

**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03901671 (England and Wales)**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1101885**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND**  
**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**  
**FOR**  
**FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

Chariot House Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
44 Grand Parade  
Brighton  
East Sussex  
BN2 9QA

## **FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

---

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Objectives and aims**

#### **About the Food Ethics Council**

The Food Ethics Council believes that we can have a better, fairer food system: where everyone eats well and hunger is a distant memory; where farmers and food producers make a decent living, animals are treated humanely, and the environment is respected.

#### **Who we are**

We are a registered charity and our work is not for profit. We are not affiliated to any political party or religious organisation. Our Council members are appointed as individuals. They bring a broad range of expertise to our work, from academic research through to practical knowledge of food, farming, business and policy. Our members lead our work in a voluntary capacity and our staff supports them through research, analysis and advocacy.

#### **What we do**

We work as an independent think-and-do tank, whose purpose is to bring ethics to the centre of food systems. We bring expertise together - providing the ethical tools and space for honest, thoughtful and nuanced dialogue. We challenge 'business as usual' and support stakeholders to consider the wider impacts of our food systems. Fundamentally, we work to promote considered, long-term solutions to real-world food systems problems, and we strive to provide a safe space for those in the food and farming sector wanting to be part of this shift. In this, we help to create an enabling environment, overcome barriers and design fairer ways in which food systems, their component parts and food businesses can operate. This is all in line with our mission: to accelerate the shift to fair and resilient food systems which respect people, animals and the planet.

#### **Our Objects**

1. To promote education for the public benefit in issues of ethics, economic and social studies, politics, science and public policy, as they relate to food and agriculture.
2. To promote for the public benefit research in any of the above fields of education and to publish the useful results of that research.

#### **What we work on**

Our work addresses ethical concerns in food and farming, encompassing environmental care (including climate and biodiversity crises), animal welfare, social justice, health and nutrition, and the development of socially equitable food systems. Our work is UK-focussed, but situated within a global ethical framework.

#### **How we are funded**

The Food Ethics Council is funded by a mixture of grant funding, selective consultancy, Business Forum membership and individual donations. The directors only accept funds that will not compromise the charity's independence.

**FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

---

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Public benefit**

In shaping our objectives and planning our activities for the year, the Trustees have given consideration to the duties set out in Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit. In particular, the Trustees have considered how the planned activities will contribute to the overall aims and objectives that they have set.

The Trustees believe that the paragraphs above, and those in the section 'Achievement and Performance', convey in detail the benefits that the Charity provides to the public.

**FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL****REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

---

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE****Overview of the year**

2024 saw food and agriculture rise further up political and public agendas, in a rapidly changing world. With growing challenges and polarisation, taking an ethical approach is more important than ever. In a resource-constrained environment, we have been creative and agile, and sought new income sources. Our first match-funded crowdfunding campaign with the Big Green Give provided funds to explore the important theme of the right to food. We are opening ourselves up for much more collaboration in future. We appreciate both longstanding and new funders who support vital food and farming work. We want the sector to thrive and we commit to playing our part in the collective mission of encouraging more resources into it. This is why the Food Issues Census we are coordinating is crucial.

Below we have captured highlights from our work in 2024.

**Right to Food**

In 2024, we started exploring the right to food in earnest. As mentioned above, we tried a new way of fundraising this year by crowdfunding with the Big Green Give, receiving match funding from Ennismore Foundation, who recognised the necessity of unlocking the right to food as a tool for change. Working with academics such as Jasber Singh (CAWR) and Sinead Furey (Ulster University), we dug deep to try to understand the right to food, in all its complexity and simplicity. Hosting online gatherings with our Council and key stakeholders, we debated concepts such as universality and progressive realisation, to try and open up the space for understanding how the right to food can be a powerful lever for change. We concluded the year with a webinar with Nourish Scotland titled What Do We Mean When We Talk About a Right to Food, since featured on the NI Human Rights Festival website, and an article on our website titled Visualising the Right to Food: The Many Pieces of the Puzzle. We are encouraged to see the right to food featuring more prominently in political discussions in 2024 and in early 2025.

