

CITY OF TREES TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1202636

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2023-04-05

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address City of Trees
Discovery Works
Unit 3
Third Avenue
Trafford Park
Manchest

Phone 01618721660

Email jessicat@cityoftrees.org.uk

Website www.cityoftrees.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 3.1 THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE:3.1.1TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC, THE CONSERVATION PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, THROUGH THE PLANTING AND NURTURING OF THE URBAN FOREST, IN BOTH URBAN AND PERI-URBAN AREAS ACROSS GREATER MANCHESTER AND BEYOND; AND/OR;3.1.2 TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC THROUGH ACTIVITIES AND ENGAGEMENT THAT AIM TO SUPPORT ALL ASPECTS OF CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT IN AN URBAN AND PERI-URBAN SETTING.

Activities: City of Trees is a community forest organisation for Greater Manchester, working with volunteers and an ever-growing network of individuals, communities, businesses and organisations to plant trees and look after trees across the GM region. Promoting a tree culture with activities to boost health & wellbeing, enhance learning and green skills and tackle the climate and biodiversity emergency.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Bolton
- Bury
- Manchester City
- Oldham
- Rochdale
- Salford City
- Stockport
- Tameside
- Trafford
- Wigan

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-06-30	£3,644,810	£3,224,833	£2,278,482	38
2024-06-30	£4,115,332	£3,365,668	£1,858,505	33

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr Carl Austin-Behan OBE DL	Chair	2022-09-26
Anais Biaux		2023-04-17
Cllr. Alan Quinn		2022-09-26
Dawn Lowry-Hair		2022-09-26
Eleanor Ward		2023-04-17
Hannah O'Riordan		2023-04-17
Kevin Coughlan		2023-04-17
Tam Watson		2024-07-15

CITY OF TREES TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1202636

Accounts

CITY OF TREES TRUST

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1202636

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

CITY OF TREES TRUST

A REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1202636

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

INDEX PAGE

PAGE NO.	CONTENTS
1	Trustees' Report
9	Auditors Report
13	Statement of Financial Activities
14	Balance Sheet
15	Statement of Cash Flows
16-28	Notes to the Accounts

CITY OF TREES TRUST**Report of the trustees for the Period Ended 30TH of June 2025**

The trustees present their annual directors' report and financial statements of the charity for the Period Ended 30th of June 2025. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the governing document and the 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).

Reference and administrative information

Charity Name: City of Trees Trust

Charity Number: 1202636

Trustees

The trustees and officers serving during the period and since the year end were as follows:

Dr Carl Austin-Behan	(Chair) (appointed 4 th April 2023)
Alan Quinn	(appointed 4 th April 2023)
Dawn Lowry-Hair	(appointed 4 th April 2023)
Kevin Coughlan	(appointed 17 th of April 2023)
Eleanor Ward	(appointed 17 th of April 2023)
Hannah O'Riordan	(appointed 17 th of April 2023)
Anais Biaux	(appointed 17 th of April 2023)
Tam Watson	(Treasurer) (appointed 15 th of July 2024)

Key Management Personnel

Jessica Thompson	Chief Executive Officer
Kevin Wigley	Head of Operations
Helena Lee	Business & Finance Manager (Co-opted Company Secretary, November 2023)

Registered Office

Discovery Works, Unit 3
Third Avenue
Trafford Park
Manchester
M17 1BW

Auditors

McKellens
The Embankment Business Park
11 Vale Road
Heaton Mersey
Stockport SK4 3GN

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc, 42-46 Market Street, Manchester
Metro Bank, One Southampton Row, London, WC1B 5HA

Accountants

Community Accountancy Service Limited

(Trading division of Hilton Jones Ltd)

Hollinwood Business Centre

Albert Street

Oldham

OL8 3QL

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the charity are:

1. To promote for the benefit of the public, the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment through the planting and nurturing of the urban forest, in both urban and peri-urban areas across Greater Manchester and beyond.
2. To advance the education of the public through activities and engagement that aim to support all aspects of conservation, protection and improvement of the natural environment in an urban and peri urban setting.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, in planning future activities, and setting the policies for the year. City of Trees Trust meets the public benefit principles by specifically meeting these three charitable purposes:

- the advancement of education;
- the advancement of citizenship or community development;
- the advancement of environmental protections or improvement.

Strategies for Achieving Objectives

We have identified three core aims to guide us in achieving our objectives and identifying the focus of our work:

- **We plant trees;** for and with the people of Greater Manchester. We work with volunteers and landowners to plant trees and create new woodlands to make our region more resilient to climate change.
- **We look after trees;** and restore Greater Manchester's woodlands and green spaces for the benefit of communities and local nature recovery.
- **We promote a culture of trees;** we inspire a passion for trees and woods by creating meaningful engagement and volunteering opportunities for people to enjoy, learn about and celebrate our urban forest.

CITY OF TREES TRUST

City of Trees is part of England's Community Forests. As a Community Forest, all our charitable activities focus on care for the natural environment which encompasses public benefit. We review our aims, objectives and activities every year to ensure that we are meeting our stated objectives. The review includes evaluation of our activities to assess both what we have achieved and how we can learn from the outcomes of our work to contribute to future activities.

Activities for Achieving Objectives - How we work

The charity delivers its charitable aims in various ways:

- Through community engagement programmes and events for volunteers, facilitated by our staff.
- Through our Urban Forestry Services Team which is designed to bring people into green jobs and upskilling opportunities
- In partnership with organisations where we can align our objectives and extend our reach and impact.

Our programme of work is spread across three key areas:

- **Tree planting:** taking a place-based approach, we plant trees in and around the Greater Manchester region. For example, we work with local councils, community groups, schools and landowners to develop our urban forest, through woodland creation and the planting of 'standard' larger trees and other types of trees outside woods.
- **Woodland management:** care and maintenance of existing woodlands is a vital aspect of our work to improve the quality of the urban forest - ensuring access to green spaces, encouraging nature recovery and building resilience in our local ecosystems.
- **Community engagement:** we create a variety of volunteering (Citizen Forester) opportunities for local people from all walks of life, and community groups, to get involved in our work. We provide environmental education and learning opportunities to empower people and improve their life prospects which results in fostering pride for local areas. We harness the collective power of people to make a positive difference for their environment, by supporting their motivations for getting involved and facilitating learning, social, citizenship and health & wellbeing outcomes.

