

Company registration number: 08834787
Charitable company registration number: 1157392

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 May 2023

Edmund Carr LLP
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor
146 New London Road
Chelmsford
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Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

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Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	A G Davies (to 4 October 2023) A E Ruggles-Brise (from 4 October 2023)
Trustees	A G Davies A Martin-Edwards C I McArthur (Vice-Chair to 4 October 2023) W H Robinson A E Ruggles-Brise A C J Wood J M Burch (Vice-Chair from 4 October 2023) D C D Dignum (resigned 4 October 2023) T L Arnold (appointed 4 October 2023) S L Morton (Treasurer) (appointed 4 October 2023) H C Wilkes (appointed 4 October 2023) A Woods (appointed 4 October 2023)
Secretary	A Woods
Registered Office	8 Gorse Road Reydon Southwold Suffolk IP18 6NQ The charitable company is incorporated in England & Wales.
Charitable company Registration Number	1157392
Company Registration Number	08834787
Bankers	CAF Bank 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
Independent Examiner	Colin Andrew Barker FCA Edmund Carr LLP 146 New London Road Chelmsford Essex CM2 0AW

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Trustees Report

The Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust is both a registered charity (number 1157392) and a registered company limited by guarantee (number 08834787). The Trustees, whose details are set out on page 1, are both Trustees of the charity and Directors of the company.

This document reports on the activities of the Trust in the year to 31 May 2023 and sets out the financial accounts of the company for the same period. It aims to satisfy the reporting requirements that apply to the Trust as both a charity and a company. This annual report also includes the requirements of a directors' report, as required by company law.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the Trust's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Charities Act 2011 and The Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Financial Reporting Standard 102), effective from January 2019.

Objectives and activities

Our objects for which the charity is established are:

- to conserve, protect, rehabilitate and improve the rivers, streams, watercourses, groundwaters and water impoundments of the catchments comprising the rivers in Essex and East Suffolk, including adjacent estuarine and coastal areas, for the advancement of environmental protection or improvement for the benefit of the public, and
- to advance the education of the public, or any institution, voluntary organisation, company, local authority or public body, in the understanding of rivers and their catchments, including the need for and the benefits of conservation, protection, rehabilitation and improvements of aquatic environments.

Review of activities and future developments

This year represents a significant increase in both the ambition and activity for the Trust. Our leadership of two catchment partnerships covering almost all our operational area (collaborative government endorsed river watershed planning and delivery groups) has positioned the Trust in an increasingly influential role in the fight to tackle the dual challenges around climate change and nature recovery. Locally and regionally the Trust is now recognised for its consistent delivery and thoughtful, considered leadership.

During this very successful year we:

- raised £269,632 in grants and donations.
- Carried out 27km of river surveys
- Restored 0.5 hectares/m2 of floodplain
- Restored over 500m of in-river habitat
- Planted over 300 trees
- led over 200 hours of volunteer activity, including Citizen Science work, litterpicks, invasive species control.
- Produced 4 catchment partnership newsletters, distributed to over 100 subscribers
- Built our online presence and increased our total follower count by 11.8% across 3 platforms (X/Twitter 4% increase, Facebook 7.55% increase and Instagram 62.2% increase).

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Trustees Report

We were saddened to hear in early 2022 of the serious illness of Brendan Joyce OBE, our first Director. He joined the Trust in 2020 and over two years made a significant contribution to the Trust's growth and standing. Brendan supported the Trust in recruiting a new Director before he stepped down from the position and we were delighted to be able to appoint Helen Dangerfield in September 2022.

In spring 2023, the Board went through an open recruitment process for new Board members in anticipation of planned retirements. New Board members were later formally appointed at the AGM on 4th October 2023.

Our strong and diverse Board provides advice and guidance to the staff team through the Director. Trustees come from consultancy, businesses, banking, agriculture, a water company and voluntary conservation bodies. The Board met quarterly during the year.

We thank all our Trustees, volunteers, partners and funders for their on-going support for the Trust in 2022/23. We move into the 2023/24 financial year with ambitious plans to further develop and implement new projects, extend our reach, engage with partners and local communities, grow the organisation, and deliver even more for the water environment.

We have a part-time Director (3 days), a full-time Administration and Communications Officer and a full-time Project and Catchment Officer. We have no liability for any buildings.

