Financial Statements

21 Fund reconciliations – 2023 Group
Endowment Funds

	01-Apr-22	Income	Expenditure	Investment gains	Transfer	31-Mar-23
Permanent						
Permanent Endowment	1,384,253	-	-	-	-	1,384,253
Expendable						
Property	405,737	-	(12,161)	-	-	393,576
Investments	1,468,923	-	(12,033)	(59,693)	-	1,397,197
	3,258,913	-	(24,194)	(59,693)	-	3,175,026

Restricted Funds

	01-Apr-22	Income	Expenditure	Investment gains	Transfer	31-Mar-23
Earth Trust Centre Development	219,751	-	(72,534)	-	-	147,217
Lucas Legacy	8,500	-	-	-	(8,500)	-
Archaeology	5,995	-	-	-	(5,995)	-
Earth Lab and Innovation Hub	39,100	-	-	-	(39,100)	-
Bessies Field	719,719	-	-	-	(719,719)	-
Volunteer	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clifton Meadow Fields	15,345	-	-	-	-	15,345
Countryside Skills	20,000	20,000	(24,209)	-	4,209	20,000
Land Management Apprentice	23,091	-	(23,091)	-	-	-
Paradise Wood	25,724	767	(5,759)	-	-	20,732
Lucy Benyon Memorial	1,624	-	(1,005)	-	(619)	-
River of Life 2	5,265	581	(7,200)	-	1,354	-
Director of GI & NR	300,000	-	(75,773)	-	(24,227)	200,000
	1,384,114	21,348	(209,571)	-	(792,597)	403,294

Unrestricted Funds

	01-Apr-22	Income	Expenditure	Investment gains	Transfer	31-Mar-23
Unrestricted Funds						
Operational Reserve	448,380	1,426,084	(1,352,244)	-	(52,359)	469,861
Earth Innovation Limited	41,337	80,266	(50,235)	-	(60,507)	10,861
	489,717	1,506,350	(1,402,479)		(112,866)	480,722

Designated Funds

Capital Reserve	6,910,206	-	(54,952)	-	791,361	7,646,615
Capital Reserve – EI	2,244,689	-	(126,674)	-	114,102	2,232,117
Treasury investments	1,000,183	1,300	-	18,146	-	1,019,629
	10,155,078	1,300	(181,626)	18,146	905,463	10,898,361

Total unrestricted & designated	10,644,795	1,507,650	(1,584,105)	18,146	792,597	11,379,083
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Notes to the Financial Statements

21 Fund reconciliations – 2022 Group
Endowment Funds

	01-Apr-21	Income	Expenditure	Investment gains	Transfer	31-Mar-22
Permanent						
Permanent Endowment	1,384,253	-	-	-	-	1,384,253
Expendable						
Property	417,898	-	(12,161)	-	-	405,737
Investments	1,459,655	-	(13,312)	22,580	-	1,468,923
	3,261,806	-	(25,473)	22,580	-	3,258,913

Restricted Funds

	01-Apr-21	Income	Expenditure	Investment gains	Transfer	31-Mar-22
Earth Trust Centre Development	309,000	-	-	-	(89,249)	219,751
Lucas Legacy	15,000	-	-	-	(6,500)	8,500
Archaeology	31,189	-	-	-	(25,194)	5,995
Earth Lab and Innovation Hub	293,184	-	-	-	(254,084)	39,100
Bessies Field	-	729,200	(9,481)	-	-	719,719
Volunteer	29,350	-	(29,350)	-	-	-
Clifton Meadow Fields	15,345	-	-	-	-	15,345
Countryside Skills	14,402	20,000	(14,402)	-	-	20,000
Land Management Apprentice	39,002	-	(15,911)	-	-	23,091
Paradise Wood	30,663	2,239	(7,178)	-	-	25,724
Lucy Benyon Memorial	-	11,056	(9,432)	-	-	1,624
River of Life 2	10,860	1,471,701	(1,477,296)	-	-	5,265
Director of GI & NR	186,724	250,000	(136,724)	-	-	300,000
	974,719	2,484,196	(1,699,774)	-	(375,027)	1,384,114

Unrestricted Funds

	01-Apr-21	Income	Expenditure	Investment gains	Transfer	31-Mar-22
Unrestricted Funds						
Operational Reserve	322,495	580,928	(945,083)	-	490,040	448,380
Earth Innovation Limited	17,740	47,283	(23,686)	-	-	41,337
	340,235	628,211	(968,769)	-	490,040	489,717

