



2025

Trustees' Report and Accounts



SYLVA
FOUNDATION



SYLVA
FOUNDATION

Highlights 2024-25

nurturing a wood culture, growing a future

Innovating

Supported more than 10,000 land owners and managers in caring for their woodlands via myForest

200,000ha of woodland mapped in myForest

7,500ha of new woodland planned and created using myForest

Added insightful data layers to myForest to support decision making by land managers

Enhanced the Woodland Condition Assessment to support uplift in ecological conditions of woodlands and biodiversity net gain assessments

Helped channel £39M of funding to support environmental outcomes via the NatureBid platform

Attracted 500 respondents to the 2024 British Woodlands Survey exploring attitudes, experiences and actions among private land managers to public access in their woodlands

Started work developing new British Woodlands Survey for 2025 focussing on environmental change and resilience, creating a 10-year time series

Co-authored a peer-reviewed research article exploring forest manager attitudes towards pest and disease risks to oak in Britain

Training

Delivered an Introduction to Furniture Making course

Delivered a Professional Course, offering bursaries to young students

Offered a fellowship scheme for outstanding students

Ran a Summer School for marginalised genders in collaboration with ercol and Grown in Britain

Production winner in the 2024 Wood Awards for products made by students at the Sylva Wood School

Collaborating

Concluded the PIES project, delivering advice to 146 land owners, supporting the sustainable management of 2,945ha of existing woodland with potential for 455ha of new woodland

Initiated work to redevelop the Woodland Wildlife Toolkit with the RSPB, Woodland Trust, Forestry Commission and others

With Forest Research, developed 3 new projects in Forest Lab exploring tree health and growth across Britain with more than 80 land managers

Supported the development of Whole Farm Tree Plans with the Soil Association

Worked with ercol to deliver a home-grown furniture exhibition

Designed and made a new collection of home-grown furniture with the National Trust

Advocating

Launched the UKFS Checker to help promote understanding of the UK Forestry Standard

Our research of the woodworking sector revealed that only 20% of the workforce were women, while in manufacturing roles just 8%

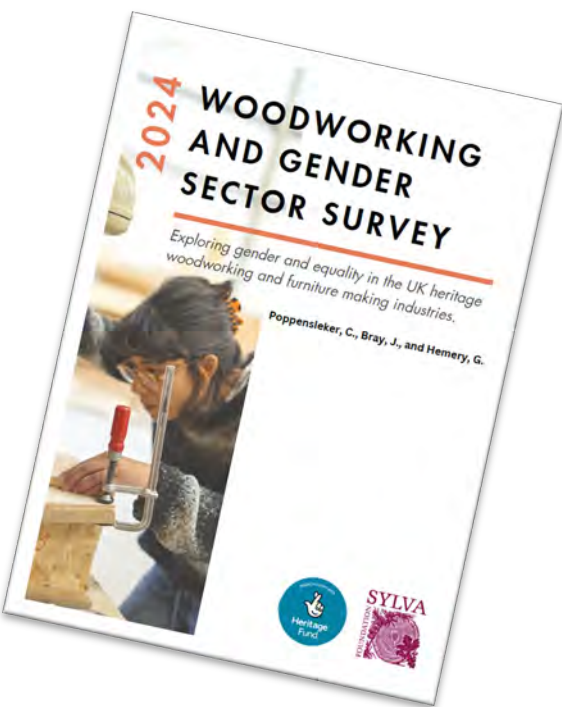
Awarded a major grant by the Heritage Lottery Fund to run a Woodworking and Gender Project

Appointed a project coordinator to the Woodworking and Gender Project and ran a seminar for marginalised genders

Sylva Foundation is a national charity working for a society that lives in harmony with nature, focusing on the stewardship of our forests and the utility of home-grown timber. It provides solutions to meet significant environmental challenges by innovating, collaborating, training, and advocating.



Front cover: using the Woodland Condition Assessment app in the field, developed by Sylva Foundation for the Forestry Commission.



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Trustees' Report

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its advisers and trustees.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Sylva Foundation is an environmental and forestry charity founded in 2009. The charity is active across Britain, with its headquarters in Oxfordshire.

Registration

Charity registered in England and Wales (1128516), and in Scotland (SC041892).

Charitable Company registration number 6589157.

Registered office

Sylva Wood Centre
Little Wittenham Road
Long Wittenham
Oxfordshire
OX14 4QT

Principal professional advisors

Banking

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Unity Bank Ltd
4 Brindley Place
Birmingham
B1 2JB

The Charity Bank Ltd
Fosse House
182 High Street
Tonbridge
TN9 1BE

Insurance Brokers

NFU Mutual
Views Farm Barns
Windmill Hill
Great Milton
Oxfordshire
OX44 4NW

Independent Examiner

Ajay Bahl
Wenn Townsend Chartered Accountants
30 St Giles'
Oxford
OX1 3LE

Trustee Board and Staff



Trustees, staff and some of the community of makers gather at the Sylva Wood Centre, March 2025.

Patrons

Lady Audrey Wood OBE
Sir Martin Wood FRS (1927-2021)

Trustees

Sarah Taylor (Chair)
Amanda Bryan FICFor
Dr Mary Barkham
Dr Robin Buxton
Lucius Cary OBE
Dr James Morison
Phoebe Oldfield
Dr Eleanor Tew MICFor
Jim Waterson MICFor MRICS

Staff

Chief Executive

Dr Gabriel Hemery FICFor CEnv

Director of Operations

Paul Orsi FICFor MRICS

Other Staff members

Andrew Clark	Head of Forestry
Gwyneth Bradbury	Web Developer
Joseph Bray	Head of Wood School
Emma Bruun	Product Manager
Phillip Gullam	Senior Tutor and Wood Centre Manager
Lucie Henwood	Finance Manager
Christine Howard	Operations Administrator
Richard Pigott	Head of Web Development
Cathrin Poppensieker	Woodworking and Gender Project Coordinator
Oliver Price	Web Developer

Advisors and Associates

Shems Hadj-Nassar	Communications
Dr Philip Koomen	Furniture & Wood
Dr Gill Petrokofsky	Science
Alistair Yeomans	Scotland Representative

Structure, Governance and Management

Legal Structure

Sylva Foundation ('Sylva' or 'the charity') is a charity registered in England and Wales 1128516 and in Scotland SC041892, and a charitable company limited by guarantee 06589157. The company (a private company not having a share capital) was established under a Memorandum of Association (dated 11th March 2009, updated by Special Resolution 28th March 2013).

The governing body of the charity is the Trustee Board ('the board'). Up to ten trustees may be appointed to the board. During 2024-25, no trustees retired, and three new trustees were appointed, bringing the total number of trustees to nine.

The day-to-day management of the charity is delegated by the Trustee Board to the Chief Executive and carried out by members of staff.