We are part of the Anglian Rivers Hub, which brings together local Rivers Trusts to share ideas, work together, and provide a collective voice (e.g. on policy matters). As hosts for the East Suffolk Catchment Partnership (ESCP) and Essex Rivers Hub (ERH) we have worked on building capacity, catchment planning, coordinating projects, and upgrading websites. During the year, ESCP agreed three themes as a focus for new projects and ERH ran a Citizen Science pilot to test different methods for collecting data across Essex.

With support from the Anglian Rivers Hub, we ran a strategy meeting with our Trustees on 25 April 2023. Following further work, our three-year strategy will be published in 2023/24.

During the year we strengthened our links with diverse organisations, including the Dedham Vale National Landscape, Forestry Commission, Woodland Trust, Affinity Water, Anglian Water, Environment Agency, North Essex Farm Cluster, Upper Deben Farm Cluster and Nature Recovery Partnerships. We continued our involvement in the Strategic Advisory Group of Water Resources East and, through our Director and/or Trustees are connected into the Anglian Water Get River Positive Expert Panel and the Anglian Eastern Regional Flood and Coastal Committee.

We were active partners in the £3.4 million Interreg (England/France) Water for Tomorrow Project, which developed and tested innovative water management tools and decision-making support systems. We ran the East Suffolk pilot project (April 2021 to March 2023), working collaboratively through the East Suffolk Catchment Partnership to raise awareness of water resources challenges and identify actions to secure sustainable abstraction.

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Trustees Report

Project delivery

Suffolk Water Environment Improvement Fund projects

- **River Fynn:** Playford and Little Bealings: Over 300 trees planted, livestock crossings installed to stop poaching by cattle, and in-channel restoration works completed.
- **River Ore:** Producing designs to support Framlingham Town Council and the landowner (the Co-op) in consulting locally on actions to improve the River through the town.
- **Butley River:** Wantisden Park Estate: Large wood structures and introduced gravel were used over a reach of some 500 metres to create seven in-channel features, a semi-meandering planform and improved substrate for fish and macroinvertebrates.
- **Cliff Farm County Wildlife Site:** Sutton: Very large woody debris installed at three points in-channel to promote seasonal wetting of marshland to benefit rare wetland species.

Essex Water Environment Improvement Fund projects

- **River Colne:** Fiddlers Hill Meadow, Fordham: Work on options to reconnect Woodland Trust land to the floodplain, increasing the frequency of flooding and creating new riparian habitats in partnership with the Woodland Trust and Environment Agency. Funding for construction of wetlands and floodplain reconnection will be sought in the next year from grant funders and other organisations keen to deliver this important and rare habitat.

Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) control

- We completed the Essex Crayfish Project (eDNA) and developed proposals for a Crayfish in Suffolk Project. Funding for work to locate and protect endangered White Clawed Crayfish in Suffolk will form a key component of the 2023/24 work plan.
- We developed proposals to extend work to tackle invasive Himalayan Balsam on the Lavenham Brook, River Brett and Stour. With a project plan in place we are now in a strong position to secure funding deliver essential balsam removal sessions [involving volunteers] to enable native riverside plants to recover, stabilising river banks and protecting native wildlife.

Preventing Plastic Pollution Project

As part of a £12 million (England/France) Interreg project we completed 9 litter surveys with partner organisations: The River Gipping Trust (Baylham), River Deben Association (Waldringfield, Melton, Felixstowe) and Natural England staff (Felixstowe beach front). Thanks to 121 hours of volunteer effort, we collected 31 bags of litter (over 2,522 individual items of which 85% were plastic) which weighed 89.16 kg. All waste was disposed of responsibly and recycled where possible by ESRT staff and local council collection. We continue to promote the PPP methodology and encourage both existing and new volunteers to complete surveys when litter picking and upload to the PPP database.

Anglian Water Combined Sewage Outfall Assessment

- Rivers Ore, Chelmer and Blackwater: Working with Anglian Water, the ESCP and Rivers Trust, we assessed opportunities for wetland creation and river habitat improvements at the outfalls from eight sewage treatment works. It is hoped this will lead to detailed designs and construction of wetlands to enhance water quality, better protecting these rivers from pollution.

