

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1173267

Details

Other names	GREATER LONDON NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION, NATIONAL PARK CITY
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2017-06-05
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	1 Therapia Road London SE22 0SF
Phone	07968592550
Email	hello@nationalparkcity.org
Website	http://www.nationalparkcity.london

Activities

Objects: • TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT OF GREATER LONDON HAVING AESTHETIC, ARCHITECTURAL, HISTORIC, SCIENTIFIC OR EDUCATIONAL INTEREST; • TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT OF GREATER LONDON; • TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF GREATER LONDON; • TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INHABITANTS OF GREATER LONDON THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION FOR THE PUBLIC AT LARGE IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF LIFE OF THE SAID INHABITANTS. TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT OF OTHER CITIES AND URBAN CENTRES BY PROMOTING THE NATIONAL PARK CITY LEARNINGS, PRACTICE AND STATUS TO OTHER CITIES.

Activities: London National Park City is a movement to improve life in London. We're working with residents, visitors and partners to: Enjoy London's great outdoors moreMake the city greener, healthier and wilderPromote London's identity as a National Park City.Having successfully campaigned to make London a National Park City, the National Park City Foundation intends to bring the idea to life.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage, Recreation
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-06-30	£240,702	£389,154	-	-
2024-06-30	£201,220	£178,467	-	-
2023-06-30	£86,633	£152,319	-	-
2022-06-30	£74,271	£90,399	-	-
2021-06-30	£155,532	£61,964	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Navdeep Singh Deol	Chair	2022-12-01
Alejandra Arias		2025-05-01
Alice Miranda Harrison		2025-05-01
Claire Shaoyin Eagle		2022-06-16
Emily Jane Brennan		2019-06-21
Joanna de Jong		2022-06-16
Melissa Miners		2022-06-16
Shereen Lynch		2025-07-10
Sylvia Anne Perrins		2025-05-01

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1173267

Accounts

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION*

**NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

Registered Charity number 1173267

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Registered Name: National Park City Foundation, also known as National Park City (NPC) and London National Park City (LNPC)

Registered Charity number: 1173267

Contact details: email hello@nationalparkcity.org or visit www.nationalparkcity.org

Trustees holding office during the year:

Alejandra Arias (appointed 1 May 2025)

Alice Miranda Harrison (appointed 1 May 2025)

Alison Barnes (resigned 10 July 2025)

Claire Eagle

David Cope (resigned 10 July 2025)

Eilish Kavanagh (resigned 21 July 2025)

Emily Brennan

Joanna de Jong

Lucy Livesley (resigned 24 April 2025)

Melissa Miners

Navdeep Singh Deol (Chair)

Shereen Lynch (appointed 10 July 2025)

Sylvia Anne Perrins (Treasurer) (appointed 1 May 2025)

Tim Webb (resigned 10 July 2025)

Management: Mark Cridge (Executive Director)

Registered office: 1 Therapia Road, London SE22 0SF

Bank: CAF Bank Limited, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

Governance and Management

The National Park City Foundation is registered as a charitable incorporated organisation, under a constitution which governs its activities.

The Trustee Board at year end consists of 12 members, and Navdeep Singh Deol continues as board chair. In February 2025 we conducted a skills audit of our current Board, before undertaking an open and public Trustee recruitment over a four week period. From the longlist of applicants a panel of current Trustees shortlisted a group of candidates who were interviewed online, and then in person.

We subsequently made four Trustee appointments; Alejandra Arias, Alice Miranda Harrison, Sylvia Perrins (who has taken over as Treasurer from Eilish Kavanagh), and Shereen Lynch. Four Trustees; Alison Barnes, David Cope, Tim Webb and Eilish Kavanagh, stepped down shortly after the year end leaving three vacancies that shall be filled in spring 2026 to improve succession management.

The past year has been highly productive for the National Park City movement in London, and through our support for other National Park Cities around the world.

In London we expanded our staff team with the appointment of our new Community Director, Becky Daniels, who has been overseeing the evolution of our Ranger programme. She has been supported by an expanded Communications team of Sadim Garvey, Miriam Habte-Sellasié, and Michael Shilling. Our Partnerships Manager, Louis Rutherford, has been joined by Programme Manager, Rochelle Shanthakumar to run our small grants programme, and Mar Pelaez-Muñoz supporting our first local cohort of Rangers in Hounslow. In Southampton, Ruth Magennis has joined as maternity cover for Rae Turpin. The team continues to be led by our Executive Director Mark Cridge.

We secured new grants from the Greater London Authority of £101,650 to fund our small grants programme, £30,000 from Hounslow Council's Thriving Community Fund for our local Ranger programme, £17,000 from the Cleary Foundation to support field trips and small grants, along with additional income from crowdfunders, individual donations, event income, sales of maps through our online store and visitor centre. We go into the next financial year with a stable cashflow, and clear targets for increasing income from new and existing sources.

We are very grateful for the goodwill and enthusiasm of volunteers who represent the movement in the streets and neighbourhoods. We are immensely grateful to all of them, in all the roles they play – especially our 130 active volunteer Rangers who continue to lead impactful work across London.

Each new National Park City has its own governance and organisational structure. We

meet regularly as a group of National Park Cities, supporting each other with advice and sharing best practice. We'll continue to review how we formally support each other, both in the UK as a group of cities working together, and internationally region to region.

We continue to extend our commitment to diversity and inclusion, and we explicitly operate as an anti-racist organisation. We submit our staff and Trustee diversity data to the RACE Report which seeks to address the under-representation of minority ethnic people in the environmental sector. We record diversity data for our staff, Trustees and volunteer Rangers to help us identify where we need to improve how we represent the communities we serve.

Charitable Objectives

The objects of the Foundation are:

1. To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Greater London having aesthetic, architectural, historic, scientific or educational interest;
2. To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Greater London;
3. To advance the education of the public in the heritage and culture of Greater London;
4. To promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of Greater London the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants; and
5. To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of other cities and urban centres by promoting the National Park City learnings, practice and status to other cities.

Public benefit statement

The charity Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties. The Trustees also ensure the programme of activities is always in line with the charity's objectives and aims.

Risk Statement

The Trustees have taken into account guidance available from the Charity Commission, reviewed the risks faced by the Foundation and have put in place policies and procedures to address and mitigate those risks to an acceptable level.

Whilst fundraising continues to be successful given the ongoing uncertainties from the economic, cost of living and energy crises, the Trustees still consider the main risk to the charity to be the ability to raise funds to develop its role, capacity and future activities. As a result, Trustees will continue to focus on identifying new fundraising opportunities, whilst carefully expanding the scope and reach of our activities in London, other cities in the UK, and supporting the growth of the National Park City movement internationally.

The charity has increased its overheads and related costs by taking on a new physical office space, however this is mitigated as the space is provided rent and rate free on a meanwhile basis.

With our increase in events, walks, talks and workshops with members of the public, and an increase in Ranger numbers we have put particular focus on Safeguarding to ensure all staff and volunteers are appropriately trained and supported, with improved monitoring in place. We have reviewed all of our policies and procedures and are grateful to the pro-bono support of Addleshaw Goddard.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

The Trustees present their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025.

Aims

The Foundation aims to grow and expand the National Park City movement, stewarding and leading the London National Park City movement, providing support to Southampton National Park City, and supporting the establishment of emerging, nominated and existing National Park Cities around the world.

All National Park Cities commit to five key principles:

1. To be inspired and guided by the Universal Charter of National Park Cities, to contribute to its future development and uphold the spirit and values of the movement.
2. To act as a member of the National Park City Family, sharing learning, practices, ideas and resources with people in other National Park Cities.
3. To join in with joint National Park City campaigns and projects, where appropriate.
4. To support emerging, nominated and established National Park Cities in their journeys.
5. To share annual updates and experiences on our progress with the public and members of the National Park City Family.

Principal activities

During the year to 30 June 2025 the Foundation focused on:

1. Fundraising activities to secure new grant income, individual and crowdfunded donations, corporate partnerships, and partnerships with London Boroughs.
2. Growing and supporting our volunteer Ranger community in London.
3. Marketing and campaigning activity for London National Park City.
4. Establishing our second pop-up visitors centre at 80 Mortimer Street along with an active programme of public events and festival weeks.
5. Launching our small grants programme for Ranger-led projects with support from the Greater London Authorities Greenroots fund..
6. Directly supporting the development of Southampton National Park City.

7. Doubling the number of National Park Cities by completing the assessment of Breda as the first Dutch National Park City, and Chattanooga as the first National Park City in North America.
8. Supporting National Park City campaigns in Belfast, Cardiff, Glasgow, and Rotterdam, and other emerging cities.

Celebrating and connecting the grassroots

It is six years since London became the world's first National Park City – the long-term, grassroots movement for everyone making our city greener, healthier and wilder.

Since that initial launch in July 2019, London National Park City has become a vibrant, active and supportive convenor of practical grassroots and community-led action for local nature recovery in neighbourhoods across the capital. Our charity supports community leaders across London, to deliver the shared commitments and ambition outlined in the Charter for London National Park City – celebrating and supporting the work of thousands of individuals and organisations actively making London greener, healthier and wilder.

We attract, recruit, empower, and support a diverse community of volunteer Rangers within every London Borough capable of supporting communities and making their neighbourhoods greener, healthier and wilder.

In doing so our aim is to make our city a place where people and nature are better connected, by building the capacity, reach, resource, skills and confidence of our volunteer Ranger community in every London neighbourhood.

A whole landscape approach

London National Park City is about the whole place and landscape, taking into account all of the human and non-human activity across each of London's 33 Boroughs, encompassing the green belt, the watersheds of the 41 rivers across London, and the 51% of London that can be classed as green and blue space. Until London became the world's first National Park City, cities and urban areas were the only form of ecosystem that lacked a form of National Park status.

The National Park City story helps us to recognise just how valuable, important and significant urban ecosystems can be. In becoming a National Park City, London has taken the lead in helping to connect people with nature where they are.

This is especially urgent, not least because the climate and biodiversity crises are significantly driven by people's disconnection from nature, especially in cities.

When people and communities are connected with nature, they are more likely to exhibit

pro-environmental behaviours and take action to mitigate climate change and biodiversity loss. Reconnecting people and nature is therefore a crucial and timely intervention as set out in our Charter for London National Park City.

Volunteer Rangers leading the way

Our Rangers programme is the heart and soul of National Park City. We'll be working towards having 300 active Rangers across London by the end of 2026, with a long-term goal to have at least one Ranger in each of London's 704 wards.

Since establishing our Ranger programme in 2020, our 130 volunteer Rangers are active in every Borough, helping Londoners understand how urban nature is important and diverse, providing influence, inspiration and practical ways for people to nurture and protect nature within their communities.

We have shown how we can establish and grow a generous, active, participatory community of empowered citizens, each of whom is capable of leading nature and biodiversity enhancing activities within their own communities, working with other Rangers, and supporting the local groups they work with.

Over the past year we've been working with each Ranger to establish their commitment going forward and work on an individual plan for how they each will contribute towards our Charter commitments, and how we can support them as an organisation. Each Ranger benefits from:

- A peer learning induction over the first six weeks when new Rangers join.
- An expanded curriculum of training and learning led by groups of Rangers themselves, who also lead on a variety of 'working groups' such as schools, education and young people, upcycling and recycling, podcasting and media, practical urban greening and gardening.
- We're recruiting cohorts of Rangers from within single Borough's at the same time – targeting active people from the local groups we partner with, and align this with support from each London Boroughs.