Designated Funds

Capital Reserve	6,918,363	-	(49,961)	-	41,804	6,910,206
Capital Reserve – EI	1,945,557	-	(111,296)	-	410,428	2,244,689
Living Ash	17,245	-	-		(17,245)	-
Treasury investments	1,549,601	-	(35)	617	(550,000)	1,000,183
	10,430,766	-	(161,292)	617	(115,013)	10,155,078

Total unrestricted & designated	10,771,001	628,211	(1,130,061)	617	375,027	10,644,795
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Notes to the Financial Statements

21 Fund reconciliations (continued)

Fund descriptions

a) Unrestricted funds

Operational

The Operational Reserve represents the charity’s free reserves.

The Group’s reserves include the profit and loss reserve in Earth Innovation Limited, this being the subsidiary company’s retained earnings.

Designated

The Capital Reserve represents the value of fixed assets owned by the parent charitable company and included in note 15. This includes those fixed assets that have been funded from restricted funds. In particular, the designated capital reserve includes £1.49million of capital improvements that were funded by way of grants that would become repayable in the event that the charity ceased to operate the property before 2036.

In addition, the Capital Reserve – EI represents the value of fixed assets held in Earth Innovation Limited that have been funded through restricted giving in to Earth Trust.

The Treasury Investments Fund represents the value of investments held in Treasury Bills. This has been funded from the sale of one of the charity’s properties in the previous financial period.

b) Restricted funds

Earth Trust has secured funding to enable it to undertake a large number of projects in the furtherance of its charitable objects. These funds are provided for a particular purpose and therefore not available for general use by the charity. They are grouped together for reporting purposes as shown above. Some of the funds are short-term in nature, and others fund projects that will last for a number of years.

Earth Trust Centre Development

Funding for the development and roll out Earth Lab and the Innovation Hub.

Countryside Skills

Funding of core support for Countryside Skills.

Paradise Wood

Funding to be fully utilised in 2023/24 on seeding for Paradise Wood.

Clifton Meadow Fields

Funding for capital infrastructure for Clifton Meadow Fields.

Director of Green Infrastructure and Nature Recovery

5 year funding of the Director of Green Infrastructure and Nature Recovery, Commenced 2020.

c) Endowment funds

The permanent endowment fund was established in 1997 and comprises the main land holdings of the Trust. The land is used in the Trust’s Nature Reserve and Conservation Farming Projects.

The expendable endowment fund comprises mainly the Trust’s investment portfolio and some peripheral land holdings. This fund is invested to generate income and to support the long-term development of the Trust.

Notes to the Financial Statements

22 Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	(330,419)	280,296
Dividends received	(23,003)	(24,153)
Rents received from investment properties	(62,027)	(32,883)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	193,786	173,418
(Gains)/losses on investments	41,547	(23,197)
Investment management fees	12,033	13,347
(Increase) / decrease in stock	(17,610)	(28,741)
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	(78,291)	(199,818)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	240,719	86,830
Net cash flow from operating activities	(23,265)	245,099

23 Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

Defined contribution pension plans

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension plan for its employees. The amount recognised as an expense in the period was £52,627 (2022: £44,661).

The defined contribution liability is allocated to unrestricted funds.

24 Financial commitments

There were no capital commitments at the year end.

Notes to the Financial Statements

25 Related party transactions

(i) For the year ended 31st March 2023 the subsidiary company showed the following results:

	Earth Innovation Limited
Turnover	80,266
Cost of sales	(27,120)
Gross profit	53,146
Administrative expenses	(149,789)
Operating profit	(96,643)
The balance sheets of this subsidiary at 31st March 2023 was:-	
	£
Fixed assets:	
Tangible fixed assets	2,245,577
Current assets:	
Debtors	62,949
Cash at bank and in hand	35,499
Current liabilities:	
Other creditors	(19,647)
Non-current liabilities	
Inter-company account	(2,490,979)
Net assets	(166,601)
Represented by:	
Share capital	1
Reserves	(166,602)
	(166,601)

Earth Trust holds 100% of the share capital of Earth Trust innovation (company number 11881235).

