

The Lifescape
Project Limited

Trustees' Annual Report

May 2024 to April 2025



“Our aim is to protect and restore wild, natural landscapes, and in doing this we tackle some of the most complex challenges in this space.”

Adam Eagle, CEO

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The team on our annual get together - this year we met in Romania's wild Carpathian Mountains

Thoughts From Our Chair on the Year

I am delighted to introduce what is only our fifth Annual Report the contents of which I am confident provide ample evidence that the mission we set ourselves at the outset was and remains the right one: to catalyse the creation, restoration and protection of wild landscapes by pursuing projects which address the themes of science, technology, law, economics, and culture.

We have continued to grow our team in a balanced way, both to deepen our expertise across our themes, and, just as importantly, to ensure we have a strong institutional infrastructure to support our “front line” team. As at Year End, the Lifescape Project has 19 team members, representing an 58% increase over the year. This is also the first year in which our accounts will be audited due to our revenue exceeding £1,000,000, which is something of a milestone for us. Lifescape continues to operate as a decentralised team, with no permanent premises and our team members based across a number of countries. We continue to believe that offering such working flexibility has allowed us to attract a much wider range of talented people to join us and to be international in outlook.

Finally, in addition to congratulating and thanking Adam and his team, I must once again take this opportunity to thank our many volunteers, funders and supporters for their invaluable support, and also to my talented fellow trustees who have continued to give their time and expertise well above and beyond their formal trustee duties. In particular, I would like to record the current trustees' gratitude and thanks to Sally Hawkins and Chris White both of whom stepped down as trustees this year.

Roger Leese
Chair of the Board of Trustees

Trustees' Report



The Lifescape Project



¹ **Charitable Objects:** Our charitable objects, as stated in our articles of association, are to promote the conservation, protection and improvement of the natural environment anywhere in the world.

Background

The Lifescape Project was established in 2017 by a team of individuals who, motivated by the significant degradation of the world's ecosystems in recent times, wanted to volunteer their time to the protection of nature, and to undertake ecological restoration.

The collaboration stemmed from previous work which introduced a unique set of individuals and skill sets to one another, and those involved soon realised that they could combine their expertise in fields such as ecology, law, economics and the sciences with their love for the natural world in an entirely new organisation. This blend of driven professionals across a variety of disciplines helped generate the idea for an independent charity which could continue to build on the work and relationships already initiated.

In this way the Lifescape Project was born. Since its establishment, the Lifescape Project has sought to foster the passion and expertise of those involved to make a long-term positive impact on global ecosystems.

From 2019 the Lifescape Project has been building a staff team of professionals across the relevant mission themes with the team now numbering 19 personnel. We are pursuing an ambitious five-year strategic plan, ending in May 2026, which envisages very material growth in our work and impact.

Projects and Activities Undertaken

In this report we set out the key projects and activities we have been involved in during the reporting period.

Eurasian Lynx Reintroduction

We are leading the [Missing Lynx Project](#), an effort to restore the Eurasian lynx to Northumberland and bordering areas of Cumbria and Southern Scotland.

Lynx once lived in the UK. They are elusive yet beautiful cats, living in woodlands where they hunt for roe deer in the twilight of dusk and dawn, or the dark of night. The project supports lynx reintroduction to Britain if there is both an area in Britain where lynx can live (which we have now evidenced is possible) and if local people are accepting of the animal back in the landscape.

Over the past year, the Missing Lynx Project has made huge progress. This year has seen the delivery of a wide-ranging local consultation, including:

- Meeting 50 local residents for one-to-one interviews, to understand in depth their views on the topic.
- Running 12 community workshops.
- Undertaking 44 stakeholder group meetings, to ensure local organisations are aware of and understand proposals.
- Meeting with groups of local farmers 9 times to discuss the benefits and risks of reintroduction.
- Visiting European lynx reintroduction projects with 7 local farmers, to better demonstrate the reality of living alongside lynx.
- Setting up focus groups for farmers, forestry, businesses and the local community.
- Deploying the Missing Lynx Exhibition across 15 locations to engage and consult local residents.
- Ultimately engaging with over 10,000 people and receiving 1073 survey responses from within the project region.



Members of the public engaging at our Missing Lynx Exhibition, which toured the project area



Eurasian Lynx Reintroduction (continued)

We have also made very substantial steps forward in areas of research and planning, including the question of how a reintroduction project would source lynx, the interactions lynx would have with other species and livestock, the costs and benefits of a reintroduction, and what a release and monitoring process would look like.

To secure the future of this important and exciting work, we held a fundraising event in central London in February, hosted by celebrities Deborah Meaden and Ellie Goulding. This raised over £300,000 for the cause, allowing us to continue work into the next two years.

Over the coming months the Missing Lynx Project will continue working with local communities to consider how a reintroduction project could be managed to maximise benefits and reduce risks. The partnership hopes to apply for a licence to reintroduce lynx to north-west Northumberland once we have a plan that's collaboratively designed with local people, and which sets out measures that are acceptable, feasible and can be implemented.

Finally, the Lynx to Scotland initiative, of which Lifescape is one of three partners, also made significant progress over the past twelve months. The project convened a cross-sectoral group of 53 national stakeholder representatives to objectively assess concerns which had previously been identified, and to discuss the benefits and challenges of a lynx reintroduction to the Scottish Highlands. Stakeholders supported a move towards a local level consultation process, involving individual landowners and others who may be directly impacted by a potential reintroduction of lynx to Scotland, and this will take place over the coming year.

KEY THEMES ADDRESSED

Science | Economics | Culture | Law

Cumbrian White-Tailed Eagle Project

This project is investigating the possibility of restoring the majestic white-tailed eagle to Cumbria.

With a wingspan of up to 2.5 metres, white-tailed eagles, sometimes called sea eagles, are Britain's largest native bird of prey. White-tailed eagles were once widespread in Britain, but numbers declined due to a reduction of areas for the birds to live, and the disturbance, harm and killing of these eagles, leading to their loss from the United Kingdom in 1918. We are now progressing toward their restoration in Cumbria, in the North-West of England.

Under the continued guidance of the Cumbrian White-Tailed Eagle Steering Committee, this year we have focussed on understanding social and community aspects of a possible reintroduction of white-tailed eagles to Cumbria. The team started the year by designing and building an exhibition looking at the history of the species in Britain, the future of white-tailed eagles and what a reintroduction could look like in Cumbria.

Once complete, this was taken to local communities in the project area and, alongside film screenings, expert seminars and webinars, we have engaged 523 local residents. This process has also generated 533 questionnaire responses to help us to better understand local community views on the reintroduction of this beautiful species.

Alongside this engagement work, we are now well underway with a 'habitat regulation assessment' a 'disease risk assessment' and a plan for sourcing eagles from Norway.

These are all critical parts of the planning which is required by the licensing body (Natural England) before a reintroduction project can proceed, and we plan to complete them over coming months.

Over the coming months we will also be completing further engagement with communities and finishing up the technical aspects of the planning. We hope to seek a reintroduction licence in 2026 if the proposals are feasible and if local people are accepting of their return.

KEY THEMES ADDRESSED

Science | Economics | Culture



Rewilding Law

Our Rewilding Law work aims to develop, share and deploy legal knowledge in relation to legal issues which apply to, support and/or impair nature restoration, thereby unlocking restoration actions.