Visitor Centre at 80 Mortimer Street

This year thanks to the generous support of the Crown Estate we've opened up a new space on a temporary basis at 80 Mortimer Street, a stone's throw from Oxford Circus. Having one or more such community spaces in London will be an ongoing part of our way of working, and an important meeting place for our staff, volunteers and collaborators.

Just as you would when you visit a traditional National Park, our 'Visitor Centre' is intended as a window on all of the activities, places to visit, and things that you can do within London National Park City. Last year we ran over 70 events with festival weeks for Repair Week, The Great Big Green Week, Grow Urban Festival, the Blossom Festival with the National Trust, and a whole month of Walking events in May. The shop is freely available for any community group who'd like to make use of it, and we've hosted numerous Ranger meet-ups and events.

Small Grants programme

In December 2024 we received our first direct funding from the Greater London Authority through their Greenroots fund to establish our small grants programme for Ranger-led projects in neighbourhoods across London.

Our volunteer Rangers propose grassroots nature recovery projects via a simple application form. Initiatives are led by the Rangers or nominated community groups, to improve access, restore and enhance local green spaces, biodiversity, wellbeing and nature connection in London's neighbourhoods. We are well on the way to funding over 100 small-scale nature projects across London this year.

Our grants panel, composed of staff and volunteers, allocates funding of £250 to £1,000 at least 20 or 30 projects each quarter. Funds cover tools, materials, training, and essentials needed to make each project a success – with full accountability and low admin burden for all involved. Each completed project is documented with impact stories, photos, and testimonials from community participants and shared publicly on our website.

Over the next year we'll expand the scope and scale of this programme, accepting applications from community groups we work with, and seek to establish a sustainable, replicable small grants model for London and other cities.

Led by the grassroots

In line with the diverse and broad commitments set out in our co-created Charter for London National Park City, we've been able to show how a creative, culture and neighbourhood led approach is so important in learning from the rich diversity of communities across the capital.

Our small staff team and dedicated Trustees work with hundreds of volunteers to support practical urban greening activities and explore how best to reach and engage people with nature through art, sport, and culture. We're led by the priorities of our Rangers, who are best placed to identify and undertake the most valuable projects for their local area.

We continue to extend our commitment to diversity and inclusion, and we explicitly

operate as an anti-racist organisation, each year contributing to the RACE Report which seeks to address the under-representation of minority ethnic people in the environmental sector.

We've set the stage for a broader and deeper partnership for London National Park City to be established and activated over the next three years, focused on expanding the effectiveness and value of our volunteer Ranger community, working with community partners and local authorities in key London Boroughs, and more explicitly sharpening our focus around engaging the public in Local Nature Recovery within their own communities.

We're expanding our volunteering connections with our map featuring over 260 groups at nationalparkcity.london/volunteer. We're sharing more places to visit, things to do, and ways to get involved across London and if you'd like your place or organisation featured you can easily ask us to add it to the map.

We'll be inviting more organisations to join our In Good Company programme for businesses at nationalparkcity.london/ingoodcompany.

Across London we're centring nature recovery at a local level through all of our work, as a focus for our future Ranger activity – especially as we recruit new Rangers in each Borough. In Hounslow we're trialing a Youth Ranger Programme with Brentford Football Club Community Sports Trust, in Barking & Dagenham we're supporting a new nature corridor master plan, delivering a small grant programme in Islington, Ranger-led activities in Brent, supporting Ranger-led Guides in Newham.

Whilst there is much to celebrate in how the London National Park City story has helped provide a narrative bridge connecting many different communities and initiatives across the city, there is much more to be done. Our rivers remain polluted, we're losing our front gardens at a frightening rate, too many communities lack access to good-quality green space, our parks are woefully underfunded, and the urgent demands of housing provision too often put existing biodiversity and nature at risk

Growing the National Park City movement

Outside of London we have been actively working towards growing the number of established and nominated National Park Cities, as well as making it easier for cities to take their first steps in the journey.

In April 2025, Chattanooga was welcomed as the first National Park City in the USA and North America, and Breda became the first National Park City in the Netherlands and EU. Along with Adelaide and London we've now doubled the number of National Park Cities globally.

Around the UK we're supporting campaigns in Southampton, Cardiff, Glasgow, and

Belfast. In the Netherlands Rotterdam is aiming to become a National Park City by the end of 2026, and we are working with a group of volunteers to identify up to five other Dutch municipalities who would like to start the journey. Following Chattanooga's successful peer review, there is now an active volunteer group in North America, seeking expressions of interest from cities in the region.

Our International efforts continue to be supported by our International Steering Group who lead on peer reviews for new National Park Cities. Peer review teams for Breda and Chattanooga have included representatives from World Urban Parks, Salzburg Global, the National Park City Foundation, Nature Desks, Earthwatch, London National Park City Rangers, IUCN-WCPA, National Recreation and Parks Association, and Adelaide National Park City.

What's next for National Park City

As we go into the next three years of the National Park City movement we will continue to strengthen our ability to support a growing grassroots movement improving lives, health and wellbeing in neighbourhoods across London and other cities.

We'll celebrate London as a National Park City, inspiring Londoners to connect with and care for urban nature within their local communities, understanding the value and benefits of nature connection.

We'll expand the variety and diversity of our active community of Rangers, along with individual Londoners, community groups, public and private sector organisations who are delivering the aims of our Charter.

We'll support a greater number of Rangers, and Ranger-led projects and events within local communities through a participatory, generous and active community.

We'll develop and enhance the skills, ability and confidence of Rangers to support change within their local communities sharing through peer support, training, resources and funding.

We'll enable whole communities to take practical climate and biodiversity action together within each London Borough and individual neighbourhood.

And to support all of this we'll ensure the effective operation of our charity the National Park City Foundation, through good governance, financial management, effective operations, and support for staff, Trustees and volunteers.

Thank you

We're incredibly grateful to each and every one of our supporters who are each helping to make their city a National Park City in neighbourhoods across each city every day.

We're especially grateful to all of our volunteers, our Rangers, and Trustees who all give their time freely to help make our cities greener, healthier, and wilder.

Our thanks goes to:

- Our thousands of National Park City supporters and participants in London, Adelaide, Breda, Chattanooga and in other cities around the world.
- Our numerous repeat individual donors, along with new donors who have contributed for the first time this year through our Crowdfunders.
- We are grateful to the pro bono and in-kind support we have received from the Crown Estate, ANDProjects, Addleshaw Goddard and Lewis Silkin.
- All Trustees, past and present, especially to Lucy Livesley who resigned during the year, and to Alison Barnes, David Cope, Tim Webb and Eilish Kavanagh who stepped down in July 2025.
- Our new Trustees; Alejandra Arias, Alice Miranda Harrison, Sylvia Perrins, and Shereen Lynch who have taken on the responsibility for guiding the future of the charity.
- Our 130 active London National Park City Rangers and everyone who volunteers their time, attends our events, and helps spread the work in their communities.
- Elected representatives in London for their continued support for London National Park City, including the Mayor Sadiq Khan, and all the officials who support in Boroughs and the Greater London Authority.
- The campaign teams, citizens, and elected officials in each of Breda and Chattanooga who have led each city on the journey as National Park Cities, including Brian Smith, Joost Barendrecht, Tom Rozendal and many more.
- Our partners at World Urban Parks and Salzburg Global and everyone who works on promoting National Park Cities around the world, including Dan Raven-Ellisson, Neil McCarthy, Dominic Regester, and Jennifer Dunn.
- Everyone who shares our vision of greener, healthier and wilder cities, and who wants to help make the cities that we live in, places where people and nature are better connected.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Foundation's financial report for the year to 30 June 2025 is on Page 15. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and the requirements of the Constitution.

Funding Sources

The Trustees thank all funders and donors for their support and generosity.

Total income for 2024/25 was £240,702 (2023/24: £1,191,063). In 2024/25 we received grants and donations of £240,558 (2023/24: £1,190,686) of which £158,050 (2023/24: £836,895) were restricted grants. Included in the above figures are donations in kind of £46,787 (2023/24: £307,944). Income recognised in 2023/24 includes multi-year grants from the National Lottery Community Fund and City Bridge Foundation intended to be drawn down over a four year period to 2027/28.

Expenditure

Total expenditure during the year 2024/25 was £389,154 (2023/24: £489,855) with direct activity costs of £351,285 (2023/24: £463,614)

During the year we increased the number of staff from 6 to 8, including a Partnerships Manager and two part-time Communications Managers. We continued to invest in the London Ranger Programme and also employed a member of staff to develop Southampton National Park City campaign, supported by a grant from the New Forest National Park.

Other expenditure during the year included general IT and administration costs.

Reserves

The fund balance on 30 June 2025 was £630,862 of which £23,748 was unrestricted (2023/24: £779,314, of which £45,301 was unrestricted).

Our reserves policy is set to support long term sustainability, and the Trustees aim to hold a minimum of 6 months of committed expenditure in unrestricted reserves.

Unrestricted reserves at the end of the year represented 2.6 months of 2024/25 unrestricted expenditure.

Note: Whilst unrestricted reserves are significantly lower than our defined minimum of 6 months of committed expenditure, the Trustees recognise that our National Lottery Community Fund grant was awarded to build capacity within the charity and is therefore being used to cover core day to day staff costs until December 2027. In addition, current fundraising activity is heavily targeted towards securing additional

Unrestricted income over the next two years.

With these mitigations in place the Trustees are satisfied that this level will meet the foundation's requirements for the year ahead.

The Trustees declare that they approved the Trustees Report on the 8th October 2025.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Navdeep Singh Deol

Chair

Signed by:

2150D0B3893045F...

Sylvia Perrins

Treasurer

Signed by:

9A6812E2A96743C...

Independent Examiner's Report

for the year ending 30/06/2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of National Park City Foundation

I report to the Charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30/06/2025 which consists of the statement of financial activities, balance sheet and the related notes

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").


I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- The accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
or
- The accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- The accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn

Signed by:

December 8, 2025
119507BD8889432...

Mr M.H Tuffaha AFA
Associate Member – Institute of Financial Accountants
Sterling Gate Accountants
3rd Floor, 86-90 Paul Street, London, England, EC2A 4NE

Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)

For the year ended 30 June 2025

National Park City Foundation

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	2	82,508	158,050	240,558	353,791	836,895	1,190,686
Investment income	3	144	-	144	377	-	377
		82,652	158,050	240,702	354,168	836,895	1,191,063
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	4	104,205	284,949	389,154	378,302	111,553	489,855
		104,205	284,949	389,154	378,302	111,553	489,855
Net expenditure		(21,553)	(126,899)	(148,452)	(24,134)	725,342	701,208
Net Movement in Funds		(21,553)	(126,899)	(148,452)	(24,134)	725,342	701,208
Reconciliation of Funds							
Funds brought forward		45,301	734,013	779,314	69,435	8,671	78,106
Funds carried forward		23,748	607,114	630,862	45,301	734,013	779,314

Balance Sheet

For the year ended 30 June 2025

National Park City Foundation

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed Assets:			
Tangible fixed assets	6	2,491	-
Current assets:			
Debtors	7	485,958	681,895
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>155,288</u>	<u>102,366</u>
Total Current assets:		641,246	784,261
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	8	12,875	4,947
Net current assets		<u>628,371</u>	<u>779,314</u>
Total net assets		<u>630,862</u>	<u>779,314</u>
Total funds of the charity			
Restricted Funds	9,10	607,114	734,013
Unrestricted Funds	9,10	<u>23,748</u>	<u>45,301</u>
Total Funds of the Charity		<u>630,862</u>	<u>779,314</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees and signed on its behalf by:

Navdeep Deol

Sylvia Perrins

Chair

Treasurer

December 8, 2025

December 8, 2025

Signed by:

 2150D0B3893045F...

