

Company registered number: 02920815  
Charity registered number: 1145877



# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS



**Surfers Against Sewage**

Unit 2, Wheal Kitty Workshops,  
St. Agnes, TR5 0RD

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Twitter – @sascampaigns



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# TRUSTEES' REPORT 2022 OVERVIEW







# OBJECTS AND AIMS

Surfers Against Sewage (SAS) is a national marine conservation and campaigning charity that inspires, unites and empowers communities to take action to protect oceans, beaches, waves and wildlife.

SAS projects target coastal environmental issues including marine plastic pollution, water quality, climate change and coastal development.



We aim to create measurable improvements in the state of our oceans, waves and beaches through changes in public behaviour, government policy and industry practices.

## The charity's objectives are:

To undertake and promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection, improvement and ecologically sustainable management of the marine environment including associated land, shoreline and structures.

To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection, improvement and ecologically sustainable management of the marine environment including associated land, shoreline and structures.

## To achieve our aims SAS:

- 
- ▶ **Influences** governments on key issues affecting oceans, beaches and recreational water users and policies needed to deliver a cleaner and safer marine environment
  - ▶ **Creates** volunteering opportunities for individuals and communities to be involved with activities to safeguard our seas, coastlines and beaches
  - ▶ **Educates** communities on the achievable, sustainable solutions, which can help protect our waves, oceans and beaches
  - ▶ **Challenges** industry to adopt better standards to protect our coastal environment
  - ▶ **Promotes** scientific, economic and health evidence to support calls for a cleaner and safer marine environment
  - ▶ **Informs** the general public about issues affecting UK waves, oceans and beaches, and those that use them
- 



### **Public benefit**

The work of SAS ensures a safer environment for all those who visit the UK's coastline. Its work has been a significant factor in improving the cleanliness of coastal and marine environment, which ensures that they are better protected for the benefit of current and future generations. The education programme run by SAS, associated volunteering initiatives and the research and campaigns it undertakes and publishes are a valuable source of information for the public. The charity's mission statement reflects the overarching aim of all SAS activities as being for the public benefit.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

### **Nature of governing document**

Surfers Against Sewage (SAS) is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 20th April 1994, and registered as a charity on 13th February 2012. It is governed by Articles of Association, having been amended by special resolution by Trustees registered at Companies House on 4th January 2012. In the event of the company being wound up the members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

### **Recruitment and appointment of trustees**

The management of the Charity is vested in the Trustees who, elected by the membership, act in a voluntary capacity. The number of Trustees must always be the same as the number of Members. Members are individuals whose names are recorded as company members in the Charity's statutory registers.

A wide range of professional skills is represented amongst the Trustees including charitable, conservation, environmental consultancy, journalism, communications and legal expertise. SAS Board of Trustees conducts regular discussions of any skills gaps and how these might be filled. New Trustees are sought by existing Members approaching individuals to offer themselves for election.

There were 7 Trustees in post at 31st December 2022 (2021: 7 trustees).

### **Induction and training of trustees**

Trustees are directed to useful information on their duties and responsibilities through the Charity Commission website. They also receive SAS's Articles of Association, the latest financial statements and relevant materials including Pipeline magazine. Many Trustees also have regular contact with the executive team at SAS to help them in their duties and interaction with SAS.



## REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

### Chief Executive Officer:

P Lewis & P Warman  
*(Interim joint Chief Executive Officer)*  
H Tagholm  
*(Resigned 28th October 2022)*

### Trustees:

L Davies  
C H Hides  
L Kazan-Pinfield  
J Khoo (Chair)  
H Koldewey  
L Siegle  
D Crockett (Appointed 13 July 2022)  
R Walker (Resigned 21 September 2022)

### Principal Office:

Unit 2  
Wheal Kitty Workshops  
St Agnes  
Cornwall  
TR5 0RD

### The charity is incorporated in England & Wales:

Company Registration Number  
02920815  
Charity Registration Number  
1145877

### Solicitors:

Stephens Scown  
Osprey House  
Malpas Road  
Truro  
Cornwall  
TR1 1UT

### Bankers:

Lloyds Bank PLC  
7 Boscawen Street  
Truro  
Cornwall  
TR1 2QT

### Auditor:

PKF Francis Clark  
Lowin House  
Tregolls Road  
Truro  
Cornwall  
TR1 2NA





# FOREWORD BY THE CHAIR

We live in an ever-changing world: the passing of the seasons, the ebb and flow of the tide. Change itself isn't inherently good or bad but it undoubtedly holds the potential for renewal, for new opportunities and regeneration. And so it goes with the life of any organisation.

Here at Surfers Against Sewage, our vision is for a thriving ocean, thriving people, delivered through daring, impactful campaigns that are fuelled by grassroots Ocean Activism and this will always remain true. We are now entering an exciting new period for the organisation, with our search for a new chief executive.



## A new chapter

Hugo Tagholm leaves us having led SAS through 14 years of Ocean Activism, helping us deliver campaign after campaign that cut-through the noise, gave our community a voice, and that gave us the platform to be who we are today – a respected ocean authority with decision makers and the media, and a campaign group with a unique edge.

Our paths now diverge but we will forever remain connected through our passion for the ocean and our shared drive to protect what we love. And it goes without saying that we all wish Hugo all the very best in the next phase of his personal journey of ocean protection with Oceana.

And so, a new chapter begins. The Trustees have concluded recruitment of both a new CEO and a Director of Campaigns & Communities. In August 2023, Giles Bristow will start as SAS' new CEO. Giles joins SAS from Ashden where he was interim CEO and Director of Programmes since 2017. His experience also includes leading systems change work at Forum For The Future and a former career as an environmental lawyer with Slaughter & May.

At the same time, Dani Jordan will join us as our new Director of Campaigns & Communities joining from WWF and with a wealth of policy experience, in particular on water quality. Finally, with Fiona Kilbride's internal promotion to Finance Director – our executive leadership team is complete.





## Impact for the ocean

In my 6 years as a trustee, one of the key constants has been a reminder that the team at SAS HQ, down in St Agnes, are a truly inspirational crew, with an outstanding track record of delivering impactful Ocean Activism. Think forcing the government to U-turn on water quality; coordinating 100,000+ volunteers to clean a million miles of the UK to help fuel our campaigns against the plastic polluters; the creation of the incredible Safer Seas & Rivers Service app; connecting disadvantaged young people with nature through Ocean School. I could go on and on and on.

And then there are our Ocean Activists, wherever, and whoever, they may be. Members, protestors, donors, beach cleaners, plastic free community campaigners, the list goes on and on. Together we are such a powerful force and the lifeblood of Surfers Against Sewage.

To me, leadership is about who you bring with you. And it is our shared voice that gives weight to our campaigns, and drives a groundswell of change that sweeps across the UK – Ocean Activism from the beachfront to the front-bench.

## What's next

So, in 2023, what can you expect for SAS? Well our change-making campaigns on water quality and plastic pollution will remain the team's primary focus. The foundations we have built over the past 3 years are solid and the authority we have to speak up about these issues with authenticity and authority has never been stronger.

So, we will demand real lasting change to rid our waterways of sewage pollution and to turn back the plastic tide choking the ocean. We will continue working with partners big and small to elevate our calls and ensure government and big business prioritise people and planet, and crack-down hard on the polluters.

Our flagship community mobilisation campaigns, will return and we will have a fully redesigned website ([www.sas.org.uk](http://www.sas.org.uk)) to inspire, inform and activate engaged Ocean Activists, as well as to reach new audiences who share our passion for the ocean. Our future is bright.

Excitingly 2023 will see us grow our Team at SAS HQ, from 27 to what will be over 45 by the middle of the year. This capacity increase will ensure we continue to deliver and strengthen our impact in the coming years.

## Jon Khoo, Chair of Trustees



# 2022 IN NUMBERS



282,116

VOLUNTEERS

participated in our Million  
Mile Clean Campaign

789,925 KG

of plastic and  
packaging pollution  
was removed from  
beaches, river  
banks and wild  
spaces nationwide



1,115,551  
MILES

of beaches, rivers and wild  
spaces was covered by  
community beach cleaners

OVER  
12,494  
COMMUNITY  
BEACH  
CLEANS

were organised  
around the country.



166,914

PEOPLE  
SUBSCRIBED  
TO THE



SAFER  
SEAS &  
RIVERS  
SERVICE

51,689

signed our petition to  
demand action for our  
blue spaces calling for  
200 River Bathing  
Waters by 2030, we  
delivered the petition  
to the Department for  
the Environment.

885

PLASTIC FREE COMMUNITIES  
HELPED ELIMINATE OVER  
43 MILLION ITEMS OF  
SINGLE-USE PLASTIC.

PLASTIC FREE  
COMMUNITIES  
SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE



237

REGIONAL REPS

came together to lead  
action in towns, cities and  
villages nationwide.

OCEAN  
SCHOOL

SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE

88

disadvantaged young  
people inspired to  
learn about and  
connect with the  
ocean through  
Ocean School.

1.32 MILLION  
STUDENTS

inspired by our Plastic  
Free Schools campaign.



5,247

BUSINESSES JOINED THE  
PLASTIC FREE COMMUNITIES  
MOVEMENT



# INTRODUCTION

The last twelve months have been some of the most ambitious and impactful in our history, aligning with a time that ocean and environmental issues have garnered record levels of public, political and media awareness, linked to this Ocean Decade. We continued to work across our four priority issues, covering water quality, plastic pollution, ocean & climate impacts and the restoration of marine habitats. We delivered a range of innovative new campaigns and community initiatives to drive public participation, media coverage, policy and systems change.