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Trustees Report

Future work

Initiatives on which we plan to take a leading role in 2023/24 include:

- Hosting and supporting developing catchment plans for the East Suffolk Catchment Partnership and the Essex Rivers Hub Catchment Partnership.
- Leading the partnership to deliver the Recovering Deben Source to Sea, a nationally important pioneer project supported by the Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs.
- Delivering further Water Environment Improvement Fund projects with support from the Environment Agency in Essex and Suffolk.
- Leading further local actions to tackle invasive Himalayan Balsam.
- Continuing support for the Suffolk Crayfish Project to recover endangered native crayfish populations.
- Recruiting a BlueSpaces Delivery Manager to work in Partnership with Essex & Suffolk Water in delivering their BlueSpaces programme of projects to improve the water environment.
- Developing the Blackwater Catchment Restoration Plan to identify priority areas of the river and floodplain for restoration and enhancement.
- Recruiting a Project Support Officer to support our work on the Blackwater Fluvial Audit which will reveal the condition of the river, and lead to creation of a pipeline of projects. These outcomes will be shared to support local and regional nature recovery plans and build strong, enduring delivery partnerships.
- Continuing to engage the public through Citizen Science projects.

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Trustees Report

Financial review

Our accounts show income of £269,677 (2022: £158, 875), expenditure of £166,559 (2022: £137,115), and a net surplus for the year of £103,118 (2022: £21,760). The year-to-year variation reflects some timing differences between income and expenditure on projects (e.g. the income figure includes a further donation of £75,000 received from Anglian Water in April 2023). Our balance sheet shows total funds of £159,369 (2022: £56,251).

Our main sources of income are project grants and donations. We received all the grant income expected in the year and were able to show our funders how this had been spent. We acknowledge, with gratitude, critical funding towards core costs and/or project costs received from businesses, public bodies, charitable funders and individual donors.

Significant supporters of our work during the year included:

- Anglian Water
- Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs
- Environment Agency
- Essex & Suffolk Water
- John Lewis Partnership
- Saffron Building Society
- Water Resources East

We started developing a fundraising strategy embracing consultancy, Biodiversity Net Gain (which offers opportunities for river and wetland restoration through develop contributions), project grants, corporate fundraising and public donations. Following further work, the strategy will guide our fundraising work from 2023/24 onwards.

Expenditure was in line with our budget for the year. Costs generally increased in line with the expansion of our activities. On advice received when renewing our insurance, we increased both our Professional Indemnity cover and our Trustees liability insurance. We shall continue to keep our core costs under close review in 2023/24.

At the year-end, the Trust is in a stronger financial position than in previous years and we are confident that it remains a going concern. During the year we strengthened our staffing, delivered new projects, and identified new partnerships, opportunities to grow our delivery team, and significant new projects, to build on our achievements to date.

Policy on reserves

The carry forward balance is £159,369, including £16,177 of unrestricted reserves. We have a current reserve policy of maintaining £20,000 of unrestricted reserves and with known forecast income will be in a good position to meet this in 2024.

Risk management

The Trust has a comprehensive Risk Register and the Trustees continue to monitor risks to the business. Our banking arrangements with CAF Bank are robust and accountable, with two signatories required on all significant transactions.

In our day-to-day work, we have a strong focus on staff health and safety, particularly as regards lone working, and have strengthened our risk assessment processes.

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Trustees Report

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 Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit in reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning its activities.

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the Trustees of the charitable company on 27 February 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

A E Ruggles-Brise

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A E Ruggles-Brise
Chairman and Trustee

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust ("the Company")

I report to the charitable company Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 May 2023 which are set out on pages 9 to 22.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the company'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:

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

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

C A Barker

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Colin Andrew Barker FCA
146 New London Road
Chelmsford
Essex
CM2 0AW

27 February 2024

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 May 2023 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Other Comprehensive Income)

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	1,359	268,003	269,362	158,875
Investment income	4	116	-	116	-
Other income		199	-	199	-
Total income		<u>1,674</u>	<u>268,003</u>	<u>269,677</u>	<u>158,875</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	<u>4,498</u>	<u>162,061</u>	<u>166,559</u>	<u>137,115</u>
Total expenditure		<u>4,498</u>	<u>162,061</u>	<u>166,559</u>	<u>137,115</u>
Net (expenditure)/income		<u>(2,824)</u>	<u>105,942</u>	<u>103,118</u>	<u>21,760</u>
Net movement in funds		(2,824)	105,942	103,118	21,760
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward (restated)		<u>19,001</u>	<u>37,250</u>	<u>56,251</u>	<u>34,491</u>
Total funds carried forward	15	<u><u>16,177</u></u>	<u><u>143,192</u></u>	<u><u>159,369</u></u>	<u><u>56,251</u></u>

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

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

(Registration number: 08834787)

Balance Sheet as at 31 May 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £ (As restated)
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	437	965
Current assets			
Debtors	12	2,459	1,700
Cash at bank and in hand	13	162,562	58,304
		165,021	60,004
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	(6,089)	(4,718)
Net current assets		158,932	55,286
Net assets		159,369	56,251
Funds of the charitable company:			
Restricted funds	15	143,192	37,250
Unrestricted funds		16,177	19,001
Total funds	15	159,369	56,251

For the financial year ending 31 May 2023 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements on pages 9 to 22 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 27 February 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

A E Ruggles-Brise

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A E Ruggles-Brise
Chairman and Trustee

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 May 2023

1 Charitable company status

The charitable company 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 charitable company in the event of liquidation.