Signed by:

 9A6812E2A96743C...

Notes to the Accounts

For the year ended 30 June 2025

National Park City Foundation

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation

The accounts are prepared for the year to 30 June 2025 with comparative information provided in respect of the year to 30 June 2024. All figures are presented in Sterling to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception that listed investments and investment properties are included at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Charities Act 2011.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Going Concern

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern. With respect to the next reporting period, the Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties that will affect the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern.

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.

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 comprise those costs incurred in central functions and not related to direct activities.

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.

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:

Computer equipment: 33.33%

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.

2. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grants	7,193	158,050	165,243	2,525	826,895	829,420
Donations	28,528	-	28,528	43,322	10,000	53,322
Donations in Kind	46,787	-	46,787	307,944	-	307,944
	82,508	158,050	240,558	353,791	836,895	1,190,686

For the financial year 2024/25, an amount of £46,787 was donated in kind relating to free of charge rent (£39,231 at 80 Mortimer Street, London and £7,556 at 109 Fleet Street, London).

For the financial year 2023/24, an amount of £307,944 was donated in kind relating to free of charge rent at 109 Fleet Street, London (£20,444) and free of charge advertising boards (£287,500).

3. Investment Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bank interest	144	-	144	157	-	157
Other income	-	-	-	220	-	220
	144	-	144	377	-	377

4. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Direct activities	88,027	263,258	351,285	360,482	103,132	463,614
Support costs	16,178	21,691	37,869	17,820	8,421	26,241
	104,205	284,949	389,154	378,302	111,553	489,855

Support costs allocated to charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Administration						
Salaries	7,874	-	7,874	5,862	-	5,862
Office costs	3,645	2,240	5,885	4,881	4,169	9,050
IT	3,805	2,186	5,991	6,555	4,252	10,807
Depreciation	225	285	510	-	-	-
	15,549	4,711	20,260	17,298	8,421	25,719
Governance						
Audit and accountancy fees	629	16,980	17,609	522	-	522
	629	16,980	17,609	522	-	522
Total Support Costs	16,178	21,691	37,869	17,820	8,421	26,241

For 2024/25 and 2023/24, 10% of the Chief Executive's salary cost is allocated to Support Costs.

5. Employee costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries	212,848	115,483
Social Security costs	12,696	5,452
Pension costs	3,440	1,215
	228,984	122,150

	2025	2024
Average number of employees	7	4
Volunteers	130	110

In 2025, 1 employee received remuneration between £60,000 and £70,000. In 2024 no employees earned above £60,000.

Trustees consider the key management personnel of the organisation to be the Trustees and Director. The total cost of key management personnel was £78,741 (2024: £58,263)

6. Fixed Assets

	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£
Cost		
At 1 July 2024	-	-
Additions	3,001	3,001
At 30 June 2025	<u>3,001</u>	<u>3,001</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 July 2024	-	-
Charge for year	510	510
At 30 June 2025	<u>510</u>	<u>510</u>
Net book value 30 June 2025	2,491	2,491
Net book value 30 June 2024	-	-

7. Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Accrued Income	-	485,258	485,258	-	681,895	681,895
Other debtors	700	-	700	-	-	-
	<u>700</u>	<u>485,258</u>	<u>485,958</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>681,895</u>	<u>681,895</u>

8. Creditors

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Other taxation and social security	-	3,105	3,105	-	2,347	2,347
Trade creditors	2,006	2,764	4,770	1,000	1,600	2,600
Accruals	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-
	<u>2,006</u>	<u>10,869</u>	<u>12,875</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>3,947</u>	<u>4,947</u>

9. Movement of Funds

	Opening balance	Income	Expenditur e	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds				
City Bridge Foundation	253,121	-	(55,720)	197,401
Cleary Foundation	-	17,000	-	17,000
Greater London Authority	-	101,650	(40,855)	60,795
London Borough of Hounslow	-	30,000	(18,268)	11,732
National Lottery Community Fund	430,315	-	(145,774)	284,541
New Forest NPA	48,797	-	(22,552)	26,245
RHS Hampton Court	-	9,400	-	9,400
University of Southampton	1,780	-	(1,780)	-
	734,013	158,050	(284,949)	607,114
General funds	45,301	82,652	(104,205)	23,748
	779,314	240,702	(389,154)	630,862

2023/24 comparative

	Opening balance	Income	Expenditur e	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds				
City Bridge Foundation	-	264,395	(11,274)	253,121
Greater London Authority	-	10,000	(10,000)	-
King Baudouin Foundation	8,671	-	(8,671)	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	500,000	(69,685)	430,315
New Forest NPA	-	60,000	(11,203)	48,797
University of Southampton	-	2,500	(720)	1,780
	8,671	836,895	(111,553)	734,013
General funds	69,435	354,168	(378,302)	45,301
	78,106	1,191,063	(489,855)	779,314

10. Analysis of Funds

	Fixed Assets	Bank and Cash in Hand	Debtors	Creditors	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
City Bridge Foundation	-	4,043	193,358	-	197,401
Cleary Foundation	-	17,000	-	-	17,000
Greater London Authority	148	31,747	28,900	-	60,795
London Borough of Hounslow	-	11,732	-	-	11,732
National Lottery Community Fund	738	44,672	250,000	(10,869)	284,541
New Forest NPA	213	13,032	13,000	-	26,245
RHS Hampton Court	-	9,400	-	-	9,400
	1,099	131,626	485,258	(10,869)	607,114
General	1,392	23,662	700	(2,006)	23,748
Total Funds	2,491	155,288	485,958	(12,875)	630,862

2023/24 comparative

	Fixed Assets	Bank and Cash in Hand	Debtors	Creditors	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
City Bridge Foundation	-	(11,266)	264,395	(8)	253,121
National Lottery Community Fund	-	59,110	375,000	(3,795)	430,315
New Forest NPA	-	8,797	40,000	-	48,797
University of Southampton	-	(576)	2,500	(144)	1,780
	-	56,065	681,895	(3,947)	734,013
General	-	46,301	-	(1,000)	45,301
Total Funds	-	102,366	681,895	(4,947)	779,314

10. Movement of restricted funds continued

Details of restricted funds

City Bridge Foundation

In May 2024, the charity was awarded a grant of £264,395 over four years towards the salary of a part-time Ranger Programme Manager and a part-time Coordinator and associated costs.

Cleary Foundation

In 2025, an amount of £17,000 was awarded by The Cleary Foundation to manage community projects in Islington & the City of London. It is intended to mirror work already funded by the GLA's micro-grant program, but focussing on inner-London areas.

Greater London Authority

In 2024 an amount of £10,000 was awarded by the Greater London Authority (GLA) as part of the Local Nature Recovery project and was fully spent in the year. In 2025, a further £101,650 was awarded for a micro-grant program, to be spent by March 2026. The program aims to empower Londoners to make their neighbourhoods more nature rich, healthy and climate-resilient and small grants of between £200 and £1000 are issued to community groups as well as the funding of salary of the coordinator and associated costs.

London Borough of Hounslow

In 2025, the London Borough of Hounslow Council awarded a grant of £30,000 through their Thriving Communities Fund, towards the cost of establishing a Local Hounslow Ranger programme, and the salary of a part-time Ranger coordinator. The project is planned for completion by October 2025.

National Lottery Community Fund

In 2024, the National Lottery Community Fund awarded an amount of £500,000 paid in half yearly installments, for completion by December 2027. The purpose of the grant is to build capacity in the charity in order to support their work as catalysts for community-led environmental action.

New Forest NPA

in 2024, an amount of £60,000 was awarded to the charity by New Forest NPA as part of their Youth for Climate and Nature project. The project aims to support youth-led outdoor learning exploring and connecting climate, nature, people, and place to inspire and encourage climate action across New Forest, Southampton, Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole. The charity's expenditure of the grant is expected to be complete by the close of the project in August 2026.

RHS Hampton Court

In 2025 RHS Hampton Court provided funding of £10,500 towards the creation of a Garden of Curiosity to be delivered in July 2025 at the RHS Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival.

University of Southampton

The University of Southampton awarded the charity £2500 to fund an internship during the financial year 2024/25. The funding is now spent.

King Baudouin Foundation

In 2023 the King Baudouin Foundation provided a grant of £8,671 as part of the Timberland Built to be Bold programme to part-fund the Community Caretaker project at Bethnal Green Nature Reserve. The funding is now spent.

**11. Related Party
Transactions**

There were no related party transactions in 2025 or 2024.

**12. Trustee remuneration and
expenses**

In 2025, 2 trustees were paid £729 for reimbursement of travel and accommodation expenses (2024: 1 trustee, £522 for travel)

13. Taxation

The charitable incorporated organisation is a registered charity and therefore exempt from taxation

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1173267

Accounts

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION*

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

Registered Charity number 1173267

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Registered Name: National Park City Foundation, also known as National Park City (NPC) and London National Park City (LNPC)

Registered Charity number 1173267

Contact details: Email hello@nationalparkcity.org or visit www.nationalparkcity.org

Trustees holding office during the year:

Luis Alvarado Martinez (resigned 30 November 2023)

Alison Barnes

Emily Brennan

David Cope

Joanna de Jong

Navdeep Singh Deol (Chair)

Claire Eagle

Eilish Kavanagh (Treasurer)

Emily Hamilton (resigned 30 November 2023)

Lucy Livesley

Melissa Miners

Tim Webb

Management:

Mark Cridge (Executive Director)

Registered office:

1 Therapia Road, London SE22 0SF

Bank:

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

STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

Governance and Management

The National Park City Foundation is registered as a charitable incorporated organisation, under a constitution which governs its activities.

The Trustee Board currently consists of 10 members with two vacancies, and is Chaired by Navdeep Singh Deol.

This past year has been transformational for the charity as it secured significant multi-year grant income for the first time, expanded the staff team, took on its first shop-front premises in London, and expanded the wider National Park City family with five new cities nominated to become National Park Cities in the coming years.

We secured new four year grants from the National Lottery Community Fund's Reaching Communities programme in December 2023, and from the City Bridge Foundation in June 2024 providing around £200,000 of secured income each year. Along with two active crowdfunders, individual donations, and further support from Pentland Brands, Natural England, the GLA, New Forest National Park Authority and in-kind donations from JCDecaux and Astop Limited we go into the next financial year with a stable income platform to build from.

For Southampton National Park City we have employed a Coordinator on their behalf, and we provide further support including Financial and HR management on behalf of the volunteer team in Southampton.

We continue to rely on the goodwill and enthusiasm of volunteers to deliver many of our successes. We are immensely grateful to all of them, in all the roles they play - especially our 150 volunteer Rangers who continue to lead impactful work across London.

We're grateful to the National Park City teams around the world, especially Brenton Grear and Sheryn Pitman in Adelaide, Scott Martin and the team in Chattanooga, Christelle Blunden and the team in Southampton, Joost Barendrecht and Tom Rozendal and the team in Breda, and the whole volunteer group in Glasgow, and especially to Dom Hall who stepped down as Convenor this year.