**Food Issues Census 2024-25**

Those in civil society organisations will know how important it is to have better collective insights into the sector's activities and collaboration. Funders too need a clearer understanding of the civil society ecosystem and key funding gaps. This is why we established the Food Issues Census. After conducting this process twice several years ago, we decided it was time to initiate it again, and we asked civil society organisations to share their priorities with funders. We designed the process to be inclusive and participative, incorporating listening workshops, an Inclusion Fund for those who might otherwise be unable to join, and partnerships with organisations across all four home nations to help with outreach. We developed and launched the survey in 2024, and shared the results in late spring 2025. While the Food Issues Census alone will not solve all the challenges that civil society organisations are facing, it does provide valuable insights to help the sector. This work is kindly funded by A Team Foundation, Ennismore Foundation, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, Farming the Future, and Treebeard Trust. Together, we are striving towards creating a more collaborative, dynamic, and impactful sector.

**The power of writing, including via our Council members**

In a fast-paced, Tik Tok, Chat GPT world, some may think the age of writing is over. We disagree. We realise communications often needs to be multi-channel and punchy, but sometimes writing as a medium can be the most powerful way to communicate. Some of our most engaging and thought-provoking communications were blogs and articles from our Council members.

Radical dietitian and Council member Lucy Aphramor wrote a thought-provoking article about reframing nutrition, beyond the healthy/ unhealthy binary: "...I can imagine a different world where encountering nutrition (or a newly named alternative) resources leaves us feeling witnessed, encouraged, and meaningfully informed. A world where instead of being conditioned into individualism and zero-sum thinking to achieve personal health we are conditioned to respect Life and think through right relationship, as we serve... collective non/human flourishing."

Christina Adane, campaigner, editor, cultural creator and Council member, powerfully argued that to make healthy food sexy, we need to go where the young people are: "In order for youth and junk food to no longer be synonymous, we must disrupt this demand and redirect it to ethical food businesses, and help create alternative frameworks for youth culture through nutritious food. By doing this, we not only debunk the narrative that fast food is inherent to youth culture, but we show that healthy food isn't just for the upper echelons of society: it's for everyone."

## **FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

---

Food systems researcher & consultant Elta Smith, Trustee and Council member, wrote on the importance of establishing a right to food in law, arguing for a 'beyond charity' approach: "This isn't about individual choices, a failure of individual responsibility, or the need for charitable generosity. It's about system failure and collective responsibility. And it's why we need a more fundamental shift in approaching food security and a right to food." Elta went on to highlight the role Food Ethics Council is playing in this space: "I've previously highlighted how fragmented governance often leads to disconnected policy solutions. Through my involvement with the Food Ethics Council, I've seen how a right to food offers an opportunity to break this pattern."

#### **Deepening our place-based relationships**

Since the pandemic, the staff team has become more dispersed across the UK, shifted from a core staff team mainly in London often working together in a shared space, to having team members in Belfast, Edinburgh, Guildford, Wales and London working remotely. There have been many benefits of this, most notably the value of being able to explore ethical approaches at more local and regional levels. Deputy Director Beth Bell co-chairs the Belfast Food Partnership, working closely with Belfast City Council, Brink! and other partners to collaboratively build a more equitable food system in Belfast. This means we can bring all our networks, learning and opportunities to Belfast, but also that our broader food system interventions across the UK are richer and more insightful as they are grounded in the reality of a specific place.

#### **The journey of allyship**

In 2024, we teamed up with Blueprint Architects, part of Platform London. Initially we were stuck in the mindset of allyship and partnership needing to yield immediate results, events and outputs - given the scale and urgency of problems of racial injustice and oppression. But we soon realised that it is better to go slower and build relationships in a spirit of mutual support and learning, than to churn out a 'toolkit' or a report and risk it being, or being perceived as, a tick box exercise.

