

Registered number: 12831806
Charity number: 1195055

STORMWATER SHEPHERDS UK
UNAUDITED
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023



STORMWATER SHEPHERDS UK
(A company limited by guarantee)

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STORMWATER SHEPHERDS UK
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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITABLE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND
ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

Trustees	R Ker B Pocock N Wells
Company registered number	12831806
Charity registered number	1195055
Registered office	Lancaster Road Harlescott Shrewsbury Shropshire SY1 3NQ
UK Director of Operations	Jo Bradley
Accountants	WR Partners Chartered Accountants Belmont House Shrewsbury Business Park Shrewsbury Shropshire SY2 6LG

STORMWATER SHEPHERDS UK
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**TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Charitable company for the year from 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the Charitable company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

- to promote improvements in stormwater management and the introduction and maintenance of sustainable drainage systems
- to advance improvements in water quality, both in rivers and streams, but also in the oceans that surround the UK.

The main activities undertaken in relation to those purposes are

- **Direct action** to remove litter from urban environments and urban streams, in the form of litter picks arranged with partners and Ambassadors
- **Targeted research** to learn about the extent of pollution and the patterns of pollution to then inform better design and operation of drainage systems to capture pollutants. As the research is completed, we then share our learning and knowledge through educational events such as Webinars and conferences.
- **Sharing expert advice** and knowledge with Influencers and Policy makers to help them to manage stormwater pollution and to mandate for the inclusion of pollution prevention in new developments and on existing infrastructure.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

Achievements and performance

a. Review of activities

Our strategic priorities are:

Priority 1. Secure income for Stormwater Shepherds UK

Priority 2. Secure a funding mechanism for stormwater management to sustain the pollution reduction that we achieve

Priority 3. Reduce plastic pollution in rivers, streams and oceans

Priority 4. Influence others so that they reduce pollution too

Our third year has been dominated by work that reflects our position as a recognised technical experts in urban pollution, SuDS design and highway drainage. This reputation is reinforced by our LinkedIn posts and the associated conversations and, to a lesser extent, by our presence on Twitter. Influential publications have also invited us to write content for them, which introduces us to new audiences and allows us to initiate conversations

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Achievements and performance (continued)

about new topics. We have been working hard to reinforce this work by keeping our website up to date, so that it contains a lot of technical information, thought-leadership and suggestions for visitors to improve stormwater management.

The topic of stormwater management has never been more prominent across the engineering and political landscapes in the UK; this has been driven by the huge focus on overflows from storm sewers that has appeared across the national press over the past twelve months. Everyone is talking about pollution from storm sewer overflows and both local and national politicians have quickly realised that they must grapple with this problem if they are to secure the support of their electorate. This has been useful for Stormwater Shepherds UK, because it has highlighted the problem of poor stormwater management, where urban runoff is directed into storm sewers, causing them to overflow. Water Companies are under increasing pressure to reduce the spills from their storm sewers and they are seeking solutions to improve the stormwater management. This has been excellent for Stormwater Shepherds UK and we have been in discussions with five water companies to help them to find solutions.

We are doing what we can to highlight the dual opportunity of managing highway runoff more effectively, so reducing storm spills and reducing pollution at the same time, and this message is being well received. We have been invited to work with CIWEM on this topic and we are also talking to the Marine Conservation Society, Greenpeace and an independent journalism firm on the topic of pollution from highway outfalls.

Alongside this, there is also a fierce focus on pollution from nutrients across parts of England as Natural England has imposed new and severe constraints on developments in sensitive catchments, to reduce pollution from phosphorus and nitrogen. These constraints have led to an increased interest in the design of good SuDS for nutrient management and we have been lucky to play a part in this work, helping to develop guidance and presenting at conferences to guide delegates through the technical complexities of nutrient cycles. This work has helped to raise the profile of Stormwater Shepherds UK and we are definitely influencing the design and construction of better stormwater management systems in these areas.