We also are developing our offers in terms of:

- **Our Green Jobs & Skills programme** aims to diversify the forestry sector, engaging people in pathways and opportunities in all manner of roles relating to forestry and the environment through learning and educational opportunities. This seeks to address the local and national skills gap and to provide less-traditional routes into such roles, thus opening opportunities to a more diverse audience and those experiencing disadvantage.
- **Consultancy services:** we are a trusted partner with well-established networks, offering in-house specialist expertise to support others meet their environmental goals.

Structure, governance and management

City of Trees Trust is a charitable incorporated organisation governed by its constitution dated 4th of April 2023 and is registered with the Charity Commission (dated 5th April 2023).

CITY OF TREES TRUST

Recruitment and Appointment of trustees

As set out in the governing document, our trustees are appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. A charity trustee who has served for three consecutive terms may not be reappointed for a fourth consecutive term but may be reappointed after an interval of a least one year.

Trustee induction and training

New trustees are provided with information about their role and responsibilities, as outlined in our Trustee Handbook and our Trustee Code of Conduct Policy. Trustees are also given a copy of our constitution, information about current staffing and current policy documents. If a trustee is appointed to a subgroup, they are given further information on funding and internal systems that are specific to that subgroup. Trustee meetings are sometimes held at a planting site where we will first discuss core business, then take part in a planting session. Trustees will be invited to take part in a planting day at least once per year to gain a fuller understanding of the charity's direct delivery work.

Organisational Structure

The board of trustees administers the charity and are legally responsible for ensuring that resources are used appropriately and only in support of our objectives. The board of trustees meet quarterly to review strategic business and make decisions that provide leadership and direction for the charity. The trustees delegate the day-to-day operations to the CEO and senior managers. A Finance & Risk Subgroup comprising nominated trustees, including the charity Treasurer, and senior staff meet quarterly with the external accountant.

City of Trees Trust believe in rewarding staff fairly and adhere to the National Living Wage standard. We also adhere to a salary framework devised by our outsourced HR provider, Solutions for HR, supported through bench-marking exercises set to remunerate our employees appropriately according to their specific skills and level of experience. We also want to retain skilled and expert staff for the long term and set our salaries at a competitive market rate. Our rates of pay are reviewed annually by our senior management team and trustees.

The senior management team at 30th of June 2025 comprised of:

Chief Executive Officer	Jessica Thompson
Head of Operations	Kevin Wigley
Head of Partnerships	Alex Bedford
Head of Communications and Engagement	Aimee Lawless
Head of Innovation and Insights	Bryan Cosgrove
Head of Green Infrastructure	Pete Stringer

Fundraising Standards

City of Trees Trust is a member of the Fundraising Regulator and has an Ethical Fundraising Policy. We fundraise through our in-house fundraising team comprising of a Head of Partnerships and a Partnerships Officer who focus on building relationships with companies and funding organisations who support our values.

CITY OF TREES TRUST

Partners are required to sign non legally binding agreements when entering into a partnership with City of Trees which clearly outline the partnership expectation, goals, reporting requirements and use of the charity's logo in marketing materials. We do not outsource fundraising activities to third party organisations. Reports are completed and made available to donors in line with the donor's partnership agreement reporting schedule.

We did not receive any complaints regarding our fundraising practices during the 24/25 period.

City of Trees have a safeguarding policy which is upheld by all members of staff to ensure that vulnerable people and children are safeguarded when engaging with City of Trees. We have a dedicated child and vulnerable persons safeguarding officer and all staff receive training on our safeguarding policies annually. We regularly review our safeguarding policies to assess risk and ensure that there are clear channels for people to be able to report any concerns they may have. We are committed to ensuring that volunteers, staff, members of the public and other beneficiaries concerns are dealt with in an open and timely manner. In line with the Institute of Fundraising code of fundraising practice, when dealing with vulnerable potential donors, City of Trees will always err on the side of caution. If we suspect that a donor may be vulnerable we will always end the conversation immediately without making a request for a donation and without enquiring about the individual's capacity to make a decision.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work as a trustee with the charity. Any connection between a trustee or senior manager with any service providers must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party under our Conflict of Interest Policy.

A review of our achievements and performance

The main achievements during the year are:

- This year saw City of Trees reach 400,000 trees established as part of our Trees for Climate woodland creation programme – the programme has been running for five years.
- 1393 volunteers (Citizen Foresters) joined us at events across the year – 5320 volunteer hours recorded.
- During this period, 2091 larger 'standard' trees were planted across the region.
- 32 standards were planted at seven fire stations across Greater Manchester, working alongside Greater Manchester Combined Authority and Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue to support their aims to green their own estate.
- 3869 children joined us for tree planting and environmental education across Greater Manchester at 28 school sites across the region – a record number of schools.
- City of Trees worked closely with the Manchester school, Parris Wood High School and members of the local community, to plant a native mix of 1,133 trees. Due to the proximity to the River Mersey, newly planted trees on the site will manage future flood risk through intercepting rainwater to reduce or slow down the rate of run off, with native mix selection reflected this.
- As part of our wider Citizen Forester engagement programme, City of Trees held 216 Citizen Forester events for the public, across the whole of the city-region.
- At Haslam Park in Bolton, 1,819 trees were also planted as part of multiple Citizen Forester volunteering days on site to enhance the existing green spaces, helped by 51 adult volunteers and an impressive 212 children who came to help from local schools.

CITY OF TREES TRUST

- 318 participants joined us at activities such as our Dementia-friendly walks and attended craft and education sessions as part of our Natural Cultural Health Service sessions in Manchester
- Our in-house contract team went from strength to strength, growing in size and planting over 10,700 during this period, including 115 standards.
- Work continued on sites in Tameside and Manchester along the Medlock Valley as part of Species Survival Project, working alongside other regional partners. The project will enhance habitats at seven sites across the Medlock Valley, covering almost 30ha.
- As part of our work with Trafford Council, City of Trees led a project to explore opportunities for enhancing existing wetland areas and developing new wetland habitats at William Wroe, Urmston. The findings provided valuable insights to guide future developments, paving the way for a high-quality greenspace for the community to cherish and enjoy.
- We played a key role in Chairing and coordinating the Greater Manchester Nature for Health Network, which supports practitioners and organisations working to deliver nature-based activities for health & wellbeing outcomes.
- We work strategically at a local, regional and national level as leaders and advocates for trees and woods, particularly in the urban setting. This has involved contributing to the development of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy in Greater Manchester, alongside work to refresh our Urban Forest Plan.
- Works started on Barnfield site as part of the initial phase of developing the Urban Forestry Centre in Bury. Using funds secured to set up a community tree nursery, polytunnels on site were refurbished alongside steps to make the site more accessible.