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)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charitable company.

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charitable company 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.

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charitable company has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charitable company before the charitable company is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charitable company and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 May 2023

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charitable company has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charitable company 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.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activities based upon the proportion of directly attributable activity costs.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including independent examination costs.

Taxation

The charitable company 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 charitable company 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.

Tangible fixed assets

Significant individual fixed assets are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 May 2023

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
Computer equipment	33.33% straight-line

Trade debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any discounts due.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand, bank accounts and bank deposits.

Trade creditors

Creditors and accruals are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and accruals are normally recognised at their settlement amount.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the Trustees's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charitable company.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charitable company 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

Classification

The charity only has 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.

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 May 2023

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Donations receivable	1,359	-	1,359	395
Grants receivable	-	268,003	268,003	158,480
	<u>1,359</u>	<u>268,003</u>	<u>269,362</u>	<u>158,875</u>

4 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Interest receivable on bank deposits	<u>116</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>-</u>

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2023 £
Conservation, protection and improvement of rivers, streams and watercourses	<u>128,120</u>	<u>38,440</u>	<u>166,560</u>
	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2022 £
Conservation, protection and improvement of rivers, streams and watercourses	<u>96,624</u>	<u>40,491</u>	<u>137,115</u>

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 May 2023

6 Analysis of governance and support costs

Support costs allocated to charitable activities

	Governance costs £	Administration costs £	Total 2023 £
Conservation, protection and improvement of rivers, streams and watercourses	<u>5,003</u>	<u>33,437</u>	<u>38,440</u>
	Governance costs £	Administration costs £	Total 2022 £
Conservation, protection and improvement of rivers, streams and watercourses	<u>4,486</u>	<u>36,005</u>	<u>40,491</u>

7 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming resources for the year include:

	2023 £	2022 £
Independent examination fees	1,530	1,454
Other non-audit services	1,200	1,000
Depreciation of fixed assets	<u>899</u>	<u>776</u>

8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No Trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charitable company during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 May 2023

9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	69,889	64,466
Social security costs	522	1,157
Pension costs	1,374	1,193
	<u>71,785</u>	<u>66,816</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charitable company during the year expressed by head count was as follows:

	2023 No	2022 No
Average number of staff employed	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>

3 (2022 - 2) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £1,374 (2022 - £1,193).

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

10 Taxation

The charitable company is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 May 2023

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 June 2022	4,649	4,649
Additions	371	371
At 31 May 2023	5,020	5,020
Depreciation		
At 1 June 2022	3,684	3,684
Charge for the year	899	899
At 31 May 2023	4,583	4,583
Net book value		
At 31 May 2023	437	437
At 31 May 2022	965	965

12 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments	2,459	1,700

13 Cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at bank	162,562	58,304

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other taxation and social security	1,000	1,072
Other creditors	2,359	1,192
Accruals	2,730	2,454
	6,089	4,718

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 May 2023

15 Funds

Current year:

	Balance at 1 June 2022 £ (As restated)	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 May 2023 £
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>				
General	19,001	1,674	(4,498)	16,177
Restricted				
Chelmer and Wid Restoration	-	61,900	-	61,900
Essex Community Engagement	-	75,000	-	75,000
East Suffolk Rivers PPP	-	5,211	(5,211)	-
ERH	5,543	15,000	(16,775)	3,768
Suffolk CPF	21,671	15,000	(30,339)	6,332
Essex Crayfish	-	15,000	(15,000)	-
Essex Rivers Catchment	(88)	88	-	-
WEIF	(13,747)	64,620	(54,681)	(3,808)
Himalayan Balsam	8,686	-	(8,686)	-
Topsoil	(2,467)	8,548	(6,081)	-
Water for Tomorrow	17,652	7,636	(25,288)	-
Total restricted	<u>37,250</u>	<u>268,003</u>	<u>(162,061)</u>	<u>143,192</u>
Total funds	<u><u>56,251</u></u>	<u><u>269,677</u></u>	<u><u>(166,559)</u></u>	<u><u>159,369</u></u>

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 May 2023

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

Chelmer and Wid restoration – This was an Anglian Water donation following a historic pollution incident on the River Wid to support restoration work on the Chelmer and Wid and citizen science work throughout Essex.