We were lucky to be involved in sampling phosphorus pollution from urban surfaces as this topic evolved so we had our research results to inform the new guidance as it was drafted. The sampling of urban runoff across Bolton, that we carried out in partnership with United Utilities has been very useful for everyone involved in trying to resolve this pollution problem and we are proud to have designed and delivered that sampling programme.

As the public attention on pollution of rivers and seas has gathered momentum, Government have responded with new draft legislation, new departmental plans and new edicts affecting the water companies. This has led to a number of public consultations and Stormwater Shepherds UK has responded to these consultations to reinforce the call for a national Stormwater Utility Levy and better stormwater management. This work is reinforced by our involvement in the projects being led by the Office for Environmental Protection who regulate the activities of the Environment Agency and Natural England; we are pleased to be able to help the OEP to understand the improvements that are needed in stormwater management.

The difficulty that we face amidst all this work, is keeping the profile of pollution from urban surfaces at the same level as that of pollution from sewage. Because the public interest in river pollution is being driven by the desire to swim in rivers, there is less interest in pollution from urban surfaces. This is because the risk of urban pollution to river swimmers is little understood; we are keen to use our influence to alert people to these risks and to see urban pollution take its rightful place alongside sewage and agricultural pollution.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Achievements and performance (continued)

The work that we are doing with CIWEM, creating a narrative about urban pollution, and the thought-leadership that we create on LinkedIn and in publications is helping to raise the profile of urban pollution and we are confident that this will lead to more research opportunities and partnership working. However, we need to urgently turn this influence and interest into financial support and sponsorship for the Charity. We have only received small donations so far, and we have has no offers of corporate sponsorship, apart from that from our primary sponsor, SPEL Products.

This may also be facilitated by the wealth of scientific research that is underway both nationally and globally, into the extent of pollution from microplastic tyre-wear particles that are known to be the largest terrestrial source of marine microplastic pollution. As the research progresses they are finding new manifestations of harm from the microplastics in creatures across the marine ecosystem. They are also uncovering harm to human health from the microplastic pollution in soils and foodstuffs. If we can prove the link between this horrific pollution, and poor stormwater management, at the same time as sharing solutions to the problem, we are confident that the work of Stormwater Shepherds UK can contribute to cleaner oceans with less plastic pollution.

We remain hopeful that this new and intense focus on pollution and on storm overflows will raise the awareness of the need for better stormwater management and encourage businesses to support our charity. We are pleased to be at the forefront of this work.

Overall, we are very pleased with the progress that the charity has made this year, and with the ever-increasing profile of stormwater pollution. Our one failing this year is that we haven't carried out any litter-picks in urban areas with partners. We will review the need for litter-picks with our Trustees and consider if we want to continue with them; they add a large sum of our annual insurance policy costs and we are struggling to find areas to litter-pick that are not already covered by local groups. If we decide not to carry on with litter-picking, we will introduce new types of direct action to fulfil our Charitable objects.

Next steps

To build on the opportunity presented to us by the renewed interest in stormwater management, we are planning a 'Stormwater Roadshow' to be delivered in Summer 2024 to bring together stormwater management contractors and practitioners. Because Stormwater Shepherds UK focusses explicitly on stormwater management, this sets us apart from all the other charities that focus on plastic pollution. We hope that by working with other business who operate in the 'niche' that is stormwater management, we may find that they are willing to sponsor our charity. The stormwater roadshow is our vehicle to reach these people and to work with them so that they can see the opportunities for their businesses, as well as the opportunity to make rivers and oceans cleaner.

As the next year unfolds, there will be more 'noise' about pollution from roads and urban surfaces, from the publication of the CIWEM document and from articles published by Greenpeace, by independent journalists and by the Marine Conservation Society. We are pleased to be involved in the delivery of all of these initiatives. If these publications and promotions coincide with announcements from the Water Companies about their business plans for the next 5 years, and with government announcements about pollution prevention, then we could attract more attention for stormwater management and urban pollution control.