Our campaigns on plastic pollution remained some of our most popular activities, providing a gateway to community activism. As part of this, our network of Ocean Activists grew significantly, with over 280,000 beach clean volunteers joining us around the coastline, on rivers and in other blue and green environments. This remarkable network of volunteers cleaned and protected over a million miles of coastline through the Million Mile Clean. Nearly 4,000 citizen scientists also contributed to our Brand Audit, helping expose the brands and companies responsible for the ongoing plastic pollution crisis.

The reach of our Plastic Free Communities initiative also grew to cover an incredible 885 locations as communities continued to join forces to tackle the issue of single-use plastics.

The Plastic Free Schools campaign continues to grow and inspire, taken on in 3,398 schools across the UK representing 1.32 million students. This campaign ensures that young people can take local action but also provides them with the agency and tools to influence political and business leaders in demanding change.

Thanks to our ongoing water quality campaigns and the work of other NGOs, campaigners and individuals, the issue of water quality and sewage pollution also continued to hit the headlines in 2022. Our projects helped reveal the shocking scale of water company pollution, exposing the decades of under investment that has led to over three million hours of sewage pollution being dumped into our rivers and coastline annually, devastating unique and fragile blue habitats, which are vital to biodiversity, human health and wellbeing, and local economies.

Just 14% of our rivers meet Good Ecological Status, and despite the boom in wild and coldwater swimming, we currently have just two official river Bathing Waters. The profiteering of water companies at the expense of the environment caused widespread public outrage, and rightly so.



We continued to develop our water quality campaigns, providing the public with multiple ways to express their concern and act on the escalating issue of sewage pollution. Our Safer Seas and Rivers Service, the only national real-time water quality app attracted over 166,914 subscribers, helping inform and protect swimmers, surfers, holiday-makers and other water users from poor water quality. The app also connected users directly with local MPs and water company CEOs, allowing them to start conversations about the ongoing issue of pollution in local constituencies and demand urgent action. The service covers 424 beaches and rivers, and data collected across the year informs our annual Water Quality Report, an appraisal of water company performance and sewage pollution at the nation's favourite beaches. The publication of the report once again helped us generate national and regional headlines on the need for water companies to upscale investment to stop the huge scale of sewage discharges into Bathing Waters, rivers and coastlines.



We continued supporting community leaders nationwide through our Regional Reps programme, supporting 237 inspirational individuals to lead and inspire in their local communities.

We are proud to have delivered another powerful year of participative action, working with so many people and organisations. We believe that our accessible, inclusive and empowering model, connecting people to call for ambitious systems change across government, industry and society, will play an increasingly important part of delivering solutions to protect and restore the health of the blue wilderness.

Our communications department ensured that our campaigns regularly made the headlines, reaching millions of people and helping underpin volunteer participation, donations and public, political and business engagement.

None of this would have been possible without the commitment of our Board of Trustees and incredible SAS team. We would like to thank them all for their contributions in making 2022 such a success.

We continued to invest in all our people, providing the training, support and technology to help them deliver exceptional impact. Staff welfare and wellbeing remained an ongoing priority for the charity.

We're here to engage, empower and mobilise individuals and communities with campaigns to protect and restore the ocean and all it makes possible this decade, and beyond. We have a vision that shapes everything we do. Thriving Ocean, Thriving People. We're committed to building a community that cares deeply and takes action to protect and restore the planet we live on.

We're connected by our love of the water. The planet we share is 70% ocean. One ocean that connects us all. Today we're more than surfers. We campaign on more than sewage. We're here because of the ocean. So, let's fight for it.





**“2022 was another amazing year of Ocean Activism. We’re consistently amazed and humbled by the passion of our volunteers, from beach cleaners, Plastic Free Community & School leads and communities working towards Bathing Water Designation, and of course our inspirational regional reps. Their dedication and commitment to environmental activism is the driving force behind our work – our community gives us our mandate.**

**We’re incredibly proud of the SAS team, who’s passion, skill, resourcefulness and talent continues to make SAS such a force for protecting & restoring our marine environment.**

**Thanks to our volunteers, trustees, team and network of supporters for making it all possible.”**

Pete Lewis & Pete Warman, (Interim CEOs), Surfers Against Sewage



A photograph of two young children of African descent on a sandy beach. The child on the left, wearing a grey patterned sweater, is using red-handled scissors to cut a piece of green plastic. The child on the right, wearing a camouflage jacket and a backpack, is holding a black basket and looking down at the plastic. In the background, other people are blurred, and the ocean is visible under a bright sky.

# OUR COMMUNITY

Our incredible community of Ocean Activists gives us our mandate to campaign and gives us authenticity in our work. We continued to grow and develop all of our community programs, our Regional Reps, Plastic Free Schools and Communities and our beach clean network. Our role is to inspire, train and equip these brilliant volunteers to have a positive impact in their local community.

## MILLION MILE CLEAN

The Million Mile Clean brings volunteers together to protect the health of the environment, but also to help their own health and wellbeing. Our aim is to inspire over 100,000 volunteers' to commit to 10 miles of community cleaning (beaches, rivers, green spaces and streets) to deliver a million miles every year. Good for the planet. Good for volunteers' physical health and wellbeing. We had a phenomenal response to the campaign in 2022 with 282,116 volunteers taking part in 12,494 beach, river, street and mountain cleans, clearing 789,925 kg of plastic and packaging pollution across 1,115,551 miles of the UK, making it Europe's biggest beach clean campaign.





# THE OCEAN IS FILLING UP WITH PLASTIC

## BRAND AUDIT

The 2022 campaign found that the top 12 most polluting brands were responsible for 70% of the packaging pollution collected, with Coca Cola and Pepsi-Co taking the top two spots of 'The Dirty Dozen' yet again. Year-round data being captured by volunteers across the UK through the Million Mile Clean helps us better understand the scale of the issue and hold those responsible to account.

## PLASTIC FREE COMMUNITIES

Our Plastic Free Communities campaign empowers and connects people in a shared journey to free where they live from avoidable throwaway plastic. As part of the campaign over 885 communities and 5,247 businesses have chosen to stop using and selling single-use plastic items like plastic cutlery, coffee cups, water bottles and much more and instead opt for reusable items. This is making a big dent on the plastic pollution that is being found on our streets, beaches and in our rivers.







## PLASTIC FREE SCHOOLS

We now have 3,398 schools, attended by over 1.32 million pupils, enrolled in the Plastic Free Schools programme. The programme equips and empowers young activists with the tools to create positive, lasting environmental change. This project has always been driven by the pupils and this year we have strived to encourage schools with a high pupil premium to sign up.

## Key Stats

**3,398  
schools  
signed up**

**1,421**  
**Industry**  
**challenges**

**1,324,270**  
students  
reached

**2,692**  
political  
actions made





## OCEAN SCHOOL

In conservation, everything starts with a connection. That's why this summer we took 88 disadvantaged young people to the beach to learn about and connect with the ocean for a focused Ocean School.

We also launched an immersive 360 Digital Ocean School Experience helping young people connect with the coast, understand critical issues and know how to take action, no matter where they are.

By taking part in the Digital Experience, students are transported to Porthtowan Beach in Cornwall, where SAS first began over 32 years ago. Taking them on an interactive journey to connect, explore and protect. We've had 1,379 unique visitors engaging with the platform.

## PUPIL POWER ASSEMBLY

On 18th November we were joined at our HQ by Children's TV presenter Naomi Wilkinson, Biologist and TV presenter Gillian Burke, Marine Scientist Charlie Young and Zoologist Billy Heaney to broadcast our 2022 Pupil Power Assembly to over 6,000 students across the UK. The Assembly was designed to equip pupils with the tools and inspiration to make their voices heard at the highest level, whilst delving into the awe and wonders of the ocean and demonstrating why it's so critical to protect it.







## REGIONAL REPS

Our Regional Volunteer Representatives are 237 amazing volunteers, known as our 'Reps'. They are the lifeblood of our organisation, across the UK they help deliver all our programmes from organisation of beach cleans, delivering talks to our Plastic Free Schools, and engaging their communities in the local relevance of our campaigns.







# WATER QUALITY



## Petition

Over the summer, 51,689 Ocean Activists signed our petition to demand action for our inland blue spaces. On the 18th October we visited the government's Department for the Environment, in London, with swimmers, paddle boarders and kayakers, to deliver the petition to the Secretary of State, demanding that the government speaks up for rivers. Together, we called for 200 River Bathing Waters by 2030. We're calling on the UK Government to set legally binding targets to increase the number of official River Bathing Waters in the UK and work with regulators and communities to ensure the target is delivered.

## Supporting fresh water bathing designations

This year we have invested in our support for communities who use fresh water for recreation. In September, on World Rivers Day, we launched our package of resources supporting community groups who want to apply for bathing water status at inland locations. Almost 90% of storm overflows discharge directly into rivers and in 2021 our citizen science water quality testing programme revealed that 3 in 4 rivers tested pose a serious continuous risk to human health. In England we have just two rivers that are designated bathing waters, meaning only a few hundred meters of our rivers are monitored for human health. We now have seventeen communities signed up to start their journey towards registration with our support. Over the next three years we are aiming to support up to 200 transformational inland bathing designations.

### Safer Seas and Rivers Service

Our Safer Seas and Rivers Service continued to play a critical role in keeping water users safe and empowering them to make some noise when they were impacted by sewage spills. With this year's upgrades, the app now covers a number of rivers and streams where water quality data is available. Now, as well as being able to email your MP driving political awareness of pollution alerts in your area, you can directly email the CEO of your local water company in app. We've also made it easier to report any illness after time spent in the sea. We use illness reports to evidence the impact of sewage discharges on human health, build our case against water companies and take our case to government and demand tough action is taken.