It also seeks to identify and remove legal and bureaucratic barriers to rewilding, allowing our colleagues across Europe to get on with the critically important work of restoring ecosystems.

We continued to add guidance to our 'Rewilding Law Hub' over the past twelve months, helping rewilders across Europe to navigate the most challenging legal processes and issues which arise as they seek to restore nature. We published six new resources across various topics and countries, including local language translations to make sure those on the ground in rewilding projects can properly understand the complex legal issues being discussed. Feedback from users has been very positive, with 97% of survey respondents finding the Rewilding Law Hub a valuable resource. Whilst we continue to produce more guidance on new topics which rewilders are asking for help with, we are now also exploring additional types of support we can offer to ensure the law and bureaucratic processes are not getting in the way of important rewilding efforts.

The team also put energy into new forms of engagement this year, presenting at key conferences to over 135 practitioners/organisations (such as the Citizen Zoo 'Rewilding our future' conference), deploying the Hub through MSc courses (University of Manchester, Nature Recovery MSc), and through a new Rewilding Law LinkedIn group which has 138 engaged members.

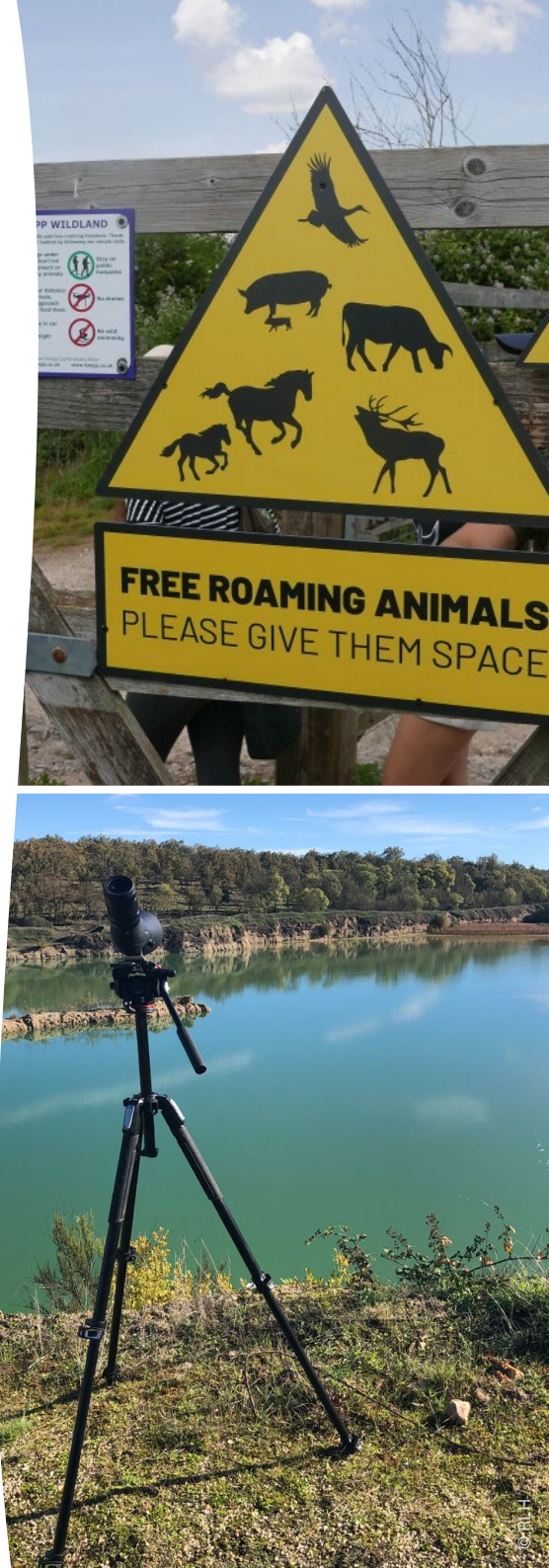
Beyond helping rewilders to navigate legal issues which come up in their work, we are also seeking to remove legal barriers which prove a complete block to key nature restoration actions. This year we have been working on several key obstacles:

- Collaborating with Rewilding Portugal to create a permanent legal protection for land being rewilded, to avoid the destruction of ecosystems in the future – essentially creating new 'protected areas'.
- Determining the best approach to gain legal access to 'common lands' for rewilding in Italy, alongside Rewilding Apennines.

- Working to allow large herbivores such as bison, wilder cattle breeds and wild horses to shake off legal shackles and live a wilder lifecycle, alongside Rewilding Spain, the Wildlife Trusts and the UK's Large Herbivore Working Group.
- Working alongside Knepp Estate and the Large Herbivore Working Group to make full use of the "semi-wild pony" derogation which reduces the burden of horse passporting for horses living in semi-wild conditions.
- Liaising with the UK's Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs to ensure that the Dangerous Wild Animals Act does not become a legal barrier to key species reintroductions, such as lynx, bison and elk.

KEY THEMES ADDRESSED

Law | Economics | Culture | Science





Conservation Covenants and Legal Mechanisms to Protect Nature

Momentous progress has been made by our legal team over the past year in securing long term legal protections for rewilding land.

This work's objective is, ultimately, to put thousands of hectares of rewilding land under legal protections which will secure nature for generations to come.

Early in the year our application to be a statutory 'responsible body' was approved, paving the way for us to enter into conservation covenants in England (we have held the equivalent status in Scotland for two years now), to ensure rewilding sites are legally secure. Building on this we developed a template legal agreement, instructed lawyers, and set about putting protections in place, to lock rewilding in as a mandatory land use for decades to come. In the year we brought 307 hectares of land under legally binding protections, and we are in negotiations with many more landowners to secure more protections in the coming year.

For now, this work focusses on 'biodiversity net-gain' market projects, but we intend to expand our work to also secure rewilding land which is not benefitting from the funding that this market offers.

Looking beyond the UK, we also completed research projects in Poland and Italy this year, which give us a good understanding of how legal protections could be used to protect and secure rewilded land in those countries. In Germany and Romania we have also commenced the same process. Once we understand this topic better in these countries we will be able to move forward toward securing legal protections for European rewilding projects in the future.

KEY THEMES ADDRESSED

Law | Science | Economics | Culture

Litigation for Nature

Although lacking in some areas, governments, public bodies and companies have many obligations to protect nature and biodiversity.

The issue comes when these organisations fail to comply with such obligations and nature suffers as a result. Through our Litigation for Nature work, we collaborate with other NGOs and local activists across countries globally to challenge decisions and policies which fall short of existing legal obligations. In this way, we can make seismic shifts towards nature positive policies and decisions.

Combatting the hunting of Capercaillie, Chamois and Deer in Romania

This year saw us commence a new collaboration with 'Alianta pentru Combaterea Abuzurilor' (the alliance for combatting abuses) in Romania. These two activists have an amazing track record of bringing successful legal cases against Romanian authorities, striking down decisions which threaten the incredible wild landscapes of Romania.

This year we assisted the local team with their legal actions, including successful lawsuits which concluded with the courts declaring hunting quotas for twenty-six native species to be illegal (including Capercaillie, Chamois and Deer species). This incredible success now positions our collaborators to substantially reduce, or even end, the sport hunting of these species in Romania which has to date been permitted with little or no regard to its impacts on natural ecosystems, or European law.