This will help us to promote our roadshow and to attract delegates and sponsors alike.

But we shan't keep all our 'eggs in one basket'. We will continue to undertake environmental monitoring through next year, to build on our evidence base that we can share with our partners. It is only by providing robust scientific evidence to support our theories that we can retain the credibility of Stormwater Shepherds UK that allows us to influence change for the better.

Please see the next page statistics for this year, and a list of the activities that have been completed.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Achievements and performance (continued)

Statistics and activities for 2022_23

<p><u>Statistics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LinkedIn Followers 3,000 • Twitter Followers 1,630 • Zero Pollution Supporters 14 • Ambassadors 4 	<p><u>Specific awards & achievements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awarded 'Established Professional of the Year' award by CIRIA Susdrain • 2 articles published in the CIWEM 'Environment' Magazine on SuDS • Received the trophy for the best paper of the conference at the CIWEM Urban Drainage Group. • British Water 'Services to SuDS' award • I took part in the judging of the Water Industry Awards • Article published in Drain Trader magazine on SuDS
<p><u>Field Work & Research</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site visit to Stover Park • Sheffield Grey to Green Site Visit – new playground • Phosphorus sampling in Bolton • Motorway outfall project • Revisit to Eastcote SuDS following last year's drought to see if they are recovering • A day out with the Gully Sucking team from Lancashire County Council • Crewe Highway Outfalls • Berewood Site Visit • Portsea in Portsmouth • Nursling Industrial Estate, Southampton 	<p><u>Groups that Jo sits on & contributes to</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susdrain Committee • Douglas Catchment Partnership • River Irwell Catchment Nutrient Management Group • CIWEM Water Quality & Storm Overflow Group • CIWEM SuDS & Water Reuse Group • Exeter University and CREWW • British Water Surface Water Management Focus Group (Convenor) • Urban Pollution Prevention Group (Convenor and host) • Weaver/Gowy River Partnership • Advisory Board for Flood and Water Management Expo • OEP study of the implementation and effectiveness of current measures to protect the freshwater and coastal water environment in England and Northern Ireland
<p><u>CPDs delivered to engineers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vectos • RVT Group • Elliot Wood engineers • Jubb engineering • Aegaea Engineering re stormwater filters • Stantec • Urban Design Learning on the use of SuDS and Green Blue Infrastructure for pollution control and habitat creation • PJA to introduce Stormwater Shepherds UK 	<p><u>Supporting Students</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam at John Moores working on SuDS for flood risk management on Highways • Alice who is an Anthropology student from Spain; she wanted to chat about urban design for wildlife • Tom Watts at Southampton • Martin Thomson at Lancaster on management and Governance of Wastewater treatment • Terry at Myerscough College re Tree Pit design

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Achievements and performance (continued)

<p><u>Projects underway or in planning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Golf course project with Fareham Council to investigate pollution from fertilizer use • Completed a second document on reducing nitrogen pollution from urban runoff • Sediment sampling project with Middlesex University to measure tyre-wear particle capture in nature-based solutions • We're working with other charities and volunteer groups who are working on pollution control for chalk streams in the South of England. 	<p><u>Consultations that Jo responded to</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drainage & Wastewater Management Plans • DEFRA review of Schedule 3 • United Utilities Water Resource Management Plan • Chartered Institute of Highways and Transportation document on highway design
<p><u>Presentations delivered</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture to 'Sustainable Management' Masters students at University of Leeds • Presentation to Catchment Based Approach conference in Durham on phosphorus pollution • Presented a paper on 'Better SuDS' at the annual international conference COUNTING ON WATER 2022, organised and hosted by non-profit project Water Matters/We Count on Water in the Czech Republic • Highways UK presentation on pollution from highways • Presentation to the Planning Advisory Service on nutrient neutrality • CIWEM Urban Drainage Group presentation on improving SuDS design • Delivered paper on phosphorus treatment in SuDS to the Nutrient Neutrality conference hosted by natural England with over 500 delegates • Took part in a panel discussion at the Exeter Labour Party 'New Green Deal' event • Presentation on retrofit SuDS to Coastal Partners who represent many Councils along the South Coast • I met the Seven Rivers Trust to discuss pollution prevention strategies with them • Chaired a session on SuDS at the WWT Wastewater conference in Birmingham • Lead a discussion and delivered a presentation for 'Resilient Together' on water quality pressures on Pix Brook to inform their project' • Took part in the workshop held by the Office for Environment Protection which was a great opportunity to discuss the failure to regulate stormwater discharges in the UK • Panel discussion with Utility Week about Future Drainage Design • I met a team at Southern Water and we shared information about the work that we are doing at Shepherds and that they are doing at SW to reduce their CSO spills. • Meeting with Thames Water to discuss retrofit SuDS in London. • Meeting with CIRIA about Schedule 3 and highway runoff • Royal Town Planning institute presentation on Better SuDS • Flood & Coast at Telford delivered a presentation on SuDS alongside Bridget Woods-Ballard, Fay Bull and Vicky Boorman 	