Grants Made

Grants were made to third parties as part of our funding terms and in pursuit of our objectives as follows:

Bolton at Home (Urban Tree Challenge)	5,521
Oldham Council (Urban Tree Challenge & Tres for Climate)	118,847
Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council (Urban Tree Challenge)	54,432
Cockshouse Farm (Trees for Climate)	15,246
Cheshire Wildlife Trust (woodland creation)	99,045
First Choice Homes, Oldham (Trees for Climate)	13,300
Manchester City Council (Urban Tree Challenge)	98,479
Stockport Homes (Urban Tree Challenge)	1,985
Tameside Council (Urban Tree Challenge)	5,976
Groundwork Greater Manchester (Woodland creation)	<u>14,741</u>
Total	<u>427,572</u>

Plans for Future Periods

Our activities are arranged under the following organisational objectives:

Unlocking Land – (for planting, management, service opportunities)

- Continued delivery of Trees for Climate, a multi-million pound woodland creation programme, part of the national Government-led Nature for Climate Fund
- A commitment to growing our woodland management offer to increase biodiversity at existing woodlands in Greater Manchester
- Growing our in-house contract function to serve the planting of trees (woodland creation and trees outside of woodlands) and woodland management
- Continuing the implementation of Natural Flood Management to support climate resilience in the region

Engaging communities – growing reach across Greater Manchester

- Growing our Citizen Forester offer of volunteering, including working with hard to reach communities
- Developing the collection of health and wellbeing outcomes from engagement events, to further understand the impacts of our work
- Continuing our work engaging and educating schools through on-site planting days

Urban forest – growing our urban forest and raising the profile

- Continuing to develop our green skills offer to widen opportunities in the sector
- Developing the Urban Forestry Centre at the Bury Council-owned Barnfield site in Prestwich including launching our trees nursery and engagement opportunities on the site

Financial review

The charity had ended the year with income totalling £3,644,810. Expenditure of £3,224,833 was incurred leaving a surplus of £419,977. Unrestricted reserves at the year end, were £1,337,634 of which £55,861 was designated for general tree maintenance, £75,467 related to capital assets still to be depreciated and £244,511 for future lease commitments.

Investment powers and policy

The trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of operating the charity, have recently placed available funds in an interest bearing deposit account. Advice is being taken from an independent financial advisor for the most suitable modes of investment for the charity going forward.

Reserves policy and going concern

The balance held in unrestricted reserves at 30th of June 2025 was £1,337,634 of which £961,795 is free reserves, after allowing for funds tied up in tangible fixed assets and designated funds (£375,839). Restricted reserves totalled £940,848 with £17,121 relating to fixed assets (spent), £78,304 relating to future maintenance plans and £845,423 relating to revenue.

The trustees aim to establish and maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately six months of charitable expenditure (currently £1,582,183). This includes a planting budget as grants are largely claimed in arrears so the charity has to invest funds in the initial planting schemes. The trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to meet cash flow demands and respond to changes in the funding environment. Currently free reserves including designated funds stand at just under 3.6 months running costs. Having regard to the 26/27 budget and supplemented by the general funds the trustees consider that the charity is a going concern.

Risk management

The trustees have conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Each risk is assessed according to its likelihood and potential impact, and appropriate actions and procedures are agreed to mitigate any risks the charity faces. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers, service users and visitors.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with general applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting principles and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2015 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safekeeping the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the trustees



Date: 30th March 2026

City of Trees Trust

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of City of Trees Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of City of Trees Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 30 June 2025, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activity, 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 applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards comprising Charities SORP – FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (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 June 2025 and of 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 Charities Act 2011.

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's 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 directors' 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 directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' 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.

City of Trees Trust

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of City of Trees Trust

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Charities Act 2011

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.

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 Charities Act 2011 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; or

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 8, the directors 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 directors 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 directors 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 directors either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's 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.

City of Trees Trust

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of City of Trees Trust

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 Charities Act 2011, taxation legislation and data protection, anti-bribery, employment, environmental and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- that 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;
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- understanding the design of the charity's remuneration policies.

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

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

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but 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.

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.

City of Trees Trust

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of City of Trees Trust

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members 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 charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



.....
Paul Roper (Senior Statutory Auditor)
McKellens Ltd
11 Riverview
The Embankment Business Park
Vale Road
Heaton Mersey
Stockport
SK4 3GN

9 April 2026

CITY OF TREES TRUST
(incorporating income and expenditure account)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds Year Ended 30 June 2025 £	Total Funds Period 5 April 2023 to 30 June 2024 £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations & Legacies	3	235,447	33,670	269,117	183,488
Charitable Activities	4	74,134	3,252,149	3,326,283	3,904,112
Other Trading Activities	5	25,717	-	25,717	27,624
Investment Income	6	23,674	-	23,674	71
Other Income		19	-	19	37
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		358,991	3,285,819	3,644,810	4,115,332
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising Funds	7	60,467	-	60,467	46,630
Charitable activities	8	23,703	3,140,663	3,164,366	3,319,038
TOTAL		84,170	3,140,663	3,224,833	3,365,668
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE)		274,821	145,156	419,977	749,664
Transfers between funds	19	(64,780)	64,780	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		210,041	209,936	419,977	749,664
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Transfer on Divestment	11	-	-	-	1,108,841
Total Funds Brought Forward		1,127,593	730,912	1,858,505	-
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	19	1,337,634	940,848	2,278,482	1,858,505

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

The notes on pages 16 to 28 form part of these accounts.

