

ECOSYSTEMS KNOWLEDGE NETWORK

**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2023**

Charity Numbers:
1159867 (England and Wales)
SC045732 (Scotland)

ECOSYSTEMS KNOWLEDGE NETWORK

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2023**

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ECOSYSTEMS KNOWLEDGE NETWORK

GENERAL INFORMATION

Registered charity name	Ecosystems Knowledge Network
Charity number	1159867 (England and Wales) SC045732 (Scotland)
Principal & registered office address	Isis Innovation Centre Howbery Park Wallingford OX10 8BA
Trustees	Chris Fry Jonathan Porter Susan Christie Lyndsey Dodds Sarah Chimbwandira (Chairperson)
Accountants	SPX Oxford Ltd Peace House 19 Paradise Street Oxford OX1 1LD
Independent examiner	Surinder Singh AAT BSc. Honours
Bankers	Co-operative Bank Ltd.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2023**

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Reference and administrative details are shown in the schedule of general information on Page 2 of the financial statements.

THE TRUSTEES

The trustees who served the charity during the year are shown on Page 2. There were no changes to the Board.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity has been managed and operated in accordance with the Constitution for the Ecosystems Knowledge Network as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, dated 30th October 2014. The constitution has been subject to one amendment, namely to the addition of paragraph 15 (4) (d), dated 30th September 2015, which specifies that a telephone conference will constitute a properly convened meeting.

During the reporting period, there were no changes in the composition of the Board of Trustees. The Network staff team grew during the reporting year from 1.8 Full Time Equivalents to 3.3.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Ecosystems Knowledge Network has reported a surplus of £8,134 for the financial year 2022 to 2023. The charity holds £51,088 in unrestricted reserves, £38,000 of which is in a contingency reserve in accordance with the charity's policy of holding three months of operating costs.

The Ecosystems Knowledge Network has continued to provide a range of knowledge sharing opportunities in accordance with its charitable purpose and its revised Five-Year Strategy (2022 to 2027). The core services of the Network are the provision of e-news and webinars, together with conferences and training on cutting edge topics that bring together professions in new ways. Feedback from the annual member survey highlighted the difference that the Network's services make to the day-to-day work of its beneficiaries. Membership of the Network remains free and open to all.

Due to the diversity of the membership in terms of location and professional background, the Ecosystems Knowledge Network possesses unique capability to harness the value of the natural environment for greater wellbeing and prosperity for everyone. Events and commissioned work are an integral part of the organisation's long-term financial sustainability. During the reporting year, the Network gained the skills and capability to produce e-Learning courses. This included a commission by the Environment Agency to draft an e-Learning course for its staff.

During the reporting year, the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation continued funding for a two-year programme of work to catalyse nature-based finance in the UK, as well to build the core capabilities of the organisation to fulfil its mission. Esmée Fairbairn Foundation funding enabled the external experts to work with staff to produce a Communications Audit and Communications Strategy for the organisation.

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PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

In exercising their powers or duties, Charity trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission for England and Wales.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Charity Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under charity law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and the income and expenditure of the charity for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable incorporated organisation and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION

The nominated independent examiner will be considered by trustees for re-appointment for the ensuing year.

Signed on behalf of the trustees



Chris Fry, Chair of the Board of Trustees

Date: 18th December 2023

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ECOSYSTEMS KNOWLEDGE NETWORK

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out in pages 8- 15

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of

A] Scottish legislation:

the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation [10(1) (a) to (c)] of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

B] England and Wales regulations:

The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under charity law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act; follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

A] Scotland

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations.

B] England and Wales

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

SPX Oxford Limited provides bookkeeping services to Ecosystems Knowledge Network and I am an employee of this company. In order to maintain independence, I confirm that I have not been involved in provision of the bookkeeping service.

I also confirm that as a member of the Association of Accounting Technicians, I am subject to the provisions of the FRC's Revised Ethical Standard (2016). This standard has been applied throughout this independent examination.

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:

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1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- a] Scotland

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation [8]² / [9]³ of the 2006 Accounts Regulations;

b) England and Wales

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act 2006

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

S. Singh

Surinder Singh AAT | BSc. Honours |

Date.....19 December 2023.....