With significant spills throughout the season we saw significant peaks in app usage in 2022. Previously we would see 300-600 users access the app every day, but this summer, that jumped to about 5,000 a day with a peak of over 9,000 users a day due to the #sewagescandal.

### KEY STATS

**166,914**  
registered app  
users

**424**  
locations  
covered

**314**  
bathing waters  
affected by Sewer  
Overflows

**860**  
Pollution Risk  
Forecasts during  
the 2022 Bathing  
Season

**720**  
illness reports  
received

**9,386**  
Sewer overflow  
discharge alerts  
issued in 2022

**2,053**  
during the  
bathing season

**7,758**  
Emails to Water  
Company CEOs  
and MPs





## Water Quality Report

On the 25th of November we launched our annual Water Quality Report. With so much interest in water quality issues, this landed well, with a readership of 1.74 million. Media pick up included The Times, The Guardian, Financial Times, Daily Star, Metro, ITV national news, BBC Radio 4 Today Programme and BBC Spotlight and more. The report was referenced in a parliament debate with a call for an enquiry into dry spills.

The report, launched in an interactive and accessible online format enables readers to dive deeper into the statistics. The report presented data from our SSRS app and the Environment Agency alongside emotive reports from water users who have fallen ill after being in the sea. We also analysed the performance of Water Companies and the discrepancies of the financial rewards to shareholders and Executive bonuses.

This year we received 720 sickness reports, 400 of those were at locations classed as 'excellent' bathing waters. We also used data from The Met Office to find water companies discharging untreated sewage onto these bathing waters when there wasn't any rain, 95 times this year. 329 Sewage overflows failed to meet environmental quality standards. 103 sewage overflows failed to report activity for more than 2 weeks. 44 overflows were left completely unmonitored. All this while Water Company CEOs took home £16.5 million in salary packages.





## STRATEGIC NATIONAL ACTION PLAN TO END PLASTIC POLLUTION

On 29th November, we hosted a reception at the House of Commons to launch our new Plastics report. The report sets out the current state of the UK's plastic policy and outlines the need to produce a forward-thinking National Action Plan on plastics as part of signing the global plastics treaty, signed by 175 countries. It highlights how the national action plan, required by the treaty, should be an all-encompassing strategy to put an end to the pollution plaguing the ocean. The report is aimed at policy makers and has informed a private members bill in parliament, released alongside the report. The event to celebrate the launch was widely attended, including 9 MPs. and the Early Day Motion for the policy has 25 supporter MPs including 6 sponsor MPs so far.

### The Plastics Bill aims to:

- ▶ Set and enforce targets to reduce the amount of plastic produced and increase the amount of plastic that gets recycled
- ▶ Promote and facilitate research into sustainable alternatives to plastic, and
- ▶ Consider how a plastics tax and other fiscal measures could help reduce plastic production and increase recycling
- ▶ Establish a Plastics Agency to hold the government to account



END PLASTIC POLLUTION

## Sewage Action Plan

In May 2022, we got a first glimpse of the government's action plan to tackle the surge of sewage pollution swamping rivers and the ocean. And it was far from pretty. A massive 22,000 of us responded to the consultation demanding faster and bolder action to end sewage pollution. And just before the August bank holiday, the government released its finalised plan.



### Thanks to the huge support from the public and our communities, the plan delivers:

- ▶ Prioritisation for bathing waters and significant ecological areas
- ▶ Resolution for more inland bathing waters
- ▶ Community support for designation
- ▶ Water Company Chief Executives and Board Members eligible for prison sentences for serious pollution incidents



### Devastatingly, the plan still allows for:

- ▶ Permitted pollution until 2035 in areas with significant importance and 2050 elsewhere
- ▶ Regulators responsibilities and their vital role barely feature in the plan

Since 1991, water companies have made £50bn in dividends for their shareholders. The plan now asks consumers to foot the bill for future improvements.

## Environmental protection rollbacks

Despite all this incredible momentum across our campaigns and rippling through our communities, the government has stumbled in its response, creating critical failures for the future. In September we witnessed plans for the government's 'Brexit Freedoms Bill'. A bill that will give ministers powers to remove EU regulations without Parliamentary scrutiny. The majority of the laws at risk are protections for the environment. These are not light measures. They are crucial protections, not just for the survival of ecosystems and species, but also for people. 570 key environment laws threatened include those for sewage and agriculture, the two biggest polluters of the UK's blue spaces. We already have the worst bathing waters in Europe, yet here are the UK government preparing to sink standards even lower. If these laws aren't re-written by December 2023 – they will now disappear. In his acceptance speech, Rishi Sunk pledged to 'deliver on protecting the environment'. We'll be keenly watching this space and holding the government to account.





## COMMUNICATIONS

Our campaigns have garnered an unprecedented level of media coverage this year, with our flagship launches reaching millions of potential Ocean Activists. This has been supported by the growing Communications team, which has recently been bolstered by the addition of another Communications Officer. Our biggest proactive media moment in the second half of the year was the publication of our 2022 Water Quality Report in November, but plastic pollution also hit the headlines, through the Million Mile Clean and the launch of our 2022 Brand Audit report.

Our reactive communications, particularly on the issue of sewage discharges, also received widespread coverage. In August, as serious sewage incidents occurred across the UK, our team was inundated by national press, with almost non-stop interviews over a 7-day period. In total, this one event saw SAS appear in over 400 pieces of coverage, including on BBC, ITV, Good Morning Britain, GB News, the Times Radio and LBC.

2022 has also seen our direct audience, through social media followers and email subscribers, grow significantly. Our current social media audience, across our four primary platforms (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn) is 403,018, up 12.6% on the beginning of the year.



**403,018**  
**current**  
**social media**  
**audience**

## EQUALITY DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (EDI)

We have a legal and moral duty to challenge all forms of discrimination. Further to this we recognise that our cause is linked to environmental justice; through our core work we must take every opportunity to platform voices that are too often not heard, address inequality of access and enjoyment of the ocean, and challenge ourselves to make Ocean Activism as inclusive as possible.

We have continued focussing on EDI at SAS and progressed with whole team training sessions and continued rollout of our work at all levels from Board, through to the wider team. As a full team we have attended training on EDI Essentials, Unconscious Bias and Time to Talk About Race. We have refreshed our approach to embedding EDI at an early stage of all project plans, to ensure our public events are as accessible and inclusive as possible. As a team we have reviewed and updated our EDI Policy & public statement.

Excitingly we will be recruiting an EDI Manager early in 2023 to move forward our work in this area at greater pace.



## **FUTURE PLANS AND ACTIVITY: 2023**

We are proud to have inspired an incredible year of engagement and action in 2022, involving and empowering record numbers of Ocean Activists around the UK on some of the most pressing issues facing the ocean in this most crucial decade for the environment. The passion, energy and commitment from individuals and communities was clear as people joined the movement to give the ocean a voice.

The power of our combined voice to create change resonated louder than ever before. It was a big year for the ocean. But it was just the start. This year, we must bring even more people on the journey of Ocean Activism as we help to truly give our seas and blue spaces a voice.

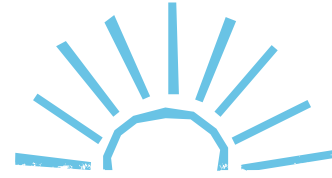
We believe that by giving communities the tools to tackle the issues threatening the ocean, we can change the systems and structures that are destroying marine habitats worldwide. We believe that through building, educating, empowering, supporting and connecting diverse communities we can deliver even more impact.

**THE TIME FOR  
ACTION HAS COME.  
WE DON'T HAVE  
TIME TO WASTE.**

Together, we must demand action. We must call for climate targets to be met. We must call for more ambition on both the scale and pace of environmental change. We must call for more urgency to tackle plastic polluters. We must call relentlessly for the transition to business that is good for the planet.

Activism is central to all our campaigning; we'll be mobilising over 100,000 beach cleaners across a million miles to take direct action on plastics; we'll be running the Plastic Brand Audit to help us hold polluting companies to account and call for the strongest possible Global Plastics Treaty; we'll be calling for new Bathing Waters on rivers nationwide to help stop sewage pollution from profiteering water companies.

The time to act is now and we look forward to you joining us as the movement builds.



## 10-YEAR GOALS

We'll continue to build and empower a diverse community of active supporters campaigning together as the authentic voice of the ocean. Through compelling campaigns and initiatives, we'll enable individuals and communities to take action on our four key focus areas, supporting our ten-year goals:

### IMPROVE WATER QUALITY

- ▶ We campaign for a clean ocean, rivers and lakes for wildlife and people.
- ▶ We demand an end to sewage discharge into UK bathing waters and a 90% reduction in sewage discharges by 2030.

### TACKLE PLASTIC POLLUTION

- ▶ We campaign to turn back the plastic tide choking the ocean.
- ▶ We demand an end to plastic pollution on UK beaches by 2030 and all plastic pollution by 2040.

### DRIVE OCEAN RECOVERY

- ▶ We campaign to protect and restore the ocean wilderness.
- ▶ We demand high protection status for 30% of the ocean and all UK Marine Protected Areas by 2030.

### CONFRONT THE OCEAN & CLIMATE EMERGENCY

- ▶ We campaign to stop destructive global heating threatening all life in and above the ocean.
- ▶ We demand that the UK achieves net zero, including the adoption of ocean-based solutions, by 2030.



