

Charity registration number 1154348 (England and Wales)

Company registration number 07986475

**BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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<b>Trustees</b>	Mr D W Atkin Mr P C Coleman-Smith Dr J B Greaves Mr T R Kjeldsen Professor R A Skeffington Mr K Adams Miss K Thackray	(Appointed 28 October 2024) (Appointed 28 April 2025)
<b>Secretary</b>	Mr P C Coleman-Smith	
<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>	Mr S Hunter	
<b>Charity number</b>	1154348	
<b>Company number</b>	07986475	
<b>Registered office</b>	The Oakley Kidderminster Road Droitwich Worcestershire WR9 9AY	
<b>Independent examiner</b>	Colm McGrory The Oakley Kidderminster Road Droitwich Worcestershire WR9 9AY	
<b>Bankers</b>	Tridos Bank Deanery Road Bristol BS1 5AS  Lloyds Bank plc PO Box 1000 BX1 1LT	

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# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

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# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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### A word from the Chair

It is my great pleasure to reflect on another remarkable year of progress and impact at Bristol Avon Rivers Trust (BART). Each year, the Trust continues to grow - not just in size and scope, but in the depth of its influence across the catchment. The past twelve months have been no exception.

This year, the team has expanded towards 20 dedicated professionals, supported by a thriving network of volunteers and partners. Together, they have delivered an extraordinary range of projects - from habitat restoration and natural flood management to citizen science and community engagement. These initiatives have not only improved the ecological health of our rivers and streams but have also deepened public connection to the natural world.

The Trust's work with farmers through the Chew, Cam & Wellow Farm Cluster now spans over 1,000 hectares, identifying hundreds of opportunities for riparian enhancement. Our citizen science programmes, including Riverfly, River Detectives, and RiverBlitz, have reached full capacity, with over 200 active volunteer sites and thousands of data points collected to inform action. These efforts are not just impressive in scale - they are transformative in their outcomes.

Financially, BART continues to demonstrate resilience and strategic foresight. Increased confidence from funders and partners has enabled the Trust to build reserves, diversify income, and plan for long-term sustainability. The development of RiverHub, our centralised data platform, is a testament to our commitment to transparency, collaboration, and innovation.

Governance has also strengthened, with the Board expanding to six Trustees, bringing new expertise and sharper oversight. Our focus has remained on supporting the CEO, refining policy, and ensuring robust risk management - particularly in areas such as health and safety, data protection and financial planning.

As Chair, I am immensely proud of the team's achievements and the values that underpin their work: integrity, professionalism, and a willingness to get hands dirty in pursuit of lasting environmental change. BART's reputation as a trusted partner, intermediary between communities, local government, statutory agencies and businesses, and as the deliverer of choice continues to grow.

Looking ahead, the Trust is poised for another year of ambitious delivery. From weir removals, river restoration and eDNA monitoring to expanded farm engagement, education and community engagement, the pipeline is rich with opportunity. I invite you to explore the pages of this report and join us in celebrating the people, partnerships, and projects that make BART such a vital force for good.



.....  
Dr J B Greaves  
Chairman

Date: .....07/11/25



# **BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity memorandum and articles of association, the Companies Act 2006 and "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).

#### **Welcome from the Chief Executive**

This past year has been one of growth, collaboration, and continued commitment to our mission of restoring and protecting the rivers of the Bristol Avon catchment.

BART has developed from its grassroots beginnings into a trusted and ambitious organisation, delivering multi-benefit projects that improve water quality, enhance habitats, and connect communities with their rivers. In 2025, we have strengthened partnerships with landowners, local authorities, government agencies, and businesses, ensuring that our collective efforts continue to deliver positive outcomes for wildlife and people.

Our work is only possible thanks to the dedication of our staff, trustees, volunteers, and the many supporters who share our vision for healthy rivers. I am immensely proud of what we have achieved together and of the impact we are making across the catchment.

As the climate and ecological challenges facing our rivers become ever more pressing, BART remains determined to play its part in building resilient ecosystems and inspiring communities to value and protect the freshwater environment. These accounts reflect not only our financial stewardship, but also the trust placed in us by funders and partners to deliver meaningful change.

Thank you to all who continue to support BART's work. Together, we are ensuring a future where the rivers of the Bristol Avon are healthier, more resilient, and better connected for generations to come.

Simon Hunter  
Chief Executive Officer

# **BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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### **Objectives and activities**

#### **a. Legal Purpose Charitable Objectives**

The charitable objectives of the Trust set out in the Memorandum and articles of association are:

To conserve, protect, rehabilitate and improve rivers streams, watercourses and water impoundments of the catchments comprising the Bristol Avon and South Gloucestershire streams including adjacent estuarine areas, for the advancement of environmental protection or improvement for the benefit of the public.

To advance the education of the public or any association, institution, voluntary organisation, company, local authority or representative body in:

a) The understanding of rivers, river corridors and river catchments including their fauna, biochemistry, economic or social activity and river management.

b) The need for, and benefits of, conservation, protection, rehabilitation and improvement of aquatic environments.