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Achievements and performance (continued)

b. Fundraising activities and income generation

In this third period of operation, the Charity has been continued to be funded by a loan from SPEL Products that has covered our operational costs. Going forward, we will secure donations from partners, sponsorship from other businesses and grant funding to complete specific pieces of work. We have also set-up a trading arm of the Charity that allows us to complete paid work for partners, such as field monitoring, analysis of data, drainage advice and education. Any monies raised by the trading-arm will be transferred to the Charity to meet operational costs.

Financial review

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries and given the ongoing support from SPEL Products, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

b. Reserves policy

Free reserves at the year end were a deficit of £235,601 (2022: £220,227 deficit).

The Charitable Company's policy is to hold enough reserves to cover six months working capital which is currently at the level of £42,088. We do not currently hold any reserves but our fundraising plans for the next year include recognition that we must build up our reserves to our target level.

The Charitable Company agrees a reserves policy annually which addresses these aspects in accordance with Charity Commission guidance.

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Charity is exposed and are satisfied that, insofar as mitigation is possible, systems and procedures are in place to manage the exposure to those risks.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

Stormwater Shepherds UK is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee and was set up by a Memorandum of Association. It was incorporated at Companies House in England and Wales, 24 August 2020, and registered as a charity at the Charity Commission 5 July 2021.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Structure, governance and management (continued)

b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the company is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

New Trustees are inducted into the workings of the Charity, including policies and procedures, and provided with appropriate supporting information.

c. Related party relationships

SPEL Products are sponsors of Stormwater Shepherds UK and they created the charity. They are funding the charity's operational costs until such time as the Charity secures sustainable income from other donors and sponsors. There is one common director, Bryan Pocock. There is no day-to-day professional interaction between the two businesses. SPEL provide support services to Stormwater Shepherds UK.

Plans for future periods

In line with our Strategy, our focus in the next 12 months will be on fundraising and research. We need to deliver further research to provide a 'launch-pad' for the messages that we are sharing. If we are to change the way that stormwater management is delivered in the UK, we have to alert everyone to the imperative of urban pollution control. We cannot do this without up-to-date data, as the existing datasets are over 20 years old.

We will also continue to expand our network of contacts, supporters and Ambassadors because we recognise that we cannot spread our message on our own. These friends and colleagues add meat to the bones of our story, with local information from their rivers and beaches.