The charity's registered address is in Oxfordshire, and this is its sole headquarters. Sylva's activities extend across Britain, and occasionally internationally.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity's trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with FRS102 – The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland. The law applicable to charities in England, Wales, and Scotland requires the charity's trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources

of the group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the charity trustees are required to:

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

The charity trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that:

- are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions;
- disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity; and,
- ensure that the financial statements comply with the reporting and legal regulations and the provisions of the charity's constitution as set out in the Articles of Association and Memorandum of Association.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Policies and Procedures

The charity has a range of policies and procedures, which are renewed at the end of each financial year or more frequently as required, with a rolling programme of consideration by trustees. Currently these include:

- anti-bribery policy
- concerns and complaints procedure
- data protection and terms (including GDPR)
- environmental and sustainability policy
- equality, diversity and inclusion policy
- financial policies
- grievance procedure
- health & safety policy
- information security policy
- mental health and wellbeing policy
- parental leave policy
- privacy policies and notices
- reserves policy
- safeguarding policy
- sexual harassment policy
- sickness and absence policy
- no-smoking policy
- terms of supply
- travel policy
- volunteer procedures
- whistleblowing policy

Risk Management

The charity trustees are responsible for identifying and managing the major risks facing the charity. Risk management is well-established and is considered in every aspect of our work.

We maintain a Risk Register which provides a comprehensive view of the following areas of risk:

- financial risks, including contingency plans to deal with insufficient income;
- operational risks, including loss of key personnel, and data management;
- reputational risks, including failure of a project, maintaining high standards in the management of the charity's estate;
- external environment, including environmental change (e.g. pests, diseases);
- governance, including ensuring trustee experience and skills, fraud; and
- health and safety, for staff and visitors.

The Risk Register is scrutinised annually by the Trustee Board. Following a review in March 2024, the charity trustees confirm that they are satisfied with such arrangements and identified a number of strategic risks which are explained in *Achievements, Challenges and Future Plans*.

Fundraising Activities

Our work nurturing a wood culture and growing a future is only possible because of the support of donors, funders, and other partners who contribute vital funding. Sylva Foundation is registered with the Fundraising Regulator. Alongside our own high standards in fundraising, we follow its Codes of Practice.

Volunteers

We received highly valuable assistance from volunteers, without whom our work would be much reduced. During the year we continued to benefit particularly from volunteers with professional skills, notably in legal matters, and in communications and marketing.

Our local community near the Sylva Wood Centre is very supportive of our activities, including the annual Artweeks exhibition, taking an active role in supporting our community woodland and orchard. We welcome volunteer conservation work parties onto our estate.

We always welcome enquiries from potential volunteers. Please contact us direct or visit our website: sylva.org.uk/volunteer

Trustees and Personnel

During 2024-25 we welcomed three new trustee board members, bringing the number of appointed trustees to nine in total:

- **Phoebe Oldfield:** Phoebe is a furniture designer-maker, currently working at Benchmark Furniture Ltd. Following her degree at Nottingham Trent University, Phoebe was awarded the Chartered Society of Designers CEP Prize, along with the Materials and Design Exchange award for Sustainability.
- **Dr Eleanor Tew:** Eleanor is currently Head of Forest Planning at Forestry England. She studied Biological Sciences at the Department of Zoology, Oxford University followed by a PhD in the Conservation Science Group at Cambridge University. In 2022, she was awarded the Hugh Miller Award for Excellence

by the Institute of Chartered Foresters for her Professional Membership Entry application and was shortlisted for the institute's Professional Forester of the Year 2024.

- **Amanda Bryan:** Amanda is a Chartered Forester, Lecturer at the Scottish School of Forestry, UHI Inverness and an independent consultant working in the fields of forestry, natural capital and communities. With over 25 years' experience in the forestry sector with twelve of those in forestry education Amanda will be able to support Sylva's work in skills, education and training.

Our team expanded to 12 people (10.8 full-time equivalent), our largest head count to date. We welcomed Emma Bruun as Product Manager, and Cathrin Poppensieker as Woodworking and Gender Project Coordinator.

We were delighted by the recognition by the Institute of Chartered Foresters of the significant contributions to the sector of trustee Amanda Bryan and team member Paul Orsi with their appointments as Fellows. Congratulations also to Wood School Senior Tutor Phillip Gullam on receiving the Master Certificate from The Furniture Makers Company.



Paul Orsi FICFor (right) receives his fellowship certificate from Dr Gary Kerr FICFor, Chair of the Institute of Chartered Foresters Professional and Educational Standards Committee.

Objectives, Activities and Public benefit

The charity's objects are set out in the memorandum of association. These are **to promote the conservation of the environment for the public benefit consistent with sustainable development principles** by:

- I. promoting and conducting research for the public benefit about effective sustainable forest management and the dissemination of the useful results of such research;
- II. advancing education for the public benefit in the theory and practice of sustainable forest management;
- III. supporting the development and application of sustainable forest management for the public benefit;
- IV. advancing education and business enterprise in the design and production of home-grown wood products for the public benefit.

The charity's trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing objectives and activities which are described in the section *Achievements, Challenges and Future plans*. Sylva Foundation has a range of activities for achieving these objectives and its public benefit, combining them to best effect. For the purposes of preparing Sylva's accounts, these activities are grouped under four main headings:

- ❖ Innovating
- ❖ Collaborating
- ❖ Training
- ❖ Advocacy

Our Vision

Our vision is for a society that cares for nature while living in harmony with it. We envisage a wood culture where people understand and promote the good stewardship of woodlands and are mindful of their utility, while being conscious of their fragility. Future society will recognise the creative and productive value of forest products which can be derived from growing well-managed forests, and at the same time enhance their wider benefits for people and for nature.

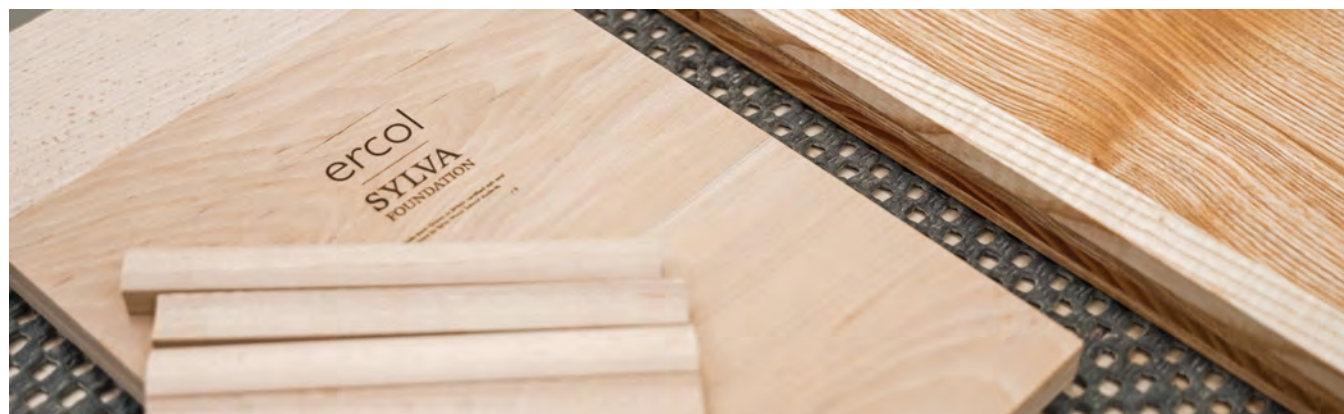
We aim to tackle three highly significant challenges facing the environment and society in Britain:

- I. halting the loss of biodiversity
- II. reducing climate change and its effects
- III. supporting a sustainable society

We believe that our actions today will be tangible in the love and respect that future generations will afford our trees and forests.