We continue to extend our commitment to diversity and inclusion, and we explicitly operate as an anti-racist organisation. We have submitted our staff and Trustee diversity data to the RACE Report for 2023 which seeks to address the under-representation of minority ethnic people in the environmental sector. We record full diversity data for our staff, Trustees and volunteer Rangers to help us identify where we need to improve how we represent the communities we serve.

Charitable Objectives

The objects of the Foundation are:

1. To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Greater London having aesthetic, architectural, historic, scientific or educational interest;
2. To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Greater London;
3. To advance the education of the public in the heritage and culture of Greater London;
4. To promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of Greater London the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants; and
5. To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of other cities and urban centres by promoting the National Park City learnings, practice and status to other cities.

Public benefit statement

The charity Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties. The Trustees also ensure the programme of activities is always in line with the charity's objectives and aims.

Risk Statement

The Trustees have taken into account guidance available from the Charity Commission, reviewed the risks faced by the Foundation and have put in place policies and procedures to address and mitigate those risks to an acceptable level.

Whilst recent fundraising has been successful given the ongoing uncertainties from the economic, cost of living and energy crises, the Trustees still consider the main risk to the charity to be the ability to raise funds to develop its role, capacity and future activities. As a result, Trustees will continue to focus on identifying new fundraising opportunities, whilst carefully expanding the scope and reach of our activities in London, other cities in the UK, and supporting the growth of the National Park City movement internationally.

The charity has increased its overheads and related costs by taking on a physical office space, however this is mitigated as the space is provided rent and rate free on a meanwhile basis.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Aims

The Foundation aims to grow and expand the National Park City movement, directly stewarding and leading the London National Park City movement, providing direct support to Southampton National Park City, and supporting the establishment of emerging, nominated and existing National Park Cities around the world.

All National Park Cities commit to five key principles:

1. To be inspired and guided by the Universal Charter of National Park Cities, to contribute to its future development and uphold the spirit and values of the movement.
2. To act as a member of the National Park City Family, sharing learning, practices, ideas and resources with people in other National Park Cities.
3. To join in with joint National Park City campaigns and projects, where appropriate.
4. To support emerging, nominated and established National Park Cities in their journeys.
5. To share annual updates and experiences on our progress with the public and members of the National Park City Family.

Principal activities

During the year to 30 June 2024 the Foundation focused on:

1. Fundraising activities to secure new grant income, individual donations, corporate partnerships, and limited contract income.
2. Growing and supporting our volunteer Ranger community in London.
3. Marketing and campaigning activity for London National Park City.
4. Establishing our first pop-up visitors centre at 109 Fleet Street, London.
5. Carrying out public engagement activity for London's Local Nature Recovery Strategy in conjunction with the Greater London Authority.
6. Directly supporting the development of the Southampton National Park City campaign.
7. Conducting the peer assessment for the Dutch city, Breda in its application to become the third National Park City.
8. Supporting National Park City campaigns in Glasgow, Rotterdam, and Chattanooga and other emerging cities.

Five years of London National Park City

It is five years since London became the world's first National Park City following 5 years of campaigning culminating in the official ceremony in City Hall on Monday 22nd July 2019, where the Mayor of London and dozens of representatives of international bodies, grassroots organisations, and civil society came together to sign the Charter for London National Park City.

In this our fifth year we are entering an important new phase of activity, with a renewed commitment to deliver upon the shared commitments and ambitions outlined in our Charter. We are on a much more stable footing with new funding, a talented staff team being assembled, and the continuing support of our wonderful volunteer Rangers, Trustees and other supporters.

Much of the last year has been spent establishing this secure platform, and putting in place our new operating strategy. This has set the stage for a broader and deeper partnership for London National Park City to be established and activated over the next three years focused on expanding the effectiveness and value of our volunteer Ranger community, working with community partners and local authorities in key London Boroughs, and more explicitly sharpening our focus around engaging the public in Local Nature Recovery within their own communities.

In the background we have put in place a robust suite of digital tools and resources to better allow collaboration and connection amongst our community members in London and elsewhere. This has included our free online meeting place at *community.nationalparkcity.org*, along with an entirely new *nationalparkcity.london* website. This has been enhanced with our new CRM, email list service, HR and Finance tools, and a significant investment in supporting the growth of our social media and email subscription lists – together this now means we are better able to support and grow a larger online community of supporters, linked to our core in-person activities in neighbourhoods around London.

We also worked closely with Natural England to support their first Happier Outdoors Festival, and set up their own online community at *happieroutdoors.london* modelled on our main community site.

Do London Differently

We continued to support our successful #DoLondonDifferently campaign from last summer which was graciously supported with in-kind media space from JCDecaux. This template of celebrating the grassroots heroes making London greener, healthier and wilder within their own communities, will continue to shape our ongoing marketing and campaigning activity.

Pop-up Visitors Centre

We opened our first ever pop-up visitors centre at 109 Fleet Street in January. Thanks to the support of Astop, a fellow charity who specialises in securing free space for good causes, we have taken over a high-profile shop-front a stone's throw from St Paul's. Just as you would when you visit a traditional National Park, our 'visitors centre' is intended as a window on all of the activities, places to visit, and things that you can do within London National Park City.

In the first six months we ran over fifty events, with festival weeks for Repair Week, Unlock London,

The Great Big Green Week, Grow Urban Festival, and the Blossom Festival with the National Trust. We've made the space freely available for any community group who'd like to make use of it, and we hosted numerous Ranger meet-ups and events. Whilst this pop-up has been gifted to us on a 'meanwhile basis' meaning we can be given one-months notice at any time, our experience so far indicates that having one or more such community spaces in London will be an ongoing part of our way of working.

Local Nature Recovery

Through the latter half of the year we began working with the Greater London Authority (GLA) in identifying how best to conduct public engagement with London's Local Nature Recovery Strategy. The GLA is the responsible body for preparing the Local Nature Recovery Strategy for London over the next two years, and this work will be delivered through collaboration with each of London's 33 Boroughs and other statutory agencies, along with civil society and community groups across the city. Our initial work has focused on mapping out the keystone partners in each Borough, and we are continuing to work on deeper engagements with a number of priority boroughs including Hounslow and Barking & Dagenham.

More generally we're centring nature recovery at a local level through all of our work, as a focus for our future Ranger activity – especially as we recruit new Rangers in each borough, and how we establish and develop our Partnership for London National Park City. This is inline with our clearer focus for the charity and a rearticulation of our Charter where our emphasis is primarily on the half of London which isn't yet green and wild.

Growing the National Park City family

Following London in 2019, and Adelaide in 2021, we're expecting the third National Park City to be Breda in the Netherlands before the end of 2024. Having worked with the volunteer team Breda Staad in een Park Foundation and the Municipality of Breda over the past two years, and the submission of Breda's portfolio application, the Foundation undertook Breda's peer review assessment in May. The peer review team comprised representatives from World Urban Parks, Salzburg Global Seminar, the National Park City Foundation, Nature Desks, Earthwatch, and London National Park City Rangers. A final decision is pending, however Breda is well placed to fully join the National Park City family.

Our International Steering Group with representatives from World Urban Parks, Salzburg Global Seminar, and National Park City Foundation continue to support our emerging and nominated cities as they prepare their own full applications. Within the next 12 months we expect Chattanooga National Park City, Southampton National Park City, and possibly one or two others to apply.

In the UK and Ireland our London team have been working with Southampton and Glasgow to support their campaigns, along with ongoing campaigns in Cardiff, and interest in Belfast, Dundee, Sheffield, Bristol, Chester and Plymouth.

Our Founding Trustee and Chair of our International Steering Group Alison Barnes, joined Scott Martin from Chattanooga, along with Sheryn and Brenton from Adelaide, and other National Park City movement members at the Joint International Congress World Urban Parks & Parks and Leisure

Australia 22-26 October to present a delegate session on NPC, chairing the final plenary of the Congress and presented a celebratory art piece from London to Adelaide, created by our Ranger Alisa Ruzavina, to formally welcome Adelaide as the second National Park City family. We hope that this is the start of a new tradition as each new National Park City is welcomed by the previous city to attain the designation.

Entering our next five years

Following this important preparatory year we enter the next five year period of London National Park City with confidence, and the resources we need to more fully activate our movement in London and beyond.

We intend to fulfil one of the early initiatives from the original Greater London National Park City Proposal to establish a broader partnership for London National Park City, to more fully involve the hundreds of community groups, environmental organisations, art, culture, sport, government, and business partners in delivering the ambitions set out in our Charter.

We'll be mapping and sharing places to visit, things to do, volunteering opportunities, and ways to get involved across London. We'll expand our Rangers programme borough by borough, with a more explicit focus on peer learning and collaboration – especially around local nature recovery. We'll soon be launching our In Good Company programme for businesses, extending the invite for more organisations and individuals to commit to supporting our Charter. And our State of the National Park City report shall be released in the Autumn.

Around the UK we'll continue to directly support the cohort of National Park Cities to complete their journey, and support cities around the world in their journeys as we work towards at least 25 nominated and established cities by the end of 2025.

We're well placed to realise more cities where people, places and nature are better connected, and to fully deliver against the promise of the Charter for National Park Cities.

Our supporters

Our thanks goes to:

- Our thousands of supporters and National Park City Makers in London, Adelaide and around the world.
- Our many new individual donors, many of whom contributed for the first time this year through our Crowdfunders.
- All Trustees, past and present, especially to Emily Hamilton and Luis Alvarado who resigned during the year
- Our 150 volunteer London National Park City Rangers
- Other people who volunteer their time to the National Park City movement, especially to Dan Raven Ellison and to Steve Pocock, without whom there would be no National Park

City movement

- Our partners at World Urban Parks and Salzburg Global Seminar and everyone who works on promoting National Park Cities around the world, especially Neil McCarthy, Dominic Regester, and Jennifer Dunn.
- Elected representatives in London for their continued support for London National Park City, including the Mayor Sadiq Khan, and all the officials who support in Boroughs and the Greater London Authority
- Everyone who shares our vision of greener, healthier and wilder cities, and who becomes a National Park City Maker in everything they do.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Foundation's financial report for the year to 30 June 2024 is on Page 12. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and the requirements of the Constitution.

Funding Sources

The Trustees thank all funders and donors for their support and generosity.

This year the total income was £201,220 (2022/23: £86,633). We received grants and donations of £198,217 (2022/23 86,611) of which £155,000 (2022/23 £28,394) were restricted grants, including £125,000 from the National Lottery Community Fund.

Expenditure

During the year, the main costs were establishing and building our core staff and infrastructure.

Expenditure in the year was £178,467 (2022/23 £152,319). During the year we increased the number of staff from 3 to 6, including a Partnerships Manager and two part-time Communications Managers. We continued to invest in the London Ranger Programme and also employed a member of staff to develop Southampton National Park City campaign, supported by a grant from the New Forest National Park.

Other expenditure during the year included general IT and administration costs.

Reserves

The fund balance on 30 June 2024 was £102,360 of which £46,297 was unrestricted (2022/23 £79,607, of which £70,935 was unrestricted).

Our reserves policy is set to enable expansion and long term sustainability, and the Trustees aim to hold a minimum of 6 months of committed expenditure in unrestricted reserves.

Unrestricted reserves at the end of the year represented 7.8 months of 2023/24 unrestricted expenditure, being above the 6 months target of the reserves policy. The Trustees are satisfied that this level meets the foundation's requirements.