As well as supporting these legal successes, we also assisted our collaborators in becoming active in efforts to prevent the removal of legal protected status from the grey wolf in Europe, and in opposing authorities' careless approach to the management of brown bears in Romania.





Litigation for Nature (continued)

Ending Peat Extraction in Somerset, UK

Peatlands, also known as bogs, are vital ecosystems of significant importance to people. They act as carbon sinks, store vast amounts of water, and support unique biodiversity. Yet in Somerset the UK government is still complicit in the extraction of vast quantities of peat, including from sites which are supposedly 'legally protected'.

We have now begun work with an alliance of local NGOs to explore how the law can be used to end this extraction. At present we are gathering information and developing potential strategies to bring court challenges to this absurd practice and in the coming year we hope to bring a forceful legal challenge in an attempt to bring it to an end.

Scottish Beavers

Back in 2021, alongside claimants Trees for Life, Lifescape led a successful legal challenge of the Scottish Government's policy of approving the culling of beavers, without considering translocation as an alternative, and without even providing reasons for doing so.

In time, this contributed to a new government policy which allowed beavers to be translocated to new areas as an alternative, which was a huge step forward for the species in Scotland.

Sadly, over the past year we have had to engage again on this topic, as public bodies have continued to hold up translocation projects. These failures mean that more beavers are killed instead of finding new homes in other parts of the country, where they can enrich nature and bring countless benefits to people. Over the year we have provided legal support to local NGOs. We hope that this will not go any further and that beavers will be permitted to be moved to new sites, but we stand ready to support our collaborators if legal action is ultimately needed.

KEY THEMES ADDRESSED

[Law](#) | [Science](#) | [Economics](#) | [Culture](#)



Forest Litigation Collaborative

This partnership programme with US NGO [PEPI](#) focusses on using legal challenges and law enforcement as a tool to prevent and reverse the destruction of forests - a vital natural asset on our planet – by using litigation and other quasi-legal challenges against governments, corporates and other relevant actors.

An update on our current cases:

UK OECD

This greenwashing complaint focusses on the way that big business misleads the public and policymakers with statements that the burning of forest wood is low carbon and 'sustainable', which it is not. We filed against Drax Group plc in October 2021 and the assessment of our arguments is ongoing following the UK National Contact Point's initial assessment in July 2022, which found that the majority of our complaints warranted further investigation. We await the NCP's final assessment, but in the meantime Drax published its 2023 Annual Report in March 2024 and the language used to describe its bioenergy has been significantly amended and qualified, which is a positive development, albeit their description of forest biomass energy continues to be misleading in our view. This UK focussed work has also contributed to public discourse

regarding forest biomass energy, with the former Secretary of State Claire Coutinho and the Public Accounts Committee now acknowledging its absurdity from a climate and biodiversity perspective and flagging serious concerns about the integrity of the current system.

Financial Reporting Council complaint against Drax plc

Another challenge focussed on the way that forest biomass energy is wrongly portrayed as sustainable and low emissions by industry, we submitted a complaint to the Financial Reporting Council in March 2025. This complaint seeks to highlight and disincentivise greenwashing of forest biomass through legal arguments based on environmental obligations within the Companies Act 2006, and through the potential for Directors to be fined or a court order requiring a revision to the Strategic Report, should a breach be established. The Council has accepted the complaint and we hope

that they will both investigate and take action in due course.

UK Biomass Strategy Judicial Review

This case, filed in 2023, alleged the government is fundamentally misrepresenting the dangers of the technology, known as 'biomass energy with carbon capture and storage' (BECCS). The government subscribes to the idea that this technology could result in 'negative emissions', ignoring the impact of cutting down and burning forests which would otherwise be storing and sequestering carbon to help mitigate climate change. In December the case was refused permission to be heard and as such will not result in the legal outcome we had hoped for, however it was a valuable and positive exercise in airing important messages in public and before a senior judge, thereby increasing the pressure on the government to reduce its support for this destructive industry.

Forest Litigation Collaborative (continued)

EU Taxonomy

After the case was heard in the European Court of Justice in November 2024, we now eagerly await judgement. This case was filed in 2023 against the European Commission, challenging the labelling of forest biomass energy and business as usual forest management as “sustainable” economic activities under the EU’s Sustainable Finance Taxonomy Regulation, which if unchallenged could lead to substantial increased investment in these harmful practices under the guise of being ‘sustainable’. The claimants in the case are Save Estonia’s Forests (Estonia), Robin Wood (Germany), Clean Air Committee (Netherlands), Workshop for All Beings (Poland), ZERO (Portugal), 2Celcius (Romania) and Protect the Forest (Sweden).

Natura 2000, Estonia

We continue to support Estonian NGO Save Estonia’s Forests which seeks a nationwide injunction to prohibit logging within Natura 2000 sites unless an appropriate environmental impact assessment has been conducted. After being sent to the Supreme Court of Estonia on the basis that the claim was not technically admissible to the courts, we have received a ruling from the Supreme Court that the case is indeed admissible and that the lower courts must properly consider it. Since then, the Lower Court picked the case back up and then dismissed it on the basis that the Estonian authorities had remedied their approach, which they have not. As a result, we have appealed again to the higher court, and the case continues its circuitous path toward our objective of protecting natural forests in Estonia.

KEY THEMES ADDRESSED

[Law](#) | [Science](#) | [Economics](#) | [Culture](#)



Wetland and Forest Restoration in Rwanda

This project aims to implement a Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) pilot in Rwanda's Eastern District, in partnership with the Rwanda Wildlife Conservation Association (RWCA).

Our vision is to restore the land to a high level of ecological functioning by accessing funding from global markets for high-quality carbon credits. The project will deliver climate benefits, promote biodiversity recovery, provide jobs for local communities, fund selected local community development projects, and generate ecosystem services such as improved water and soil quality, microclimate regulation, and erosion control.

Having secured funding at the end of last year, RWCA and Lifescape started this year with a purchase of 33 hectares of semi-arid grazing land to host the restoration project, which we plan to restore to a nature-rich wooded savannah ecosystem. Having secured the land, the team then began engagement with local community members to ensure that we had the backing from those living in the area, and that we understand how they would hope to benefit from the project.

Building on this and with help from our internal legal team, we developed a governance mechanism for a 'community restoration committee' to ensure that the project would at all times have community support and self-governance.

We have worked closely alongside the Plan Vivo standard this year, as part of the first cohort for the Plan Vivo Accelerator, which is designed to allow viable projects to be fast-tracked through an intensive capacity building programme, in order to accelerate community and carbon benefits from projects. Making full use of this benefit, we have had our 'project information note' approved and have also now submitted a 'project design document' which, once approved, will allow us to access global carbon markets to fund community roles in the restoration of the site.

Encouraged by the progress we've made as a partnership, RWCA have committed a further 13 hectares of adjacent land they own to the carbon project, which will enhance both the restoration impact and the projected carbon finance. We hope that in the coming year the process will be completed and sales of carbon will begin, generating the funding needed to support local communities, begin sequestering carbon as a climate change mitigation measure, and restore the natural ecology of the site.

KEY THEMES ADDRESSED

Law | Science | Economics | Culture

Amelia (Lifescape's Rewilding Economist) and Diogene (RWCA team member) visiting RWCA's native tree nursery



The Natural Capital Laboratory

Bringing the Natural Capital Laboratory's initial 5-year work plan to its conclusion, we published a landmark [legacy piece](#) in January 2025.