## OCEAN ACTIVISTS

We're committed to investing in and enhancing our model and theory of change, including:

- ▶ Deliver a programme of citizen science to change environmental policy and behaviour nationally across society.
- ▶ Influence governments and decision makers on laws and policies to protect and restore the ocean.
- ▶ Commission and promote scientific, economic and health evidence, and collaborate with other stakeholders to deliver our vision of Thriving Ocean, Thriving People.
- ▶ Urge industry to adopt better standards to protect the ocean.
- ▶ Mobilise and equip the UK's biggest and most authentic community of Ocean Activists.
- ▶ Step up high impact campaigns, communications, fundraising and education initiatives to drive action and engagement on ocean recovery.

We will continue to take a positive and collaborative approach to our campaigning in 2023 by empowering and uniting supporters to take action. We will ensure that individuals and groups can act with us from the beach front to the front benches of Parliament. Our delivery model creates Ocean Activists everywhere, and supports a grassroots local approach to the global issues facing our oceans. We will continue to take the big issues where people often feel overwhelmed, and provide steps and actions they can take. We will provide our volunteers and supporters with tangible actions they can take to be a part of this change, from community level actions on single-use plastic to challenging decision makers on climate change in Westminster.



# THRIVING OCEAN, THRIVING PEOPLE

Our theory of change is that long-term systematic change comes from tackling four interlinked areas: community actions, laws, policies and business practices, and this holistic approach to change is reflected in our campaigns and projects.

## In 2023 we will:

### ► Drive People-Powered Change:

Connect our communities with political moments to demand radical change and present truthful evidence from the beachfront, gathered with our network of Ocean Activists.

### ► Support & Scale our Communities:

Invest in the systems that will scale our community impact and reach. Re-imagine our beach clean, community and volunteering programmes in line with our ten-year goals, linking them to the systems change we want to deliver. This will include a major Volunteers Conference.

### ► Equality Diversity & Inclusion:

Continue on our journey to embrace equality, diversity and inclusion in all that we do. EDI. We want Ocean Activism to be open to everyone. A diverse voice is a more powerful voice.

### ► HQ Climate Action:

Ensure delivery of net zero and meaningful carbon reduction plans, introducing solar panels at SAS HQ to charge our electric van and power the office.

### ► Build Capacity:

Grow the team to over 45 people to increase our impact and to ensure staff wellbeing.

### ► PR & Communications:

Continue to invest in high-impact communications support to drive campaign engagement, impact and supporter acquisition.

### ► Invest in Systems:

Deliver a new database - to maximise the creation, support for and conversion of Ocean Activists.

### ► Expand Data Sources:

Target, collect and grow new supporter data from all departments, with clear goals.

### ► Cultivate Support:

Build on our strong relationships with funders and supporters, ensuring they feel engaged with our work and celebrate the impact we have together.

### ► Drive Sustainable Fundraising:

To maximise our impact in this crucial decade for the ocean, we need to increase our income, based on a foundation of resilient, sustainable and diverse income streams.

### ► Financial Management:

Continue to spend our donors' money wisely. Maintain a proportionate level of financial reserves, providing confidence to invest and ensure business continuity.

### ► Governance:

Draw on our engaged Trustees to bring unique skills, knowledge, networks and experience to the charity to support the executive team in effective decision-making.

## THRIVING OCEAN THRIVING PEOPLE



## PLASTIC POLLUTION

**End single-use plastic pollution on UK beaches**

- Engage Ocean Activist through the Million Mile Beach Clean.
- Expand the Brand Audit to collect and publish data on plastic polluters.
- Refocus on the Deposit Return Scheme campaign in England and Scotland.
- Reactivate Plastic Free Communities – engaging existing communities to achieve accreditation.
- Expanding the Plastic Free Schools campaign.
- Deliver the Plastic Free Awards.
- Collaborate nationally and internationally to deliver action to change policy and legislation to tackle plastic pollution.

## WATER QUALITY

**End sewage discharges into UK bathing waters**

- Focus on sewage pollution in rivers – call for designation of 200 River Bathing Waters by 2030.
- Provide support for local communities seeking Bathing Water designations.
- Redevelop the Safer Seas and Rivers Service to include more inland locations.
- Collect more health data – deliver a Beach Bums health research project for rivers.
- Expand our citizen science river water quality programme.
- Target water companies with demonstrations, working with our Communities.
- Produce a new Water Quality Report in the autumn.
- Focus on media and PR to maintain our leadership position on the issue.
- Maintain the #EndSewagePollution coalition.

## OCEAN & CLIMATE EMERGENCY OCEAN RECOVERY

**Net-zero by 2030**

**30% of the global ocean protected by 2030 and all UK MPAs highly protected.**

- Mobilise Ocean Activists at key Climate Coalition events and rallies.
- Deliver SAS Net Zero plans, including solar at SAS HQ.
- Review, revise and publish Protect Our Waves report, linking Sites of Special Surfing Interest with HPMA's.
- Collaborate with other NGOs and support actions to deliver enforced protections of marine areas.

## ORGANISATIONAL

**Maintain an impactful, authentic and sustainable charity**

- **Grow the Team:** Sustainably increase the team from 27 to 45 people to deliver our change-making model of people-powered campaigns.
- **Invest in People:** Put in place the support, processes and training to help bring out the best in everyone. Because our people and their ideas are everything to our success.
- **Invest in Systems:** Become more efficient and effective, with systems (website, CRM and digital) that maximise the creation and conversion of Ocean Activists.
- **Deliver Climate Action:** Achieve SAS net zero and introduce meaningful carbon reduction plans.
- **Governance:** Draw on our engaged Trustees to bring unique skills, knowledge, networks and experience to the charity to support the Leadership Team and wider team.
- **Ensure Strong Financial Management:** Maintain strong reserves, providing confidence to continue to invest in delivery and capacity.
- **Drive Sustainable Fundraising:** Maximise our impact in this crucial decade for the ocean by increasing our income, based on a foundation of resilient, sustainable and diverse income streams.
- **Cultivate Support:** Build on our strong relationships with funders and supporters, ensuring they feel engaged with our work and celebrate the impact we have together.

# FUNDRAISING REVIEW



To achieve our ambitious 2030 strategic aims and maximise our impact in this crucial decade for the ocean we will increase our income, based on a foundation of resilient, sustainable and diverse income streams.

Our ambition is to grow our fundraising income to £3 million in 2023 to allow us to fund our planned delivery. In order to achieve this, we will:

- Proactively drive growth through investment in sustainable & scalable income streams
- Continue developing the systems and processes that underpin our fundraising to continue scaling up in future years
- Maximise the value of our existing supporter base across all income streams through enhanced stewardship
- Leverage financial support from SAS community & campaign networks
- Enhance the understanding of our audience, and continue working towards data driven insight, and work towards creating a data strategy for the organisation

## Review of 2022

In 2022 we delivered our biggest ever year of fundraising income.

All income streams performed better than expected, in particular our Corporate, Individual Giving & Community & Events income streams saw a significant increase in year on year growth.

The new fundraising team structure has bedded in well and the introduction of a Community Fundraising Officer saw this income stream perform exceptionally well with the introduction of our first mass participation event, Dip A Day.


We are incredibly grateful to players of People's Postcode Lottery for their continued support for SAS that will enable the scaling up and increased impact of our work to help protect and restore the ocean for the future, for all.

Their support for our organisational development will help us to drive record numbers of citizen scientists and Ocean Activists through our volunteering programmes, and support the innovation and expansion of our campaigns.



**“It’s a real privilege to have been working with People’s Postcode Lottery for over 7 years now. Their support has been instrumental in supporting our organisational development. We’re now one of the leading marine conservation charities in the UK and People’s Postcode Lottery have played a key role in that, supporting us on our journey. Special thanks to the players of the People’s Postcode Lottery who make this all possible.”**

Pete Lewis – Director of Fundraising, SAS



**“The People’s Postcode Lottery is one of our most important partnerships and I’m truly thrilled that they are continuing their support which will help us continue to evolve as one of the UK’s most active marine conservation charities. In this Ocean Decade, it has never been more important to engage people with the plight of our seas in the quest for sustainable solutions to pollution and damage. This new support will help us accelerate our contribution to cleaner seas and a brighter, bluer environment.”**

Jon Khoo – Chairperson, SAS.



**“Players of People’s Postcode Lottery have been supporting Surfers Against Sewage since 2016 to help fund vital initiatives.**

**Our players can be proud their support is ensuring hard-working volunteers tackle beach pollution, supporting SAS’s continued campaigns for improved water quality, ocean protection, climate action, ocean restoration and supporting children to deliver change in their schools by encouraging them to stop single use plastics.**

**Climate action, biodiversity protection and community are at the heart of our values at People’s Postcode Lottery and we passionately believe in supporting organisations development. I’m delighted funding raised by players is helping this pioneering organisation become more robust and resilient, putting SAS in a position to lead the way in delivering a cleaner coastal environment that everyone can enjoy.”**

Laura Chow – Head of Charities, People’s Postcode Lottery





## Fundraising developments & highlights in 2022

### Some of our highlights from 2022 include

- ▶ Delivered our strongest ever year of income generation
- ▶ The investment in the capacity of our Corporate & Community & Events Income streams enabled significant growth
- ▶ Our first ever mass participation event “Dip A Day” was a huge success
- ▶ Our Sentinels of The Sea Legacy Campaign has secured over £1 million in pledges
- ▶ We continued to grow our Membership base and income
- ▶ We continued to successfully integrate our Data and Campaigns with our fundraising

### Our approach to fundraising:

We believe in putting our supporters at the heart of our fundraising, treating them with honesty and respect and keeping them regularly informed about the impact their support has enabled us to achieve. We will be led by our supporters about how often and the methods they would like to be contacted by us.