CITY OF TREES TRUST

14

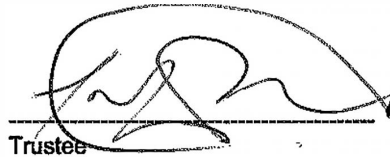
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2025

	NOTES	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Fixed Assets	13		92,588		134,687
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock	14	26,377		22,997	
Debtors & Prepayments	15	1,964,624		3,086,378	
Cash at Bank and in Hand		4,719,703		2,489,628	
		<u>6,710,704</u>		<u>5,599,003</u>	
CREDITORS:					
Amounts falling due within one year	16	(757,065)		(789,190)	
		<u>(757,065)</u>		<u>(789,190)</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			5,953,639		4,809,813
CREDITORS:					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	18		(3,767,745)		(3,085,995)
TOTAL NET ASSETS			<u>2,278,482</u>		<u>1,858,505</u>
ACCUMULATED RESERVES					
Unrestricted Funds	20		1,337,634		1,127,593
Restricted Funds	20		940,848		730,912
			<u>2,278,482</u>		<u>1,858,505</u>

Approved on behalf of the board of trustees:


Trustee

Dr Carl Austin-Behan


Trustee

Mr Tam Watson

Date: 30 March 2026

The notes on pages 16 to 28 form part of these accounts.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Net movement in funds	419,977	749,664
Add back depreciation	49,979	47,353
deduct donation in kind	-	(16,252)
Deduct investment income	(23,674)	(71)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	1,121,754	(3,086,378)
(Increase) decrease in stock	(3,380)	(22,997)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	649,625	3,875,185
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>2,214,281</u>	<u>1,546,504</u>
Cash flows from investment activities:		
Interest	23,674	71
Purchase of fixed assets	(7,880)	(165,788)
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>15,794</u>	<u>(165,717)</u>
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year	2,230,075	1,380,787
Transfer of Funds on Divestment	-	1,108,841
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	2,489,628	-
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	<u><u>4,719,703</u></u>	<u><u>2,489,628</u></u>

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**(a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern**

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

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

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

(b) Funds structure

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor.

When the requirements of the restricted funds are met (eg assets are purchased) the transaction is shown as a movement in funds from restricted to capital funds.

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.

The charity has created a designated capital fund to meet the future depreciation charge of its assets. Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 19.

(c) Income recognition

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 income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and grants are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation or grant is subject to conditions that require a level of performance 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 those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period. Grants, including those in restricted funds, specifying performance in future periods are deferred. Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

(d) Expenditure Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. For more information on this attribution refer to note (f) below.

(e) Taxation & Irrecoverable VAT

The charity registered for VAT. Irrecoverable vat is charged against expenditure.

No provision has been made for taxation as exemption has been granted by HMRC from taxation under Sections 466 to 493 of the Corporation Taxes Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Capital Gains Act to the extent that surpluses and gains are applied for charitable purposes.

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

(f) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to independent examination and legal and professional fees together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs. Governance costs and support costs relating to charitable activities have been apportioned based on staff time and the usage of facilities and services for management purposes. The allocation of support and governance costs is analysed in note 9.

(g) Costs of raising funds

The costs of raising funds consists of staffing and fundraising overheads.

(h) Charitable Activities

Costs of charitable activities include governance costs and an apportionment of support costs as shown in note 8.

(i) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and valued at historical cost. In the charity's opening year, some assets less than £500 have been capitalised on set up.

Depreciation is charged on the following basis:

Leasehold Improvements	20% on cost
Plant & Equipment	20% on cost
Fixtures & Fittings	20% on cost
Computer Equipment	33.33% on cost
Website	50% on cost

The total of any capital grants are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year they are received, as required by the SORP, and not deferred over the life of the related assets.

(j) Stock

Stock is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value on a first in first out basis.

(k) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at settlement amount due after any trade discount offered.

Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

(l) Creditors and Provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

(m) Realised gains and losses

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying values or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their varying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(n) Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. Contributions payable for the year are charged against the income and expenditure account.

The pension scheme is an auto enrolment compliant scheme. The charity has no liabilities beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employee's contributions.

(o) Operating Leases

Payments under operating leases are charged to the income and expenditure account in the period to which they relate.

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

(p) Contingent liabilities

There were no contingent liabilities at 30th June 2025.

(q) Donated Services

The charity had over 1412 volunteers in the period contributing 5,248 volunteer hours, assisting with tree planting, woodland management and other conservation work.

No financial value has been reflected in the accounts for these donated services.

2 NET INCOMING RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR

This is stated after charging:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation	49,979	47,353
Audit Fees	5,850	6,000

3 DONATIONS & LEGACIES

Donations & Gift Aid

Donation - The Mailing Room (match funding)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Donations & Gift Aid	235,447	3,078	238,525	152,896
Donation - The Mailing Room (match funding)	-	30,592	30,592	30,592
	<u>235,447</u>	<u>33,670</u>	<u>269,117</u>	<u>183,488</u>

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

4 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Groundwork New to Nature	-	(934)	(934)	19,055
Groundwork - Green Spaces	-	29,273	29,273	43,250
Life IP	-	4,731	4,731	10,030
Nature 4 Health	-	9,950	9,950	-
Community Forest Trust conduit grant - Northern Forest	-	1,229,043	1,229,043	2,041,442
Less: deferred for maintenance	-	(573,398)	(573,398)	(1,269,916)
Add: released for maintenance	-	200,000	200,000	-
nPower (Barnfield)	-	64,626	64,626	-
Oglesby Charitable Trust	-	112,083	112,083	295,000
WEA- Roots to Work	-	14,535	14,535	-
Groundwork - Species Survival Fund	-	74,881	74,881	-
Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council	-	75,000	75,000	93,750
Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council - legacy grant	-	-	-	83,184
Forestry Commission England - Tree Production Capital Grant	-	-	-	61,071
DEFRA - Forestry Commission England - Urban Tree (-	488,515	488,515	412,164
Cheshire West & Cheshire Council conduit grant - Trees for Climate	-	1,507,485	1,507,485	1,593,917
Less: deferred for maintenance	-	(570,966)	(570,966)	(340,162)
Add: released for maintenance	-	256,128	256,128	-
Veolia	-	-	-	37,391
GMCA - Woodland Creation Accelerator Fund	-	102,654	102,654	149,223
Local Authority & Housing Association grants	-	-	-	313,987
Green Recovery Challenge Fund	-	-	-	74,188
Bolton MBC - UKSPF Clean & Green grant	-	15,000	15,000	13,000
Ignition	-	-	-	24,158
City Releaf	-	-	-	44,768
Boz Park	-	-	-	17,715
Grantscape - Silverdale	-	8,328	8,328	22,962
Environment Agency - Crompton Moor	-	30,304	30,304	-
Other Grants	-	-	-	7,479
DWP	-	3,886	3,886	-
Match Funding				
Salford City Council	-	95,431	95,431	10,281
Six Town Housing	-	-	-	10,627
Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council	-	20,000	20,000	-
Bolton at Home	-	11,286	11,286	-
Bolton MBC	-	18,810	18,810	-
Onward Homes	-	9,918	9,918	-
One Manchester	-	855	855	-
Individuals & Non-profit organisations	-	12,825	12,825	-
Student Placement	2,432	-	2,432	-
Services:				
Surveys & Feasibility Studies	-	-	-	54,965
Ecology, research & species monitoring	12,975	-	12,975	-
Training, Workshops & Learning Networks	7,024	-	7,024	1,747
Corporate Social Responsibility Education Days	17,833	-	17,833	17,527
Site Development & Planting	32,240	-	32,240	59,581
Tree maintenance	1,630	1,900	3,530	1,728
	<u>74,134</u>	<u>3,252,149</u>	<u>3,326,283</u>	<u>3,904,112</u>
			Restricted	3,583,889
			Unrestricted	<u>320,223</u>
				<u>3,904,112</u>