This report summarises key learnings from the project's pursuit of innovation in the way that we restore ecosystems and place value on the outcomes of that restoration. It covers topics ranging from eDNA use for biodiversity monitoring, advancements in methods for valuing specific ecosystem services such as climate regulation, the use of AI to sift ecological data, through to deploying virtual reality to bring the project to life. We encourage others embarking on rewilding projects to consider our learnings from the first five years of this project and have widely disseminated these findings.

With the original project plan having drawn to a close and the significant generation of knowledge around restoration, monitoring and natural capital now published and disseminated, we have transitioned to a new approach with greater emphasis on restoration actions. In pursuit of this, we have achieved a lot over the past year.

At the beginning of the year, in May 2024, we translocated four wood ant nests from the west side of Loch Ness to the site, with the technical and scientific aspects of the translocation led by entomologist Alex Dittrich of Nottingham Trent University. This collaboration catalysed an ongoing, strong academic partnership with the University, who are now a member of the steering group of the NCL. Hairy wood ants are ecosystem engineers, shaping insect communities and influencing how nutrients flow through woodland ecosystems. For example, they control herbivorous insect populations, provide microhabitats for other invertebrates, and provide an important food source for birds, mammals, and other species. Excitingly, returning to the site after the snows of a Highlands winter, researchers from Nottingham Trent University observed that these four nests had merged into two established nest networks, each consisting of central colonies and multiple satellite nests.

The Natural Capital Laboratory (continued)

A number of university students have spent time monitoring these networks over the year, with one student focussing a master's thesis on the translocation, specifically exploring population dynamics, behaviour, and colony structure. Building on these successes, economists at AECOM also assessed the wood ant reintroduction through a climate-action lens, and they produced infographics to illustrate the role of wood ants in specific ecosystem processes that sequester and store carbon, directly through nest building and indirectly through ecosystem influence more broadly.

Again, relating to the ecological restoration of the site, this year saw the erection of a fence to create an enclosure as a method of managing the impact of deer on native woodland regeneration. This has proven a success, with birch, willow and other native species quickly emerging as soon as browsing pressure was removed.

In the absence of deer culling, which is used by forestry and rewilding groups across the country, the success of this small trial is of huge relevance to the site as it means we can unlock natural regeneration whilst complying with the project's vegan management principles.

Starting in the spring, we also commenced an investigation into the presence of adders and slow worms (a species of legless lizard) at Birchfield. We suspect these species are not present on the site due to the previous use as a commercial forest. Now, with the emergence of heathland and grasslands, we believe Birchfield offers ideal habitat and, if we do not find them, we shall commence work to assess the feasibility of returning the species.

Finally, following the 2023 Biodiversity Metrics Review and the recommendation to use the Pivotal Biodiversity Multi-Metric, we began a more focused collaboration with the University of Cumbria and Pivotal at Birchfield.

The overlap between University of Cumbria's long-term interval sampling at the NCL and Pivotal's continuous, intensive sampling over a few consecutive days, created a rare opportunity to compare these sampling methods scientifically. The aim is for the analysis to result in a peer-reviewed journal article as well as practical, evidence-based guidance to help rewilders and others monitor biodiversity (particularly birds and bats) most effectively with limited resources. First draft papers are expected in November 2025.

KEY THEMES ADDRESSED

Economics | Technology | Science | Culture





Pine Marten Restoration

The South Cumbria Pine Marten Recovery Project, led by the University of Cumbria, is a partnership of public and private sector organisations including Lifescape. Lifescape hosts a project officer who is involved in the practicalities of translocation and field-based monitoring activities.

Across 2024 and 2025 a total of 29 adult pine martens were translocated from sites in the Scottish Highlands to Grizedale Forest and Graythwaite Estate in South Cumbria.

Translocated martens are fitted with VHF collars and monitored via telemetry for the first few months and have already dispersed across Cumbria.

A wide network of 80+ camera traps has been installed across the region with support from landowning organisations and individuals. They allow the project to monitor not only the translocated martens but also kits born in the summer of 2025 and a small number of pre-existing residents. At the end of 2025 the population is estimated at 40-45 individuals.

KEY THEMES ADDRESSED

Science | Culture

Our Supporters



Our Supporters²

We are lucky to receive both financial support and volunteer time contributions from a variety of organisations and individuals. Below we list all supporters who have provided us with £1000 or more of support over the financial year.

Funders

Adam Sweidan	Lily Marcel
AECOM	Manchester University
Alex Eagle	Nicola Knop
ALV Foundation	Northumberland Wildlife Trust
Anton Bilton	Oak Foundation
Becky Holmes	Partnership For Policy Integrity
Carman Family Foundation	Rewilding Britain
Clifford Chance Foundation	Roger Leese
Credit Nature	Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
Ecological Restoration Fund	The John Swire 1969 Charitable Trust
High Fen Ltd	Trees For Life
James & Jackie Lambert	University Of Cumbria
James Raynor	VP PLC
Jessica Sweidan	Walter Riddell
Nigel Newton	

Individual Time Donors

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Hannah James
Johanna Gluhak
Nick Sidwell
Pat Eagle

Institutional Time Donors

6 Pump Court
37 Essex Chambers
38 Essex Chambers
39 Essex Chambers
A&O Shearman
Addleshaw Goddard LLP
Burness Paull LLP
Clifford Chance LLP
Copia De Copia Maio
Gowlings
Mishcon De Reya LLP
PLMJ
Police and Partners
Ramboll
Sidley Austin LLP

² Our supporters list includes charitable donors, corporate sponsors, recipients of professional conservation services, and time donors.

Governance Matters





Governance Matters

Lifescape is committed to good governance: achieving our strategic aims, developing a balanced board with diverse skills, and implementing processes for transparent decision-making and accountability.

The Governance sub-committee set up in January 2024 is tasked with implementing the small Charity Governance Code (now the Governance Code 2025). It has undertaken a trustees' skills audit, developed an induction package and supported the Board in recruiting two new trustees. The sub-committee has considered and reviewed/developed policies and procedures for conflict of interest, supplier credentials, risk management, whistleblowing, complaints and safeguarding.

There is more to do to ensure that our governance develops appropriately as Lifescape grows and a significant programme of work in line with the governance code has been identified and taken forward into 2025-26.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion



Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

At Lifescape, we take equality, diversity and inclusion seriously.

We have adopted and published an EDI statement. We aim to cultivate a workplace that values and celebrates diversity, fostering an inclusive working environment where all individuals (staff, volunteers, trustees, partners, and beneficiaries), regardless of background or identity, feel respected and empowered. We will take action to promote equal opportunities, avoid discrimination, and seek to ensure that our organisation reflects a rich tapestry of perspectives from across society.

By embracing diversity in all its forms, we strive to enhance creativity, innovation, and collaboration within our team. We will reflect these values when working with others, ultimately contributing to a more equitable and just culture in the fields in which we work. We recognise that we have work to do to achieve these aims and that our staff and board is currently under-represented in terms of racial diversity.



Financial Report



Financial Report

Financial Review

Total income for the year was £1,081k, an increase of £60k over 2023-24. The income includes donations of voluntary time valued at £261k (£313k 23-24). The increase in operations reflects the continuing diversity of projects described in the Trustees' report and takes Lifescape over the £1m threshold so this year the accounts have had the benefit of an external audit by Auditors Thompson Jenner who were appointed in December 2023 after a competitive process. Lifescape became vat registered on 1 May 2025.