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of the National Park City Foundation

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees of National Park City Foundation, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of National Park City Foundation are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act, I report in respect of my examination of your charity'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 National Park City Foundation gross income is more than £25,000 your examiner needs to be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, 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 National Park City Foundation as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



Sarah Welsh

23 December 2024
Date

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION
Receipts and Payments for the 12 months to 30 June 2024

	30 June 2024			30 June 2023
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £	Total £
Receipts:				
Grants	155,000	-	155,000	28,394
Donations		43,217	43,217	58,046
Other income & Interest	-	3,003	3,003	193
	155,000	46,220	201,220	86,633
Payments:				
Salary costs	81,793	39,886	121,679	109,568
Project costs	16,077	7,195	23,273	17,512
Events & materials		15,572	15,572	13,332
Admin & IT costs	9,124	6,825	15,949	11,907
Volunteer expenses		1,472	1,472	-
Trustee expenses		522	522	-
Contribution to core	615	(615)	0	-
	107,609	70,858	178,467	152,319
Net Receipts/(Payments)	47,391	(24,638)	22,753	(65,686)
B/Fwd funds	8,671	70,935	79,607	145,293
C/Fwd funds	56,063	46,297	102,360	79,607

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 30 June 2024

	30 June 2024			30 June 2023
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £	Total £
Cash Funds:				
CAF Bank	56,063	46,297	102,360	79,586
PayPal	0	0	0	21
Total cash	56,063	46,297	102,360	79,607
Total Assets	56,063	46,297	102,360	79,607
Liabilities:	0	0	0	0
Net Assets and Liabilities	56,063	46,297	102,360	79,607

The Trustees declare that they approved the Trustees Report on the 12th September 2024.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



Navdeep Singh Deol
Chair



Eilish Kavanagh
Treasurer

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1173267

Accounts

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION*

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Registered Charity number 1173267

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Registered Name: National Park City Foundation, also known as National Park City (NPC) and London National Park City (LNPC)

Registered Charity number 1173267

Contact details: Email hello@nationalparkcity.org or visit nationalparkcity.org

Trustees holding office during the year:

Luis Alvarado Martinez

Alison Barnes

Emily Brennan (Interim Chair between 16th June and 30th November 2022)

David Cope

Joanna de Jong

Navdeep Singh Deol (Appointed as Chair from 1st December 2022)

Claire Eagle

Eilish Kavanagh (Treasurer)

Emily Hamilton

Lucy Livesley

Angela McDermott (retired 30th September 2022)

Melissa Miners

Tim Webb

Management:

Mark Cridge Executive Director

Registered office:

c/o Geovation, Sutton Yard, 4th Floor, 65 Goswell Road, London EC1V 4EN

Bank:

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

STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

Governance and Management

The National Park City Foundation is registered as a charitable incorporated organisation, under a constitution which governs its activities.

The Trustee Board was expanded in 2022 to the maximum of 12 with the appointment of a new Chair in December 2022, Navdeep Singh Deol. We thank Emily Brennan for stepping in as Interim Chair between June and November 2022 and Angela McDermott for her service over the past 3 years.

This was a significant year of transition for the Foundation. The first full year with our Executive Director Mark Cridge in post; much of the year was spent establishing a new strategy and priorities for London National Park City, reassessing the mix of programmes and activities we intend to undertake and realigning our work in ways that will allow us to secure new funding and income.

Our two part-time Ranger Programme Managers, Ed and Floree, continue to support and enhance the impact of our Ranger community, which following a fourth round of recruitment has increased to 160 active volunteers drawn from, and operating within London's diverse communities.

We secured new funding from new donors including Peter Bennett Foundation, Right Thing Media and King Baudouin Foundation, modestly increasing our income from the previous year. We did dip into our reserves through the year, however the important strategic and reframing work that has taken place has justified this important investment, and we move forward with a clear and diversified funding strategy with active bids and proposals submitted to a number of Foundations, Corporate Partners, and public institutions. We're therefore confident that this will bear fruit in 2023-24 and beyond, allowing us to further grow our staff and volunteer team.

As a grass-roots movement, we continue to rely on the goodwill and enthusiasm of volunteers who lead our day to day activities. We are immensely grateful to all of them, in all the roles they play.

We've continued to enhance our focus on diversity and inclusion. The National Park City Foundation strives to be an actively anti-racist organisation. In the year we submitted our staff and Trustee diversity data to the RACE report, an Esmée Fairbairn funded collaboration designed to address the under-representation of minority ethnic people in the environmental sector.

We record full diversity data for our staff, Trustees and volunteer Rangers. Within our Ranger community 8.2% identify as having a disability, 18.6% identify as LGBTIQ+, 17.0% come from a lower socio-economic background, 12 religion/faith groups and 25 ethnic communities are represented.

Charitable Objectives

The objects of the Foundation are:

1. To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Greater London having aesthetic, architectural, historic, scientific or educational interest;
2. To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Greater London;
3. To advance the education of the public in the heritage and culture of Greater London;
4. To promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of Greater London the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants; and
5. To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of other cities and urban centres by promoting the National Park City learnings, practice and status to other cities.

Public benefit statement

The charity Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties. The Trustees also ensure the programme of activities is always in line with the charity's objectives and aims.

Risk Statement

The Trustees have taken into account guidance available from the Charity Commission, reviewed the risks faced by the Foundation and have put in place policies and procedures to address and mitigate those risks to an acceptable level.

Given the ongoing uncertainties from the economic, cost of living and energy crises, the Trustees consider the main risk to the charity to be the ability to raise funds to develop its role, capacity and future activities. As a result, Trustees have focussed on diversifying and identifying new approaches to fundraising and income generation to boost our prospects of further successful fundraising.

The charity continues to have few overheads in terms of physical office and related costs.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023.

Aims

The National Park City Foundation aims to popularise the concept of National Park Cities (NPCs) amongst citizens of cities and urban areas around the world, inspiring grassroots movements to form and work with communities, governments, and businesses to make more cities greener, healthier and wilder. Building on the success of London and Adelaide as the first two National Park Cities the Foundation has the ambition to realise more National Park Cities in the UK and internationally, by:

1. Directly supporting London National Park City as a viable long-term grassroots movement making London greener, healthier and wilder.
2. Supporting a growing community of active Rangers in every London Borough.
3. Creating the conditions for self-sustaining grassroots movement building within London National Park City.
4. Supporting the delivery of 25 National Park Cities around the world by 2025.
5. Securing long-term sustainable funding from a diverse set of income streams.
6. Ensuring effective operation of National Park City Foundation, supporting the development of Staff, Trustees and Volunteers.

Principal activities

During the year to 30 June 2023 the Foundation focused on:

1. Inspiring Londoners to connect with and care for urban nature within their local communities, understanding the value and benefits of nature connection.
2. Expanding the scale, reach and diversity of our Ranger community.
3. Enhancing the ability of Rangers to develop and deliver Ranger-led projects within local communities.
4. Developing and enhancing the skills and confidence of Rangers to support change within their local communities.
5. Enabling whole communities to take practical climate and biodiversity action together within their neighbourhoods.
6. Fundraising to support the above activities and to support Ranger led activities.

Making London National Park greener, healthier and wilder

London National Park City is a primary project of the National Park City Foundation. Our aim is to support the growth and development of London National Park City for everyone making London greener, healthier and wilder.

We have formed our new strategy for London around three open and participatory programmes:

PLACEMAKING: Showcasing London as the world's first National Park City via London wide campaigns and movement building activity.

RANGERS: Supporting our volunteers to lead outdoor activities, nature engagement, climate actions, and health and wellbeing activities in their communities.

NEIGHBOURHOODS: Working collaboratively with London Boroughs to connect individuals, families, educators, community leaders, campaigners, cultural and arts groups with urban nature.

Our intent is to inspire and motivate more people to take practical climate and biodiversity action in their own communities, by sharing stories illustrating the people, places and activities making London National Park City..

We invested significant effort in establishing a sustainable programme of external communication, targeting increased awareness that London is the world's first National Park City, and telling a greater variety of individual stories about what that means to Londoners day to day.

We put in place a CRM system, updated all public facing websites, and launched our own learning network using Mighty Networks online community and course-building software at community.nationalparkcity.org.

With the support of an inspiring group of current PhD and Masters students from a number of Universities, including Plymouth University, Exeter University, University College London, Royal College of Art, Sheffield University, and other further afield institutions we've established our volunteer Research and Learning group. As part of their studies, they monitor and assess the work of London National Park City and are supporting us in publishing original research and incorporating current best practices, policy and external research in how we carry out our day-to-day work. They will translate these findings into learning interventions to support broad community development.

We ran our most significant public awareness campaign ever over the summer – #DoLondonDifferently featured creative work celebrating over 40 grassroots organisations. Thanks to the generous support of JCDecaux who provided us with £575,000 equivalent media spend (half of which in this financial year), we ran a two-month digital outdoor campaign featuring grassroots groups, delivering over 35 million impressions on 96 high-profile billboard sites across the capital.

In the latter half of the year we worked closely with Hemingway Design and Team London Bridge on preparing for the inaugural In A Field By A Bridge festival which coincided with our 4th Anniversary in July 2023. Over 30,000 people attended, and we curated a host of public workshops, talks, walks and art activities hosted by our volunteer Rangers, and colleagues in many of the community groups we celebrated through our #DoLondonDifferently campaign.

We completed our fourth round of recruitment which has brought the total number of volunteer Rangers to 160 across all London boroughs. We are grateful to Timberland and King Baudouin Foundation for their support for this programme during the year.

Our Rangers contributed extensively to our online community sharing events and activities they led, or attended. With the support of Right Thing Media we were able to offer small grants for a number of Ranger-led activities including:

- Blak Outside: designing and building a growing and play area at Mayesbrook House family contact centre in Dagenham.
- Denmark Hill Community Garden: community-led project to establish food sovereignty on a local housing estate in Walworth.
- Ecosystem Regeneration Manuals: illustrated guide detailing how to adapt a typical London terrace house and garden to support living habitats.
- Shroom Sunday: annual community event to connect with nature and learn about local wildlife.
- Community Soil Care Clinic: a pilot project offering free and low-cost soil testing for growers and community gardeners.
- Bermondsey Community Orchard: a 26 tree orchard planted by local children and families.
- Electronics in Nature: led by UCL Bartlett providing enchanting ways of getting closer to nature through technology.
- Phytology: a new health and well-being partnership at Bethnal Green Nature Reserve.

We've begun to establish our Neighbourhoods programme, building new connections with London Boroughs, the Green Infrastructure team at the Greater London Authority and the Mayor's office. This programme is intended to help communities come together to incorporate National Park City thinking at a local level in their streets and neighbourhoods. We've begun to create opportunities for support from new corporate partners, along with established community and environmental organisations.

We worked with the Glass-house Community Led Design and Open University to make use of their cross-pollination methodology for identifying and mapping community strengths and opportunities. This will be an important way of working for us with communities across London and fifteen of our Rangers attended our first cross-pollination training event in the spring. We intend to extend this training to at least a third of our Rangers in the coming months.

We've begun a new partnership with Phytology and Bethnal Green Nature Reserve which will establish ongoing collaboration with our Rangers at this beautiful and inspiring urban nature site in East London.

We took a pause on our Schools Network and Development Forum whilst we reconsider how best to support and extend these initiatives for the greatest benefit in the future.