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

The total government grants receivable in the year to 30th June 2025 is £2,357,085. The specific funders are as follows: £75,000 relates to grants from Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council planting and maintenance; a further £488,515 was received from Forestry Commission England to support the Urban Tree Challenge. Cheshire West and Cheshire Council granted £1,507,485 with £570,966 deferred towards the Trees for Climate project and £256,128 released from earlier deferrals. Greater Manchester Combined Authorities granted £102,654 towards woodland creation which ran to December 2024. Salford City Council, Stockport and Bolton Metropolitan Borough Councils £95,431, £20,000 and £18,810 respectively in match funding towards forests and urban tree projects. Bolton council via the UK Shared Prosperity Fund gave £15,000 towards Clean and Green. The Environment Agency gave £30,304 towards a project at Crompton Moor and DWP gave £3,886 towards access costs. All terms of the grants have been fulfilled apart from those monies deferred for future project costs and maintenance.

5 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
100 Trees Club Fundraising	10,000	-	10,000	6,000
Website Development	10,355	-	10,355	-
Consultancy	5,362	-	5,362	21,624
	<u>25,717</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,717</u>	<u>27,624</u>
6 INVESTMENT INCOME			£	£
Bank Interest Receivable			<u>23,674</u>	<u>71</u>
7 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	Funds	Funds	£	£
	£	£		
Wages & Salaries	52,826	-	52,826	45,157
Professional Fees	2,970	-	2,970	-
Fundraising Costs	4,671	-	4,671	1,473
	<u>60,467</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,467</u>	<u>46,630</u>

Expenditure on raising funds in 2024 was all unrestricted.

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

8 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		Education, Wellbeing & Other Services £	Tree Planting & Maintenance £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Employment Costs	Staff Time	55,432	1,145,602	1,201,034	965,066
Recruitment & DBS Checks	Staff Time	122	871	993	3,299
Seconded Staff	Staff Time	-	58,500	58,500	56,975
Staff Training	Staff Time	1,414	7,601	9,015	11,868
Staff Travel	Staff Time	-	6,018	6,018	133
Staff Welfare	Staff Time	6	164	170	60
Team Events	Staff Time	2,742	3,716	6,458	-
Relocation Costs	Floor Area	-	-	-	12,886
Rent & Service Charge	Floor Area	6,393	92,451	98,844	86,167
Rates & Water	Floor Area	707	8,072	8,779	10,982
Light & Heat	Floor Area	555	7,086	7,641	12,126
Waste Collection	Floor Area	254	3,434	3,688	4,406
Repairs & Renewals	Floor Area	110	2,476	2,586	8,235
Dilapidations	Floor Area	-	-	-	36,000
Security	Floor Area	77	60	137	819
Cleaning	Floor Area	232	2,609	2,841	3,167
Insurance	Floor Area	198	2,212	2,410	1,685
<i>Project Costs:</i>					
Travel and Subsistence	By Project	484	8,901	9,385	9,244
Vehicle Expenses	By Project	3,858	67,259	71,117	29,714
Project Consultancy	By Project	-	14,379	14,379	34,335
Partner Grants Made (see below)	By Project	-	427,572	427,572	283,347
Trees & Supplies	By Project	16	495,583	495,599	599,870
External Contractors	By Project	567	283,133	283,700	519,909
Materials	By Project	1,262	80,465	81,727	254,402
Protective Clothing	By Project	-	6,053	6,053	10,660
Small Tools & Equipment	By Project	1,177	14,499	15,676	8,789
Equipment Hire	By Project	1,500	14,067	15,567	19,470
Project Refreshments	By Project	189	1,737	1,926	1,744
Events	By Project	1,200	3,370	4,570	6,284
Room Hire	By Project	240	110	350	1,180
Insurance	By Project	688	8,768	9,456	8,693
Other Costs	By Project	24	825	849	1,179
Laundry	By Project	-	426	426	353
Support Costs	Note 9	26,833	278,269	305,102	266,599
Governance Costs	Note 9	6,873	4,925	11,798	49,392
		<u>113,153</u>	<u>3,051,213</u>	<u>3,164,366</u>	<u>3,319,038</u>
		£	£	£	£
Restricted		103,446	3,037,217	3,140,663	3,187,515
Unrestricted		9,707	13,996	23,703	131,523
Total		<u>113,153</u>	<u>3,051,213</u>	<u>3,164,366</u>	<u>3,319,038</u>

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

GRANTS MADE	Urban Tree Challenge £	Trees for Climate £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Grants to Institutions				
Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council	54,432	-	54,432	10,022
Manchester City Council	98,480	-	98,480	-
Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council	48,256	62,125	110,381	27,143
Cheshire Wildlife Trust	-	99,044	99,044	-
Groundwork Greater Manchester	-	14,741	14,741	127,532
The National Trust	-	-	-	60,304
Other grants < £50,000	21,948	13,300	35,248	58,346
Grants to Individuals		15,246	15,246	-
	223,116	204,456	427,572	283,347