The Trusts objectives correspond with the charitable purposes of advancing environmental protection and the advancement of education as described in the Charities Act 2011. The Trust's activities meet the two key principles of public benefit as follows:

**Principle 1.** There must be identifiable benefits which are clear, related to the aims and balanced against any detriment or harm.

**Principle 2.** The benefits must be appropriate to the aims and available to the public or section of the public and private benefits must be incidental.

The Trust's work meets principle 1 through bringing about physical change to the rivers and streams with the catchment through improvement to in stream riparian habitat and by working with the formal catchment partnership to influence plans and strategies involving water quality within the catchment to ensure that environmental outcomes are represented within such plans. The Trust further works throughout the catchment to share these plans at local and community level. The Trust's work aims to provide ecosystem services benefits to the public through improving water quality, preserving the habitat and food sources of endangered species, conserving the environment and providing education about the aquatic environment to community groups and schools.

The Trust's work meets principle 2 through improving water quality and the natural environment for the benefit of all. These include users of water in home and business, leisure users, and communities who live by the river as well as schools and outreach organisations and volunteers using the river to improve levels of wellbeing in the community.

# **BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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### **b. Aims and Activities to Support Objectives**

The Trust aims to protect, restore and enhance the rivers, streams and riparian habitat, within the Bristol Avon Catchment. It aims to achieve this by working at all levels from local projects to catchment wide initiatives and at all educational levels from primary schools to university, and through national initiatives such as run by the Riverfly Partnership, providing at all times that our mutual objectives are complementary. Our principal aims are described by the following activity headings.

#### **River & Land Management**

We aim to protect and restore rivers that have suffered damage or whose habitats are under threat. Activities range from restoring spawning gravels and improving fish passage to working with the farming community to improve soil management practices where these detrimentally affect our rivers and streams.

#### **Education**

We work with schools, universities and community groups to engage people with their river and help them learn about the challenge their rivers face in our modern world. We help groups play an active role in looking after their local river through projects and citizen science. We aim to influence local policy and plans using our local knowledge and through our membership of the Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership and our relationships with other key agencies and utilities.

#### **Partnership working**

The nature of the Trust's work is that partnership working, and public engagement are essential to delivery. The Trust often works as a facilitator providing vision and finance for projects and bringing together the necessary skills from a range of other organisations. Partnerships are formed for several reasons – working at catchment level with the Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership, or within an individual project where skills do not exist within the Trust.

The Trust has continued to be a member of the Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership, a partnership set up to co-ordinate the efforts of multiple partners in improving water quality for the benefit of people and wildlife. The Trust contributes considerable in-kind contributions in time and through raising funds to support catchment partnership projects.

The Trust is also a Board Member of the West of England Nature Partnership where it provides a voice for water and is working to integrate aquatic ecosystems into nature's recovery.

#### **Significant activities**

Throughout the year, the Trust has secured funding from various sources, empowering it to spearhead numerous initiatives and collaborative projects. These endeavours have encompassed a wide array of activities, yielding benefits for both the public and the environment.



# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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In light of the influx of additional funding opportunities, the team has adeptly accelerated its efforts to deliver for its charitable objectives. This proactive approach has enabled the Trust to make substantial strides towards achieving our objectives and has left a lasting impact on the catchment. This year the team has increased in size, to 15 paid members of the team, with further growth anticipated for 2025/26.

Among the most noteworthy operational achievements are:

- **During the winter of 2024/25, the team carried out habitat restoration and natural flood management across several sub-catchments**, including the Bristol Frome, River Chew, Cam Brook, Little Avon, and Sherston Avon. Activities included wetland creation, leaky dams, wildlife ponds, and river habitat restoration. These efforts enhance catchment resilience to flooding, climate change, and biodiversity loss, while also improving water quality and creating better "blue" spaces for public enjoyment.
- **Chew, Cam & Wellow Farm Cluster – Establishment and Progress.** Over the past year, the Trust has successfully established and continues to coordinate the Chew, Cam & Wellow Farm Cluster, supporting landowners across the Chew, Cam, Wellow, and Somer catchments. Since its launch last year, the Chew Cam and Wellow Farm Cluster has been steadily growing, and we now have over 50 members, covering over 1000ha of land.

Our work focuses on improving water quality, enhancing biodiversity, and implementing natural flood management practices. Through on-the-ground engagement, the Trust's farm team has identified more than 300 opportunities for riparian enhancements throughout the catchments. We are now preparing to support farmers in applying for local Nature Recovery Grants to help bring these improvements to fruition. In parallel, our Free Farmer Training Grant has been positively received, with funding allocated for a range of practical courses including chainsaw operation, permaculture design, and regenerative soil management. These opportunities have provided farmers with valuable skills that support both environmental outcomes and the long-term sustainability of their businesses.

## BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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#### Volunteering at Bristol Avon Rivers Trust

Volunteering with BART offers individuals the opportunity to contribute to river conservation through a range of citizen science programmes and practical, hands-on activities. Volunteers play a vital role in initiatives such as riverfly monitoring, where they collect and report data on river health, and the River Detectives programme, which fosters community engagement and education around river stewardship. Through their efforts, BART's volunteers help gather essential data, enhance river ecosystems, and strengthen local support for long-term conservation.

Over the past 12 months, BART's volunteering programmes have seen substantial growth, driven by new funding and a strong partnership with Wessex Water. This collaboration has enabled us to provide increased training and coordination, responding to a growing public awareness and interest in the condition of local rivers. The Trust has supported its expanding monitoring network through the Riverfly Partnership, BART Beacon, Water Guardians, River Detectives, delivering numerous training sessions and maintaining over 200 active volunteer sites across the Bristol Avon catchment.

The 2024/25 training sessions have resulted in new watercourses being monitored and the expansion of existing monitoring locations. BART also continues to deliver its SmartRivers invertebrate monitoring programme, which supports detailed ecological assessments of the Chew, Cam, and Wellow Brooks.

To ensure the effective sharing and visualisation of the data collected by both volunteers and water industry partners, BART has developed a centralised data platform under the RiverHub project. RiverHub serves as an umbrella for several of BART's citizen science initiatives.

The River Detectives programme continues to grow, with new volunteers joining from South Gloucestershire and Bath, enhancing our understanding of water quality in these areas. Additional Riverfly training has been delivered, and the number of Water Guardians has increased accordingly. To support our growing volunteer network, BART has hosted a series of engagement events and circulates a monthly volunteer newsletter.

With these efforts, BART's citizen science programme is now operating at full capacity. Any future expansion will be considered as part of a planned second phase of the project, anticipated to begin in November 2025.



Image: BART Volunteers, visiting a nature-based solution scheme delivered by BART



## BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

#### Achievements and Performance

To protect and enhance the Avon catchment, BART continues to work collaboratively with a wide range of stakeholders, including farmers and landowners, community groups, environmental charities, the Environment Agency, local authorities, the water industry and businesses. Priorities for key Avon tributaries have been identified in partnership with these stakeholders and aligned with national policy. The Trust remains committed to delivering high-quality, effective projects that meet environmental objectives, represent good value for money, and bring broader benefits to both people and nature.

Over the past year, one of the Trust's key achievements has been the continued expansion of its citizen science and volunteering programmes, alongside the development of RiverHub - a new centralised data platform. Through programmes like Riverfly, River Detectives, and Water Guardians, volunteers regularly monitor the health of local rivers and streams. Their data has not only enhanced our understanding of river conditions, but in several cases, has led to further investigations and action by the Environment Agency and local authorities.

The Trust has also continued to play a central role in the Resilient Frome Partnership, contributing as a key delivery partner to the Natural Flood Management (NFM) Project Steering Group and delivering NFM interventions on the ground. Funded through Defra's £200 million Flood and Coastal Innovation Programmes and managed by the Environment Agency, this work supports innovation in flood and coastal resilience and helps communities adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Governance also remains a strong focus, with BART's Trustees actively overseeing and reviewing risks, policies, controls and data/events to ensure robust organisational management.



#### Charitable activities

To ensure the vitality of our region's freshwater environments, our teams are dedicated to a range of areas, including community and volunteer engagement, land and river management, river monitoring, mapping, communications, fundraising, finance, HR, IT, and beyond.

Our staff is deeply committed to enhancing riverine and estuarine ecosystems, which ultimately support the health of marine environments. Below, we highlight some of the remarkable achievements from 2024/25 that have strengthened the health of our rivers, streams, and watercourses.

Continue reading to discover the positive impact our charity has made through various projects on the region's rivers:

## BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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#### Improving watercourses to support wildlife:

##### Eelstream - Linking the Levels

The South Gloucestershire Levels, which run from Oldbury down to New Passage are a delightful mosaic of drainage ditches (rhines), ridge and furrow pasture systems, hedgerows and mature trees, that should provide ideal habitat for European Eel. Recent surveys, however, show only a very sparse distribution of these species. For European Eel, this is a sad issue of > 90% decrease in numbers from 1980.



Image: existing wetland habitat adjacent to the Severn Estuary; photo of European elvers taken from one of BART's educational activities "Eels in the classroom"

Entry of critically endangered European eel in the network of rhines and ditches is via a set of tidal gates located at the mouth of the Estuary. Working with the Environment Agency, we have the barriers have not been maintained since installation (12 years ago) so we are pursuing with a view to improve their function, which should lead to improved fish migration inland.

The next obstacles to fish movement inland include a series of weirs and culverts leading into the rhine and ditch system. These have been mapped along with opportunities to aid fish passage which have been identified by a team of BART surveyors covering over 33 km of the rhine and ditch system. Opportunities to create new natural flood management and wetland features have also been mapped. The project is now engaging with landowners to identify where sites for these projects can be bought forward.