The partnership has changed our organisational thinking profoundly. We always prided ourselves on being respectful. But through the partnership, we are always learning - the importance of respecting people's time, paying for people's time, respecting cultures, traditions and history. We are deepening our understanding of racial justice and anti-oppression work through ongoing partnership and reflection. We are also changing how we think about 'impact', the importance of relationships and how we might better capture our impacts going forward.

#### **Taking an ethical approach**

We all need to carve out time and space to reflect on what the key issues within our food systems actually are. This includes: gathering a fuller picture of who and what is impacted, understanding the root causes of these issues, engaging and bringing together diverse people, to share their understandings & experiences, reflecting on the systems, power dynamics and knowledge hierarchies at play. These in turn help changemakers create solutions that are fairer and better balanced for all involved. This is what we mean by 'taking an ethical approach'. Deepening our collective understanding of the current system will move us beyond narrow thinking and quick fixes - and build capacity for transformational change.

#### **Enabling fair, ethical business**

Our Business Forum is a community of changemakers in food and farming businesses. Through a mix of in-person dinner meetings and online workshops, members come together to discuss latest challenges, exchange ideas and best practice, and support one another to make bold, positive changes. Our Business Forums provide a unique opportunity to engage businesses with some of the most pressing moral issues in food and farming, and we use our unique position as convenors and facilitators to share insights gained from our project work with business executives, to enable system-wide change.

In 2024, we held four in-person Business Forum dinner meetings and four online meetings. These covered a diverse range of relevant topics including:

- Modern slavery
- Profit
- Planet-friendly diets
- Boosting food security, ethically

## **FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

---

We publish non-attributed write-ups from discussions, to allow others to benefit from these insights. We have an exciting programme for 2025, with a mix of in-person dinner events and online meetings, with our Business Forum members helping set the agenda.

Throughout 2024, our Executive Director Dan Crossley continued to write a regular monthly column for The Grocer, a leading food sector magazine. This platform provides an excellent opportunity to engage a wider range of business leaders. We also offered opportunities for selected other writers, whose voices are less often heard, to contribute articles. Dan writes articles that aim to both challenge and inspire food businesses.

#### **Thank you to all those that have supported us**

We would like to thank everyone that has been part of our collective mission this year. We particularly want to thank our funders this year. These include Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, A Team Foundation, Farming the Future, Ennismore Foundation, Treebeard Trust, sankalpa and JAM Today, as well as Business Forum members and those that kindly made individual donations to support our work. We also want to thank the staff team, Council members and all those that have interacted with us in 2024 to help us deliver the wide-ranging impacts that we have.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Financial position**

Total incoming resources for the year amounted to £118,042, £56,717 restricted and £61,325 unrestricted, (2023: £152,569, £48,249 restricted and £104,320 unrestricted) and total expenditure amounted to £132,522, £31,184 restricted and £101,338 unrestricted (2023: £164,959, £91,945 restricted and £73,014 unrestricted). The total net outgoing resources for the year amounted to £14,480 (2023: outgoing: £12,390). Net incoming resources of £25,533, (2023: outgoings of £43,696) were used on restricted projects which now total £25,533 (2023: £nil.) There is a net deficit for the year of £40,013 (2023: net surplus £31,306) on unrestricted general reserves which now stand at £3,430 (2023: £43,443).

### **Reserves policy**

The Food Ethics Council's reserves policy is that the unrestricted reserve level should normally be equal to four to six months of the anticipated expenditure from unrestricted funds for the following year. Unrestricted reserves at the end of 2024 did not fall within the terms of the policy. However, we kept this under close scrutiny, with the strong likelihood of additional funds being received in early 2025. We are working with the staff team to further strengthen our longer-term financial security. The Food Ethics Council recognises that it may be appropriate to allow the reserve to fluctuate as a result of short-term cash inflows and outflows.

### **Risk Review**

The Trustees have concluded their own review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and systems have been established to manage those risks. Significant external risks to funding have led to the development of a strategic plan, which will allow for the continued diversification of funding and activities. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects and to ensure consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they still meet the needs of the charity.