9 ALLOCATION OF GOVERNANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS

		Support Costs £	Governance Costs £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Management & Admin Salaries	Staff Time	124,226	6,538	130,764	85,917
Rent & Service Charge	Floor Area	10,983	-	10,983	9,574
Rates & Water	Floor Area	975	-	975	1,220
Light & Heat	Floor Area	849	-	849	1,347
Waste Collection	Floor Area	410	-	410	489
Repairs & Renewals	Floor Area	287	-	287	915
Dilapidations	Floor Area	-	-	-	4,000
Security	Floor Area	15	-	15	-
Cleaning	Floor Area	316	-	316	352
Insurance	Floor Area	268	-	268	187
Equipment Rental	Direct	738	-	738	3,766
Computer Maintenance & Software	Direct	16,896	-	16,896	14,650
Marketing & Communications	Direct	9,293	-	9,293	14,212
Minor Equipment	Direct	1,940	-	1,940	3,582
Office Refreshments	Direct	2,532	-	2,532	2,842
Printing, Post and Stationery	Direct	770	-	770	1,963
Subscriptions & Licences	Direct	6,686	-	6,686	10,077
Telephone	Direct	7,797	-	7,797	2,002
Website Costs	Direct	3,448	-	3,448	1,217
Payroll Costs	Direct	4,055	-	4,055	2,691
HR Costs	Direct	10,165	-	10,165	10,691
Sundry	Direct	2,740	-	2,740	1,705
Depreciation	Direct	49,980	-	49,980	47,352
Irrecoverable VAT	Direct	27,574	-	27,574	30,104
Accountancy Support	Direct	22,159	-	22,159	20,040
Audit & Accountancy	Governance	-	5,100	5,100	11,962
Legal Fees	Governance	-	-	-	17,850
Professional Fees	Governance	-	-	-	4,722
Management fee (CFT)	Governance	-	-	-	10,000
Bank Charges & Interest	Governance	-	160	160	562
TOTAL		305,102	11,798	316,900	315,991
Restricted Funds		238,484	4,899	243,383	272,997
Unrestricted Funds		66,618	6,899	73,517	42,994
Total		305,102	11,798	316,900	315,991

Included within audit and accountancy is £5,850 relating to the audit of the charity's annual accounts plus a provision of £1,200 relating to a specific fund audit, less the release of £1,950 relating to an overprovision in the previous year.

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

10 STAFF COSTS	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	1,208,935	967,500
Social Security Costs	113,259	78,314
Redundancy	2,180	-
Pension Costs	60,250	50,326
	<u>1,384,624</u>	<u>1,096,140</u>

The charity considers its key staff comprises the Chief Executive Officer, Operations Manager and Business Support Coordinator.

The number of staff earning in excess of £60,000 p.a. was as follows:

Staff Earnings	No of Staff	Band
	1	£60,000-£70,000 p.a.

The remuneration, including employers NICs and pension contributions, of key staff in the year was £170,642

The average number of employees during the year was:	Actual 2025	Full Time Equivalent	Actual 2024	Full Time Equivalent
Tree Planting & Maintenance	32	30.5	27	26
Management & Administration	6	5.75	6	5
	<u>38</u>	<u>36.25</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>31</u>

11 TRANSFER ON DIVESTMENT

		£
Donation		3,040,886
Less: deferred for future maintenance	Trees for Climate	(1,193,961)
	Northern Forest	<u>(738,084)</u>
		<u>1,108,841</u>

12 TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

No remuneration has been paid or is due to be paid to any of the trustees in respect of the period. No reimbursement of expenses has been made or is due to be made to any of the trustees in respect of the period.

13 FIXED ASSETS

	Leasehold Improvements	Plant & Equipment	Fixtures & Fittings	Computer Equipment	Website	Total
COST	£	£	£	£	£	£
At 1st July 2024	122,084	15,730	1,965	10,402	31,859	182,040
Additions	-	-	-	7,880	-	7,880
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 30 June 2025	<u>122,084</u>	<u>15,730</u>	<u>1,965</u>	<u>18,282</u>	<u>31,859</u>	<u>189,920</u>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
DEPRECIATION	£	£	£	£	£	£
At 1st July 2024	24,417	3,146	393	3,467	15,930	47,353
Provided in the year	24,417	3,146	393	6,094	15,929	49,979
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 30 June 2025	<u>48,834</u>	<u>6,292</u>	<u>786</u>	<u>9,561</u>	<u>31,859</u>	<u>97,332</u>
NET BOOK VALUE						
At 30 June 2025	<u>73,250</u>	<u>9,438</u>	<u>1,179</u>	<u>8,721</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>92,588</u>
At 30 June 2024	<u>97,667</u>	<u>12,584</u>	<u>1,572</u>	<u>6,935</u>	<u>15,929</u>	<u>134,687</u>

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

14 STOCK	2025	2024
	£	£
At lower of cost and net realisable value	26,377	22,997
	<u>26,377</u>	<u>22,997</u>
15 DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade Debtors	137,700	123,911
Other Debtors	112,976	168,038
Accrued Income	1,666,830	2,757,423
Prepayments	47,118	37,006
	<u>1,964,624</u>	<u>3,086,378</u>
Restricted	1,740,416	2,874,484
Unrestricted	224,208	211,894
	<u>1,964,624</u>	<u>3,086,378</u>
16 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade Creditors	136,982	195,548
Deferred Income	479,281	456,128
Other Creditors	12,875	7,976
Social Security and Other Taxes	32,367	34,689
Accruals	95,560	94,849
	<u>757,065</u>	<u>789,190</u>
Restricted	635,693	674,197
Unrestricted	121,372	114,993
	<u>757,065</u>	<u>789,190</u>
17 DEFERRED INCOME	2025	2024
Deferred income comprises grants set aside for future maintenance commitments.	£	£
Balance brought forward	3,542,123	-
Amount deferred from divestment transfer	-	1,932,045
Amount deferred in year	1,161,031	1,610,078
Amount released in the year	(456,128)	-
	<u>4,247,026</u>	<u>3,542,123</u>
18 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred Income - Maintenance	3,767,745	3,085,995
	<u>3,767,745</u>	<u>3,085,995</u>