This is leading into a costed programme of investment, led by South Gloucestershire Council, to take forward to improve habitat for the important species of this system, along with some quick win projects for more immediate delivery.



## BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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#### Restoring habitat along the Bristol Frome

In February 2025, we successfully completed a series of Natural Flood Management (NFM) interventions within the Bristol Frome Catchment, delivered through the 'Resilient Frome' project. These works are designed to restore more natural flow patterns in heavily modified urban tributaries and implement nature-based flood management solutions across North Bristol.

The Bristol Frome catchment spans both rural and urban areas, including North Bristol, Winterbourne, Frampton Cotterell, and Yate. Much of the river currently holds 'Poor' or 'Moderate' ecological status under the Water Framework Directive and is highly responsive to rainfall, with flash flooding a common issue - particularly in lower sections.

Despite these pressures, the catchment includes valuable green spaces such as Leap Valley and Three Brooks Nature Reserve, which are cared for by active local groups and serve as important community assets for wildlife and recreation.

To address ecological and flood challenges, BART has implemented natural flood management features at these sites, including a series of in-channel woody berms. These structures encourage meandering, create diverse flow conditions that benefit fish and invertebrates, and provide refuge for wildlife. Over time, the berms will trap silt, support vegetation, and help slow the flow of water downstream - delivering multiple environmental benefits in one solution.



Image: After installation of berm along the right-hand bank; construction of a "leaky dam" with support from volunteers.

Thank you to the Three Brooks Nature Conservation Group, Friends of Leap Valley, South Gloucestershire Council and Badminton Road Methodist Church for working with us on this project.

## BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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#### Community Engagement:

##### South Bristol Our Blue Spaces project.

Rain planters, river trips, pavement art and bustling community events were all part of the South Bristol Our Blue Spaces project which finished in March 2025. School children and communities enjoyed varied and fun ways to learn about and connect with the streams flowing through South Bristol, which provide valuable blue space in this very urban area.

Three schools took part with 720 children attending the sessions BART delivered. Children learnt about their local rivers and how they can help look after them in interactive assemblies, classroom workshops and river trips. Two of the schools had rain planters installed with the help of children from one school's 'Green Team' and the other's nursery group.



Image: BART led school workshop

As part of its commitment to engaging local communities, BART delivered a variety of interactive and educational activities across South Bristol. These included river-themed fun days, family LEGO workshops where children designed river-friendly homes, community stalls at local festivals, guided river dipping sessions, and organised litter picks along watercourses.

Alongside the fantastic outreach led by BART's Community Engagement Team, the Trust also conducted SmartRivers ecological monitoring at five sites across South Bristol. Invertebrate samples were collected during autumn 2024 and spring 2025 on Colliters Brook, Pigeonhouse Stream, Malago Brook, and Brislington Brook. The data, currently being analysed, will offer important insights into the health and ecological condition of these urban watercourses and help guide future restoration and engagement work.

Thank you to the John Lewis Spedan Foundation for funding the project.



Image: Students undertaking a river dip to see what's living in their local river, and a rain planter installed by BART working with a school in South Bristol



## BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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#### Bristol Frome Catchment - Community Engagement and Education Programme

BART has a long-standing relationship with the Environment Agency's Water Environment Improvement Fund, which has supported the delivery of river restoration, education, and community engagement across the Bristol Frome catchment. The most recent phase of this work has now concluded and proved to be another great success.

This latest programme focused heavily on community engagement, education, and landowner outreach. Thirteen schools took part in a range of activities – from workshops on sustainable water use to caring for and releasing endangered European eels and even attending an interactive engagement day at the University of Bristol.

To amplify key messages, BART partnered with local art students to create eye-catching pavement art reminding the public that *"only rain down the drain."* These visuals quickly gained traction on local social media channels, raising awareness across the wider Bristol Avon catchment.

In addition to school outreach, BART took part in a number of community events. These included a presence at the Chipping Sodbury Eat Festival, a guided walk and talk with 30 members of the Gloucester Road Women's Institute, and a half-term nature activity session at Three Brooks Reserve. These events have helped deepen community connections and build broader support for river health and conservation efforts.



Image: pupils identifying the invertebrates that live in their local river, and artwork commissioned through the Only Rain Down the Drain programme.

BART also spent time engaging local landowners, providing advisory visits and created three farm plans providing advice about managing land and water more sustainably.

Thank you to the Environment Agency for funding this valuable work.

# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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### Empowering Communities to Explore and Protect Local Waterways:

#### Bristol Avon RiverBlitz 2024

Bristol Avon RiverBlitz is an annual citizen science initiative organised by the Bristol Avon Rivers Trust (BART) that captures a snapshot of water quality and ecological health in rivers and streams across the catchment. Using affordable test strips, participants of all ages and backgrounds are empowered to connect with their local watercourses and take an active role in safeguarding their natural environment.