## **FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

---

#### **FUTURE PLANS**

##### **Looking ahead**

Our three strategic themes are: 1. Identifying levers to create a fair food system for all (e.g. right to food) 2. Challenging business as usual - dismantling harmful practices and outdated systems 3. Allying with and empowering changemakers to build a just food system. Through food, we can address key environmental and social concerns. The prevailing status quo and vested interests are strong. We at the Food Ethics Council are one small organisation in the vibrant ecosystem of civil society organisations. However, we remain determined to transform food and farming. That does not mean rushing. We firmly believe taking the time to put ethics at the centre of food systems is vital if we want them to be fairer for people, planet and animals.

Looking ahead, we will work with others to create ripple effects in our food systems: that build on the positive energy already there, that get to root causes, that bring diverse people and perspectives together and that tackle power head on. Some ripples go far and some become powerful waves.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Status**

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 4 January 2000 and registered as a charity on 3 February 2004.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objectives and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. Under those articles, one-third of the Trustees (those who have been longest in office since their last appointment) must retire from office at the Annual General Meeting.

The Members have guaranteed to contribute a maximum of £10 each in the event of the company being wound up.

##### **Charity constitution**

The Food Ethics Council was established in 1998. The company was previously called the Independent Council for Ethical Standards in Food and Agriculture Limited. The company name was changed to the Food Ethics Council by special resolution at a meeting on 4 November 2003. By special resolution at the same meeting the Memorandum and Articles of Association were amended.

## **FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

---

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Membership**

The council consists of up to twenty members at any time, including scientists, philosophers, farmers and civil society leaders. The members elect trustees (directors) who are responsible for managing the charity. These are listed below. We have operated a rotating Chair model since 2016, whereby a different trustee takes over the role of Chair for a defined period on a rotating basis. This proved successful in involving trustees even more deeply in our work, so we have continued this in 2024 and into 2025. At the end of 2024, there were 17 Council members:

Christina Adane: Campaigner, Editor, Cultural Curator

Lucy Aphramor: Dietitian

Dr Jason Archie-Acheampong: Sustainable Sourcing Lead (Cocoa & coffee), Fairtrade Foundation

Dr Julian Baggini: Freelance writer/ philosopher

Chloe Donovan, Founder, Hundred River Farm CIC and Managing Director of Natural Building Systems

Dr Nigel Dower, Honorary Senior Lecturer in Philosophy, University of Aberdeen

Ralph Early: Independent Food Scientist and Food Ethicist

Steph Ellis: Public Health Practitioner, NHS Wales

Prof Moya Kneafsey: Research Centre Director, Centre for Agroecology, Water & Resilience (CAWR), Coventry University

Patrick Mulvany: Agriculturalist; Director, Kamayoq; Hon. Research Fellow, CAWR, Coventry University

Ian Pigott OBE: Regenerative farmer

Pete Ritchie: Director of Nourish Scotland

Dr Alexandra Sexton: Assistant Professor in Human Geography at Durham University

Elta Smith: Independent researcher, writer and consultant (Incoming Chair 2025-26)

Albert Tucker: Independent consultant, advisor and social entrepreneur (Chair 2024-25)

Patti Whaley: Retired, Non-Executive Director

Deirdre (Dee) Woods: Food & Farming Actionist, Food Justice Policy Coordinator

##### **Organisational structure**

The charity is run by the Board comprising the Trustees who delegate the day to day running to the Executive Director, Dan Crossley.

#### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

##### **Registered Company number**

03901671 (England and Wales)

##### **Registered Charity number**

1101885

##### **Registered office**

Impact Hub London Euston

1 Triton Square

London

NW1 3DX

##### **Trustees**

Ms P Whaley (resigned 17/6/2025)

R Early

Dr N Dower (resigned 17/6/2025)

Ms C Donovan

Dr J Baggini

Mr A Tucker

Ms E Smith (appointed 17/1/2024)

Dr P Davis (appointed 17/6/2025)

##### **Company Secretary**

Mr D Crossley



**FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

---

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Independent Examiner**  
Dr Shona F Wardrop C.A.  
Chariot House Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
44 Grand Parade  
Brighton  
East Sussex  
BN2 9QA

**Bankers**  
Triodos Bank  
Deanery Road  
Bristol  
BS1 5AS

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees (who are also the directors of Food Ethics Council for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees 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 those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

18 September 2025

Approved by order of the board of trustees on ..... and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Ms E Smith - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL**

---

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Food Ethics Council ('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*Shona Wardrop*

Dr Shona F Wardrop C.A.