Our Mission

- To use our forestry knowledge and information technology skills, supported by state-of-art evidence, to provide innovative solutions to some of the greatest environmental challenges facing modern society.
- To work extensively and selflessly with others, recognising that collaboration is necessary to overcome the challenges of halting biodiversity loss and reducing climate change, while supporting the transition to a sustainable human society.
- To deliver the training and education necessary to support the transformation of society, focussing on the stewardship of our forests and the utility of home-grown timber.
- To undertake advocacy to inspire one another, raise awareness, and endow people with knowledge, passion, and the shared ambition for a better and more sustainable society.



Achievements, Challenges and Future plans

This section highlights some of our achievements, challenges and future plans for activities under our four key values of **Innovating, Collaborating, Training, and Advocacy**.

INNOVATING

To use our forestry knowledge and information technology skills, supported by state-of-art evidence, to provide innovative solutions to some of the greatest environmental challenges facing modern society.

myForest

myForest is a flagship project of Sylva Foundation, providing comprehensive online mapping, digital tools and powerful resources to support the sustainable management and creation of new forests around Britain. There are more than 10,000 forest owners and professional agents using myForest to manage more than 200,000ha of forest. More than 7,500ha of new woodland has been designed and planned using the myForest platform.

We worked in partnership with the Forestry Commission to improve access to vitally important data layers directly through myForest. These data layers are critical to informing considered woodland management and creation plans.

Behind the scenes we have invested considerable time in updating and enhancing the code base of myForest. While such work can be relatively invisible to users, it is crucially important in ensuring we can improve security and add some exciting new features. We also employed our first Product Manager to work closely with our

foresters and web developers to support the future development of myForest and related web applications.

Stewardship Science

Our innovative stewardship science project **Forest Lab** for woodland managers went from strength to strength this year. Forest Lab enables woodland managers who use myForest to collect and share data about their trees and woodlands with researchers, and in return strengthens connections between researchers and woodland managers. Working closely with Forest Research, and with funding from Defra, we developed new several projects:

- **Ips Project** volunteers are helping monitor the movement of an invasive tree pest, the eight-tooth spruce bark beetle (*Ips typographus*) which affects spruce trees.
- **Oak Health** participants are monitoring the changing health of oak trees and woodland across Britain, helping test and deploy a new field method developed by Aberystwyth University.
- **Tree Growth** volunteers regularly measure trees in their woodlands. Tree growth is a key ecological

parameter of forests that is strongly linked to a range of influencing factors. Where repeated measurements of tree increment such as diameter, basal area, height or volume are carried out over a period of time, these measurements can help improve understanding of the response of trees to changes in site (e.g. management) and environmental/climate (e.g. frost, drought) conditions.

Next year we will be launching several new Forest Lab projects, exploring soil health, and woodland structure and its relation to biodiversity potential.



Workshop delegates visited the Sylva Wood Centre and field tested the Woodland Condition Assessment app in the context of creating baseline assessments for biodiversity net gain assessments.

Woodland Condition Assessment app

Work continued enhancing the **Woodland Condition Assessment** web application which enables land managers to assess the ecological condition of a woodland. The app also supports an assessment for use with the Statutory Biodiversity Metric used in Biodiversity Net Gain assessments. In July we hosted a workshop for the South-East regional group of the Institute of Chartered Foresters, during which we reviewed the processes and legislation around Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) as well as emerging markets, habitat banks and more.