Spreading the National Park City movement around the world

Whilst we lead the London National Park City through the National Park City Foundation, our second primary role is supporting the growth and development of National Park Cities around the world. In December 2021 Adelaide, Australia became the world's second National Park City. Coordinated by Green Adelaide they acknowledged the Kurna people as the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters of the Adelaide region. The cultural, spiritual, physical and emotional connection of the Kurna Miyurna hold with their land, waters and community were acknowledged and respected, and the Elders past, present and emerging were respected by Green Adelaide as they committed to working in partnership with the First Peoples of South Australia in taking a leading role in caring for their Country.

The National Park City Foundation, has continued to evolve our movement with the direct support of our partners World Urban Parks and Salzburg Global Seminar as we work towards realising 25 National Park Cities by 2025.

Significant progress has been made this year by Breda – Netherlands, Glasgow – Scotland, Southampton – England, Chattanooga – USA, and a new addition with Rotterdam – Netherlands. All five cities will receive the status of Nominated National Park Cities having demonstrated sufficient momentum and widespread public support to become National Park Cities.

We're putting in place a robust and diverse approach to fundraising for the year ahead to support our international movement building. We are working closely with Salzburg Global Seminar on the launch of a new emerging urban leaders programme for the year ahead.

Looking forward to our fifth year

The hard work improving our systems and refocusing our strategy should pay dividends as we enter the fifth year of London being a National Park City. We hope to see at least two if not three new cities joining Adelaide and London as official National Park Cities in the next 12 to 18-months, and many more progressing on their journey in the meantime.

In London we'll focus on raising public awareness, establishing mutually beneficial partnerships across London to extend and complement the work of our staff and volunteers. An important task will be codifying how we work with partners in a formal Partnership Plan for London, reflecting the organisational principles used by rural National Parks in the UK.

For the next phase of our Rangers programme, we intend to prioritise recruitment and increase the number of Rangers from London's five most deprived local authorities by 25%. We'll also launch an enhanced training programme and extend our partnerships to increase diversity of participation within our Ranger community.

We'll work with each London Borough to identify priority communities and recruit volunteers who are already active, or with support could become more active; to ensure we reflect the diverse communities of London in becoming greener, healthier and wilder.

Our supporters

Our thanks go to:

- Our financial supporters and donors include Right Thing Media, JCDecaux, Timberland, King Baudouin Foundation, Peter Bennett Foundation and Natural England.
- All Trustees, past and present including Angela McDermott who ended her term during the year.
- Our 160 London National Park City volunteer Rangers.
- Other people who volunteer their time to the National Park City movement, especially Dan Raven Ellison and to Steve Pocock, without whom there would be no National Park City movement.
- Our partners at World Urban Parks and Salzburg Global Seminar and everyone who promotes National Park Cities around the world, especially Neil McCarthy, Mark Camley, Luis Romahn, Dominic Register, and Jennifer Dunn.
- Elected representatives in London for their continued support for London National Park City, including the Mayor Sadiq Khan, and all the officials who support in Boroughs and the Greater London Authority.
- Everyone who shares our vision of greener, healthier and wilder cities, and who becomes a National Park City Maker in everything they do.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Foundation's financial report for the year to 30 June 2023 is on Page 12. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and the requirements of the Constitution.

Funding Sources

The Trustees thank all funders and donors for their support and generosity.

This year we received grants and donations of £86,440 (2021/22 £74,271) of which £28,394 (2021/22 £31,471) were restricted grants. Total income was £86,633.

Expenditure

During the year, the main costs were running the Ranger Programme in London.

Expenditure in the year was £152,319 (2021-22 £90,399) of which £70,563 (2021-22 £80,430) was spent on the Ranger programme, supported by donations and grants from Natural England and the King Baudouin Foundation as well as ongoing support from Timberland.

Trustees are confident other sources of funding will be found to continue the Ranger programme uninterrupted.

Other expenditure during the year included the recruitment of the Executive Director who joined in June 2022, and general IT and administration costs.

Reserves

The fund balance on 30 June 2023 was £79,607 of which £70,936 was unrestricted (2021/2 £145,293, all of which was unrestricted).

Reserves Policy

A new reserves policy was adopted by the board in September 2022 which set out our policy to hold a minimum of unrestricted reserves equivalent to six months committed core expenditure.

At 30th June 2023, unrestricted funds were £70,936 which represented 6.4 months of unrestricted expenditure.

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of the National Park City Foundation

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 June 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees of National Park City Foundation, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of National Park City Foundation are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act, I report in respect of my examination of your charity'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 National Park City Foundation gross income is more than £25,000 your examiner needs to be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, 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 National Park City Foundation as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



Sarah Welsh

Date 25 Sept 2023

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION

Receipts and Payments for the 12 months to 30 June 2023

	30 June 2023			30 June 2022
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Receipts:				
Grants	28,394	-	28,394	52,298
Donations		58,046	58,046	21,959
Interest	-	193	193	13
	28,394	58,239	86,633	74,271
Payments:				
Salary costs	17,327	92,242	109,568	50,138
Project costs	2,285	15,227	17,512	500
Events & materials	-	13,332	13,332	34,867
Admin & IT costs	111	11,796	11,907	4,890
Volunteer expenses	-	-	-	4
Contribution to core	-	-	-	-
	19,723	132,597	152,319	90,399
Net Receipts/(Payments)	8,671	(74,358)	(65,686)	(16,128)
B/Fwd funds	0	145,293	145,293	161,421
C/Fwd funds	8,671	70,935	79,607	145,293

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 30 June 2023

	30 June 2023			30 June 2022
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cash Funds:				
CAF Bank	8,671	70,915	79,586	143,602
PayPal	0	21	21	1,692
Total cash	8,671	70,936	79,607	145,293
Total Assets	8,671	70,936	79,607	145,293
Liabilities:	0	0	0	0
Net Assets and Liabilities	8,671	70,936	79,607	145,293

The Trustees declare that they approved the Trustees Report on the 14th September 2023.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



Navdeep Singh Deol
Chair



Eilish Kavanagh
Treasurer

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1173267

Accounts

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION*

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

Registered Charity number 1173267

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Registered Name: National Park City Foundation, also known as National Park City (NPC) and London National Park City (LNPC)

Registered Charity number 1173267

Contact details: Email hello@nationalparkcity.org or visit www.nationalparkcity.org

Trustees holding office during the year:

Luis Alvarado Martinez (from 16 June 2022)

Alison Barnes

Emily Brennan (Chair from 16 June 2022)

David Cope

Joanna de Jong (from 16 June 2022)

Paul de Zylva (Chair, retired on 16 June 2022)

Claire Eagle (from 16 June 2022)

Eilish Kavanagh (Treasurer)

Emily Hamilton

Lucy Livesley (from 16 June 2022)

Angela McDermott

Melissa Miners (from 16 June 2022)

Ben Smith (retired on 16 June 2022)

Tim Webb

Registered office: c/o Geovation, Sutton Yard, 4th Floor, 65 Goswell Road, London EC1V 4EN

Bank: CAF Bank Limited, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

Governance and Management

The National Park City Foundation is registered as a charitable incorporated organisation, under a constitution which governs its activities.

Much of the year was still affected by COVID-19. The Board of Trustees anticipated and monitored rules and restrictions to assess what could be achieved to ensure safety and legal compliance with lockdown rules, as well as supporting our staff and volunteers during this difficult time. We remain conscious that the pandemic is still here, even if restrictions have been lifted and we continue to adapt our activities accordingly.

Trustees met five times during the year to June 2022 (including our first face-to-face meeting since before the pandemic started) to review and plan work. During the year Paul de Zylva and Ben Smith retired from the Board at the end of their terms. The Trustees are immensely grateful to Ben and Paul for their long-standing contribution to the charity and our cause, especially as Paul chaired the Board of Trustees and helped steer the charity through the worst stages of the COVID-19 pandemic. The charity is grateful to all its Trustees, past and present, for their contribution and support.

This year marked a significant moment as we employed an Executive Director. Mark Cridge joined the National Park City Foundation in June 2022 to take operational leadership of the charity. The Trustees are delighted to welcome Mark to the team. Mark joins the Foundation's existing two part-time Ranger Programme Managers, who continue to develop the unique London National Park City Rangers Programme, having expanded the number of volunteer Rangers to 150.

New fundraising has been challenging during the pandemic, however with our expanded team we have confidence in future fundraising prospects, and are optimistic about continuing to grow our staff and wider volunteer team. As a grass-roots organisation, we will always rely on the goodwill and enthusiasm of volunteers to deliver many of our successes. We are immensely grateful to all of them, in all the roles they play.

During the year we further increased our focus on diversity and inclusion. The National Park City Foundation strives to be an anti-racist organisation. At the end of the year we committed to submit our staff and Trustee diversity data to the RACE Report, an Esmée Fairbairn funded collaboration designed to address the under-representation of minority ethnic people in the environmental sector. We now record full diversity data for our staff, Trustees and volunteer Rangers to help us identify where we need to improve how we represent the communities we serve.

Charitable Objectives

The objects of the Foundation are:

1. To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Greater London having aesthetic, architectural, historic, scientific or educational interest;
2. To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Greater London;
3. To advance the education of the public in the heritage and culture of Greater London;
4. To promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of Greater London the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants; and
5. To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of other cities and urban centres by promoting the National Park City learnings, practice and status to other cities.

Public benefit statement

The charity Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties. The Trustees also ensure the programme of activities is always in line with the charity's objectives and aims.

Risk Statement

The Trustees have, taking into account guidance available from the Charity Commission, reviewed the risks faced by the Foundation and have put in place policies and procedures to address and mitigate those risks to an acceptable level.

Given the ongoing uncertainties from the pandemic, cost of living and the energy crises, the Trustees consider the main risk to the charity to be the ability to raise funds to develop its role, capacity and future activities. As a result, Trustees have focussed on monitoring the fundraising scene and identifying fundraising opportunities and boosting our prospects of further successful fundraising.

The charity continues to have few overheads in terms of physical office and related costs.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2022.

Aims

The Foundation aims to bring the idea of National Park Cities (NPCs) to life, starting in London, with the ambition to extend this across the UK and internationally, by:

1. Providing thought and practical leadership;
2. Coordinating and developing the vision of NPCs;
3. Galvanising the London National Park City movement;
4. Growing a partnership of organisations and interests in support of NPCs
5. Leading inspiring campaigns;
6. Supporting activities that contribute towards National Park City aims; and
7. Fundraising.

Principal activities

During the year to 30 June 2022 the Foundation focused on:

1. Supporting Adelaide in their bid to become a National Park City, working closely with World Urban Parks and Salzburg Global Seminar;
2. Reviewing Trustee skills and succession planning, culminating in recruiting five new Trustees plus one young person as an observer to the Board;
3. Recruiting our first Executive Director for the National Park City Foundation;
4. Recruiting 40 new volunteer Rangers in London, developing the Ranger Programme and delivering activities with Rangers across the London boroughs;
5. Developing funding applications to support the growth of our impact; and
6. Collaborating with other London, UK and international organisations to further explore and promote the role of National Park Cities in inspiring urban improvement.

Spreading the National Park City movement around the world

We are delighted that Adelaide was invited to become the world's second National Park City in December 2021. Green Adelaide coordinated the application process and acknowledged the Kurna people as the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters of the Adelaide region. The cultural, spiritual, physical and emotional connection of the Kurna Miyurna hold with their land, waters and community were acknowledged and respected, and the Elders past, present and emerging were respected by Green Adelaide as they committed to working in partnership with the First Peoples of South Australia to take a leading role in caring for their Country.

