

North Tyne and Redesdale Red Squirrels

Trustees' Annual Report 2024

North Tyne and Redesdale Red Squirrels

Charity Reg: 1186568

Address: 4 Low Park, West Woodburn, Hexham., Northumberland, NE48 2SQ

Trustees:

Adrian Rawlins, 4 Low Park, West Woodburn, Hexham., Northumberland, NE48 2SQ

Susan Underwood, 1 Hazel Cottages, Otterburn, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE19 1LL

Philip Chard, Snuggygate, Noble St, Bellingham, Northumberland, NE48 2EE

Structure and Management:

The Group is administered by a Management Committee, which includes the Trustees and any group member who wishes to be attend a meeting. Decisions are taken by vote, as laid down by the constitution. Trustee selection to fill a vacancy is by majority vote at an AGM. Group members may also be co-opted onto the committee for s short period.

Objectives

North Tyne and Redesdale Red Squirrels (NT&RRS) works to promote the conservation of red squirrels in the North Tyne and Redesdale area, through fieldwork, public information, and cooperation with other groups with similar or related objectives.

Summary of Activities

Field work. By the end of 2024 we were unable to continue our monitoring on the Otterburn Ranges. This was mainly due to two main factors: loss of active volunteers due to ill health and changing personal circumstances; the increasing difficulty in accessing the woodlands due to storm damage and heavy rain, which made field work unsafe. New volunteers to help with this contractual work were not forthcoming despite one or two initial expressions of interest in doing squirrel work from people moving into the area.

2024 saw an increase in grey squirrel sightings, which had been low in recent years. This was a concern due to the lack of active volunteers. We responded where we could and were able to offer advice to those reporting sightings. Unfortunately, due to the remoteness of the area, it is not practical to draft in help from other areas, who are also struggling to look after their own patch.

Development work to refine the oral fertility control and gene drive control for grey squirrels is ongoing, but the monitoring and trapping of grey squirrels will need to remain the main method of control for some time while other methods are being refined.

We continue to have a presence on the Northern Red Squirrels web site and our own website, where the public can access information and contact details for anyone to get in touch if they would like to get involved or to report sightings, particularly of grey squirrels.

Recruitment of active volunteers is a priority if the group is to be an effective force in the fight to control the grey squirrel population. However, we are a sparsely populated area with a rural economy, meaning that working-age people often have more than one job to make a living, leaving little time to engage in voluntary work. We have had some interest from

people who have moved into the area, but this has been fleeting and despite initial enthusiasm, has not resulted in them becoming active volunteers.

Financial review

We are still financially viable and covered our costs for the year, which included insurance in anticipation of continued monitoring for the MOD. By the end of the year, we had been unable to attract additional volunteers to continue this work and had to turn down the offer of further funding. Expenditure was minimal as we were still using the equipment and food purchased in the previous financial year.

This document has been read and agreed by the following Trustees as being an accurate description of the Charity's work over the year.

*A D Rawlins
S Underwood
P Chard*

Dated 22nd November 2025

North Tyne and Redesdale Red Squirrels

	Year End
Income	31-Dec-24
R1 Membership	0.00
R2 Donations	50.00
R3 Sale of plants	0.00
R4 Grants	0.00
R5 Sale of feed	0.00
Total	<u>50.00</u>

Expenditure	
P1 Stationery	0.00
P2 Website hosting	0.00
P3 Purchase of feed	0.00
P4 Equipment	0.00
P5 Purchase of sundries	-48.00
P6 Room hire	0.00
P7 Publicity	0.00
P8 Cost of sales	0.00
P9 Insurance	-307.84
P10 Miscellaneous expens	0.00
Total	<u>-355.84</u>

Receipts & Payments Account for the Financial Year Ended 31-Dec-24		
	Year End 31-Dec-24	Last Year
	Total	Total
	£	£
RECEIPTS		
Membership	0	0
Donations	50	50
Sale of plants	0	50
Sale of feeder / trap food	0	0
Grants	0	999
TOTAL RECEIPTS	50	1,099
PAYMENTS	£	£
Stationery	0	0
Website hosting	0	0
Purchase of feeder / trap food	0	-101
Purchase of sundries	-48	-210
Purchase of Equipment	0	-80
Room hire	0	-30
Publicity	0	0
Travelling expenses	0	0
Insurance	-308	-308
TOTAL PAYMENTS	-356	-729
NET RECEIPTS-PAYMENTS	-306	370

Movements in Funds for the Financial Year Ended 31-Dec-24					
	Br'tFwd at 31-Dec-2023	Receipts in Period	Payments in Period	Transfers in Period	Cd'Fwd at 31-Dec-24
Cash Assets					
Cash at Bank & in Hand					
Petty Cash	0	0	0	0	0
Bank, Current Account	4,141	50	-356	0	3,835
	4,141	50	-356	0	3,835
Investment/Deposit Accounts	Bt'Fwd	Deposits	Withdrawals	Net Transfers	Cd'Fwd
Bank, Deposit Account	0	0	0	0	0
Total Cash Assets	4,141				3,835
Total Funds	4,141				3,835

Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 31-Dec-24				
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total at 31-Dec-24
Cash Assets	3,835			3,835
Other Monetary Assets				0
Investments Assets				None
Assets Retained for Own Use	1,309			1,309
Liabilities				None

Assets as at 31-Dec-24	
Description	Value
Thermal Imager	1146
Microscope	163
Total	1309

Note: The value of assets retained is based on assets being written off over 1 years.