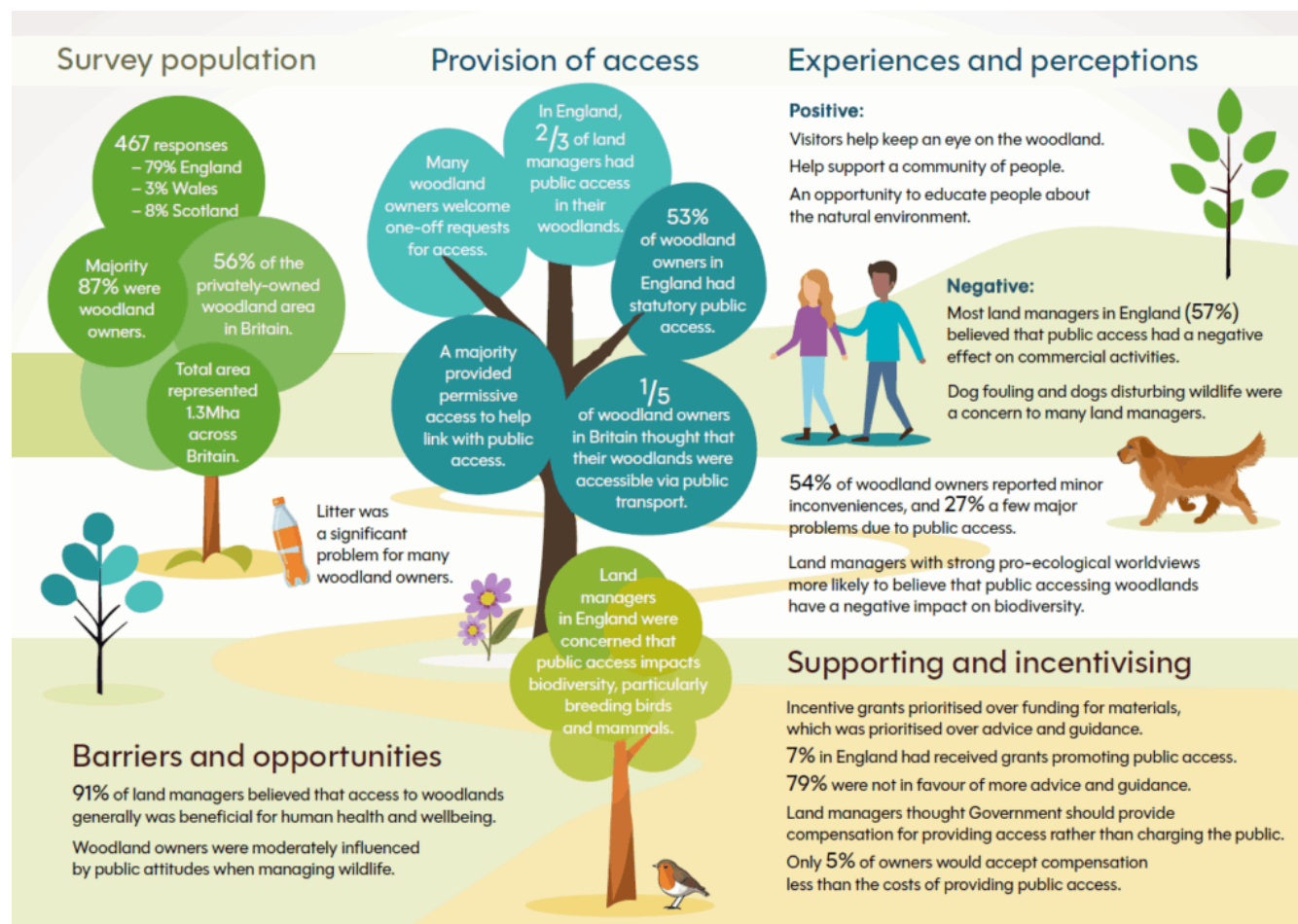
NatureBid

Our innovative environmental funding platform developed in partnership with the Environment Agency, **NatureBid**, continues to be successful. This year, Forestry Commission used NatureBid to deliver the Woodland Carbon Guarantee, while Landscape Enterprises Networks used it in East of England and Yorkshire. To date, £39M of environmental funding has been channelled through NatureBid.

British Woodlands Survey

During 2024 we conducted another instance of our **British Woodlands Survey** (BWS), working in partnership with researchers from Forest Research. The national survey explored attitudes, experiences and actions among private land managers to public access in their woodlands.

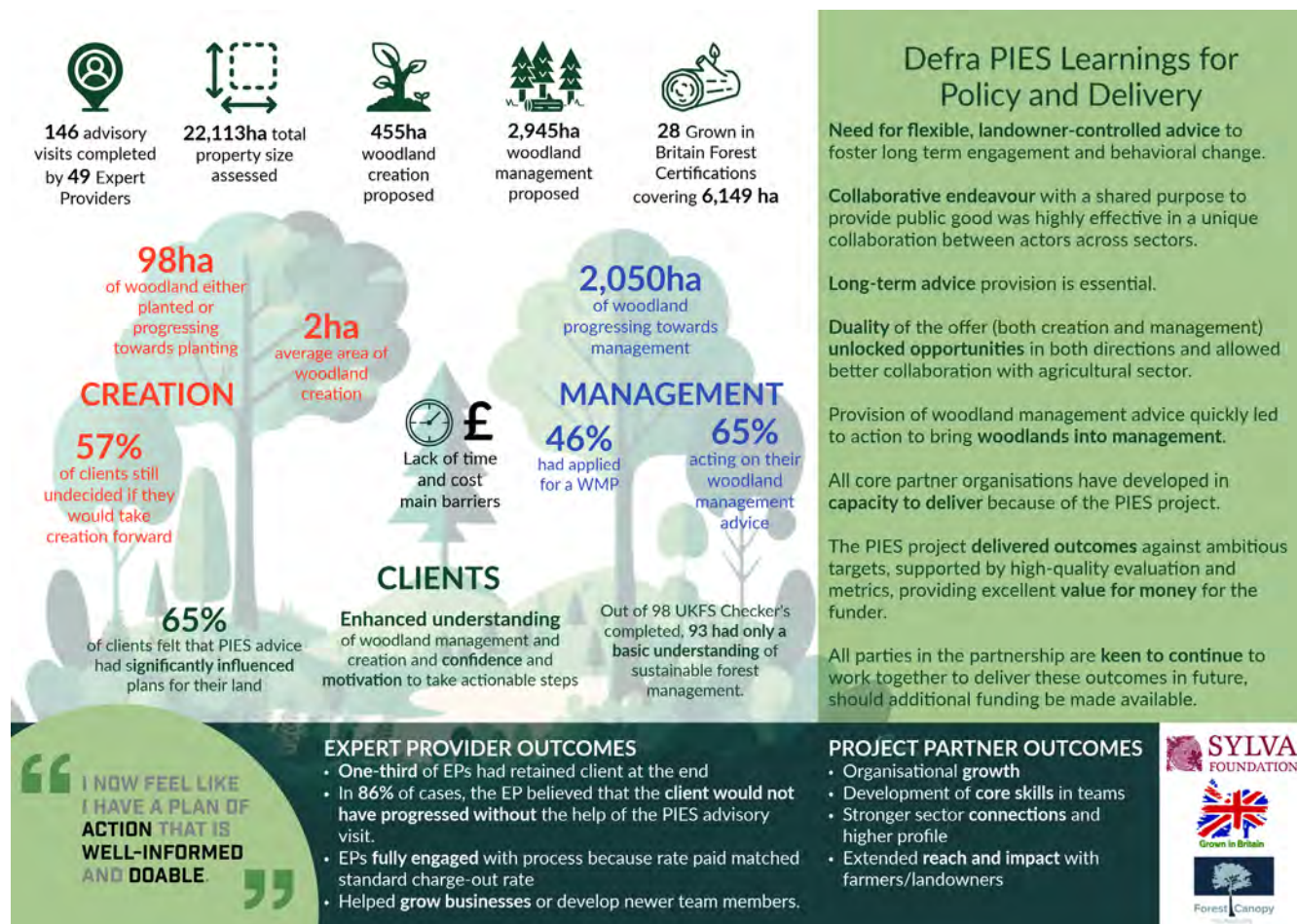
Almost 500 respondents took part in the BWS2024 survey, of whom 87% were woodland owners, representing a significant area of woodland (1.3 million hectares) across Britain, representing 56% of all privately-owned woodland area.



Infographic from the British Woodlands Survey 2024 report exploring attitudes among land managers to public access in woodlands.

Separately, preparations began in developing a new BWS survey for 2025, with funding from Defra. BWS2025 will focus again on environmental change and resilience, the third occasion that we've explored this theme with land managers, following similar surveys in 2015 and 2020.

A peer-reviewed research article was published based on research undertaken in 2021 as part of our British Woodlands Survey. *Managing Trees Species of High Social and Cultural Value: Forest Manager Attitudes towards Pest and Disease Risks to Oak in Britain* was coauthored by Sylva Foundation's Dr Gabriel Hemery and Dr Gillian Petrokofsky alongside researchers from Forest Research and Bangor University.



COLLABORATING

To work extensively and selflessly with others, recognising that collaboration is necessary to overcome the challenges of halting biodiversity loss and reducing climate change, while supporting the transition to a sustainable human society.