Unrestricted income for the year was £237k (2024: £257k). Of this, £100k was received from the Oak Foundation to be applied to core costs. £39k (£75k) came from regular and one-off donations from individuals and £38k (£30k) was received in voluntary time from partner organisations and individuals. Income earning activities achieved £48k (£32k).

Restricted income for the year was £844k (compared to £764k achieved in 2023-24). Of this, £499k (£482k) was received from Trusts and Foundations. £343k came from

donations of which £222k (£282k) was from voluntary time.

Expenditure related to unrestricted funds was £235k (£199k). Unrestricted expenditure relates to the management time of key staff and operational expenses such as computer equipment, insurance, bought in services, staff meetings, training, travel and subsistence.

Expenditure on restricted funds £869k (£766k) met the cost of staff time dedicated to projects, independent experts, equipment, public consultation and travel and subsistence.

A £22k audited deficit (2024: £55k surplus) was achieved in the year, decreasing total reserves from £160k to £138k, of this £6k relates to restricted funds required to complete projects in 2025-26 and £5k is a designated fund related to conservation covenant enforcement. The remaining £127k is general unrestricted. The increase in the general unrestricted reserves from £98k in 2023-24 to £127k reflects the £29k operating surplus achieved in the year.

Since 2022 the Trustees have maintained staff salaries in line with

annual cost-of-living increases and awarded a further 3.7% COL increase in 2025 keeping the value of salaries broadly stable over the period. The Employee Retention Fund created from reserves in 2022-23 and 2023-24 has been deployed to bring the salaries of some staff members closer to market rates in 2024-25. A pay structure has been developed to be implemented during 2025-26.

During the year the Board received CEO reports, project and financial updates and budget monitoring at its regular meetings. The Board is mindful of risk approving a risk management policy in April 2025 and reviewing its major risks during the year. Its delegated authority matrix has been updated to reflect the role of the sub committees and increased seniority in the management team. A streamlined approach to project plans and audits approved in September 23 facilitates Trustees oversight of how projects are progressing.

The Finance and HR sub-committee established in August 2024 has a range of delegated responsibilities from the Board, supports the executive in financial and HR matters, has developed a pay structure for

all staff including the CEO to be implemented in 2025-26, reviewed existing policies and the authority matrix and developed new policies for bullying and harassment, safeguarding, employment of ex-offenders and operational HR matters.

Financial Reserves Policy

The Board approved a financial reserves policy in May 2024. As a new charity it is recognised that the ability to build reserves is limited and will take place over a period of several years. The aim is to hold reserves sufficient to meet a minimum of 3 months operating costs. The year ended with £127k general unrestricted reserves which represent 11% of the 2025-26 approved budget (£1,108k), and will fund 6 weeks planned expenditure. Whilst this remains some way off the target 12 weeks the majority of funding is received in advance and therefore salaries and operating expenses are covered for 12 months in many cases.

Reserves and surplus cash funds are held in interest earning accounts at Triodos bank to improve returns on funds held.

Financial Report (continued)

Fundraising approach and performance

Ongoing funding from the Oak Foundation, Clifford Chance Foundation for rewilding law and the Partnership for Policy Integrity (PFPI) for the Forest Litigation Collaboration all help to take the pressure off the annual need to fundraise for our core team. New funding has facilitated work on reintroduction feasibility studies for pine martens and white-tailed eagles, a fifth year of funding for NCL, additional funds from PFPI for a further judicial review and funding to support legal work in Romania.

New multi-year funding in 2024-25 from the Clifford Chance Foundation (CCF) to progress our economics and conservation work in Rwanda funds activity valued at £150k over 3 years and we are part of a consortium that has secured a four-year funding programme from the EU: known as FORBEST this brings 308k euros for Lifescope from April 2025. An extremely successful fund-raising event for the Lynx project has ensured a further two years of project development.

As a 'Responsible Body' in England, Lifescope successfully competed for conservation covenant work during the year and this represents a significant new multi-year workstream going forward.

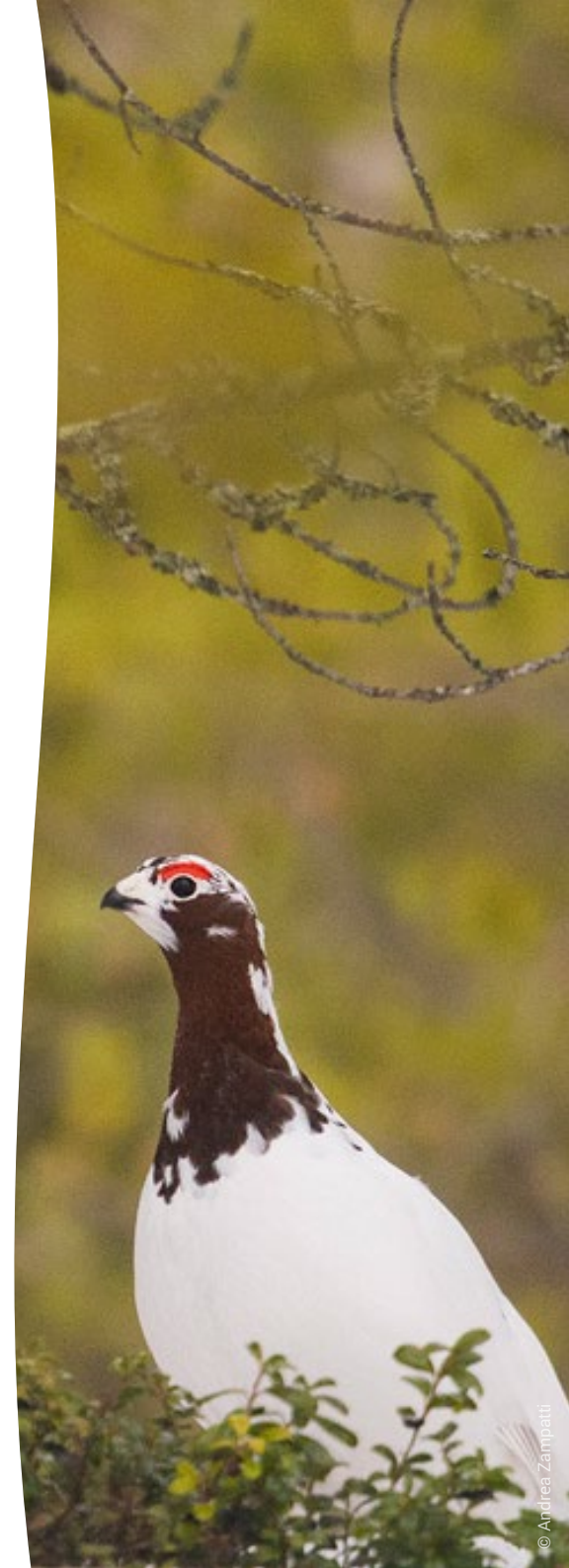
The focus of future fundraising is two-fold: to secure the core team with significant multi-year bids in progress which if successful will support the work of the core teams, and to develop projects with partners that will fund our five key themes. All fundraising is carried out by Lifescope staff.

We are very grateful for the support we received from individual donors through payroll giving and unrestricted donations including gift aid.