#### Key Highlights of RiverBlitz:

- **Inclusive Participation:** RiverBlitz encourages community involvement by making it easy for everyone to participate, regardless of age or background. This initiative fosters a sense of connection to local rivers and streams and raises awareness about the importance of protecting these vital ecosystems.
- **Data Collection and Analysis:** By collecting data during RiverBlitz events, BART has been able to pinpoint areas with both good and poor water quality. This information helps to identify pollution sources and prioritize areas for further investigation and monitoring.
- **Historical and Comparative Insights:** BART's data platform, associated with RiverBlitz, enables comparisons across different years (dating back to 2016) and locations. This feature provides a comprehensive view of water quality trends over time and across various parts of the catchment.
- **Targeted Monitoring:** Insights from RiverBlitz inform targeted, more detailed, and frequent monitoring through other citizen science programs. This strategic approach enhances the effectiveness of BART's efforts to improve water quality in the catchment.

Through initiatives like RiverBlitz, BART continues to engage and empower communities, fostering a collaborative effort to monitor and enhance the health of local water ecosystems.



Image: One of many families participating in the 2024 Bristol Avon RiverBlitz



# **BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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### **A Practical and Honest role**

Bristol Avon Rivers Trust was founded as an active organisation, and we are not afraid to get our hands dirty and feet wet in order to make lasting improvements to the river and its species. We have grown in size, knowledge, and reputation over the past year to become a respected leading actor in environmental conservation in the Bristol Avon Catchment, but we have always remained faithful to our founders' ethos.

Bristol Avon Rivers Trust continues to act as a trusted intermediary between government and business, and the general public.

- We will continue to collaborate with all parties to achieve the best possible outcomes for the environment, wildlife and communities;
- We will hold ourselves to the highest standards of best practise, scientific understanding, excellence and professionalism; and
- We will continue to build trust from our partners, stakeholders, customers and supporters.

These pillars will support the standards of excellence and integrity that the Trust has built, enabling us to make a real difference for which we strive.

### **Financial review**

BART monitors financial performance through key indicators including a rolling cash flow forecast, movement in restricted and unrestricted funds, and working capital. These metrics are reviewed regularly as part of the Trust's financial reporting processes.

Growing confidence from funders, driven by the Trust's strong delivery record, has contributed to increased reserves and a robust pipeline of future projects. The CEO has worked closely with Trustees through quarterly financial reviews to ensure a strong focus on delivery is maintained across all operations. Income diversification through BART River Services Ltd has also strengthened the Trust's financial resilience.

Strategic planning is closely aligned with budgeting, led by the CEO, Head of Operations, and Finance Manager. Financial control is supported by the use of Xero, providing a robust framework for financial management. However, high inflation over the past year has placed pressure on capital budgets. In response, contractual commitments are regularly reviewed, and inflationary costs are factored into multi-year project planning.

Despite wider economic uncertainty, the Trust has a healthy volume of contracted work for the coming year and expects further projects to be confirmed within the first three quarters. Trustees remain optimistic about the organisation's financial trajectory.

BART remains committed to using its reserves to advance its charitable objectives, with a strong focus on sustaining and developing its workforce. The Trust's reserves policy ensures that funds are maintained at an appropriate level to meet future needs, based on prudent financial planning.

The attached financial statements include provisions for deferred income where project-related invoices have not yet been received.

### **Reserves policy**

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between twelve and eighteen month's expenditure. The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

# **BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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### **Plans for future periods**

The Trust is committed to continuing its efforts to achieve its goals in a professional and safe manner. The future looks promising, with a wide range of projects planned for the upcoming fiscal year. These include creating Natural Flood Management scheme near Malmesbury, eDNA fish monitoring, multiple reach-scale river habitat restoration programs across the catchment, several weir removals / easements, citizen science training events, scaling up our working with farms, and invasive species control.

The Trust will remain an active member of the Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership and West of England Nature Partnership, contributing to strategic plans for improving the Bristol Avon at the catchment level and participating in partnership projects as they arise. Additionally, the Trust will continue to identify opportunities to provide education and advice on the river environment to schools and local community groups across the catchment.

The Trust will maintain its leadership in improving the River Chew and will extend similar efforts to the Cam & Wellow Brooks, Bristol Frome, and Upper Avon, and other rivers within the catchment as opportunities arise.

### **Structure, governance and management**

#### **Constitution**

The Trust is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 12 March 2012. The Trustees of the charity are also the directors of the company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006.

#### **Trustees**

The Trustees are responsible for the overall direction and charitable activities of the Trust and for ensuring the Trust complies with the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

#### **Selection and appointment of Trustees**

The introduction and recruitment of Trustees is by recommendation of existing Trustees and is made by personal contacts with other organisations or individuals with related environmental or river trust interests and appropriate skills. The Trust aims to maintain a broadly respected body of Trustees with sufficient experience to provide strong governance and add value to the Trusts decision making.