We believe that our fundraising and the partners we work with should be committed to the highest environmental standards and not have business practices that negatively impact the environment.

We are registered with the Fundraising Regulator and adhere to the Code of Fundraising Practice.

During the year we used suppliers to support with the following fundraising activity:

- Telemarketing campaign to recruit new regular donors and to reactivate lapsed regular donors

We commissioned QTS Fundraising to undertake this work for us. QTS is registered with the Fundraising Regulator, Information Commissioner’s Office, accredited and members of the Institute of Fundraising, and members of the DMA.

We monitored QTS with weekly reports and catch ups with their team. We are provided with samples of calls that allow us to ensure the highest quality of calling. The QTS team undertake extensive training provided by SAS to ensure they can speak knowledgeably about our work.



### **Safeguarding vulnerable people and fundraising**

Our safeguarding policy covers the need to protect vulnerable people whilst fundraising. All Surfers Against Sewage staff are made aware of our safeguarding policy as part of their initial induction process and confirm their understanding. We ensure that our contractors have access to and understand this policy as well as assessing their own Safeguarding policies and training.

We will not take a donation if we know, or have good reason to believe, that a person lacks capacity to decide to donate, or is in vulnerable circumstances, which mean they may not be able to make an informed decision.

### **Complaints**

In 2022 we received no complaints about our fundraising.

We would like to thank everyone who supported Surfers Against Sewage in 2022, our members, donors, corporate partners, community fundraisers, trust and foundation partners and anyone else who supported our work. Our work is underpinned by our supporters – THANK YOU!

# THANK YOU!



# FINANCE REVIEW





# FINANCE REVIEW



During the year the Charity raised £2,783,302 (2021: £2,444,898) from general public, charitable trust and corporate donations and corporate sponsorship to carry out the programmes and projects mentioned in the above report. £2,368,943 (2021: £2,036,464) was expended during the current year.

As shown in the Statement of Financial Activities, £570,894 (2021: £555,003) of income was restricted for specific projects and the expenditure on those projects was £495,855 (2021: £624,277).

SAS is dependent upon securing unrestricted funding, the major source of this being membership subscriptions. £2,212,408 (2021: £1,889,895) was raised with no restrictions through fundraising activities, membership and donations. Unrestricted charitable expenditure of £1,873,088 (2021: £1,412,187) was used to deliver unrestricted projects.

At year end total reserves stood at £2,537,512 with £2,352,817 of these reserves being unrestricted and available for general purposes.

Our thanks to all who gave their time and money to SAS during the year.

## **Investment Policy**

The investment policy is to hold investments in low risk interest bearing cash deposits, having regard to both the liquidity requirements of the charity and the interest rates available.

## **Reserves Policy**

The reserves are required to meet the working capital requirements of the charity and to allow continued funding of a project in the event of funding not being immediately available, until further funding can be sourced.

The Trustees aim to hold general free reserves (Unrestricted reserves excluding those represented by fixed assets and specific designated funds) sufficient to cover a minimum of 3 to 6 months of operating costs. Income and expenditure streams are forecast through annual budgets and carefully monitored through quarterly reforecasts and monthly management accounts.

Budgeted expenditure for 2023 is £3m and the Trustees believe that the General Free Reserves of £2,236,873 held at year end are within the range required to support continued planned growth of the charity and its activities, whilst ensuring resilience against an uncertain wider economic outlook.





### **Risk Management**

The Trustees have conducted a review of the organisational risks to which the charity is exposed. A risk register is used to identify and manage the risks we face. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers, clients and visitors to the charitable company. These procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charitable company.

### **Key Management Personnel**

The charity trustees delegate day-to-day management of the charity to Pete Lewis & Pete Warman (Interim CEOs) until a permanent CEO is recruited. The pay and remuneration of the key management personnel is reviewed and agreed by the Trustees' HR Committee as part of the annual appraisal process, in conjunction with the annual organisational budget.

### **Related Parties**

Please see note 22 to the financial statements for details of related party transactions.

### **Disclosure of information to auditor**

Each trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 31 July 2023 and signed on its behalf by J Khoo (Chair) Trustee





# **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**





## Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Surfers Against Sewage Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they 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 its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 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 charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and 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.

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

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 31 July 2023 and signed on its behalf by J Khoo (Chairman) Trustee



# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT



# Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of Surfers Against Sewage Limited



## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Surfers Against Sewage Limited (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2022, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

## Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

# Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of Surfers Against Sewage Limited



## Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- this has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

## Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

# Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of Surfers Against Sewage Limited



## **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (set out on page 39), the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

## **Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

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

As part of the audit planning, we obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that is applicable to the charity and the sector in which the charity operates. The key regulations we identified included registration with the Fundraising Regulator and adherence to the Code of Fundraising Practice, compliance with grant funding conditions and health & safety regulations due to the nature of community events held such as beach cleans. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011 and compliance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice.

We discussed with management how the compliance with these laws and regulations is monitored and discussed policies and procedures in place.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur as part of the audit planning process. We determined that these risks are low considering the fact that the charity operates on a not-for-profit basis and so there would be no motivation for management to influence performance for individual gain.



# Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of Surfers Against Sewage Limited



Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify non-compliance with such laws and regulations. Our procedures included the following:

- We reviewed legal and professional costs to identify any possible non-compliance or legal costs in respect of non-compliance. Where required, legal costs were vouched to supporting documentation and correspondence.
- We reviewed the board minutes to identify any potential compliance issues none of which were identified. The minutes were also checked to ensure the responsibilities of the Trustees were being appropriately carried out.
- We obtained copies of the Charity's health & safety policies and reviewed these for appropriateness, framed in our understanding of the sector.
- We made enquires of management regarding their knowledge of any non-compliance with laws and regulations that could affect the financial statements.
- We obtained copies of the Charity's expense and procurement policies to ensure they promote expenditure in line with the Charity's objects and the Code of Fundraising Practice.
- We reviewed a sample of expenditure to ensure it was allocated against the appropriate grant funds and in keeping with the Charity's policies.
- We discussed the controls in place over the procurement, collection and recording of fundraising income to ensure they are in keeping with the Code of Fundraising Practice.
- Expenditure on activities required in order to comply with relevant legislation were vouched to expenditure items in the accounting records.
- We audited the risk of management override of controls through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

As part of our enquiries we discussed with management whether there have been any known instances, allegations or suspicions of fraud of which there were none.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements. This risk increases the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements as we are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

# Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of Surfers Against Sewage Limited

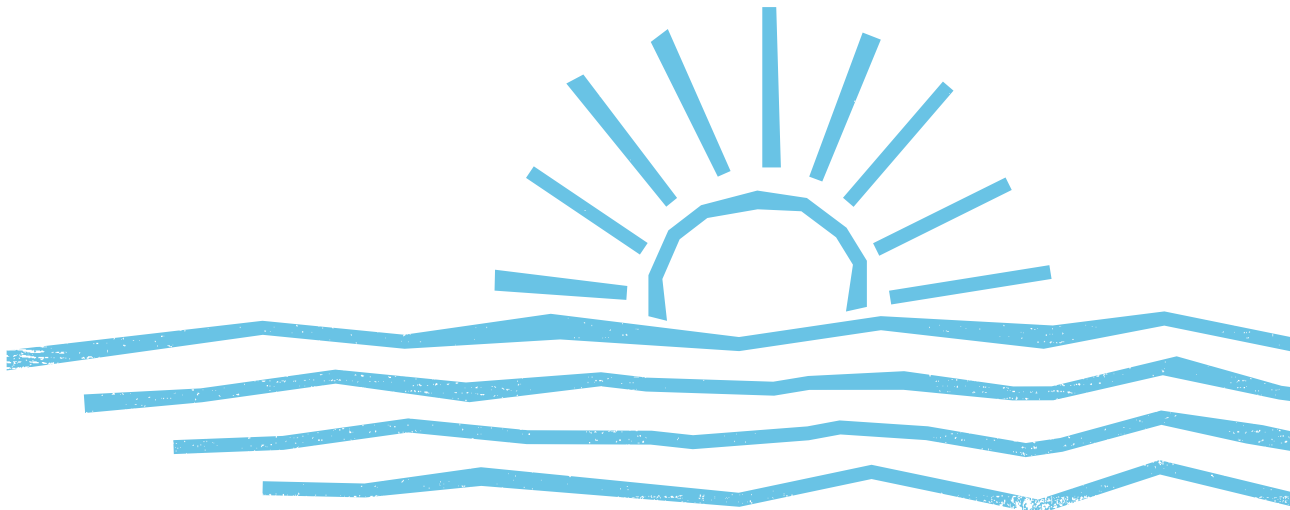


## Use of our report

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

.....  
Darren Perry (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of PKF Francis Clark, Statutory Auditor

Lowin House  
Tregolls Road  
Truro  
Cornwall  
TR1 2NA  
11 August 2023





# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES





# Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2022



(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	NOTE	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL 2022
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Donations and legacies	3	1,647,655	50,000	1,697,655
Charitable activities	4	546,455	520,894	1,067,349
Other trading activities	5	17,128	-	17,128
Investment income		1,170	-	1,170
<b>Total income</b>		<b>2,212,408</b>	<b>570,894</b>	<b>2,783,302</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Raising funds		(397,745)	-	(397,745)
Charitable activities	6	(1,475,343)	(495,855)	(1,971,198)
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>(1,873,088)</b>	<b>(495,855)</b>	<b>(2,368,943)</b>
Net income		339,320	75,039	414,359
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>339,320</b>	<b>75,039</b>	<b>414,359</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		2,013,497	109,656	2,123,153
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	20	<b>2,352,817</b>	<b>184,695</b>	<b>2,537,512</b>

The notes on pages 53 to 67 form an integral part of these financial statements.

# Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2022



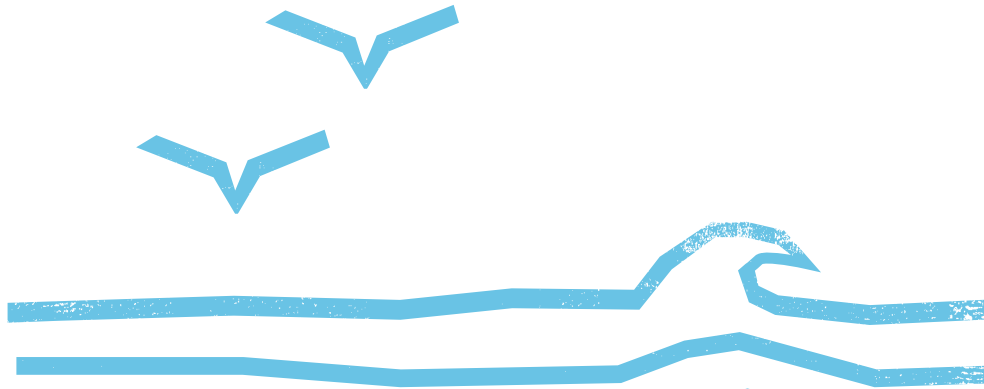
(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	NOTE	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL 2021
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Donations and legacies	3	1,548,025	56,814	1,604,839
Charitable activities	4	316,064	498,189	814,253
Other trading activities	5	25,627	-	25,627
Investment income		179	-	179
<b>Total income</b>		<b>1,889,895</b>	<b>555,003</b>	<b>2,444,898</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Raising funds		(292,572)	-	(292,572)
Charitable activities	6	(1,113,434)	(624,277)	(1,737,711)
Other expenditure	7	(6,181)	-	(6,181)
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>(1,412,187)</b>	<b>(624,277)</b>	<b>(2,036,464)</b>
Net income/(expenditure)		477,708	(69,274)	408,434
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>477,708</b>	<b>(69,274)</b>	<b>408,434</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		1,535,789	178,930	1,714,719
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	20	<b>2,013,497</b>	<b>109,656</b>	<b>2,123,153</b>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The fund breakdowns for 2022 and 2021 are shown in note 20.

The notes on pages 53 to 67 form an integral part of these financial statements.



# BALANCE SHEET

**Surfers Against Sewage Ltd**  
**(Registration number: 02920815)**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2022**



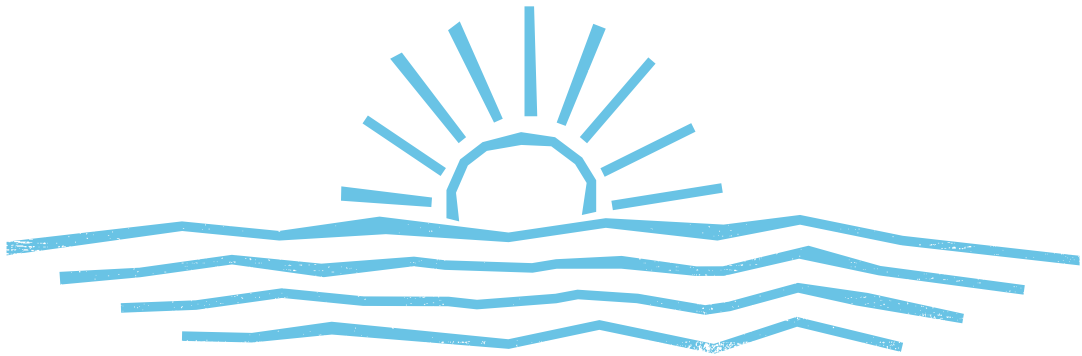
	NOTE	2022	2021
<b>Fixed assets</b>		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Intangible assets	12	179,193	95,034
Tangible assets	13	84,142	69,955
		<b>263,335</b>	<b>164,989</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	14	71,570	80,059
Cash at bank and in hand	15	2,451,753	1,924,713
		<b>2,523,323</b>	<b>2,004,772</b>
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	16	(249,146)	(46,608)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>2,274,177</b>	<b>1,958,164</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>2,537,512</b>	<b>2,123,153</b>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Restricted income funds</b>			
Restricted funds		184,695	109,656
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		2,352,817	2,013,497
<b>Total funds</b>	20	<b>2,537,512</b>	<b>2,123,153</b>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 31 July 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

.....  
J Khoo (Chairman)  
Trustee

The notes on pages 53 to 67 form an integral part of these financial statements.





# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

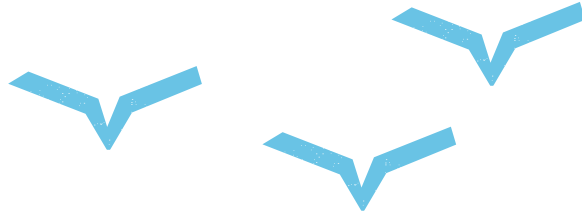
# Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 December 2022



	NOTE	2022	2021
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Net cash income		414,359	408,434
<b>Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items</b>			
Depreciation	13	38,226	30,669
Amortisation	12	46,336	35,643
Investment income		(1,170)	(179)
		<b>497,751</b>	<b>474,567</b>
<b>Working capital adjustments</b>			
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	14	8,489	(39,177)
Increase in creditors	16	84,205	14,156
Increase/(decrease) in deferred income	17	118,333	(350,696)
<b>Net cash flows from operating activities</b>		<b>708,778</b>	<b>98,850</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Interest receivable and similar income		1,170	179
Purchase of intangible fixed assets	12	(130,495)	(68,552)
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	13	(52,413)	(57,725)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		-	205
<b>Net cash flows from investing activities</b>		<b>(181,738)</b>	<b>(125,893)</b>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		527,040	(27,043)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		1,924,713	1,951,756
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December</b>		<b>2,451,753</b>	<b>1,924,713</b>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 53 to 67 form an integral part of these financial statements.



# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022



## 1. Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England & Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The principal place of business is:

Unit 2

Wheal Kitty Workshops

St Agnes

Cornwall

TR5 0RD

## 2. Accounting policies

### Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

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

### Statement of compliance

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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

### Basis of preparation

Surfers Against Sewage Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

### Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity. Given the strong reserves level and cash balances of the charity, the trustees consider it appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis.

### Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably. The only exception to this relates to when the income is incapable of financial measurement such as donated services which are shown as their estimated market value or value to the charity as set out below.

### Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised as incoming resources when receivable, except insofar as they are incapable of financial measurement. This includes donated services which have been shown at their estimated market value. Where it has not been possible to estimate market value of donated services, the trustees have estimated the value of the service to the charity.

### Other income

Merchandise sales, raffle tickets sales, subscriptions from members and other income are recognised when received. Investment income is included when receivable. Grants and sponsorship, including grants for purchase of fixed assets, are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year which they are receivable.

### Expenditure

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis, inclusive of partial VAT which cannot be recovered. All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activity on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis.

### Raising funds

These costs comprise of direct fundraising costs and the purchase of merchandise for resale and any surplus is used by the charity to meet its aims and objectives.

### Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

### Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

### Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the 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.

### Intangible assets

Intangible assets are stated in the Balance Sheet at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment. They are amortised on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives.



# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022



## **Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

## **Amortisation**

Amortisation is provided on intangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Amortisation method and rate
Website, database and app	33% straight line on cost

## **Depreciation and amortisation**

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Leasehold improvements	Equally over the period of the lease
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	25% straight line on cost
Computer Equipment	33% straight line on cost
Vehicles	25% reducing balance

## **Trade debtors**

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold, donations agreed or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

## **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

## **Trade creditors**

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers.

## **Foreign exchange**

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at that date. All differences are taken to the Statement of Financial Activity.

## **Fund structure**

Unrestricted funds are general funds receivable or generated that are available for use at the Trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity, without further specified purpose.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that the Trustees have set aside to be used for a particular future project or commitment. The purposes of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors and grant making bodies as to how they must be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

## **Hire purchase and finance leases**

Assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts, which are those where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset have passed to the company, are capitalised in the balance sheet and depreciated over their useful lives. The corresponding lease or hire purchase obligation is treated in the balance sheet as a liability.

The interest element of the rental obligations is charged to the Statement of Financial Activity over the period of the lease and represents a constant proportion of the balance of capital payments outstanding.

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to income on a straight line basis over the lease term.