We concluded an innovative new project for Defra and the Forestry Commission (funders) known as **PIES**,

standing for protect, improve, expand, and sustain to help with the creation and management of woodlands across England. We worked in collaboration with Forest Canopy Foundation and Grown in Britain, and with the collaboration of the Forestry Commission and the NFU. We partnered with the Forest Canopy Foundation's networks of Grown in Britain-verified Expert Providers to deliver advice to 146 land owners, assessing more than 22,000ha. By the end of the project, management of

2,945ha woodland was progressing, with the potential for 455ha of new woodland.

We initiated a deep review of the **Woodland Wildlife Toolkit**, working closely with main partners RSPB, Woodland Trust and the Forestry Commission, and engaging with specialist wildlife charities who provide data to support this innovative toolkit. We aim to submit a funding application to support improvements and to secure future delivery.

Supported by the Forestry Commission's Forest Innovation Fund we collaborated across the sector to explore how we could use our technology to further support forestry and land management. With the Soil Association we developed Whole Farm Tree Plans which aimed to show farmers how the current trees on their land were benefiting their farm business with the aim of encouraging them to plant more. We worked with Evolving Forests to explore how data can be moved between different services and promoted the need for a data standard in forestry. We connected myForest directly into Cumbria Woodland's Canopy Learning platform to allow myForest users to get learning support when they need it. We developed functionality so myForest can connect to timber markets working with CloudForest Timber Auctions and Northwoods.

We were delighted to launch a new collaboration with ercol which will result in an exhibition in 2025 during London Craft Week.

We continued our collaboration with the National Trust. This year we designed and made the Stourhead Collection, a new range of tables and stools for the National Trust using oak from the Stourhead Estate.

TRAINING

To deliver the training and education necessary to support the transformation of society, focussing on the stewardship of our forests and the utility of home-grown timber.

Sylva Foundation continued to deliver training at the Sylva Wood School. We delivered another **Introduction to Furniture Making Course** providing an introduction to a range of furniture-making skills and experiences in a professional workshop. The course is designed for those looking for an in-depth introduction to woodworking skills or to hone existing skills, and is the perfect stepping stone to our six-month Professional Course.

We are very proud that the Ebworth stools won the Production Made Furniture category of the prestigious 2024 **Wood Awards**. Made from home-grown ash by our students, this collection of hand-crafted stools connects

education, heritage and sustainable woodland management.

Another **Professional Course** was delivered with students achieving a good level of woodworking technical skills, an understanding of professional standards, and many hours of professional experience and competency in wood machinery. Once again, we were pleased to be able to offer **Bursaries** to some students thanks to the support of an individual donor. We continued the **Wood School Fellowship scheme**, where a graduate can remain at a bench with the support of our team, funded by an external grant.

ADVOCATING

To undertake advocacy to inspire one another, raise awareness, and endow people with knowledge, passion, and the shared ambition for a better and more sustainable society.

self-assessment of their woodland stewardship.

Woodworking and Gender Project

Through our existing work, including training the next generation of craftspeople and supporting business start-ups, Sylva has been increasingly aware of gender inequality in the woodworking sector. This has been reinforced by the charity's independent research which showed that among 954 employees represented in a survey, only 20% of the workforce were women, and among those working in manufacturing the percentage dipped as low as 8.5%.

In 2024 we were awarded a grant of £240,000 from The National Lottery Heritage Fund to tackle gender inequality in Britain's heritage woodwork and furniture making sectors. We received additional match-funding and support from Conran Foundation, The Mila Charitable Trust, Benchmark Furniture Ltd, and Vastern Timber Ltd.

Thanks to the funding we were able to appoint a project coordinator, welcoming Cathrin Poppensieker to this role in September. Since then, the project has been very active, delivering a seminar on woodworking and marginalised genders, a national survey, with plans in place to deliver a six-week workshop experience course next year. The project is supported by an active steering group of passionate and experienced volunteers. We have a dedicated website for the project:

gender-project.sylva.org.uk



UK Forestry Standard

In 2024 we launched the **UKFS Checker**. It is an intuitive and informative tool built within myForest, designed as an easy-to-use introduction to the complexities of the UK Forestry Standard (UKFS). It enables land owners and managers throughout the UK to carry out a sustainability

Financial Review

This section is prepared by our trustees to offer a summary of the charity's finances, with numbered notes (shown in square brackets) referenced from the accounts, which form the following section of this report. The accounts comply with the requirements of FRS102 – The Financial Reporting Standard, applicable in the UK.

The finances of the charity are overseen by the trustees, together with senior staff. The Board oversees a Financial Strategy and an annual Financial Plan, which are reviewed at board meetings.

Reserves Policy

Sylva Foundation holds funds to be applied to support future activities in the form of a 'Critical Fund', and a proportion of Unrestricted funds:

- The Critical Fund is maintained to ensure that operational expenditure can be supported for at least three months, this represents funds sufficient to meet contingency exit costs. This fund was £99,710 at the end of FY 2024-25 [Note 20].
- The Reserves Policy was reviewed by trustees in March 2024 for the 2024-25 financial year, and it was agreed that a reserves target aiming for a maximum of 50% of budgeted annual expenditure remained prudent.

Introduction

Sylva Foundation continues to operate as a transactional business, with monthly or quarterly flow of income and expenditure.

Income

Income (£910,310) was increased compared to the previous financial year (£608,973) [Statement of Financial Activities], due to the handling of grant income for the PIES project, subsequently paid out to subcontracted parties.

Income was derived from several sources including:

- £187,561 or 21% of total income was received in donations, 56% of which were restricted in their application [Note 5].
- Incoming resources from charitable activities was £605,308 or 66% [Note 6]. Most incoming resources (£355,990) were derived from performance-related grants, meaning grants where performance measures are agreed and longer-term outcomes defined to enable active performance management. Other income consisted of £76,041 from the sale of goods and services, and £173,277 of contractual payments for work.
- Other trading activities totalled £110,728 or 12%, the largest contribution (67%) being rental income from the Sylva Wood Centre [Note 7].
- Bank interest totalled £6,713 representing less than 1% of total income [Note 8].

Fixed Assets

During 2024-25 the value of fixed assets (after depreciation) was £1,465,427 [Note 16].