Essex Community Engagement – This was a donation from Anglian Water to support engagement with coastal communities around the River Colne following a pollution incident at Jaywick.

East Suffolk Rivers Preventing Plastic Pollution (PPP) – These are funds from the Rivers Trust who received funding from a European Interegg Project across France and England capturing and recording data about sources of plastic pollution.

ERH – This is the Essex Rivers Hub Catchment Partnership host funding. This covers the costs of running the Catchment partnership for Essex and comes from the Environment Agency Water Environment Improvement Fund.

Suffolk CPF - This fund is for projects the charity is managing as hosts of the East Suffolk Catchment Partnership.

Essex Crayfish – This fund was used to undertake eDNA sampling of waterbodies across Essex to check for presence of native white-clawed crayfish.

Essex Rivers Hub and Suffolk Catchment (CPF) – These is an Environment Agency fund to support the catchment partnership in Combined Essex and East Suffolk catchments.

WEIF – This is an Environment Agency Water Environment Improvement Fund grant for river restoration and tree planting in Suffolk.

Himalayan Balsam – This fund was for the removal of Himalayan Balsam, an invasive species damaging our rivers.

Topsoil - This consists of two projects which are part of the EU Project Topsoil. One project looks at sediment in Layer Brook in Essex and one trials Managed Aquifer Recharge in the Sandlings area in Suffolk.

Water for Tomorrow – is a programme of information dissemination on water resource issues. It is part of a wider project funded by the Rivers Trust who are the Lead partner receiving their funding from EU INTERREG VA France (Channel).

Colne WFD - This was to fund projects in Essex, mainly Water Framework Directive projects on the River Colne.

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 May 2023

Prior year:

	Balance at 1 June 2021 £ (As restated)	Incoming resources £ (As restated)	Resources expended £ (As restated)	Balance at 31 May 2022 £ (As restated)
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>				
General	(675)	39,191	(19,515)	19,001
Restricted				
ERH	(10)	11,733	(6,180)	5,543
Suffolk CPF	12,812	24,550	(15,691)	21,671
Colne WFD	13,704	15,000	(28,704)	-
Essex Rivers Catchment	(88)	-	-	(88)
WEIF	(53)	28,650	(42,344)	(13,747)
Himalayan Balsam	-	11,205	(2,519)	8,686
Topsoil	8,801	6,046	(17,314)	(2,467)
Water for Tomorrow	-	22,500	(4,848)	17,652
Total restricted funds	35,166	119,684	(117,600)	37,250
Total funds	34,491	158,875	(137,115)	56,251

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 May 2023

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

Current year:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	437	-	437
Current assets	15,740	149,281	165,021
Current liabilities	-	(6,089)	(6,089)
Total net assets	<u>16,177</u>	<u>143,192</u>	<u>159,369</u>

Prior year:

	Unrestricted funds £ (As restated)	Restricted funds £ (As restated)	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	965	-	965
Current assets	18,036	41,968	60,004
Current liabilities	-	(4,718)	(4,718)
Total net assets	<u>19,001</u>	<u>37,250</u>	<u>56,251</u>

17 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

18 Prior year restatement

The allocation of expenditure between unrestricted and restricted funds in the prior year has been restated. This is so the prior year figures more accurately reflect the true usage of each fund.

Due to this restatement, restricted funds as at 31 May 2022 have decreased by £3,177 and unrestricted funds have increased by £3,177.

Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 May 2023

19 Prior year Statement of Financial Activities

	Note	Unrestricted £ (As restated)	Restricted £ (As restated)	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	<u>39,191</u>	<u>119,684</u>	<u>158,875</u>
Total income		<u>39,191</u>	<u>119,684</u>	<u>158,875</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	5	<u>19,515</u>	<u>117,600</u>	<u>137,115</u>
Total expenditure		<u>19,515</u>	<u>117,600</u>	<u>137,115</u>
Net income		<u>19,676</u>	<u>2,084</u>	<u>21,760</u>
Net movement in funds		19,676	2,084	21,760
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>(675)</u>	<u>35,166</u>	<u>34,491</u>
Total funds carried forward	15	<u><u>19,001</u></u>	<u><u>37,250</u></u>	<u><u>56,251</u></u>