We will also continue to carry out litter-picks and clean-ups with local groups so that we can keep the spotlight on the problem of plastic pollution and its impact on ocean health. Finally, we will continue to work with Trade Associations, water companies and others to keep the messages around urban pollution on-track and honest. There is always a risk that loud 'activists' will take our message and twist it for effect on Social Media so we must continue to share our story and to educate influencers so that the focus on stormwater management remains true and fact-based.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the Charitable company 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).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial . 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 its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charitable company's transactions and 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.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:


.....
B Pocock
(Trustee)

Date: 30/5/24

STORMWATER SHEPHERDS UK
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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Stormwater Shepherds UK ('the Charitable company')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Charitable company (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Charitable company's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charitable company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

This report is made solely to the Charitable company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charitable company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charitable company and the Charitable company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed:

Jane Tweedie

Dated:

30 May 2024

S J Tweedie

BSc, FCA, DChA

WR Partners
Chartered Accountants
Belmont House
Shrewsbury Business Park
Shrewsbury
SY2 6LG

STORMWATER SHEPHERDS UK
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**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

Note	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	3	54,243	54,243
Charitable activities	4	15,773	15,773
Total income	70,016	70,016	200
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	5	632	632
Charitable activities	6	84,175	84,175
Total expenditure	84,807	84,807	108,241
Net movement in funds	(14,791)	(14,791)	(108,041)
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward	(220,227)	(220,227)	(112,186)
Net movement in funds	(14,791)	(14,791)	(108,041)
Total funds carried forward	(235,018)	(235,018)	(220,227)

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 15 to 28 form part of these financial statements.

STORMWATER SHEPHERDS UK
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REGISTERED NUMBER: 12831806

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	583	875
Investments	12	100	100
		<u>683</u>	<u>975</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	13	14,570	-
Cash at bank and in hand		2,067	3,445
		<u>16,637</u>	<u>3,445</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(5,082)	(11,344)
Net current assets / liabilities		<u>11,555</u>	<u>(7,899)</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>12,238</u>	<u>(6,924)</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15	(247,256)	(213,303)
Total net liabilities		<u><u>(235,018)</u></u>	<u><u>(220,227)</u></u>

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BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	16	-	-
Unrestricted funds	16	(235,018)	(220,227)
Total funds		<u>(235,018)</u>	<u>(220,227)</u>


The Charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 478 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:


.....
B Pocock
(Trustee)

Date:

30/5/24.

The notes on pages 15 to 28 form part of these financial statements.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

1. General information

Stormwater Shepherds UK is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee and was set up by a Memorandum of Association. It was incorporated at Companies House in England and Wales, 24 August 2020, and registered as a charity at the Charity Commission 5 July 2021.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Stormwater Shepherds UK 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.

2.2 Going concern

The financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis. The directors have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and the financial statements.

The balance sheet discloses net liabilities of £250,791 as at 31 August 2023. However, in the opinion of the directors, the company can continue to trade despite the net liabilities due to the ongoing support provided by SPEL Products who are providing the charity with a loan covering all operational costs. The loan is interest free and has no set repayment date. The directors of SPEL have provided Stormwater Shepherds with a Letter of Support covering the period to at least 31 May 2025.

The directors have considered the liquidity of the company through to 31 May 2025 and are satisfied on this basis that the company can continue to meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future.

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the Charitable company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party. It is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Charitable company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charitable company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £100 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, .

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Computer equipment	-	20% straight line
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2.6 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on Investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

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2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.8 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.9 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charitable company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

2.10 Financial instruments

The Charitable company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

2.11 Pensions

The Charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charitable company to the fund in respect of the year.

2.12 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charitable company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

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3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Donations	54,243	54,243	200
Total 2023	54,243	54,243	200
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>200</i>	

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from charitable activities	15,773	15,773	-
Total 2023	15,773	15,773	-
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	

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5. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
General marketing expense	632	632	8,682
Total 2023	<u>632</u>	<u>632</u>	<u>8,682</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>8,682</u>	<u>8,682</u>	

6. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Charitable activity	84,175	84,175	99,559
Total 2023	<u>84,175</u>	<u>84,175</u>	<u>99,559</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>99,559</u>	<u>99,559</u>	

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7. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Charitable activity	75,379	8,796	84,175	99,559
Total 2023	75,379	8,796	84,175	99,559
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>74,760</i>	<i>24,799</i>	<i>99,559</i>	