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

19 ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS

	Balance at 01/07/2024	Incoming net of deferrals	Transfers	Outgoing	Balance At 30/06/2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Revenue:					
Barnfield (incl Npower)	8,862	64,626	30,139	(716)	102,911
Bolton Orchards	9,926	-	1,979	(11,905)	-
Urban Tree Challenge	(115,474)	543,642	18,953	(293,261)	153,860
DWP	-	3,886	(1,130)	(2,107)	649
Ignition	29,215	-	-	(29,215)	-
Northern Forest Grow Back Greener (conduit grant via CFT) & match	(4,781)	750,721	-	(750,498)	(4,558)
Oglesby Charitable Trust	291,320	112,083	-	(200,638)	202,765
Life IP - Natural Course	(15,249)	24,731	-	(9,482)	-
City Releaf	18,166	-	(18,953)	787	-
Environment Agency - Crompton Moor	(106)	30,304	-	(30,226)	(28)
Green Social Prescribing	11,145	-	1,610	(12,755)	-
Groundwork - Green Spaces	50,356	29,273	-	(24,517)	55,112
WEA Roots to Work	-	14,535	990	(15,525)	-
Nature for Health	-	9,950	-	(11,172)	(1,222)
New to Nature & UFA's	3,208	(934)	968	(3,242)	-
Silverdale - Grantscape	73	8,328	-	(8,401)	-
Species Survival Fund	-	74,881	-	(69,023)	5,858
TCMP Trafford	295,316	75,000	3,060	(75,982)	297,394
Veolia SWP	3,060	-	(3,060)	-	-
WCAF	(64,460)	102,654	59,677	(97,871)	-
Tree Production Capital Grant & match	(27,859)	30,592	524	(3,257)	-
Cheshire West & Cheshire Council - Trees for Climate	34,067	936,519	(4,342)	(948,562)	17,682
Trees for Climate - Other	-	2,394	-	(2,394)	-
Bolton Council - UK Shared Prosperity	-	15,000	-	-	15,000
Medlock Landscape Assessment	3,026	-	-	(3,026)	-
Maintenance Funds					
Boz Park	30,139	-	(30,139)	-	-
Northern Forest Grow Back Greener	22,606	201,506	(2,393)	(199,474)	22,245
CWAC Trees for Climate	118,011	256,128	2,010	(320,090)	56,059
Capital:					
Oglesby Charitable Trust	12,467	-	-	(12,467)	-
Donation in Kind - equipment	12,215	-	-	(4,037)	8,178
CWAC Trees for Climate	765	-	2,332	(382)	2,715
DWP	-	-	1,130	-	1,130
Northern Forest	-	-	1,425	-	1,425
Tree Production Capital Grant	4,898	-	-	(1,225)	3,673
Total Restricted Funds	730,912	3,285,819	64,780	(3,140,663)	940,848
Unrestricted:					
General Funds	681,016	358,991	(65,079)	(13,133)	961,795
Designated - lease commitments	289,586	-	-	(45,075)	244,511
Designated - Maintenance Funds	55,861	-	-	-	55,861
Designated Capital Funds	101,130	-	299	(25,962)	75,467
	1,127,593	358,991	(64,780)	(84,170)	1,337,634
	1,858,505	3,644,810	-	(3,224,833)	2,278,482

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

19 cont...

ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS - Previous Year	Transferred on Divestment net of deferrals	Incoming net of deferrals	Transfers	Outgoing	Balance At 30/06/2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Revenue:					
Barnfield	-	10,000	-	(1,138)	8,862
Bolton Orchards	9,926	-	-	-	9,926
DEFRA - Urban Tree Challenge	(177,204)	481,472	54,214	(473,956)	(115,474)
Ignition	5,057	24,158	-	-	29,215
Northern Forest Grow Back Greener (conduit grant via CFT) & match	-	809,952	(21,227)	(793,506)	(4,781)
Oglesby Charitable Trust	289,677	295,000	(12,467)	(280,890)	291,320
Life IP - Natural Course	(4,373)	10,030	-	(20,906)	(15,249)
City Releaf	(605)	44,768	-	(25,997)	18,166
Environment Agency - Crompton Moor	-	-	-	(106)	(106)
Green Recovery Challenge Fund	(77,906)	74,188	3,540	178	-
Green Social Prescribing	11,147	-	-	(2)	11,145
Groundwork - Green Spaces	39,032	43,250	-	(31,926)	50,356
Green Spaces - other	-	479	-	(479)	-
Nature for Health	-	-	12,570	(12,570)	-
New to Nature & UFA's	-	32,055	-	(28,847)	3,208
Silverdale - Grantscape	-	25,502	-	(25,429)	73
TCMP Trafford	140,956	176,934	-	(22,574)	295,316
Veolia SWP	-	37,391	-	(34,331)	3,060
WCAF	(13,335)	149,222	-	(200,347)	(64,460)
Tree Production Capital Grant & match	-	91,663	(4,898)	(114,624)	(27,859)
Cheshire West & Cheshire Council - Trees for Climate	-	1,253,755	(118,776)	(1,100,912)	34,067
Trees for Climate - Other	-	1,728	-	(1,728)	-
UFA	(11,000)	8,750	2,250	-	-
Medlock Landscape Assessment	3,026	-	-	-	3,026
Maintenance Funds:					
Boz Park	14,726	17,715	-	(2,302)	30,139
Northern Forest Grow Back Greener	-	26,469	7,223	(11,086)	22,606
CWAC Trees for Climate	-	-	118,011	-	118,011
Managing Manchester's Trees	953	-	(953)	-	-
Capital:					
Oglesby Charitable Trust	-	-	12,467	-	12,467
Donation in Kind - equipment	-	16,252	-	(4,037)	12,215
CWAC Trees for Climate	-	-	765	-	765
Tree Production Capital Grant	-	-	4,898	-	4,898
Total Restricted Funds	230,077	3,630,733	57,617	(3,187,515)	730,912
Unrestricted:					
General Funds	823,856	484,599	(449,286)	(178,153)	681,016
Designated - lease commitments	-	-	289,586	-	289,586
Designated - Maintenance Funds	54,908	-	953	-	55,861
Designated Capital Funds	-	-	101,130	-	101,130
	878,764	484,599	(57,617)	(178,153)	1,127,593
	1,108,841	4,115,332	-	(3,365,668)	1,858,505

Transfer on Divestment

On 5th April 2023 City of Trees Trust became an established charitable incorporated organisation and divested its projects on 1st July 2023 from Community Forest Trust, registered charity no.1072706.