Chariot House Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
44 Grand Parade  
Brighton  
East Sussex  
BN2 9QA

Date: 18 September 2025  
Date: .....

**FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL****STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	6,744	-	6,744	50,824
<b>Charitable activities</b>	4				
Subscriptions and other primary purpose trading		24,846	50	24,896	21,006
Charitable Grant		19,535	56,667	76,202	80,499
Charitable activities		10,000	-	10,000	-
Investment income	3	200	-	200	240
<b>Total</b>		<u>61,325</u>	<u>56,717</u>	<u>118,042</u>	<u>152,569</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>	5				
Charitable activities		<u>101,338</u>	<u>31,184</u>	<u>132,522</u>	<u>164,959</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		(40,013)	25,533	(14,480)	(12,390)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		43,443	-	43,443	55,833
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>3,430</u></u>	<u><u>25,533</u></u>	<u><u>28,963</u></u>	<u><u>43,443</u></u>

**CONTINUING OPERATIONS**

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

**FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL (REGISTERED NUMBER: 03901671)**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	11	5,971	-	5,971	14,311
Cash at bank		1,530	25,533	27,063	34,636
		<u>7,501</u>	<u>25,533</u>	<u>33,034</u>	<u>48,947</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	12	(4,071)	-	(4,071)	(5,504)
		<u>3,430</u>	<u>25,533</u>	<u>28,963</u>	<u>43,443</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
		<u>3,430</u>	<u>25,533</u>	<u>28,963</u>	<u>43,443</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
		<u>3,430</u>	<u>25,533</u>	<u>28,963</u>	<u>43,443</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>					
		<u>3,430</u>	<u>25,533</u>	<u>28,963</u>	<u>43,443</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>					
	13				
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund				3,430	43,443
Restricted funds				25,533	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u>28,963</u>	<u>43,443</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

- The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for
- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
  - (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 18 September 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



.....  
Ms E Smith - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024****1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES****Accounting basis and standards**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the entity, and are rounded to the nearest £1.

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, and on that basis the charity is considered to be a going concern.

**Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

**Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Taxation**

The Charity 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. Accordingly the Charity is exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

**Funds**

Unrestricted Funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

**Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

**Fixed assets**

Recognition and measurement

Fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line method. Depreciation is provided to write down the cost less estimated residual values of tangible fixed assets over their estimated lives at annual rates of:

Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment 25% per annum

**FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

---

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

**Fixed assets**

The company capitalises fixed assets with a value in excess of £500.

**Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the charity is required to make judgments, estimates and assumptions about the carrying value of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised, if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both the current and future periods.

There are no estimates and assumptions that are considered to have a significant risk of causing a material adjustments to the financial statements in a future period.

**Financial instruments**

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

**Financial Assets**

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 discounts due.

**Financial Liabilities**

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 discounts due.

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	6,744	50,824
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024****3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Interest receivable - trading	200	240
	<u>200</u>	<u>240</u>

**4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>Grants</b>		
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	11,667	33,249
A Team Foundation	10,000	-
AW60	-	750
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	10,000	5,000
JAM Today	10,000	15,000
Polden Puckham Charitable Foundation	-	10,000
Oursankalpa CIC	13,125	16,500
Farming the Future	10,000	-
Ennismore Foundation	5,000	-
Treebeard Trust	10,000	-
Ennismore Foundation, via The Big Give Trust	4,410	-
Meditor Trust	<u>2,000</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>86,202</u>	<u>80,499</u>

**5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Direct Costs (see note 6) £
Charitable activities	<u>132,522</u>

**6. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs	109,116	138,791
Other Costs	4,497	5,366
Activity Costs	12,967	11,437
Premises Costs	4,538	7,709
Accountancy	1,404	1,656
	<u>132,522</u>	<u>164,959</u>

**FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024****7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Independent Examiner's fee	1,404	1,356

**8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023.

**Trustees' expenses**

Travel and subsistence costs amounting to £368 (2023: £362) were reimbursed to 3 Trustees (2023: 3 Trustees)

**9. STAFF COSTS**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	102,708	128,808
Social security costs	3,974	6,496
Other pension costs	2,434	3,487
	<u>109,116</u>	<u>138,791</u>

The Average Number of Employees on a Full Time Equivalent basis is 3 (2023: 3)

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Total	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

Key Management (being Trustees and Executive Director) emoluments (comprising gross salary, employers' national insurance and employers' pension) amounted to £46,389 (2023: £48,498)

**10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	50,824	-	50,824
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Subscriptions and other primary purpose trading	21,006	-	21,006
Charitable Grant	32,250	48,249	80,499
Investment income	<u>240</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>240</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>104,320</u>	<u>48,249</u>	<u>152,569</u>



**FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024****10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Charitable activities	73,014	91,945	164,959
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	31,306	(43,696)	(12,390)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	12,137	43,696	55,833
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	43,443	-	43,443

**11. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	4,534	12,150
Prepayments and accrued income	1,437	-
Prepayments	-	2,161
	5,971	14,311

**12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2024 £	2023 £
Social security and other taxes	1,955	3,244
Accruals and deferred income	2,116	2,260
	4,071	5,504

**13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1/1/24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	43,443	(40,013)	3,430
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Food Issues Census 2024-25	-	25,533	25,533
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	43,443	(14,480)	28,963

**FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024****13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	61,325	(101,338)	(40,013)
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Food Issues Census 2024-25	45,000	(19,467)	25,533
JRCT Making Food Citizenship the Norm	11,717	(11,717)	-
	<u>56,717</u>	<u>(31,184)</u>	<u>25,533</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>118,042</u></u>	<u><u>(132,522)</u></u>	<u><u>(14,480)</u></u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1/1/23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	12,137	31,306	43,443
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	43,643	(43,643)	-
JRCT Making Food Citizenship the Norm	53	(53)	-
	<u>43,696</u>	<u>(43,696)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>55,833</u></u>	<u><u>(12,390)</u></u>	<u><u>43,443</u></u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	104,320	(73,014)	31,306
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Polden Puckham Charitable Foundation	10,000	(10,000)	-
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	5,000	(48,643)	(43,643)
JRCT Making Food Citizenship the Norm	33,249	(33,302)	(53)
	<u>48,249</u>	<u>(91,945)</u>	<u>(43,696)</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>152,569</u></u>	<u><u>(164,959)</u></u>	<u><u>(12,390)</u></u>

**FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

---

**13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

**2024 - restricted grants**

Food Issues Census 2024-25 is work to understand civil society capacity on food and farming in the UK. It is funded by Farming the Future, A Team Foundation, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, Ennismore Foundation and Treebeard Trust.

JRCT - Making Food Citizenship the Norm grant supports work to accelerate the growth of the food citizenship movement to replace the dominant consumer mindset; and to nurture a space that builds community food resilience in the UK, allowing people/ communities to thrive.

**2023- restricted grants**

Polden Puckham Charitable Foundation is supporting our successful Food Policy on Trial series, putting important contentious food-related policy issues 'in the dock' at a critical time.

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation grant is to help us initiate a farmer-led transition to fairer, more ethical dairy systems.

JRCT - Making Food Citizenship the Norm grant supports work to accelerate the growth of the food citizenship movement to replace the dominant consumer mindset; and to nurture a space that builds community food resilience in the UK, allowing people/ communities to thrive.

**14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

During the previous year, the wife of the Executive Director made a donation of £40,000.

**FOOD ETHICS COUNCIL**  
**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

---

	<b>Page</b>
<b>Report of the Trustees</b>	1 to 8
<b>Independent Examiner's Report</b>	9
<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>	10
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	11
<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>	12 to 18

---