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

		Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
	Notes		
Income from:			
Charitable activities	3	343,067	186,928
Investments		333	-
Other income		33	-
Total income		343,433	186,928
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	4	335,299	169,050
Total expenditure		335,299	169,050
Net income / -expenditure		8,134	17,878
Transfers between funds		-	-
Net movement in funds		8,134	17,878
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds carried forward		42,954	25,076
Total funds carried forward		51,088	42,954

All funds are unrestricted.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities. All of the above amounts also relate to unrestricted income funds.

The notes on pages 10 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

		2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
	Note				
	s				
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets			-		-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	41,274		35,669	
Cash at bank		74,922		110,085	
		<u>116,196</u>		<u>145,754</u>	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	8	65,108		102,800	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			51,088		42,954
NET ASSETS			<u>51,088</u>		<u>42,954</u>
FUNDS					
INCOME FUNDS					
Unrestricted Income funds	9		51,088		42,954
Restricted Income funds	10		-		-
TOTAL INCOME FUNDS			<u>51,088</u>		<u>42,954</u>

For the year ended 31 March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

Trustees responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 145; and
- The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the members of the committee and authorised for issue on 18th December 2023 and are signed on their behalf by:



Chris Fry, Chair of the Board of Trustees

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. ORGANISATION STATUS

Ecosystems Knowledge Network is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102. 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 (FRS102) issued on 16 July 2014, as updated by Update Bulletin 1 issued on 2 February 2016, with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention 2015 (SORP 2015), 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities', issued by the Charities Commission.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Fixed assets

Fixed assets (excluding investments) are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. The costs of minor additions or those costing below £1,000 are not capitalised.

Depreciation

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

- Office equipment – 25% straight line
- Computer equipment – 33% straight line

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure represents amounts invoiced, including value added tax.

Taxation

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

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Grants and project income	260,521	150,759
Events and training	82,546	36,169
	<u>343,067</u>	<u>186,928</u>

4. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Administrative expenses		
Salaries	117,993	62,569
Employer's NI	5,660	-
Pension contributions	8,571	3,324
Subcontracts	41,212	22,566
Professional fees – operations	29,151	8,610
Office rent	3,921	4,030
Advertising and marketing	14,422	8,660
Accountancy fees	2,914	3,320
Bank charges	780	596
External event fees	12,399	11,179
Information technology	17,138	27,659
Insurance	629	535
Office management	2,185	1,374
Printing and publicity	18,233	10,941
Room hire and catering	48,835	-
Staff training	57	-
Subscriptions	771	88
Telephone, internet and postage	533	639
Travel and subsistence	9,595	2,660
Governance	300	300
	<u>335,299</u>	<u>169,050</u>
Total charitable activities		

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

5. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Independent Examination fee	300	300
	<u>300</u>	<u>300</u>

6. STAFF COSTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages	117,993	62,569
Social security costs	5,660	-
Pension contributions	8,571	3,324
	<u>132,224</u>	<u>65,893</u>

The average number of staff employed during the year was four. No employee received any pay or benefits in excess of £60,000 in either year.

7. DEBTORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Accounts receivable	27,837	34,562
Other debtors	9,437	-
Prepayments	4,000	1,107
	<u>41,274</u>	<u>35,669</u>

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

8. CREDITORS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Taxation and social security	3,127	-
Wages payable	-	1,919
Income received in advance	30,507	68,468
Refunds for cancelled events	-	- 5,000
Other creditors	17,974	16,738
Accruals	13,500	20,476
Loan	-	199
	<u>65,108</u>	<u>102,800</u>

9. UNRESTRICTED INCOME FUNDS

	Balance at 1 Apr 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance as at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	42,954	343,433	- 335,299	- 38,000	13,088
Designated funds – contingency reserve	-	-	-	38,000	38,000
	<u>42,954</u>	<u>343,433</u>	<u>- 335,299</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,088</u>

10. RESTRICTED INCOME FUNDS

There were no restricted income funds during the year.

11. TRUSTEE REMUNERATION & RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No member of the board of trustees received any remuneration for their trustee role during the year. There were no related party transactions during the year.

12. REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The key management personnel of Ecosystems Knowledge Network are the Trustees and the Director. The Trustees receive no remuneration. Including the employer's pension contribution, The Director's remuneration totalled £38,209 during the year (2022: £32,832).