Analysis of direct costs

	Charitable activity 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs	75,379	75,379	74,760
Total 2023	75,379	75,379	74,760
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>74,760</i>	<i>74,760</i>	

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7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Charitable activity 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Depreciation	292	292	292
Office costs	2,190	2,190	8,210
Professional fees	3,117	3,117	12,020
Insurance	2,523	2,523	2,260
Subscriptions	304	304	1,302
Bank charges	240	240	242
Travel and subsistence	-	-	172
Miscellaneous	130	130	301
Total 2023	8,796	8,796	24,799
Total 2022	24,799	24,799	

8. Independent examiner's remuneration

	2023 £	2022 £
Fees payable to the Charitable company's independent examiner for the independent examination of the Charitable company's annual accounts	2,484	2,310
Fees payable to the Charitable company's independent examiner in respect of:		
All other services not included above	583	528

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9. Staff costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	65,200	64,509
Social security costs	7,859	7,959
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	2,320	2,292
	<u>75,379</u>	<u>74,760</u>

The average number of persons employed by the Charitable company during the year was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Employees	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	1

Total remuneration received by the key management personnel in the year amounted to £75,379 (2022: £74,760).

10. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2022 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 August 2023, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2022 - NIL).

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 September 2022	1,459
At 31 August 2023	<u>1,459</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 September 2022	584
Charge for the year	292
At 31 August 2023	<u>876</u>
Net book value	
At 31 August 2023	<u>583</u>
At 31 August 2022	<u>875</u>

12. Fixed asset investments

	Investments in subsidiary companies £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 September 2022	100
At 31 August 2023	<u>100</u>
Net book value	
At 31 August 2023	<u>100</u>
At 31 August 2022	<u>100</u>

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Principal subsidiaries

The following was a subsidiary undertaking of the Charitable company:

Name	Company number	Registered office or principal place of business	Holding
Stormwater Shepherds Enterprises Limited	13290135	Spel Products, Lancaster Road, Harlescott, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY1 3NQ	100%

The financial results of the subsidiary for the year were:

Name	Income £	Expenditure £	Profit/(Loss)/ Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year £	Net assets £
Stormwater Shepherds Enterprises Limited	29,048	(25,416)	3,632	(15,268)

13. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Due within one year		
Amounts owed by group undertakings	14,570	-
	<u>14,570</u>	<u>-</u>

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14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts owed to group undertakings	-	1,641
Other taxation and social security	2,200	2,287
Pension creditor	348	348
Accruals and deferred income	2,534	7,068
	<u>5,082</u>	<u>11,344</u>

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other loans	<u>247,256</u>	<u>213,303</u>

The loan from SPEL is unsecured, interest free and there is no set repayment date.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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16. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Funds - all funds	(220,227)	70,016	(84,807)	(235,018)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Funds	(112,186)	200	(108,241)	(220,227)

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	583	583
Fixed asset investments	100	100
Current assets	16,637	16,637
Creditors due within one year	(5,082)	(5,082)
Creditors due in more than one year	(247,256)	(247,256)
Total	(235,018)	(235,018)

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17. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	875	875
Fixed asset investments	100	100
Current assets	3,445	3,445
Creditors due within one year	(11,344)	(11,344)
Creditors due in more than one year	(213,303)	(213,303)
Total	<u>(220,227)</u>	<u>(220,227)</u>

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18. Pension commitments

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charitable company to the fund and amounted to £2,320 (2022: £2,291). The amount outstanding at year end was £348 (2022: £348).

19. Related party transactions

One of the Trustees, Bryan Pocock is a director of SPEL Products who provide administrative support to the charity, together with an unsecured loan.

There is an accrual of £NIL (2022: £4,710) for recharges of support costs from SPEL Products at year end. The loan from SPEL Products at year end stood at £247,256 (2022: £213,303).

The charitable company provided services totaling £15,773 to its subsidiary company, Stormwater Shepherd Enterprises Limited. A balance of £14,570 was owed by the subsidiary at year end (2022: £1,641 owed to the subsidiary).