## **Pensions and other post retirement obligations**

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

## **Financial instruments**

The charitable company only had financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022



## 3. Income from donations and legacies

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL 2022	TOTAL 2021
	£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies;				
Donations from corporate	179,157	-	179,157	321,334
Donations from individuals	255,022	50,000	305,022	276,501
Donations from community	270,115	-	270,115	160,855
Membership subscriptions	591,661	-	591,661	522,847
Gifts in kind	351,700	-	351,700	323,302
	<b>1,647,655</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>1,697,655</b>	<b>1,604,839</b>

## 4. Income from charitable activities

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL 2022	TOTAL 2021
	£	£	£	£
Charitable trusts & foundations	429,296	520,894	950,190	719,142
Corporate partnerships	117,159	-	117,159	95,111
	<b>546,455</b>	<b>520,894</b>	<b>1,067,349</b>	<b>814,253</b>

## 5. Income from trading activities

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL 2022	TOTAL 2021
	£	£	
Trading income;			
Merchandise sales	17,001	17,001	25,627
Fundraising Events	127	127	-
	<b>17,128</b>	<b>17,128</b>	<b>25,627</b>

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022



## 6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	CAMPAIGN & PROJECT DELIVERY	SUPPORT & GOVERNANCE	SUPPORT STAFF	TOTAL 2022	TOTAL 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Education	301,182	52,536	60,233	413,951	365,662
Community	329,866	57,539	65,970	453,375	455,344
Community – Plastic Free Communities	143,420	25,017	28,683	197,120	274,822
Advocacy and Campaigns	659,732	115,078	131,942	906,752	641,883
	<b>1,434,200</b>	<b>250,170</b>	<b>286,828</b>	<b>1,971,198</b>	<b>1,737,711</b>

£1,475,343 (2021 - £1,113,434) of the above expenditure was attributable to unrestricted funds and £495,855 (2021 - £624,277) to restricted funds.

Included in the expenditure analysed above are governance costs of £42,785 (2021 - £23,521) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 8 for further details.

## 7. Other expenditure

EXPENDITURE	TOTAL 2022	TOTAL 2021
	£	£
Corporation Tax	–	6,181
	<b>–</b>	<b>6,181</b>

## 8. Analysis of governance and support costs

GOVERNANCE COSTS	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL 2022	TOTAL 2021
	£	£	£
<b>Audit fees</b>			
Audit of the financial statements	10,260	10,260	8,180
Other fees paid to auditors	390	390	1,780
Legal fees	10,389	10,389	7,915
Other governance costs	21,746	21,746	5,646
	<b>42,785</b>	<b>42,785</b>	<b>23,521</b>

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022



## 9. Net incoming/outgoing resources

	2022	2021
Net incoming resources for the year include:	£	£
Audit fees	10,260	8,180
Other non-audit services	390	1,780
Depreciation of fixed assets	38,226	30,669
Amortisation	46,336	35,643

## 10. Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

Trustee expenses were borne by the Charity on behalf of 4 Trustees (2021:1) in the year and totalled £628 (2021: £11).

The expenses were for travel, subsistence for Trustee meetings and events and were paid via a staff credit card. In addition costs of £235 were incurred in the prior year for subsistence for Trustees meetings.

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# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022



## 11. Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2022	2021
<b>Staff costs during the year were:</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	858,305	654,474
Social security costs	83,127	57,494
Pension costs	20,467	15,814
Settlement payments	12,040	6,500
Other staff costs	78,335	17,410
Freelance staff	18,278	20,947
	<b>1,070,552</b>	<b>772,639</b>

The obligations in connection to the settlement payments were fulfilled within the year ending 31st December 2022.

	2021	2020
The monthly average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was as follows:	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
Average monthly headcount	28	24

The pension contribution expense has been split between restricted and unrestricted funds on the basis of employee time spent on restricted projects. Where employee time could not be directly allocated to restricted projects, the time has been split on the basis of the direct costs allocated between restricted and unrestricted funds. The pension contribution liability has been split on the basis of the total salary costs split allocated between restricted and unrestricted funds.

	2022	2021
The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
£60,001 - £70,000	2	1

The total cost of employment of the key management personnel of the charity, being the Chief Executive Officer and the two Acting Chief Executive Officers were £192,491 (2021 - £80,639). In the prior year only the Chief Executive Officer salary was included in this total.

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022



## 12. Intangible fixed assets

	WEBSITE, DATABASE AND APP	TOTAL
<b>Cost</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
At 1 January 2022	177,323	177,323
Additions	130,495	130,495
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<b>307,818</b>	<b>307,818</b>
<b>Amortisation</b>		
At 1 January 2022	82,289	82,289
Charge for the year	46,336	46,336
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<b>128,625</b>	<b>128,625</b>
<b>Net book value</b>		
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<b>179,193</b>	<b>179,193</b>
<b>At 31 December 2021</b>	<b>95,034</b>	<b>95,034</b>

## 13. Tangible fixed assets

	LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS	FIXTURES, FITTINGS AND EQUIPMENT	MOTOR VEHICLES	TOTAL
<b>Cost</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
At 1 January 2022	47,006	86,010	13,912	146,928
Additions	-	23,116	29,297	52,413
Disposals	-	(1,890)	-	(1,890)
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<b>47,006</b>	<b>107,236</b>	<b>43,209</b>	<b>197,451</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 January 2022	15,801	48,566	12,606	76,973
Charge for the year	16,538	18,931	2,757	38,226
Eliminated on disposals	-	(1,890)	-	(1,890)
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<b>32,339</b>	<b>65,607</b>	<b>15,363</b>	<b>113,309</b>
<b>Net book value</b>				
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<b>14,667</b>	<b>41,629</b>	<b>27,846</b>	<b>84,142</b>
<b>At 31 December 2021</b>	<b>31,205</b>	<b>37,444</b>	<b>1,306</b>	<b>69,955</b>

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022



## 14. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	8,257	10,194
Prepayments	35,503	13,897
Accrued income	26,732	53,931
Other debtors	1,078	2,037
	<b>71,570</b>	<b>80,059</b>

## 15. Cash and cash equivalents

	2022	2021
	£	£
Cash at bank	3,001	3,000
Short-term deposits	2,383,441	1,916,545
Other cash and cash equivalents	65,311	5,168
	<b>2,451,753</b>	<b>1,924,713</b>

## 16. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	49,773	9,367
Other taxation and social security	38,647	6,181
VAT Liability	11,589	8,696
Other creditors	11,360	5,081
Accruals	19,444	17,283
Deferred income	118,333	-
	<b>249,146</b>	<b>46,608</b>

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022



## 17. Deferred Income

Deferred income comprises grant monies received where the grant agreement conditions specify a time period post 31 December 2022 over which the expenditure of the grant is to take place.

	2022	2021
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 January 2022	-	350,696
Resources deferred in the period	118,333	-
Amounts released from previous periods	-	(350,696)
<b>Deferred income at year end</b>	<b>118,333</b>	<b>-</b>

	2022	2021
	£	£
Deferred Income (by Grant):		
Esmee Fairbairn Grant	33,333	-
People's Post Code Lottery Grant	75,000	-
Iceland Foods Charitable Foundation Plastic Free Awards Sponsorship	10,000	-
<b>Total amounts due within 1 year</b>	<b>118,333</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total amounts due within 2-5 years</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Deferred Income</b>	<b>118,333</b>	<b>-</b>

## 18. Other financial commitments

### Operating leases

At the year end the company had total commitments under non-cancellable operating leases of £5,285 (2021 - £7,366). Of which £5,111 due in one year and £174 in 2 to 5 years.

## 19. Contingent assets

In 2019 the charity was given a piece of art in relation to the Royal Wedding. In 2020 the charity received two unique surfboards. It is not possible to place a reliable value on either of the items and therefore they will be recognised when they are sold at auction in due course.



# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022



## 20. Funds

	BALANCE AT 1 JANUARY 2022	INCOMING RESOURCES	RESOURCES EXPENDED	BALANCE AT 31 DECEMBER 2022
<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>General</b>				
General Reserves	2,013,497	2,212,408	(1,873,088)	2,352,817
<b>Total Unrestricted</b>	<b>2,013,497</b>	<b>2,212,408</b>	<b>(1,873,088)</b>	<b>2,352,817</b>
<b>Restricted</b>				
Plastic Free Schools	6,889	102,111	(105,670)	3,330
Ocean School	-	40,389	(40,389)	-
Million Mile Clean (Beach Clean Series in 2020)	2,442	124,841	(125,818)	1,465
Plastic Free Communities	13,293	10,000	(15,716)	7,577
Reps Programme	-	25,000	(25,000)	-
Water Quality	12,032	58,553	(68,127)	2,458
Communications	-	33,750	(33,750)	-
Volunteers conference	-	240	(240)	-
Systems	75,000	44,760	-	119,760
Fundraising	-	15,000	(15,000)	-
Operations	-	116,250	(66,145)	50,105
<b>Total restricted</b>	<b>109,656</b>	<b>570,894</b>	<b>(495,855)</b>	<b>184,695</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>2,123,153</b>	<b>2,783,302</b>	<b>(2,368,943)</b>	<b>2,537,512</b>

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# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022



## 20. Funds (continued)

	BALANCE AT 1 JANUARY 2021	INCOMING RESOURCES	RESOURCES EXPENDED	BALANCE AT 31 DECEMBER 2021
Unrestricted	£	£	£	£
<i>General</i>				
General Reserves	1,535,789	1,889,895	(1,412,187)	2,013,497
<b>Total unrestricted</b>	<b>1,535,789</b>	<b>1,889,895</b>	<b>(1,412,187)</b>	<b>2,013,497</b>
<i>Restricted</i>				
Plastic Free Schools	71,324	60,121	(124,556)	6,889
Ocean School	-	17,450	(17,450)	-
Million Mile Clean (Beach Clean Series in 2020)	10,500	105,145	(113,203)	2,442
Plastic Free Communities	30,965	83,381	(101,053)	13,293
Plastic Free Awards	20,041	-	(20,041)	-
Reps Programme	18,794	30,363	(49,157)	-
Ocean & Climate	-	20,000	(20,000)	-
Water Quality	27,306	48,500	(63,774)	12,032
APPG	-	25,043	(25,043)	-
Communications	-	55,000	(55,000)	-
Ocean recovery	-	35,000	(35,000)	-
Systems	-	75,000	-	75,000
<b>Total restricted</b>	<b>178,930</b>	<b>555,003</b>	<b>(624,277)</b>	<b>109,656</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>1,714,719</b>	<b>2,444,898</b>	<b>(2,036,464)</b>	<b>2,123,153</b>

Continued overleaf >

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022



## Funds in 2022

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

**Plastic Free Schools** – focuses on tackling society's over reliance on single-use plastic, encouraging students up to the age of 16 to take direct positive action to reduce their school's single-use plastic footprint. The programme invites schools and students to join the Single-Use Plastic Resistance movement, encouraging the rejection of single-use plastic bottles, straws, cutlery and other easy to eliminate items and advocating more recycling, and other systems (such as Deposit Return Systems) to protect our environment from the growing tide of plastic pollution. We engage students with creating solutions, campaigning to call for systems change and challenging established thinking to trap plastic in the recycling economy rather than the environment, or remove it completely.