#### **Policies for the induction and training of Trustees**

New trustees receive an induction pack outlining their roles and responsibilities. Ongoing training needs are monitored by the Chair and CEO. The Board of Trustees also operates under a Code of Conduct.

#### **Pay policy for senior staff**

The Chair of Trustees benchmarks staff salaries and reviews them as needed, making adjustments where necessary.

#### **Organisational structure**

A formal delegation of powers has been developed and adopted to guide decision making. The Chief Executive Officer is in frequent contact with the Chair of the Trustees.

The Chair of the Trustees attends monthly meetings with the Chief Executive Officer and key project managers and staff to ensure satisfactory progress is being made and subsequently reports monthly to the Board using key agreed metrics and topics.

# **BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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### **Risk Management**

The Trustees have established systems to mitigate risk appropriate to the size of the charity with a focus on Finance and Health & Safety. Processes and procedures are reviewed annually by the Trustees and annual refreshment of Health & safety procedures takes place for all staff, Trustees and key volunteers. During the last year the Trustees have authorised expenditure to improve the Trust's Data Protection capabilities and centralised control of all documentation to avoid potential loss of Trust data and records.

### **Statement of trustees' responsibilities**

The Trustees, who are also the directors of Bristol Avon Rivers Trust for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



**Dr J B Greaves**  
**Chairman**

27 October 2025



# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

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I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Bristol Avon Rivers Trust (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

#### Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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



**Colm McGrory FCA**

Ormerod Rutter Limited  
The Oakley  
Kidderminster Road  
Droitwich  
Worcestershire  
WR9 9AY

Dated: 10/11/2025

# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
	Notes						
<b>Income from:</b>							
Donations and legacies	3	42,567	500	43,067	92,608	-	92,608
Charitable activities	4	249,907	576,113	826,020	126,055	361,288	487,343
Other trading activities	5	30,402	-	30,402	51,278	-	51,278
Investments	6	8,814	-	8,814	3,686	-	3,686
<b>Total income</b>		<b>331,690</b>	<b>576,613</b>	<b>908,303</b>	<b>273,627</b>	<b>361,288</b>	<b>634,915</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Charitable activities	7	266,990	583,507	850,497	196,786	375,517	572,303
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>266,990</b>	<b>583,507</b>	<b>850,497</b>	<b>196,786</b>	<b>375,517</b>	<b>572,303</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>64,700</b>	<b>(6,894)</b>	<b>57,806</b>	<b>76,841</b>	<b>(14,229)</b>	<b>62,612</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>							
		2,241	(2,241)	-	44,881	(44,881)	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	9	<b>66,941</b>	<b>(9,135)</b>	<b>57,806</b>	<b>121,722</b>	<b>(59,110)</b>	<b>62,612</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>							
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		328,126	10,524	338,650	206,404	69,634	276,038
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2025</b>		<b>395,067</b>	<b>1,389</b>	<b>396,456</b>	<b>328,126</b>	<b>10,524</b>	<b>338,650</b>

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

# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	13	5,319	2,860
Investments	14	1	1
		<u>5,320</u>	<u>2,861</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	15	170,587	122,316
Cash at bank and in hand		735,131	605,356
		<u>905,718</u>	<u>727,672</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	17	<u>(513,302)</u>	<u>(381,883)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>392,416</u>	<u>345,789</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>397,736</u>	<u>348,650</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	18	<u>(1,280)</u>	<u>(10,000)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u><u>396,456</u></u>	<u><u>338,650</u></u>
<b>The funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted income funds	20	1,389	10,524
Unrestricted funds	21	395,067	328,126
		<u><u>396,456</u></u>	<u><u>338,650</u></u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 27 October 2025

Dr J B Greaves  
Chairman

*Julian Greaves*

Mr K Adams  
Treasurer

*Keith Adams*

Company registration number 07986475 (England and Wales)

# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Cash generated from operations	27	133,481	195,913
<b>Investing activities</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(4,160)	(930)
Purchase of investments		-	(1)
Investment income received		8,814	3,686
<b>Net cash generated from investing activities</b>		4,654	2,755
<b>Financing activities</b>			
Repayment of bank loans		(8,360)	(8,000)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>		(8,360)	(8,000)
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>		129,775	190,668
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		605,356	414,688
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>		735,131	605,356



# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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### 1 Accounting policies

#### Charity Information

Bristol Avon Rivers Trust is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is The Oakley, Kiddeminster Road, Droitwich, Worcestershire, WR9 9AY.