The National Park City Foundation, along with our partners World Urban Parks and Salzburg Global Seminar continue to work towards our goal of 25 National Park Cities by 2025 and are working with people from cities around the world to support their local campaigns to join the family of National Park Cities. After the publication of the National Park City Journey Book in July 2021, we promoted the 10 steps, and 23 assessed criteria, to becoming a National Park City with emerging campaigns in 30 cities around the world. Regular discussions are held with all campaigns to support their journeys, with highly active international campaigns in Breda – Netherlands, Galway – Ireland, and Chattanooga – USA. During this year, we supported the publication of the Journey Book in Japanese, and are progressing its translation into more languages to make it as accessible as possible to campaigns around the world.

We have continued our close collaboration with people in several UK cities through the year, and are particularly pleased to see the progress being made in Glasgow, Cardiff and Southampton's campaigns, among others.

Making the London National Park City a success

This success in our global endeavours has been matched in our progress in London. Our third round of recruitment of volunteer Rangers successfully led to 40 more people stepping forward to join our programme, bringing the total volunteer Rangers to 150 across all London boroughs. We are grateful to Timberland, Natural England and the VF Foundation for their support for this programme during the year.

Our Rangers form the core of our work, drawn from the diverse local communities of London, our Rangers act as catalysts for change in each neighbourhood. They work in collaboration with our friends and partners to lead grassroots activities and projects, and help celebrate the work of the thousands of active organisations and citizens across London. They directly lead walks, workshops, planting, and rewilding activity across London, and we plan to significantly expand the scope of this work over the coming months.

As part of the Rangers programme throughout the past year, we delivered and been involved in a wide range of activities, collaborations and events both online and offline. Our role in bringing people together to explore and discover their London National Park City continued during the year, with a cautious switching from online events during Covid lockdowns to physical gatherings, largely in outdoor spaces.

In July we hosted a series of Ranger-led events across London which ranged from nature walks and foraging expeditions, to nature illustrations, yoga and dancing in nature to celebrate our 2nd anniversary which engaged hundreds of people. In October we were involved in Half-Earth Day organised by E.O. Wilson in partnership with Sir David Attenborough, where we ran a session alongside Kew Gardens, the Natural History Museum and Eden Project. This event gave London National Park City exposure to a lot of influential people and organisations, as well as thousands of people across the world. Throughout autumn we've also been involved with Timberland's Build Forward campaign, our work culminating with a creative workshop delivered by five Rangers from multidisciplinary backgrounds, to participants from across Europe who won a competition run by Timberland.

In April, we created a VR experience in nature with artist Joy Crooks, led by Ranger Katie, who runs a forest school and is a forest bathing practitioner. Our partnership also enabled Timberland to work with a youth community called Inspire, with whom we ran a large community event at the end of April in Elephant and Castle, taking some of these young people out in nature for the first time in their lives.

With the support of Right Thing Media we were able to offer small grants for Ranger led activities. As this proved successful, we aim to continue providing small grants for our Rangers as it's a proven way to increase their impact across the city. The activities included:

- Delivering electronic in nature projects for children from marginalised communities
- The creation of eight seed banks in South London
- Enhanced green space in South East London

Through a funding partnership with Natural England, we led the delivery of Nature Connects Brent, a multi-partner project to support local communities to engage with nature on their doorsteps. With a series of events held in the borough across five months, designed to engage with all corners of the community, we were delighted to welcome over 750 participants. We hope this project can be scaled up and replicated across multiple boroughs in the future.

We continued our Schools Network programme which brings together over 40 organisations supporting London's schools and educators, to help all of London's children. We support a community of schools, committed to supporting our goal of connecting 100% of London's children to nature. We are working with Learning Through Landscapes who run Outdoor Classroom Day in the UK, on an expanded programme of Teachmeets and Events, showing how all sorts of lessons can take place outside for all subjects.

In April we held a pilot London National Park City Assembly in Islington, one of the poorest local authority areas in the country for access to high quality green space. Funded by Natural England, this was a pilot for a new approach to enable local citizens to steer discussions around greener, healthier and wilder neighbourhoods, and make proposals to make life better in their urban area. Islington Borough Council took the proposals into their wider Greener Together programme.

The NPC Development Forum is a collaborative space aiming to get members to fully integrate independent projects into the National Park City concept; how their work connects across different

developers' land. Our aims are to accelerate the transformation of London National Park City's physical green infrastructure, share knowledge to provide vital habitats for nature, play spaces for children, climate adaptation benefits and boosting the health and wellbeing of our communities. Five of these developers have put forward pioneer demonstrator projects, with further demonstrator projects to be established over the coming months.

Looking forward with optimism

At the end of the reporting year, with our newly recruited Executive Director and new Trustees, we started planning ahead for future developments across the National Park City Foundation and we look forward to reporting on progress in next year's report.

The year ahead will see us focus on further enhancing our Rangers community, establishing new partnerships and funding to support our programmatic work, celebrate and support the varied and exciting activities already happening across our National Park Cities, directly support more National Park Cities within the UK, and support more emerging cities around the world to become National Park Cities.

Our supporters

Our thanks goes to:

- Timberland, the VF Foundation, and Natural England for their support.
- Emily Hamilton for her generous donation
- All Trustees, past and present, especially to Paul de Zylva and Ben Smith who retired during the year
- Our 150 London National Park City volunteer Rangers
- Other people who volunteer their time to the National Park City movement, especially to Dan Raven Ellison and to Steve Pocock, without whom there would be no National Park City movement
- Our partners at World Urban Parks and Salzburg Global Seminar and everyone who works on promoting National Park Cities around the world, especially Neil McCarthy, Mark Camley, Luis Romahn, Dominic Regester, and Jennifer Dunn.
- Elected representatives in London for their continued support for London National Park City, including the Mayor Sadiq Khan, and all the officials who support in Boroughs and the Greater London Authority
- Everyone who shares our vision of greener, healthier and wilder cities, and who becomes a National Park City Maker in everything they do

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Foundation's financial report for the year to 30 June 2022 is on Page 11. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and the requirements of the Constitution.

Funding Sources

The Trustees thank all funders and donors for their support and generosity.

This year we received £74,271 (2020/21 £155,532) of which £31,471 were restricted grants.

Expenditure

During the year, the main costs were running the Ranger Programme in London.

Total expenditure in the year was £90,399 (202/21 £61,964) of which £80,430 (2020/21 £52,453) was spent on the Ranger programme, supported by grants from Natural England and the VF Foundation as well as ongoing support from Timberland.

Expenditure has increased as restrictions on face-to-face events and activities ended. Trustees are confident that other sources of funding will be found to continue the programme uninterrupted.

Other expenditure during the year included the recruitment of the Executive Director who joined in June 2022, and general IT and administration costs.

Reserves

The fund balance on 30 June 2022 was £145,293 all of which was unrestricted (2020/21 £161,422, of which £126,319 was unrestricted). A reserves policy will be set to enable expansion and long term sustainability once the new Executive Director is able to set out future plans. The unrestricted reserves at the end of the year represented 14 months of committed expenditure, and the Trustees aim to hold 6 months of committed expenditure in unrestricted reserves..

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of the National Park City Foundation

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 June 2022.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees of National Park City Foundation, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of National Park City Foundation are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act, I report in respect of my examination of your charity'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 National Park City Foundation gross income is more than £25,000 your examiner needs to be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, 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 National Park City Foundation as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



Sarah Welsh

Date 22 October 2022

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION

Receipts and Payments for the 12 months to 30 June 2022

	30 June 2022			30 June 2021
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £	Total £
Receipts:				
Grants	31,471	20,827	52,298	52,907
Donations	0	21,959	21,959	102,626
Interest	0	13	13	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	31,471	42,800	74,271	155,532
Payments:				
Staff costs	35,592	14,546	50,138	50,438
Project costs	0	500	500	5,330
Events & creative	25,713	9,154	34,867	898
Admin & IT costs	1,663	3,227	4,890	5,298
Volunteer expenses	0	4	4	0
Contribution to core	3,606	(3,606)	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	66,573	23,826	90,399	61,964
Net Receipts/(Payments)	<hr/> (35,102)	<hr/> 18,974	<hr/> (16,128)	<hr/> 93,568
B/Fwd funds	35,102	126,319	161,421	67,853
C/Fwd funds	0	145,293	145,293	161,421

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 30 June 2022

	30 June 2022			30 June 2021
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £	Total £
Cash Funds:				
CAF Bank	0	143,602	143,602	159,736
PayPal	0	1,692	1,692	1,686
Total cash	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	0	145,293	145,293	161,422
Total Assets	0	145,293	145,293	161,422
Liabilities:	0	0	0	0
Net Assets and Liabilities	0	145,293	145,293	161,422

The Trustees declare that they approved the Trustees Report on the 30th of September 2022.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



Emily Brennan

Chair



Eilish Kavanagh

Treasurer

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1173267

Accounts

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION*

NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

Registered Charity number 1173267

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Registered Name: National Park City Foundation, also known as National Park City (NPC) and London National Park City (LNPC)

Contact details: Email hello@nationalparkcity.org or visit www.nationalparkcity.org

Registered Charity number 1173267

Trustees holding office during the year:

Alison Barnes

Emily Brennan

David Cope

Paul de Zylva (Chair)

Eilish Kavanagh (Treasurer)

Emily Hamilton

Angela McDermott

Alice Roberts (resigned 9 September 2020)

Ben Smith

Julian Tollast (retired 30 June 2021)

Tim Webb

Registered office: c/o Geovation, Sutton Yard, 4th Floor, 65 Goswell Road, London EC1V 4EN

Bank: CAF Bank Limited, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

STRUCTURE and GOVERNANCE

Governance and Management

The National Park City Foundation is registered as a charitable incorporated organisation, under a constitution which governs its activities.

The entire year was dominated by the ongoing COVID-19 viral pandemic and uncertainties about how to pursue activities. The Board of Trustees anticipated and monitored rules and restrictions to assess what could be achieved to ensure safety and legal compliance with lockdown rules.

Trustees met (virtually) five times during the year to June 2021 to review and plan work. Trustees also continued to hold their weekly tele-conferences to expedite work. During the year Alice Roberts stepped down as a trustee and Julian Tollast concluded his term at the year end. The Trustees are grateful to Alice and Julian both of whom continue to remain involved with the charity in other ways. The charity is grateful to all its Trustees, past and present, for their contribution and support.

Thanks to the on-going support of Timberland, the charity's two part-time Ranger Programme Managers continued to develop the unique National Park City Rangers Programme and doubled the number of volunteer Rangers from the original intake of 54 in March 2020 to 110 in February 2021.

All other activity by the charity during the year has been undertaken by the Trustees, volunteers and National Park City Champions.

During the year, as set out on page 4, the charity updated its constitution with the charity's new name and to reflect its emerging role with cities and interests other than Greater London.

Charitable Objectives

The objects of the Foundation are:

- To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Greater London having aesthetic, architectural, historic, scientific or educational interest;
- To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Greater London;
- To advance the education of the public in the heritage and culture of Greater London;
- To promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of Greater London the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants; and,
- To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of other cities and urban centres by promoting the National Park City learnings, practice and status to other cities.

Public benefit statement

The charity Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties. The Trustees also ensure the programme of activities is always in line with the charity's objectives and aims.

Risk Statement

The Trustees have, taking into account guidance available from the Charity Commission, reviewed the risks faced by the Foundation and have put in place policies and procedures to address and mitigate those risks to an acceptable level.