We are also very fortunate to receive substantial in-kind support from companies and individuals. The £261k provided in this financial year is very significant and particularly underpins our Rewilding Law work (£147k). We extend our huge thanks to these volunteers who are all making a significant contribution to the achievement of our objectives to restore, create and protect wild landscapes.

Going Concern

The Board reviewed its 2020 to 2026 strategic plan in July 2024 confirming its continued growth trajectory and the steps needed to achieve this. This is a precursor to the next multi-year strategic plan commencing in 2026-27. At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have reasonable expectation that Lifescope will have the adequate resources to continue its operational objectives for the foreseeable future. As such, the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.



Administrative & Governance Details





Administrative & Governance Details

Board of Trustees

Roger Leese (Chair), Pat Eagle (Treasurer), Steve Smith, Darrell Smith, Ian Convery, Lily Marcel, Max Heaver, Chris White (resigned 12.12.2024), Sally Hawkins (resigned 12.09.24), Paul Whitfield (appointed 2.10.25), Hannah James (appointed 29.9.25)

Chief Executive Officer

Adam Eagle

Auditor

Thompson Jenner LLP
1 Colleton Crescent
Exeter, Devon
EX2 4DG

Bankers

Triodos Bank
Deanery Road
Bristol
BS1 5AS

Metro Bank PLC
One Southampton Row
London
WC1B 5HA

Details

- The Lifescape Project Limited is a company limited by guarantee, having no share capital, incorporated and registered in England and Wales under company number 11334803 and whose registered office is at The Willows, Ipswich Road, Long Stratton, Norfolk NR15 2TG.
- The Lifescape Project's registered name is The Lifescape Project Limited. The charity also uses the name The Lifescape Project.
- The Lifescape Project's governing document is in the form of articles of association which were filed with Companies House on 28 April 2018. A full copy can be requested by contacting Mark Tipping mark.tipping@lifescapeproject.org.
- The Lifescape Project is registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales under charity number 1191303.
- The Lifescape Project is developing a formal recruitment process for trustees, however at this stage it recruits persons with the appropriate expertise to carry out the role from a range

of backgrounds. Article 20 of The Lifescape Project's articles of association provides that a person may be appointed as a director/trustee by ordinary resolution and the directors may appoint a person who is willing to act as a director/trustee.

- None of the trustees hold title to property belonging to the charity as at the date of approval of this report.
- None of the trustees served as a trustee for the charity in holding the title to property belonging to the charity in the reporting period.

Public benefit statement

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission for England and Wales.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 4.12.2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Roger J Leese

Roger Leese
Chair of the Board of Trustees

Financial statements



Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Lifescape Project Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 4.12.2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Roger J Leese
.....
R Leese
Trustee

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of The Lifescope Project Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Lifescope Project Limited (the 'charity') for the year ended 30 April 2025, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 30 April 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the original financial statements were authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of The Lifescape Project Limited (continued)

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Other matter

The Financial Statements for the year ended 30 April 2024 were not audited. Accordingly our opinion on the current year financial statements does not extend to the comparative information and we do not express an opinion on the prior year figures presented for comparison purposes.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of The Lifescope Project Limited (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (set out on page 31), the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of The Lifescope Project Limited (continued)

The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with directors and other management, and from our knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity,
- including the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, taxation legislation, data protection, anti-bribery, employment, environmental, fire safety and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management, reviewing licenses, certificates and relevant correspondence including the inspection of legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of The Lifescope Project Limited (continued)

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the charity's legal advisors.

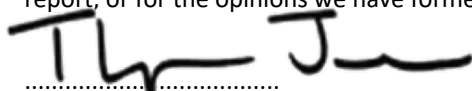
There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



.....
Dave Tucker ACA FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Thompson Jenner LLP, Statutory Auditor

1 Colleton Crescent
Exeter
Devon
EX2 4DG

Date: 08/01/2026
.....

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 30 April 2025

(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

The Lifescape Project Limited

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Income from:				
Donations	3	77,779	343,460	421,239
Charitable activities	4	158,042	500,542	658,584
Investment income	5	1,582	-	1,582
Total income		237,403	844,002	1,081,405
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	7	(15,308)	(56,226)	(71,534)
Charitable activities	8	(219,977)	(812,643)	(1,032,620)
Total expenditure		(235,285)	(868,869)	(1,104,154)
Net income/(expenditure)		2,118	(24,867)	(22,749)
Net movement in funds		2,118	(24,867)	(22,749)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		130,492	30,500	160,992
Total funds carried forward	21	132,610	5,633	138,243

The notes on pages 41 to 64 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

The Lifescope Project Limited

Prior year comparative

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income from:				
Donations	3	105,606	439,939	545,545
Charitable activities	4	118,500	324,111	442,611
Investment income	5	723	-	723
Other income	6	32,378	-	32,378
Total income		257,207	764,050	1,021,257
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	7	(15,389)	-	(15,389)
Charitable activities	8	(151,208)	(766,190)	(917,398)
Other expenditure	9	(32,512)	-	(32,512)
Total expenditure		(199,109)	(766,190)	(965,299)
Net income/(expenditure)		58,098	(2,140)	55,958
Transfers between funds		(25,255)	25,255	-
Net movement in funds		32,843	23,115	55,958
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		97,649	7,385	105,034
Total funds carried forward	21	130,492	30,500	160,992

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

The funds breakdown for 2024 is shown in note 21.

The notes on pages 41 to 64 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet as at 30 April 2025

(Registration number: 11334803)

The Lifescape Project Limited

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	16	2,998	5,006
Current assets			
Debtors	17	50,669	17,281
Cash at bank and in hand	18	772,971	534,586
		823,640	551,867
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	19	(688,395)	(395,881)
Net current assets		135,245	155,986
Net assets		138,243	160,992
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds	21	5,633	30,500
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		132,610	130,492
Total funds	21	138,243	160,992

The financial statements on pages 38 to 64 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 4.12.2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Roger J Leese
.....
R Leese
Trustee

The notes on pages 41 to 64 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 30 April 2025

The Lifescape Project Limited

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (expenditure)/income		(22,749)	55,958
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation	7, 9	3,172	3,709
Investment income	5	(1,582)	(723)
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets		2,178	-
		(18,981)	58,944
Working capital adjustments			
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	17	(33,388)	27,754
Increase in creditors	19	19,754	4,992
Increase in deferred income		272,760	129,248
Net cash flows from operating activities		240,145	220,938
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	5	1,582	723
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	16	(3,342)	(3,714)
Net cash flows from investing activities		(1,760)	(2,991)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		238,385	217,947
Cash at 1 May		534,586	316,639
Cash at 30 April		772,971	534,586

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.



Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025

The Lifescape Project Limited

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

The Willows
Ipswich Road
Long Stratton
Norwich
Norfolk
NR15 2TG

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

The Lifescape Project Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.



Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescape Project Limited

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Income

All income is recognised once the charity 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

Donations are recognised when they are received. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity 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 charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Deferred income

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Donated services and facilities

The time provided by volunteers has been costed based on the value to the charity had it been a service that Lifescape had decided to purchase and is included in professional fees and in charitable income.