Notes to the Financial Statements

26 Charity Statement of Financial Activities

The Charity's own results are summarised below:

	2023 £	2022 £
Donations and legacies	899,630	2,739,264
Charitable activities	416,719	259,634
Other trading activities	47,353	9,190
Investment income	85,030	57,036
Total income	1,448,732	3,065,124
Cost of charitable activities	(1,409,833)	(2,535,405)
Cost of raising funds	(204,999)	(163,974)
Other	(26,129)	(20,947)
Total expenditure	(1,640,961)	(2,720,326)
Net income before gains/(losses) on investments	(192,229)	344,798
Gains/(losses) on investment assets	(41,547)	23,197
Net income/(expenditure)	(233,776)	367,995

Looking to the future - Our aims for 2023–24

From ensuring that the amazing green spaces in our care are supporting landscape-scale nature recovery, to reducing barriers to access for under-served communities - we continue to work tirelessly to enable nature and people to thrive in balance, while using this work to inspire change at a national level too.

Our supporters have a vital role to play as we look to inspire more people with the power of natural green spaces. We will be launching a new cause-led membership scheme to attract more people to our shared cause –to make our voice heard and to ensure our sustainability into the future. And will be working in partnership with more businesses – including launching a new corporate membership scheme – to help create positive social and environmental impact and boost your employee wellbeing and engagement.

In 2020, we embarked on an ambitious project to develop the Earth Trust Centre to welcome a larger number visitors and provide a gateway of discovery to the natural green spaces and heritage at Earth Trust. Over the next 12 months, we will continue our work on this, improving our infrastructure (car park, access track, toilets) and identifying partners for the next phase of this exciting development project to transform how we are engaging people with the natural world.

Demonstrate: Sharing the power of nature

Developing a new long term green infrastructure and nature recovery framework for the spaces in our care, to guide and support the delivery of a farm transformation plan, landscape-scale nature recovery, and the protection of sensitive, designated features while continuing to improve public accessibility and engagement with our green spaces.

Continuing to evolve our farm operations to reflect regenerative agriculture principles, introducing a series of try outs as part of our own journey to better soil health, and provide learning and engagement opportunities to other farmers, landowners and the visiting public on how farming with the environment can be economically viable while also addressing climate, biodiversity and health.

Engage: bringing people closer to their environment

Realising our vision for exemplar visitor experience centre, by undertaking a series of improvement projects which respond to audience needs and remove barriers to visiting our green spaces. We will continue to expand our Growing Places project, working with partners to engage diverse underserved communities and audiences with the natural world.

Continuing to evolve our education offer of immersive real world learning experiences which foster relationships between young people and the natural world. We will be reaching out to new audiences – including the launch of a 3 year project with Reading schools to inspire Future Green Leaders and engaging teachers in the power of narrative led, real world learning for STEM.

Influence: supporting change at a local and national level

Launching a new Catalysing Nature Recovery for People and Nature project, to establish a multi sector knowledge network (a 'network of networks') that will advance practical approaches for delivering nature recovery while building nature into people's lives.



Huge thanks to our volunteers. We simply would not be able to look after and champion our green spaces without their dedicated support.

Jayne Manley, Chief Executive Officer



Trustees

Ian Davidson, Chair

Julian Sayers, Vice Chair (*End of term of office – February 2023*)

Sarah Bar-Lev (*joined April 2023*)

Liz Buckle, Safety Committee chair (*From March 2023*)

Stephen Dance

Jemma Davey (*left June 2023*)

Clare Fairbrother (*joined April 2023*)

John Harwood

Terry Hurley (*joined April 2023*)

Chris Philips, Safety Committee chair (*End of term of office – February 2023*)

Nusrat Shah, Finance & Risk Committee chair (*left April 2023*)

Robin Tucker

Senior Leadership Team

Jayne Manley, Chief Executive Officer

Simon Atkinson, Director of Green Infrastructure and Nature Recovery (*joined July 2023*)

Stephen Huggett, Director of Finance

Ian Nutt, Director of Programmes & Partnerships (*until February 2023*)

Dave Lewis, Director of Operations

Lee Ann Norris, Head of Fundraising

Paul Hill, Head of Environmental Land Management

Verity Warne, Head of Communications

Anna Wilson, Head of Experience & Engagement

Colin Shone, Centre Operations Manager

Sharon Ward, HR Manager (*until February 2023*)

Marianne Meering, Finance Manager

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Company limited by guarantee
Registered in England and Wales
Company Number 4381522
Charity Number 1095057



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