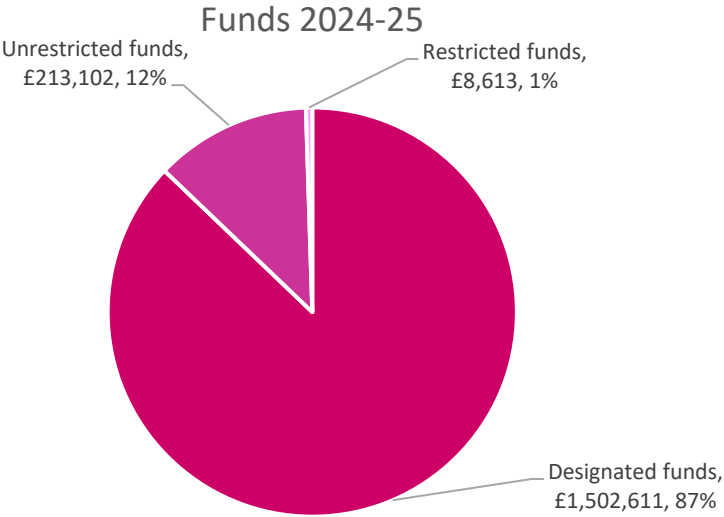
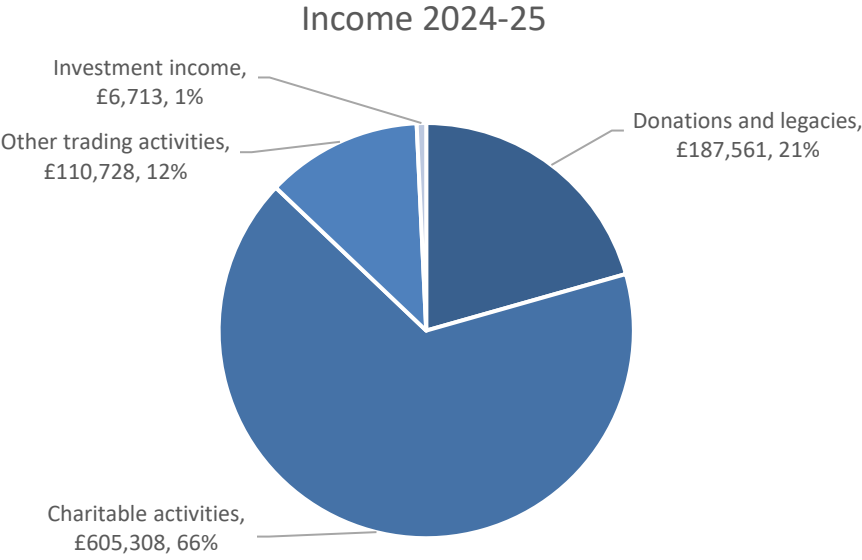
Restricted Funds

Total Restricted Funds totalled £8,613 or 1% [Note 20]. Restricted Funds are derived from donations and grants with specific conditions attached, and these are accounted for separately in our operational accounts.

Income received for goods or services that will be provided in the future are clearly dealt with in our accounts as 'deferred income.' For example, if we receive a grant to run a two-year project, only the portion of the grant related to the work completed in each year is recognised as income in that year, with the remainder deferred until the following year. This is particularly important in cases where a grant may be 'performance-related', meaning that a funder may request repayment if delivery does not meet with expectations set out in a contract. In these accounts there was a deferred income balance of £37,672 in April 2024 [Note 18], and the amount deferred at the year-end (March 2025) was £146,718 [Statement of Financial Activities].

Designated Funds

Designated Funds [Note 20] are those funds held for activities related to Innovating, Collaborating, Training, and Advocating activities, and for Core purposes. The total value of Designated funds at 31st March 2025 was £1,502,611 or 87% [Note 20]. The majority of Designated Funds were Operational Fixed Assets £1,384,374, mostly comprising land and buildings at the Sylva Wood Centre. Under SORP rules, these assets are shown as 'funds', but in fact are physical assets and not 'funds' in the ordinary sense of the word. Trustees may use the assets acquired on an unrestrictive basis for any charitable purpose.



Unrestricted Funds

The total value of Unrestricted Funds at 31st March 2025 was £213,102 or 12% [Note 20]. Unrestricted Funds are those arising from fundraising, consultancy, grants, rental income from the Sylva Wood Centre, and our day-to-day operations. These funds are used by Sylva Foundation to achieve its strategic objectives.

Expenditure

Total resources expended were £838,523 [Statement of Financial Activities]. Delivery of the charity's strategic objectives cost £832,912 [Note 9] plus £5,611 of support costs [detailed in Note 13].

The majority of total expenditure was spent on staff costs (£506,126) [Note 14].

Outcomes for the future

As our current five-year strategy (2021-26) draws to a close, next financial year the trustees and staff will begin a process to develop a new forward-looking strategic plan for the charity. We remain busy implementing our impactful work with the support of our considerable network of partner organisations and individual supporters.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption. The trustees' annual report was approved on 20th August 2025 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Sarah Taylor
Chair of Trustees

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Sylva Foundation

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31st March 2025 which are set out on pages 14 to 28.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity 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').

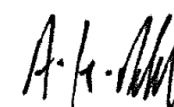
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). 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 report

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 that in any material respect:

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.



Mr Ajay Bahl BA BFP FCA
Wenn Townsend
Chartered Accountants
Oxford

1st August 2025

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31st March 2025

2025

2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and endowments									
Donations and legacies	5	42,497	40,156	104,908	187,561	66,833	518	-	67,351
Charitable activities	6	571,171	-	34,137	605,308	317,337	-	94,842	412,179
Other trading activities	7	110,728	-	-	110,728	128,259	-	-	128,259
Investment income	8	6,713	-	-	6,713	1,184	-	-	1,184
Total income		731,109	40,156	139,045	910,310	513,613	518	94,842	608,973
Expenditure on charitable activities	9, 10	622,831	46,395	169,297	838,523	500,723	66,327	105,502	672,552
Total expenditure		622,831	46,395	169,297	838,523	500,723	66,327	105,502	672,552
Net (expenditure) / income		108,278	(6,239)	(30,252)	71,787	12,890	(65,809)	(10,660)	(63,579)
Transfer between funds		(2,336)	2,239	97	-	(17,908)	17,908	-	-
Net movement in funds		105,942	(4,000)	(30,155)	71,787	(5,018)	(47,901)	(10,660)	(63,579)
Reconciliation of funds									
Total funds brought forward		107,160	1,506,611	38,768	1,652,539	112,178	1,554,512	49,428	1,716,118
Total funds carried forward	21	213,102	1,502,611	8,613	1,724,326	107,160	1,506,611	38,768	1,652,539

There are no other gains or losses recognised during the year.

This year's results include performance-related grants whose conditions have not been fully met at the year end hence the charity has deferred £146,718 to be recognised in future periods. If the policy had not been adopted the deficit for the year would be £218,505.

The notes on pages 17 to 27 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st March 2025

	Note	2025	2024
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	16	1,465,427	1,520,993
Current assets			
Debtors	17	110,408	88,098
Cash at bank and in hand		410,372	139,826
		<u>520,780</u>	<u>227,924</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	<u>(261,881)</u>	<u>(96,378)</u>
Net current assets		<u>258,889</u>	<u>131,546</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,724,326</u>	<u>1,652,539</u>
Net assets		<u>1,724,326</u>	<u>1,652,539</u>
Funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds	20	213,102	107,160
Designated Funds	20	1,502,611	1,506,611
Restricted Funds	20	<u>8,613</u>	<u>38,768</u>
Total charity funds	21	<u>1,724,326</u>	<u>1,652,539</u>

For the year ending 31st March 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Trustees' responsibilities:

- The trustees have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

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

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 20th August 2025 and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Sarah Taylor
Chair of Trustees

The notes on pages 17 to 27 form part of these financial statements.

Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31st March 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Net cash flow from operating activities:		
(Deficit)/surplus	71,787	(63,579)
Depreciation	57,330	57,803
Interest income receivable	(6,713)	(1,184)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(22,310)	(40,618)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	165,503	31,860
	<hr/> 265,597	<hr/> (15,718)
Investing activities:		
Interest income receivable	6,713	1,184
Expenditure on tangible assets	(1,764)	(7,551)
	<hr/> 270,546	<hr/> 22,085
Increase/(decrease) in cash balances		
Cash at bank and in hand:		
Brought forward balance	139,826	161,911
Increase/(decrease) in cash balances	270,546	(22,085)
	<hr/> 410,372	<hr/> 139,826
Carried forward		

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. General information

Sylva Foundation is a charitable company registered in England and Wales (06589157), and a charity registered in England and Wales (1128516), and in Scotland (SC041892). The address of the registered office is Sylva Wood Centre, Little Wittenham Road, Long Wittenham, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 4QT.

2. Statement of compliance

These accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis and include income and expenditure as they are earned or incurred, rather than as cash is received or paid. 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, and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure. The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

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 and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. They 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.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for a particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Income

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable, and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Income (continued)

- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Where income does not meet the above criteria for recognition it is held as deferred income on the balance sheet until such time as it can be released.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any

subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Freehold property	- 4% straight line
Equipment	- 25% straight line

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Impairment of fixed assets

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

4. Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. The trustees undertake to contribute a sum, not exceeding £1 each, to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up.

5. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Donations – other	42,497	40,156	104,908	187,561	67,351
	<u>42,497</u>	<u>40,156</u>	<u>104,908</u>	<u>187,561</u>	<u>67,351</u>

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Sale of goods/services as part of direct charitable activities	72,541	-	3,500	76,041	75,420
Performance-related grants	330,466	-	25,524	355,990	130,711
Other income from charitable activities - contractual payments	168,164	-	5,113	173,277	206,048
	<u>571,171</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,137</u>	<u>605,308</u>	<u>412,179</u>

The 2024 comparatives include performance-related grant restricted expenditure of £94,842 and unrestricted expenditure of £35,869.

7. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Sales income	10,201	-	-	10,201	14,966
Rental income	74,631	-	-	74,631	74,479
Other activities for generating funds	25,896	-	-	25,896	38,814
	<u>110,728</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>110,728</u>	<u>128,259</u>

The 2024 comparatives are all unrestricted income.

8. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Bank interest receivable	6,713	6,713	1,184
	<u>6,713</u>	<u>6,713</u>	<u>1,184</u>

9. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Environment, & Wood School and Wood Centre	617,220	46,395	169,297	832,912	666,423
Support costs	5,611	-	-	5,611	6,129
	<u>622,831</u>	<u>46,395</u>	<u>169,297</u>	<u>838,523</u>	<u>672,552</u>

The 2024 comparatives include environment, wood school and wood centre programmes' designated costs of £66,327, restricted costs of £105,502 and unrestricted costs of £500,723.

10. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Science, Education, Forestry, & Wood Programmes	832,912	-	832,912	666,423
Governance costs	-	5,611	5,611	6,129
	<u>832,912</u>	<u>5,611</u>	<u>838,523</u>	<u>672,552</u>

11. Analysis of support costs

	Support costs	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Finance costs	5,611	5,611	6,129
	<u>5,611</u>	<u>5,611</u>	<u>6,129</u>

12. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	58,160	57,803

13. Independent examination fees

Fees payable to the independent examiner for:

	2025 £	2024 £
Independent examination of the financial statements	772	735
Other financial services	4,839	5,394
	5,611	6,129

14. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	442,067	379,264
Social security costs	41,955	35,491
Employer contributions to pension plans	22,104	18,890
	506,126	433,645

The average head count of employees during the year was 11 (2024: 9). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
All staff	11	9

Two employees received employee benefits of between £60,000 and £70,000 during the year (2024: 1).

15. Trustee remuneration and expenses

One trustee received remuneration of £773 during the year for work as an external tutor (2024: £Nil).

During the year two trustees received reimbursement for travel expenses totalling £297 (2024: £122).

16. Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 st April 2024	1,695,497	156,552	1,852,049
Additions	-	3,195	3,195
Disposals	-	(1,431)	(1,431)
At 31st March 2025	1,695,497	158,316	1,856,318
Depreciation			
At 1 st April 2024	268,679	62,377	331,056
Charge for the year	42,444	15,716	58,160
Depreciation on disposals	-	(830)	(830)
At 31st March 2025	311,123	77,263	388,386
Carrying amount			
At 31 st March 2025	1,384,374	81,053	1,465,427
At 31 st March 2024	1,426,818	94,175	1,520,993

17. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	108,645	87,368
Prepayments and accrued income	1,763	730
	110,408	88,098

18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	61,664	37,289
Accruals and deferred income	151,667	44,744
Social security and other taxes	12,498	11,306
Other creditors – pension	6,275	3,013
VAT payable	29,777	26
	<u>261,881</u>	<u>96,378</u>

Deferred income represents income received in advance for which the charity has not yet met the conditions of recognition. There was a deferred income balance of £37,672 at the beginning of the year and the amount deferred at the year-end was £146,718.

19. Pensions and other post-retirement benefits**Defined contribution plans**

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £22,104 (2024 £18,890).

20. Analysis of charitable funds

	At 1 st April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	At 31 st March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	107,160	731,109	(622,831)	(2,336)	213,102
	<u>107,160</u>	<u>731,109</u>	<u>(622,831)</u>	<u>(2,336)</u>	<u>213,102</u>
Designated Funds					
Operational fixed assets	1,426,818	-	(42,444)	-	1,384,374
Environment	19,698	465	-	(19,000)	1,163
Wood School	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Wood Centre	2,951	-	(2,951)	-	-
Reserve fund	39,780	38,691	-	21,239	99,710
Capital maintenance fund	17,364	-	-	-	17,364
	<u>1,506,611</u>	<u>40,156</u>	<u>(46,395)</u>	<u>2,239</u>	<u>1,502,611</u>
Restricted funds					
Environment	4,752	81,610	(77,749)	-	8,613
Wood School	3,345	46,667	(70,012)	20,000	-
Core	30,671	10,768	(21,536)	(19,903)	-
	<u>38,768</u>	<u>139,045</u>	<u>(169,297)</u>	<u>97</u>	<u>8,613</u>

20. Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

	At 1st April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	At 31st March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	112,178	513,613	(500,723)	(17,908)	107,160
	<u>112,178</u>	<u>513,613</u>	<u>(500,723)</u>	<u>(17,908)</u>	<u>107,160</u>
Designated Funds					
Operational fixed assets	1,469,061	-	(42,243)	-	1,426,818
Environment	13,203	518	(10,000)	15,997	19,698
Wood School	272	-	(272)	-	-
Wood Centre	2,951	-	-	-	2,951
Reserve fund	37,849	-	-	1,931	39,780
Capital maintenance fund	31,176	-	(13,812)	-	17,364
	<u>1,554,512</u>	<u>518</u>	<u>(66,327)</u>	<u>17,928</u>	<u>1,506,611</u>
Restricted funds					
Environment	34,391	2,582	(32,221)	-	4,752
Wood School	5,487	30,724	(32,866)	-	3,345
Core	9,550	61,536	(40,415)	-	30,671
	<u>49,428</u>	<u>94,842</u>	<u>(105,502)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,768</u>

21. Analysis of net assets between funds

2025	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	81,053	1,384,374	-	1,465,427
Current assets	247,212	118,237	155,331	520,780
Creditors less than 1 year	(115,163)	-	(146,718)	(261,881)
Net assets	213,102	1,502,611	8,613	1,724,326

2024	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	94,175	1,426,818	-	1,520,933
Current assets	71,691	79,793	76,440	227,924
Creditors less than 1 year	(58,706)	-	(37,672)	(96,378)
Net assets	107,160	1,506,611	38,768	1,652,539

How you can support Sylva Foundation

Sylva Foundation relies on the help of many people and organisations. This section outlines some of the ways we currently receive support. We are always keen to receive support in different ways. Read on to find out how you could help our important work.

Donate

There are several ways you can donate to support Sylva. We offer specific opportunities, such as helping towards a new building, or sponsoring a bench for a start-up business. We also benefit from regular small donations from people who believe in the importance of our work. If you like what we do and how we do it, please consider joining our Friends scheme. Find out more: sylva.org.uk/support

Remember Sylva in your Will

Leaving a Legacy to Sylva is a powerful way to make your support for the charity live on. We believe that trees and forests underpin life on Earth, especially if cared for as part of a dynamic living landscape. Your Legacy will support our ongoing work to achieve a sustainable society and environment. We offer a number of ways to help you leave a legacy, including a home visit with our partners The Goodwill Partnership, and in England a free online Will writing service. You can read more at sylva.org.uk/legacy or contact us to discuss at: **01865 408018** or legacy@sylva.org.uk.

Campaigns and appeals

Support our campaigns and appeals, and you can help our work helping people and trees grow closer together. Subscribe to our enews at sylva.org.uk/subscribe so that you are kept up-to-date.

Training

We offer an exciting range of courses at the Sylva Wood Centre. By attending a paid course your fee will help support our work bridging significant gaps which exist in formal wood education. Find out more at woodschoo.sylva.org.uk.

Shopping

We have a small online shop which helps us raise much-needed income. sylva.org.uk/shop

Get involved

There are a wide range of options for you to get involved in our work. At the local level we enjoy support from the public caring for our small estate, and promoting our work through events at the Sylva Wood Centre.

Fundraise

Sylva is not a membership charity, so is without the regular income this provides many charities. We therefore need to raise funds for specific projects and build a strong foundation of income to support our core costs. We don't have teams of individuals fundraising for us but if you can help promote our work, especially our campaigns and appeals, you will make a difference.

Local groups

Sylva tends to work in partnership with other organisations to achieve its reach across Britain. We are most active locally via the Sylva Wood Centre in Oxfordshire, where local people can help support our Future Forest, Community Orchard, and arts events.

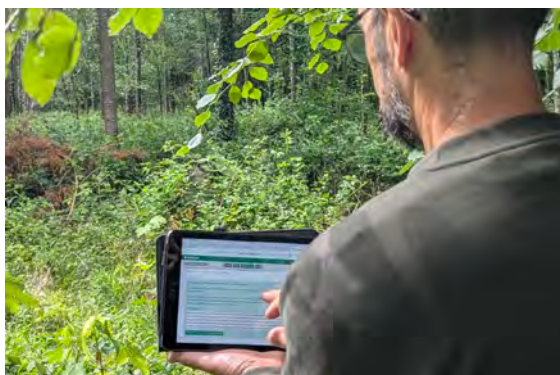
Volunteering

If you are looking for an exciting and interesting way to make a difference to our environment, please consider volunteering with Sylva. We have recently benefited volunteers helping with school visits, data entry, visitor welcoming, tree planting, and even a business angel. You don't have to know anything about trees, forestry or wood to volunteer with Sylva. Find out more at sylva.org.uk/volunteer

Acknowledgements 2024-25

We are very grateful for all the support offered this year by so many individuals and organisations.

Volunteers and community groups	Donors and Funders	Business supporters	NGO and Non-Profit Partners	Statutory sector and other public bodies
Alys Bryan	Aspen Trust	3Keel	Community Forest Trusts	Defra
Andrew Lea	Benchmark Furniture	Benchmark Furniture	Confor	Environment Agency
David and Karon Whenmouth	Chapman Charitable Trust	Blenheim Palace	Cumbria Woodlands	Forest Research
Harriet Child	Conran Foundation	CloudForest	Earth Trust	Forestry Commission
Inge Hill	Dulverton Trust	Doig Furniture Makers	Forest Canopy Foundation and members	Natural England
Jane Cleal	D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust	ercol	Future Trees Trust	Scottish Forestry
Katie Furmston	Garfield Weston Foundation	Evolving Forests	Grown in Britain	
Katy Thompson	Horlock Educational Trust	Gaze Burvill	Institute of Chartered Foresters	
Lynn Jones	Michaelis family	Grown in Britain	National Farmers Union	
Natalie Cole	National Heritage Lottery	Lamello	National Forest	
Pauline Upstone	The Gunter Charitable Trust	LENS	National Trust	Education/Academic Partners
Phil Horton	The Middle Way Trust	Martin Glynn	Oxford Trust	Aberystwyth University
Philip Koomen	The Mila Charitable Trust	Matthew Cox Furniture Ltd	Royal Forestry Society	Bangor University
Phoebe Oldfield	Vastern Timber Ltd	National Trust	Royal Scottish Forestry Society	Harper Adams University
Rae Sellen	Woven Foundation	Nicholsons	RSPB	Liverpool John Moores University
Sally Richards		Odies Oil	Small Woods Association	Reading University
Steve Ash		ReHeat	Soil Association	Rycotewood Furniture (Activate Learning)
Sylva Foundation Friends		Rural Development Initiatives	Woodland Heritage	Southampton University
Tess Osman		Savills	Woodland Trust	SRUC (Scotland's Rural College)
Wittenham Warriors		Timber Auctions	Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers	



Contact us

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