Investment income

Interest is recognised once the interest has been declared and notification has been received of the interest due.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescape Project Limited

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 allocated to projects on the basis of 20% of project budgets or 20% addition to direct staff costs or as specified by the funder.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources normally calculated as 20% of total project costs or 20% of direct salary costs or as specified by funders.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit fees, trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity 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 charity 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescape Project Limited

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £250.00 or more 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:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	33.33% Straight Line
Field equipment	20% Straight Line

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised at the transaction price.



Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescape Project Limited

Fund structure

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

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 charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescape Project Limited

3 Income from donations

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Donations;				
Donations	39,419	120,964	160,383	232,900
Donated services and facilities	38,360	222,496	260,856	312,645
	77,779	343,460	421,239	545,545

Of the total income from donations in 2024, £105,606 was unrestricted and £439,939 was restricted.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescope Project Limited

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Conservation Covenants	33,165	-	33,165	-
Core Costs Grant	110,001	-	110,001	118,500
Income Earning Contracts	14,876	-	14,876	-
Forest Litigation Collaborative	-	109,362	109,362	90,269
Litigation for Nature	-	60,942	60,942	-
Missing Lynx Project	-	207,072	207,072	-
Lynx Missing Species	-	-	-	137,050
Lynx Missing Species - Scotland	-	-	-	3,296
Pine Marten Reintroduction	-	5,812	5,812	-
Rewilding Law	-	74,149	74,149	-
Rewilding Law - CCF	-	-	-	70,000
Rewilding Law - RB	-	-	-	2,300
Rewilding Legal Briefings - CCF	-	-	-	3,746
Rwanda PES	-	34,283	34,283	-
White Tailed Eagles	-	8,922	8,922	-
White Tailed Eagles - NE	-	-	-	14,885
White Tailed Eagles - RB	-	-	-	2,565
	158,042	500,542	658,584	442,611

Of the total income from charitable activities in 2024, £118,500 was unrestricted and £324,111 was restricted.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)
The Lifescape Project Limited

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	1,582	1,582	723
Of the total investment income in 2024, £723 was unrestricted.			

6 Other income

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Sale of Services	-	32,378

The Lifescape Project Limited

a) **Costs of generating donations**

Of total costs of generating donations in 2024, £15,389 were unrestricted.

Total for 2025

Total for 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescape Project Limited

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Corporate governance	13,840	-	13,840	20,639
Professional Fees (including in-kind time)	65,835	449,918	515,753	505,135
Salaries and employer overheads	163,431	227,424	390,855	343,043
IT Equipment and Expenses	6,539	2,568	9,107	7,743
Equipment Non-IT	604	1,836	2,440	470
Operating Expenses	13,587	24,410	37,997	15,999
Travel, Accommodation and Subsistence	23,226	35,052	58,278	25,379
Insurance	4,660	1,532	6,192	2,357
Depreciation	3,172	-	3,172	3,709
Contribution to Management and Operations	(74,917)	69,903	(5,014)	(7,076)
	219,977	812,643	1,032,620	917,398

Of the total expenditure on charitable activities in 2024, £151,208 was unrestricted and £766,190 was restricted.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescope Project Limited

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2025 £	2024 £
Biomass Judicial Review	-	-	-	41,389
FORBEST	347	-	347	-
Forest Litigation Collaborative	141,392	18,750	160,142	102,553
Kept Wild	-	-	-	2,127
Litigation for Nature	85,938	2,854	88,792	-
Lynx Missing Species	-	-	-	280,902
Lynx Missing Species - Scotland	-	-	-	3,296
Missing Lynx Project	214,672	25,895	240,567	-
Pine Marten Reintroduction	18,657	1,510	20,167	-
Rewilding Law	245,372	12,834	258,206	-
Rewilding Law - CCF	-	-	-	266,568
Rewilding Law - RB	-	-	-	2,299
Rewilding Law - RSWT	-	-	-	10,000
Rewilding Legal Briefings - CCF	-	-	-	23,733
Rwanda (PES)	29,658	4,625	34,283	-
Save our Rivers	-	-	-	14,549
White Tailed Eagles	9,597	542	10,139	-
White Tailed Eagles - NE	-	-	-	8,577
White Tailed Eagles - RB	-	-	-	2,565
Wolf Culling - Switzerland	-	-	-	7,632
Non-Income earning charitable activity	44,053	-	44,053	56,622
Corporate Governance	13,840	-	13,840	20,639
Management and Operations	229,094	(67,010)	162,084	73,947
	1,032,620	-	1,032,620	917,398

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescape Project Limited

9 Other expenditure

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Cost of delivering sales contracts	-	32,512
	-	32,512

10 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net (outgoing)/incoming resources for the year include:

	2025 £	2024 £
Audit fees	4,600	-
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	2,178	-
Depreciation of fixed assets	3,172	3,709
Independent Examination Fees	-	2,750

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescape Project Limited

11 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

P Eagle

£1,116 (2024: £346) of expenses were reimbursed to P Eagle during the year.

A Eagle is an employee of The Lifescape Project Limited and is a related party to P Eagle. A Eagle received remuneration as their role as Chief Executive Officer, the total cost to the charity was £82,867 (2024: £80,182.)

S Hawkins

£Nil (2024: £111) of expenses were reimbursed to S Hawkins during the year.

I Convery

£346 (2024: £Nil) of expenses were reimbursed to I Convery during the year.

M Heaver

£202 (2024: £Nil) of expenses were reimbursed to M Heaver during the year.

R Leese

£227 (2024: £Nil) of expenses were reimbursed to R Leese during the year.

E Leese, wife of R Lease received £251.14 for cleaning services during the year.

S Smith

£93 (2024: £Nil) of expenses were reimbursed to S Smith during the year.

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

Donations made by the trustees without any conditions attached totalled £8,080 for the year (2024 - £46,525).

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescope Project Limited

12 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	373,791	345,190
Social security costs	35,819	30,934
Pension costs	9,347	7,008
Other staff costs	135,747	49,215
	<u>554,704</u>	<u>432,347</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	2025 No	2024 No
Employees	<u>11</u>	<u>9</u>

10 (2024 - 8) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £9,347 (2024 - £7,008).

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescape Project Limited

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

	2025 No	2024 No
£70,001 - £80,000	1	1

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £174,837 (2024 - £80,182).

13 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2025 £	2024 £
Examination of the financial statements	-	2,750

14 Auditors' remuneration

	2025 £	2024 £
Audit of the financial statements	4,600	-
Other fees to auditors		
All other non-audit services	2,873	-

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescape Project Limited

15 Taxation

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

16 Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 May 2024	13,942	13,942
Additions	3,342	3,342
Disposals	(4,953)	(4,953)
At 30 April 2025	12,331	12,331
Depreciation		
At 1 May 2024	8,936	8,936
Charge for the year	3,172	3,172
Eliminated on disposals	(2,775)	(2,775)
At 30 April 2025	9,333	9,333
Net book value		
At 30 April 2025	2,998	2,998
At 30 April 2024	5,006	5,006

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescape Project Limited

17 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	22,200	-
Accrued income	24,500	17,281
Other debtors	3,969	-
	<hr/> 50,669	<hr/> 17,281

18 Cash and cash equivalents

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash at bank	<hr/> 772,971	<hr/> 534,586

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescape Project Limited

19 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	7,087	4,621
Other taxation and social security	11,060	6,350
Pension scheme creditor	2,588	1,535
Accruals	32,447	20,922
Deferred income	635,213	362,453
	<u>688,395</u>	<u>395,881</u>

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 May 2024	362,453	233,205
Resources deferred in the period	635,213	362,453
Amounts released from previous periods	<u>(362,453)</u>	<u>(233,205)</u>
Deferred income at 30 April 2025	<u>635,213</u>	<u>362,453</u>

20 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £9,347 (2024 - £7,008).