Given the ongoing uncertainties from the pandemic and economic downturn, the Trustees consider the main risk to the charity to be the ability to raise funds to develop its role, capacity and future activities. As a result, Trustees have focussed on monitoring the fundraising scene and identifying fundraising potential.

The charity continues to have few overheads in terms of physical office and related costs.

Governance Review

During the year Trustees reviewed the charity's constitution and made two amendments - to change the charity's name to National Park City Foundation and to add a fifth charitable object (see above).

The amendments reflect the balance of work between the original London focus of the National Park City movement and the growing role in working with partners and other cities with a view to there being 25 National Park Cities worldwide by 2025.

The revised constitution was approved by the Charity Commission on 31 October 2020 and was formally adopted by special resolution at the Trustees' Meeting of 12 November 2020.

Trustees' Report for the year ended 30 June 2021

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2021.

Aims

The Foundation aims to bring the idea of National Park Cities (NPCs) to life, starting in London, with the ambition to extend this across the UK and internationally, by:

- Providing thought and practical leadership
- Coordinating and developing the vision of NPCs
- Galvanising the London National Park City movement
- Growing a partnership of organisations and interests in support of NPCs
- Leading inspiring campaigns
- Supporting activities that contribute towards National Park City aims
- Fundraising

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

Objectives and activities

During the year to 30 June 2021 the Foundation focused on:

- dealing with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- following through on London becoming the world's first National Park City in July 2019;
- learning from and developing the unique National Park City Rangers Programme;
- finding ways, pandemic-permitting, to develop our network and relationships with communities, business and decision makers in London; and,
- developing contacts with and supporting other cities in the UK and worldwide to explore how to join the National Park City family.

Highlights include:

- With the support of Timberland and VF Foundation, the charity's Ranger Programme Managers, Ed Santry and Floree Zama-Neagra, supported the first intake of 54 London National Park City Rangers individually and as a network, despite the restrictions in place.
- Lessons from the first year of the Rangers Programme were reviewed along with an assessment of what would be viable given the pandemic. The review was used to develop the programme and inform the second round of recruitment which attracted 124 applications from which 56 new volunteer Rangers were selected to join the first cohort. We were able to increase diversity and fill some of the geographical gaps across London by attracting new Rangers in more boroughs.

- The London Mayoral and Assembly elections were postponed from May 2020 to May 2021. London National Park City joined the A More Natural Capital coalition to advance ideas to make London better, including through London's National Park City status.
- On the whole, physical events, meetings and gatherings were replaced by online activity. Some Ranger meetings and events were held in person when government rules allowed.
- A particular feature of the year under review was the support directed to help other cities think through how to become National Park Cities. This led to the development of a Journey Book guide to being a National Park City, which was launched as part of our second anniversary event in July 2021, and which will be reported on in the next annual review.

Network, supporters and volunteers

The entirety of the year took place under COVID-19 restrictions of one kind or another. While this brought challenges and hardship to many urban people, including in our network and our supporters and volunteers, the increased recognition of the health benefits of being outdoors and with nature for people brought opportunities to facilitate virtual and safe in person events. From its start the charity's Rangers programme was adjusted to make activities and interactions safe.

For a charity whose main activity is the idea of spending time exploring and enjoying the outdoors the ongoing pandemic and restrictions required for public health posed a particular challenge, but the sense from the year was there was an increased appetite to explore nature and the outdoors and to increase knowledge of localities.

During winter 2020 and spring 2021 the charity worked with a new range of volunteers to develop content for a new London National Park City wiki to help people explore their city in a different way and to share insights and enjoyment with others.

We are grateful to all new and existing volunteers, network members and supporters for continuing to make the best of the pandemic by promoting the relevance of the National Park City idea.

Advancing National Park City status in London

Lessons from the first pandemic-hit year of the Rangers programme were used to inform the direction of the programme in year two and the recruitment of the second cohort of volunteer Rangers to fill geographical and other gaps.

The charity launched a Development Forum comprising leading developers and related professions to explore their role in and contribution to London as the world's first National Park City.

A particular London project with national relevance was started based on work by Christine Eborall who tracked the loss of front gardens in London and advocated ways to retain porous and biodiverse spaces instead of losing them entirely to hard surfacing.

The charity also worked with GoParks to support communities interested in local parks and green spaces, helping them share insights, skills and knowledge, and to make the case for better care for and management of green spaces in London.

Discussions also took place to scale up the charity's London National Park City Schools network and how it can support and help convene the range of interests who see schools and school grounds a locus for activity.

Promoting National Park City status elsewhere

As reflected in the charity's revised constitution, there has been rising interest from other cities to explore becoming National Park Cities. Trustees held discussions with several other UK cities considering National Park City status, to help inform their thinking.

Internationally, and with considerable support from our global partners World Urban Parks and Salzburg Global Seminar, the charity engaged in numerous discussions with cities worldwide and sought to form a supportive network of would-be National Park Cities to help deepen understanding, exchange knowledge and skills and to draw up a set of steps for how National Park City status would be secured.

Toward the end of the year under review, the charity planned events to mark the second anniversary of London becoming the first National Park City in July 2019, including preparing a 'Journey Book' guide to join the National Park City family.

Events

COVID-19 lockdown and ongoing restrictions throughout the year meant a continuation of most events being held online, including regular Trustees' Meetings and network events.

When lockdown rules were altered, Trustees decided how to ensure COVID-compliance and Ranger Coordinators worked with Ranger volunteers to hold events, gatherings, and networking events in reduced form.

Influence

As reported last year, the charity had engaged with main Mayoral candidates with its 5 'asks' of candidates and a Mayoral hustings event as part of its Gathering on 29 February 2020 just ahead of lockdown taking place.

The elections due in May 2020 were postponed to May 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions. For the postponed elections the charity worked with a coalition of London organisations under the heading of A More Natural Capital, including an online hustings event on 21 April 2021 hosted by Julia Bradbury.

The charity worked with Christine Eborall who has pioneered research and thinking about the implications for the urban environment of the rising loss of front gardens to hard surfacing often to park a vehicle. The charity developed a website to inform discussion about the effects and advice on how to restore space for nature even with space for parking.

With University College London the charity co-hosted a series of CityLab events to explore ways to improve access to London's green spaces with a particular focus on social exclusion; including the lack of involvement in decision making about place making.

The charity took part in several discussions and events with government and others on the renewed interest sparked by the pandemic lockdown in access to the outdoors and green and blue spaces and contact with nature for health and social inequality reasons.

That work also relates to the government's emerging thinking on landscapes and improved access to nature. As previously reported, the UK government's Glover Review of landscapes in England published in September 2019 gave "strong support" to the National Park City idea.

In June 2021, the government stated in its initial response to the Review that it would "focus on improving people's quality of life, addressing inequalities in access and connection to the natural environment which have been well-evidenced through the Covid pandemic. This could include building on the idea of 'national park cities', focussing on nature restoration next to where people live."

Thanks to:

- Timberland for its ongoing support of the National Park City Rangers Programme.
- VF Foundation for financial support during the year to the Ranger Programme.
- Ann and Barry Smith for their generous financial support.
- Emily Hamilton for her generous financial support.
- All those who have donated to National Park City during the year.
- All our volunteer London National Park City Rangers; the first intake of 54 and the second intake of 56 who joined in March.
- Ed Santry and Floree Zama-Neagra, our Ranger Programme Managers, who have continued to adapt to the pandemic and restrictions and found creative ways to support volunteer Rangers, to develop the programme and to work with the Trustees.
- All volunteer contributors to the London National Park City wiki.
- Members of the London National Park City Development Forum.
- Christine Eborall for leading on the Front Gardens work.
- Alice Roberts for liaising on the GoParks project and campaign.
- London Mayor Sadiq Khan, Deputy Mayor Shirley Rodrigues, and Andrew Jones, Peter Massini, Ben Connor, Katrina Ramsey and Pete Nichols at the GLA for ongoing advice, support and encouragement.
- Elected members of London local authorities and of the London Assembly for their support.
- Our global partners World Urban Parks and Salzburg Global Seminar.
- Daniel Raven-Ellison, founder of the National Park City.
- Steve Pocock, super volunteer at the heart of the Foundation's work.
- Everyone who acts to advance National Park City ideas and activities as a National Park City Maker.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Foundation's financial report for the year to 30 June 2021 is on Page 11. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and the requirements of the Constitution. During the year the date of the end of the financial year was changed from 19th June to the 30th June for simplicity.

Funding Sources

The Trustees thank all funders and donors for their support and generosity.

This year we received an unrestricted donation of £17,804 from Timberland, and a restricted grant of £35,906 (USD\$50,000) from the VF Foundation toward the Ranger Programme in London in 2021/22.

Ann and Barry Smith's generous donation will support the charity as it seeks to scale up the National Park City work in the next few years.

Total income in the year of £155,532, including general donations, represents a doubling of income (102% increase) on 2019/20 (£76,670).

Expenditure

During the year, the main costs were running the Ranger Programme in London.

Total expenditure in the year was £61,964 (2020: £43,445) of which £52,453 was spent on the Ranger programme.

Expenditure has been lower than planned due to the restrictions on face-to-face events and activities, and so the existing funding for the Ranger Programme will be sufficient until early 2022. Trustees are confident that other sources of funding will be found to continue the programme uninterrupted.

Other expenditure during the year included the design and production of the Journey Book and running a YouGov poll in Spring 2021 which found that 94% of Londoners want the Mayor to protect London's green and blue spaces; ensure all are of high quality; attract diverse users and feel safe for all. IT and administration costs enabled us to hold virtual events engaging hundreds of people throughout the pandemic lockdowns.

Reserves

Due to receiving significant donations towards the end of the financial year, the Trustees revised the business plan. The fund balance on 30 June 2021 was £162,386, of which £127,283 is unrestricted. A reserves policy will be set to enable expansion and long term sustainability once plans are completed.

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of the National Park City Foundation

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 June 2021.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees of National Park City Foundation, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of National Park City Foundation are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act, I report in respect of my examination of your charity'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 National Park City Foundation gross income is more than £25,000 your examiner needs to be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, 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 National Park City Foundation as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



Name

Date 16 January 2022

National Park City Foundation

Receipts and Payments from 21 June 2020 to 30 June 2021				
	30 June 2021			21 June 2020
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Receipts:				
Grants	35,102	17,804	52,907	75,000
Donations	0	102,626	102,626	1,670
	35,102	120,430	155,532	76,670
Payments:				
Staff costs		50,438	50,438	11,414
Project costs		5,330	5,330	22,410
Events & creative		898	898	8,717
Admin & IT costs		5,298	5,298	584
Volunteer expenses		0	0	14
Trustee expenses		0	0	306
	0	61,964	61,964	43,445
Net Receipts/(Payments)	35,102	58,466	93,568	33,225
B/Fwd funds	0	67,853	67,853	34,628
C/Fwd funds	35,102	126,319	161,422	67,853

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 30 June 2021				
	30 June 2021			21 June 2020
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cash Funds:				
CAF Bank	35,102	124,633	159,736	66,178
PayPal	0	1,686	1,686	1,675
Total cash	35,102	126,319	161,422	67,853
Total Assets	35,102	126,319	161,422	67,853
Liabilities:	0	0	0	0

The trustees declare that they approved the Trustees Report above on the 3rd December 2021.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



Paul de Zylva

Chair



Eilish Kavanagh

Treasurer