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "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)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, [modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value]. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

#### 1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

#### 1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

#### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Plant and equipment	25% straight line
---------------------	-------------------

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

#### 1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the charity. Control is the power to govern the financial and operating policies of the entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

#### 1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

#### 1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

#### 1.10 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### **Basic financial assets**

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

#### **Basic financial liabilities**

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

#### 1.11 Taxation

The Charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

#### 1.12 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

#### 1.13 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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



# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### 3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and gifts	42,567	500	43,067	92,608	-	92,608

### 4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Charitable activities						
Charitable income	84,907	576,113	661,020	126,055	361,288	487,343
Other income	165,000	-	165,000	-	-	-
	249,907	576,113	826,020	126,055	361,288	487,343

#### Grants analysis

	Charitable activities 2025 £	Charitable activities 2024 £
South Gloucestershire Council	116,110	75,480
Wessex Water Services Ltd	130,843	70,973
Natural England	96,607	14,419
Halpin Trust	39,389	13,975
Environment Agency	101,418	128,936
Babcock International	-	11,250
Wiltshire Wildlife Trust	11,310	20,159
Bristol Water	20,289	21,726
Garfield Weston foundation	-	39,620
Mossy Earth	27,247	13,813
West of England Combined Authority	80,247	-
Other	37,559	76,992
	661,020	487,343

# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### 5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Non-charitable trading activities	24,553	-
Fundraising events	5,849	51,278
Other trading activities	30,402	51,278

### 6 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Interest receivable	8,814	3,686

### 7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Direct costs</b>				
Staff costs	421,708	-	421,708	318,605
Depreciation and impairment	1,701	-	1,701	1,517
Travel and subsistence	23,465	-	23,465	13,473
Equipment	58,109	-	58,109	34,852
External Services	149,504	-	149,504	82,825
Other	15,820	25,675	41,495	4,843
	670,307	25,675	695,982	456,115
<b>Share of support and governance costs (see note 8)</b>				
Support	140,484	-	140,484	102,635
Governance	14,031	-	14,031	13,553
	824,822	25,675	850,497	572,303
<b>Analysis by fund</b>				
Unrestricted funds	241,315	25,675	266,990	196,786
Restricted funds	583,507	-	583,507	375,517
	824,822	25,675	850,497	572,303

# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### 8 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs	95,624	70,569
Travel & subsistence	275	300
Recruitment	3,094	1,938
Building costs	4,471	2,547
Office running costs	31,465	14,617
Other costs	-	6,625
Staff training	5,555	6,039
Governance costs	14,031	13,553
	<u>154,515</u>	<u>116,188</u>

#### Analysed between:

Charitable activities	<u>154,515</u>	<u>116,188</u>
-----------------------	----------------	----------------

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Governance costs comprise:</b>		
Accountancy fees	8,463	10,360
Professional fees	3,128	1,043
Independent examination	2,250	2,150
Legal Costs	190	-
	<u>14,031</u>	<u>13,553</u>

### 9 Net movement in funds

	2025 £	2024 £
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements	2,250	2,150
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	<u>1,701</u>	<u>1,517</u>

### 10 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year (2024: Nil). There were no transactions with trustees during the year (2024: Nil).

### 11 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Employees	<u>14</u>	<u>11</u>

# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### 11 Employees

(Continued)

Employment costs	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	442,816	334,778
Social security costs	42,702	27,545
Other pension costs	31,814	26,851
	<u>517,332</u>	<u>389,174</u>

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000 is as follows:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
£70,001 to £80,000	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

#### Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Total remuneration	<u>139,044</u>	<u>114,323</u>

### 12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### 13 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and equipment £
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2024	6,817
Additions	4,160
	<u>10,977</u>
At 31 March 2025	
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>	
At 1 April 2024	3,957
Depreciation charged in the year	1,701
	<u>5,658</u>
At 31 March 2025	
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
At 31 March 2025	<u>5,319</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>2,860</u>

### 14 Fixed asset investments

	Other investments £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 April 2024 & 31 March 2025	1
	<u>1</u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
At 31 March 2025	<u>1</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>1</u>

### 15 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
Trade debtors	85,824	109,224
Prepayments and accrued income	84,763	13,092
	<u>170,587</u>	<u>122,316</u>

# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### 16 Loans and overdrafts

	2025 £	2024 £
Bank loans	9,640	18,000
Payable within one year	8,360	8,000
Payable after one year	1,280	10,000

### 17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Bank loans	16	8,360	8,000
Other taxation and social security		12,085	9,868
Trade creditors		16,395	43,836
Accruals and deferred income		476,462	320,179
		513,302	381,883

### 18 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Bank loans	16	1,280	10,000

### 19 Retirement benefit schemes

	2025 £	2024 £
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	31,814	26,851

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.



# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

#### 20 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
South Gouc Council: Bristol Frome NFM	157	3,891	(4,048)	-	-
Water Guardians	1,072	4,026	(5,098)	-	-
River Chew spawning trib river restoration	1,901	38,800	(40,701)	-	-
South Glouc. Council; Little Avon Berkeley Estate River Restoration	1,305	-	-	-	1,305
South Bristol Communities Reconnected	129	2,310	(2,439)	-	-
Eastern Gray Restoration Ph.1	122	589	(711)	-	-
Gauze Brook River Restoration	283	3,032	(3,315)	-	-
BACP:Our Blue Spaces	619	2,980	(3,599)	-	-
The Rivers Trust:ELM T&T	752	3,300	(4,052)	-	-
Malmesbury NFM Engagement River Marden Spays Farm	577	2,100	(2,677)	-	-
Siston Brook "Blue Opportunities"	2,002	-	(2,002)	-	-
SVR Wellow watercourse opportunities report	43	555	(598)	-	-
Cam Brook, Little Blew WEIF	62	660	(722)	-	-
Fish Passage in the Trym	92	-	(92)	-	-
Chew Water Voles	422	6,180	(6,602)	-	-
Various Funders: Tree Maintenance	-	2,200	(2,200)	-	-
Bristol & Chew Water Resources Project	-	2,733	(1,222)	(1,427)	84



# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

20	Restricted funds				(Continued)
	American Mink Monitoring	575	13,909	(14,484)	-
	S. Gloc. Highways Water Quality	-	16,473	(15,648)	(825)
	Species Recovery - Cam & Wellow	-	96,607	(96,602)	(6)
	Rivers for Wellbeing	411	5,985	(6,413)	16
	Limestone Link project	-	29,867	(29,867)	-
	Kenysham Wier WIEF 2024-6	-	34,101	(34,101)	-
	Keynsham Wier BANES CIL	-	10,490	(10,490)	-
	Bristol Frome WEIF 2024	-	22,218	(22,218)	-
	Marden Blue Corridor	-	1,434	(1,434)	-
	Chew & Cam Farm Clusters	-	80,247	(80,247)	-
	EelStream - Linking the Levels	-	43,641	(43,641)	-
	Calne WP Landowner Engagement	-	559	(559)	-
	Malmesbury NFM 24-25	-	27,031	(27,031)	-
	Highway Run-off – Smart Rivers	-	18,222	(18,222)	-
	WaterSpace Connected: Somerdale	-	9,913	(9,913)	-
	Little Avon FIP	-	4,120	(4,120)	-
	Bristol Frome NFM 2024	-	30,817	(30,817)	-
	Charlton Farm "Blue" Optioneering study	-	4,212	(4,212)	-
	EA Farm Management Animation	-	3,000	(3,000)	-
	Somer Valley Rediscovered Feasibility & Design	-	18,600	(18,600)	-
	BACP fund 24/25	-	8,690	(8,690)	-
	Wiltshire Rural Run-Off	-	11,311	(11,311)	-

# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### 20 Restricted funds (Continued)

Wilder Waterways 24/25	-	2,018	(2,018)	-	-
River Detectives - Flood Watch Wellow Valley	-	8,360	(8,360)	-	-
	<u>10,524</u>	<u>576,613</u>	<u>(583,507)</u>	<u>(2,241)</u>	<u>1,389</u>

### 21 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
General funds	<u>328,126</u>	<u>331,690</u>	<u>(266,990)</u>	<u>2,241</u>	<u>395,067</u>

### 22 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
<b>At 31 March 2025:</b>			
Tangible assets	5,319	-	5,319
Investments	1	-	1
Current assets/(liabilities)	391,027	1,389	392,416
Long term liabilities	(1,280)	-	(1,280)
	<u>395,067</u>	<u>1,389</u>	<u>396,456</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
<b>At 31 March 2024:</b>			
Tangible assets	2,860	-	2,860
Investments	1	-	1
Current assets/(liabilities)	335,265	10,524	345,789
Long term liabilities	(10,000)	-	(10,000)
	<u>328,126</u>	<u>10,524</u>	<u>338,650</u>

# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### 23 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).

### 24 Subsidiaries

These financial statements are separate charity financial statements for Bristol Avon Rivers Trust.

Details of the charity's subsidiaries at 31 March 2025 are as follows:

Name of undertaking	Registered office	Nature of business	Class of shares held	% Held	
				Direct	Indirect
BART River Services Ltd	The Oakley, Kidderminster Road, Droitwich, Worcestershire WR9 9AY	Environmental consulting	Ordinary share	100.00	

The aggregate capital and reserves and the result for the year of subsidiaries excluded from consolidation was as follows:

Name of undertaking	Profit/(Loss)	Capital and Reserves
	£	£
BART River Services Ltd	(709)	1,067

### 25 Limited company

The charity is a limited company but has taken advantage of the exemption available to dispense with the word 'limited' after its name.

### 26 Share capital

The charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee, and as such does not have share capital.

27 Cash generated from operations	2025 £	2024 £
Surplus for the year	57,806	62,612
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(8,814)	(3,686)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	1,701	1,517
<b>Movements in working capital:</b>		
(Increase) in debtors	(48,271)	(28,302)
Increase in creditors	131,059	163,772
<b>Cash generated from operations</b>	<b>133,481</b>	<b>195,913</b>



# BRISTOL AVON RIVERS TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### 28 Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 1 April 2024	Cash flows	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	605,356	129,775	735,131
Loans falling due within one year	(8,000)	(360)	(8,360)
Loans falling due after more than one year	(10,000)	8,720	(1,280)
	<u>587,356</u>	<u>138,135</u>	<u>725,491</u>