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescape Project Limited

21 Funds

	Balance at 1 May 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 30 April 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
Income Earning Contracts	-	14,876	(14,876)	-	-
Non-income earning charitable activity	-	-	(44,053)	44,053	-
Management and Operations	98,392	185,853	(124,970)	(33,100)	126,175
Conservation Covenants	-	36,674	(30,239)	(5,000)	1,435
	98,392	237,403	(214,138)	5,953	127,610
<i>Designated</i>					
Employee Retention Fund	32,100	-	(21,147)	(10,953)	-
Enforcement fund	-	-	-	5,000	5,000
	32,100	-	(21,147)	(5,953)	5,000
Total unrestricted funds	130,492	237,403	(235,285)	-	132,610
Restricted funds					
FORBEST	-	-	(347)	-	(347)
Forest Litigation Collaborative	-	160,142	(160,142)	-	-
Litigation for Nature	-	88,792	(88,792)	-	-
Missing Lynx Project	8,424	288,548	(296,794)	-	178
Pine Marten Reintroduction	-	20,167	(20,167)	-	-
Rewilding Law	15,768	242,437	(258,205)	-	-
Rwanda (PES)	-	34,283	(34,283)	-	-
White Tailed Eagles	6,308	9,633	(10,139)	-	5,802
Total restricted funds	30,500	844,002	(868,869)	-	5,633
Total funds	160,992	1,081,405	(1,104,154)	-	138,243

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescope Project Limited

	Balance at 1 May 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 30 April 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
Income Earning Contracts	-	20,912	(32,512)	11,600	-
Non-income earning charitable activity	-	-	(56,622)	56,622	-
Management and Operations	78,649	236,295	(88,075)	(128,477)	98,392
	78,649	257,207	(177,209)	(60,255)	98,392
<i>Designated</i>					
Employee Retention Fund	19,000	-	(21,900)	35,000	32,100
Total unrestricted funds	97,649	257,207	(199,109)	(25,255)	130,492
Restricted					
Biomass Judicial Review	-	41,389	(41,389)	-	-
Forest Litigation Collaborative (Biomass)	(4,107)	106,732	(102,552)	(73)	-
Kept Wild	2,127	-	(2,127)	-	-
Lynx Missing Species	6,228	257,598	(280,902)	25,500	8,424
Lynx Missing Species - Scotland	-	3,296	(3,296)	-	-
Rewilding Law - CCF	-	282,336	(266,568)	-	15,768
Rewilding Law - RB	-	2,300	(2,300)	-	-
Rewilding Law - RSWT	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Rewilding Legal Briefings - CCF	3,137	20,596	(23,733)	-	-
Save our Rivers	-	14,549	(14,549)	-	-
White Tailed Eagles - NE	-	14,885	(8,577)	-	6,308
White Tailed Eagles - RB	-	2,565	(2,565)	-	-
Wolf Culling Switzerland	-	7,804	(7,632)	(172)	-
Total restricted funds	7,385	764,050	(766,190)	25,255	30,500
Total funds	105,034	1,021,257	(965,299)	-	160,992

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescope Project Limited

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

Biomass Judicial Review - A judicial review of the UK biomass strategy. Included in Forest Litigation Collaborative below.

FORBEST - Safeguarding Carbon and Biodiversity across European Forest Ecosystems through Multi-actor Innovation.

Forest Litigation Collaborative - Legal Action for the protection and restoration of forests.

Forest Litigation Collaborative (Biomass) - Legal Action for the protection and restoration of forests.

Kept Wild - Exploring legal barriers to ecological restoration. Included in Rewilding Law below.

Litigation for Nature – Harnessing litigation to promote the restoration and protection of nature.

Lynx Missing Species - Public consultation on a potential Lynx reintroduction.

Lynx Missing Species - Scotland - Public consultation on a potential Lynx reintroduction.

Missing Lynx Project - Public consultation and feasibility study on a potential lynx reintroduction.

Pine Marten Reintroduction - Supporting the reintroduction of pine marten to Cumbria.

Rewilding Law - Providing legal guidance to others involved in ecological restoration and removing barriers to ecological restoration.

Rewilding Law - CCF - Providing legal guidance to others involved in ecological restoration. Included in Rewilding Law above.

Rewilding Law - RB - Providing legal guidance to others involved in ecological restoration. Included in Rewilding Law above.

Rewilding Law - RSWT - Providing legal guidance to others involved in ecological restoration. Included in Rewilding Law above.

Rewilding Legal Briefings - CCF - Providing legal guidance to others involved in ecological restoration. Included in Rewilding Law above.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescape Project Limited

Rwanda (PES) - Developing new income streams for community-led nature restoration in Rwanda.

Save our Rivers - Potential legal challenge to an infrastructure project impacting a protected area. Included in Litigation for Nature above.

White Tailed Eagles - Scientific feasibility study and public consultation.

White Tailed Eagles - NE - Scientific feasibility study and public consultation. Included in White Tailed Eagles above.

White Tailed Eagles - RB - Scientific feasibility study and public consultation. Included in White Tailed Eagles above.

Wolf Culling Switzerland - Legal challenge of the Swiss government decision to cull wolves. Included in Litigation for Nature above.

A number of funds have been grouped together for a clearer presentation of the fund categories and movement.

Designated

Employee Retention Fund - Fund to provide for regradings to reflect experience and expertise.

Enforcement fund - A fund designated for future liabilities relating to the enforcement of conservation covenants.

Unrestricted

Income Earning Contracts - Different projects that include:

- Assessment of values of nature.
- The Natural Capital Laboratory Project.
- Monitoring biodiversity change and trialling new methodologies.
- Rewilding advice and guidance.

Non-income earning charitable activity - Activities to support charitable work associated with rewilding.

Management and Operations - Core staff and operating expenses.

Conservation Covenants - Holding the benefit of conservation covenants in England to ensure and enforce the proper restoration of sites being funded through Biodiversity Net Gain.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescape Project Limited

22 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds at 30 April 2025
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	2,998	-	-	2,998
Current assets	161,967	5,000	656,673	823,640
Current liabilities	(37,355)	-	(651,040)	(688,395)
Total net assets	127,610	5,000	5,633	138,243

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds at 30 April 2024
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	2,827	-	2,179	5,006
Current assets	163,268	32,100	356,499	551,867
Current liabilities	(67,703)	-	(328,178)	(395,881)
Total net assets	98,392	32,100	30,500	160,992

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2025 (continued)

The Lifescape Project Limited

23 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 May 2024 £	Cash flow £	At 30 April 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	534,586	238,385	772,971
Net debt	534,586	238,385	772,971

	At 1 May 2023 £	Cash flow £	At 30 April 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	316,639	217,947	534,586
Net debt	316,639	217,947	534,586

24 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

A Eagle

(A Eagle is related to P Eagle, a trustee.)

A Eagle is an employee of The Lifescape Project Limited and received remuneration in their role as Chief Executive Officer. The total cost to the charity was £82,867 (2024: £80,182). At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from A Eagle was £Nil (2024 - £Nil).

