



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **01/04/2024** Period start date To **31/03/2025** Period end date

Charity name: **Kent Downs Trust**

Charity registration number: **1184737**

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	Official purposes of the Kent Downs Trust: 1. To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical, natural and cultural environment of the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and its setting in particular but not exclusively by: I. Carrying out work to improve the landscape, environment and built heritage; li. Supporting traditional skills and promoting all arts inspired by the Kent Downs AONB and its setting. 2. To advance the education of the public in particular in the conservation, protection and enhancement of the physical, scientific, natural and cultural environment of the Kent Downs AONB and its setting.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The Trustees have undertaken work looking at the next steps for the Charity after the unsuccessful attempts in the previous year to raise funding through grant applications.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. The main activity has been to review what didn't work the previous year and regain focus on how to research how best to meet the needs of new and diverse audiences who might benefit from its activities in the future. The Kent Downs National Landscape (KDNL) was supporting the Charity with some dedicated time from a staff member who was between projects, but unfortunately this person left KDNL. To support their ambition for the Charity the Trustees have sought additional support and commitment

		from the Kent Downs National Landscape staff team. The Trustees remain committed to the Trust and its work and will continue their work
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### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>During this period, the Trust continue to build on the consultants reports to try to secure funding to secure the future of our planned work. Using the 'next steps' guidance produced in 2022-23, a funding bid was submitted in January 2025 to the John Lewis Partnership for project funding but this was unsuccessful.</p> <p>Initial discussions for working with Kent Funding For All – a local charity - are underway and the plan for the next year (2025-26) is to work with Kent Funding For All which can support us to develop and deliver our ambitions. The Trustees seek to retain the Kent Downs Trust and remain committed to it.</p> <p>The plan is to register the charity for Gift Aid and further pursue funds through both donation and grant applications.</p>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The reserve held is a grant to enable the continuing establishment phase of the Trust. Work is continuing to seek further funding to secure a financial footing for future activities.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£569
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/a

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g. unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<p><b>Appointed charity trustees</b></p> <p>(a) Apart from the first charity trustees, every appointed trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.</p> <p>(b) Trustees will be nominated in line with the trustee recruitment policy, in selecting individuals for appointment as appointed charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.</p>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

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## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Kent Downs Trust
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1184737
Charity's principal address	Kent Downs AONB Unit The Granary Penstock Hall Farm Brabourne Ashford Kent TN25 5LL

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Caroline Arnold	Chair of Trustees		
2	Richard Haynes			
3	Paul Bristow			
4	Nick Johannsen			
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**Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved**

Director name		

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity**

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Administrative support	Lisa Monk-Jones	The Granary, Penstock Hall Farm, Brabourne, Ashford, Kent, TN25 5LL
Administrative support	Isabel Shaw	The Granary, Penstock Hall Farm, Brabourne, Ashford, Kent, TN25 5LL

#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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## Other optional information



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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Caroline Arnold	Nick Johannsen
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair of Trustees	Ex Officio Trustee
Date	31/01/26	

Receipts and Payments Account for Kent Downs Trust for the year ended 31st March 2025

Dr			CR
Receipts	£	Payments	£
Balance b/f		Invoice payments	£ -
Cash in hand	£ 569.00	Trustee expenses	£ -
Interest	£ -	Administration expenses	£ -
Donations	£ 1,393.66	Room hire	£ -
Grant funding received	£ -	Bank charges	£ 0.20
Earned income	£ -		
	£ -	Balance c/d	£ 1,962.46
	£ 1,962.66		£ 1,962.66

Signed and Agreed

Nick Johannsen



Trustee

Kent Downs Trust

31/01/2026