**Ocean School** – is an immersive hands-on education programme designed by SAS to raise student's awareness of the plastic pollution problem in the places they love, and ask for their help to protect it. Ocean School provides students with the opportunity to explore, investigate and respond to the marine environment empowering them to embrace the vital part they play in protecting the places they love.

**Million Mile Clean (previously Beach Clean Series in prior period accounts)** – Created in direct response to the pandemic, our new campaign, the Million Mile Clean was designed to bring volunteers back together to protect the health of the environment, but also to help their own health and wellbeing as we emerged from another lockdown. After more than a year of isolation, social distancing and reduced physical activity, the Million Mile Clean reconnected communities with the environment, and brought the physical and mental wellbeing boost that beach cleans and community activities can provide. Our aim was to inspire 100,000 volunteers to commit to 10 miles of community cleaning in 2021 (beaches, rivers, green spaces and streets) to deliver a million miles by the end of the year.

**Plastic Free Communities** – is the UK's first and biggest grass-roots network aimed at eliminating the use of avoidable single-use plastics. We are doing this through direct community action aimed at reducing the availability of single-use plastics at source - in our homes, schools, businesses and highstreets. From the single objective of getting individuals and communities to reduce their consumption of single-use plastic items, we have developed a socially engaged project capable of accomplishing two distinct tasks: getting people to rethink their own use of avoidable plastics, and encouraging people to unite to tackle the problem collectively.

**Plastic Free Awards** – we have created the Plastic Free Awards, bringing together over 200 people for a prestigious night of recognition and celebration of the remarkable campaigners, entrepreneurs, community leaders, volunteers, youth activists and influencers leading the fight against plastic pollution from the beach front to the front benches of Parliament.

**Reps Programme** – Our Regional Representatives take a holistic approach to the protection of their local area, working with the community they organise beach cleans, deliver environmental education talks in schools, colleges and to community groups and liaise with local politicians to ensure SAS is represented politically in their area. SAS invests significantly in the training equipping and management of the Regional Representatives.

**Water Quality** – We campaign for a clean ocean, rivers and lakes for wildlife and people. We demand an end to sewage discharge into UK bathing waters by 2030. We have redeveloped and rebranded the Safer Seas and Rivers Service, an award-winning mobile app providing free, real-time water quality information to the public. It helps surfers, swimmers and other water users to track pollution events and real-time water quality information, allowing users to assess the risks of entering the water. We also publish our annual Water Quality Report, and continue our #EndSewagePollution petition.

**Communications** – We are committed to further enhancing and growing our communication expertise and capacity, to cover marketing, public relations, the media, social and digital platforms, and refining our brand consistency, messaging and presentation.

**Volunteers Conference** – The volunteers conference brings together our Regional Reps & Plastic Free Community Lead volunteers for an inspirational training event to develop their skills, network with other volunteers and to develop relationships with the core SAS team. The aim is to increase our environmental impact through highly engaged and trained volunteers.

**Systems** – As part of our aim to maintain an impactful, authentic and sustainable charity, we will invest in systems (website, CRM and digital) to become more efficient and effective, and to maximise the creation and conversion of Ocean Activists.

**Operations** – Funding from PPL for the development of our Operations Function was spent on the investment in the capacity of the team through the recruitment of a Director of HR & Operations, consultancy for the development of HR policies, a variety of training for the team and investment in an electric vehicle and scoping for solar photovoltaic and battery system for the SAS HQ to support our Net Zero ambitions.

**Fundraising** – Funding from PPL for the Fundraising Fund was spent on the development and delivery of SAS's first Mass Participation event - Dip A Day. The costs included the development of the concept, spend on social media to promote the event, the development and management of supporter (fundraiser) journeys and the procurement and fulfilment of incentives for fundraisers to participate.

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022



## 21. Analysis of net assets between funds

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022
	£	£	£
Intangible fixed assets	58,669	120,524	179,193
Tangible fixed assets	57,275	26,867	84,142
Current assets	2,359,211	164,112	2,523,323
Current liabilities	(122,338)	(126,808)	(249,146)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>2,352,817</b>	<b>184,695</b>	<b>2,537,512</b>

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021
	£	£	£
Intangible fixed assets	37,999	57,035	95,034
Tangible fixed assets	69,955	-	69,955
Current assets	1,952,151	52,621	2,004,772
Current liabilities	(46,608)	-	(46,608)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>2,013,497</b>	<b>109,656</b>	<b>2,123,153</b>

## 22. Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

### Iceland Charitable Foundation

(R Walker, a trustee is the joint managing director of Iceland Foods Group)

The foundation donated £62,000 (2021: £50,266) in the year. £50,000 was donated for the Million Mile Clean campaign and the remaining £12,000 (including VAT) was sponsorship for the Plastic Free Awards.. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Iceland Charitable Foundation was £Nil (2021 - £Nil).

### Little Turtle Turns the Tide

(L Davies, a Trustee, is the author of Little Turtle Turns the Tide)

An expense totalling £Nil (2021: £120) in respect of copies purchased for resale was incurred in the year. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Little Turtle Turns the Tide was £Nil (2021: £Nil).. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Little Turtle Turns the Tide was £Nil (2021 - £Nil).



**Surfers Against Sewage would like to thank all of our members, volunteers, supporters, fundraisers and legacy pledgers for their ongoing support for our campaigns and projects to protect the UK's marine environment. We'd also like to thank the following companies, organisations, foundations and individuals for their support in 2022.**

#### TRUSTS & FOUNDATIONS

People's Postcode Lottery,  
Postcode Earth Trust  
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation  
Moondance Foundation  
Flotilla Foundation  
Iceland Food Charitable Foundation  
Aurum Foundation  
Marisla Foundation  
Reed Foundation - Big Give Trust  
EQ Foundation grant  
MN & LV Jonas Charity Account  
Tomoro Foundation donation  
Windfall Foundation  
SIMA Environmental Fund  
(through CAF America)  
Operation Sea Change  
10% For The Ocean  
29th May 1961 Charitable Trust  
Albert van den Bergh Trust  
Alexander Hoare Trust  
Artemis Charitable Foundation  
AXA Community Grant Scheme  
Bay Tree Trust  
Belvedere Trust  
BL Family Foundation  
Carpenter Charitable Trust  
Cholmeley Lodge Benevolent Fund  
Cliveden Trust  
Cobb Charity  
Coco Joelle Foundation  
Coutts  
Craignish Trust  
CVC Capital Partners Foundation  
Douglas Heath Eves Trust  
Dot Foundation  
Ettrick Charitable Trust  
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust  
Fitton Trust  
Four Burrows Solar Farm – Beach Cleans  
G C Gibson Trust  
Generation Foundation  
GEREFA (Alan & Karen Grieve)  
Charitable Trust  
Henhurst Charitable Trust  
Henry C Hoare Charitable Trust  
Hobson Charity  
John Horseman Trust  
Joseph Strong Frazer Trust  
Lady Yuen Peng McNiece  
Lalonde Trust

Leach Fourteenth Trust  
Mabel Cooper Charitable Trust  
M J Camp Charitable Foundation  
Martin Wills Wildlife Maint Trust  
Maurits, Mulder Canter Charity  
Meikle Foundation  
Miel de Botton Charitable Trust  
Millichope Foundation  
Nebulus Trust - CAF Donation  
Newcore Foundation  
Paul Foundation  
Percy Hedley 1990 Charitable Trust  
Pride Brighton & Hove  
Ratcliff Foundation  
Sapient Foundation  
Sirrom Charitable Trust  
Swinton Charitable Trust  
Swire Charitable Trust  
Tanner Trust  
Tayfield Foundation  
TD Paton Trust  
Thomas Lilley Memorial Trust  
Tides Foundation/ Patagonia Grants Fund  
TST Charity  
Two for the Trails  
Tyldesley Charitable Trust  
Vandervell Foundation  
Whitaker Charitable Trust  
Willam Dean Trust

#### COMPANIES & INDIVIDUALS

Our Ocean Network supporters  
Kurt & Caroline Jackson  
Knight Frank  
L'Occitane  
Parley for the Oceans  
Turnstyle Designs  
Michael O'Mara Books  
Advent of Change  
Dryrobe  
Adyen  
Vision Nine  
SunGod  
Firewire  
Finisterre  
Hydroflask  
Patagonia  
Stephens Scown LLP  
Ocean Film Festival  
G M Wilson Solicitors  
Good Loops





**Surfers Against Sewage**

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