Transfers

Transfers are made to the designated capital fund due to grants being spent on fixed assets. The balance represents the book value of assets still to be depreciated.

Transfers are also made to ringfence monies committed to leases

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Purpose of Restricted Funds:

Barnfield	Development of a community tree nursery and National Urban Forestry Centre. This includes funds from nPower.
Bolton Orchards	Ongoing establishment and maintenance of 5 orchards for Bolton Council
Defra Urban Tree Challenge	Ongoing establishment and maintenance of standard trees across Greater Manchester
DWP	Accessibility grant
Ignition	Development of innovative financing solutions for investment in Greater Manchester's natural environment
Northern Forest Grow Back Greener	Ongoing establishment and maintenance of standard trees across Greater Manchester
Oglesby Charitable Trust	General support for ongoing organisational activities and costs
Life IP - Natural Course	Funding for improved design of projects to better understand and overcome some of the biggest barriers preventing the achievement of "good ecological status" in the North West River Basin District
City Releaf	Project development and delivery : semi-mature tree planting in Manchester City Centre
Environment Agency - Crompton Moor	Installation of natural flood management projects and ongoing monitoring of their impact
Green Recovery Challenge Fund	Capital works and volunteer engagement in Bury and Trafford
WEA Roots to Work	To support people into work
Green Social Prescribing	Baselining and development of GSP network, bringing together stakeholders and practitioners
Groundwork - Green Spaces	Supporting community-led projects across Greater Manchester
Nature for Health	Administration and chairing of network
New to Nature & UFA's	To support new posts, training and development.
Silverdale - Grantscape	Capital works (planting), biodiversity and conservation, and volunteering engagement at Silverdale Salford
Species Survival Fund	Woodland management and biodiversity improvement project
TCMP Trafford	Management, coordination and delivery of the Trafford Countryside Management Partnership, in conjunction with Trafford Council, AMEY plc and The Conservation Volunteers
Veolia SWP	Capital works and volunteer engagement at Sale Water Park, Trafford
WCAF	Revenue funding for Woodland Creation Advisors and Coordinator
Bolton Council UK Shared Prosperity Fun	Towards salary costs of Bolton resident staff
Tree Production Capital Grant	Capital works project at Barnfield, Bury
Designated Funds	Amounts are ringfenced to cover outstanding lease commitments on the 3rd Avenue property, to cover unfunded woodland maintenance and to cover future depreciation still to be charged on assets (spent funds).
Cheshire West & Cheshire Council -	Tree planting project
Medlock Landscape Assessment	Woodland condition assessment and identification of potential planting areas

20 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025
	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	75,467	17,121	92,588
Net Current Assets	1,262,167	4,691,472	5,953,639
Long Term Liabilities	-	(3,767,745)	(3,767,745)
Net Assets at 31 March	1,337,634	940,848	2,278,482
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	104,342	30,345	134,687
Net Current Assets	1,023,251	3,786,562	4,809,813
Long Term Liabilities	-	(3,085,995)	(3,085,995)
Net Assets at 31 March	1,127,593	730,912	1,858,505

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

21 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

Contracted but not provided for	£	nil
		<u> </u>

22 OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The total future lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are:

	Equipment	Land and	Total	Equipment	Land and	Total
	2025	Buildings	2025	2024	Buildings	2024
	£	2025	£	£	2024	£
Within one year	575	81,000	81,575	575	81,000	81,575
Between 2 - 5 years	936	162,000	162,936	1,511	243,000	244,511
After 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>1,511</u>	<u>243,000</u>	<u>244,511</u>	<u>2,086</u>	<u>324,000</u>	<u>326,086</u>

A new 5 year lease in respect of the property at Discovery Works, Third Avenue, Trafford Park runs from May 2023 to April 2028.

23 RELATED PARTIES

There are no transactions with related parties . City of Trees Trust divested from Community Forest Trust but do not share any trustees in common, though continue to be a partner in funded projects.

24 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised on a transaction value and subsequently measured at their value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at an amortised cost using the effective interest method.

25 POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There are no significant post balance sheet events that the trustees consider would have an impact on the financial statements as presented.

City of Trees 30 June 2025 Accounts

Final Audit Report

2026-04-09

Created:	2026-04-09
By:	Kevin Wigley (finance@cityoftrees.org.uk)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAILEuCcL-ofJWSxKwG_69LX8Dn9U0E540

"City of Trees 30 June 2025 Accounts" History

-  Document created by Kevin Wigley (finance@cityoftrees.org.uk)
2026-04-09 - 08:46:45 GMT
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2026-04-09 - 08:46:52 GMT
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2026-04-09 - 08:54:15 GMT

CITY OF TREES TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1202636

Accounts

CITY OF TREES TRUST

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1202636

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

CITY OF TREES TRUST

A REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1202636

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

INDEX PAGE

PAGE NO.	CONTENTS
1 - 8	Report of the Board of Management
9 - 12	Auditors Report
13	Statement of Financial Activities
14	Balance Sheet
15	Statement of Cash Flows
16-24	Notes to the Accounts

CITY OF TREES TRUST

Report of the trustees for the Period Ended 30TH of June 2024

The trustees present their annual directors' report and financial statements of the charity for the Period Ended 30th of June 2024. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the governing document and the 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).

Reference and administrative information

Charity Name: City of Trees Trust

Charity Number: 1202636

Trustees

The trustees and officers serving during the period and since the year end were as follows:

Dr Carl Austin-Behan	(Chair) (appointed 4 th April 2023)
Alan Quinn	(appointed 4 th April 2023)
Dawn Lowry-Hair	(appointed 4 th April 2023)
Kevin Coughlan	(appointed 17 th of April 2023)
Eleanor Ward	(appointed 17 th of April 2023)
Hannah O'Riordan	(appointed 17 th of April 2023)
Anais Biaux	(appointed 17 th of April 2023)
Tam Watson	(Treasurer) (appointed 15 th of July 2024)

Key Management Personnel

Jessica Thompson	Chief Executive Officer
Kevin Wigley	Operations Manager
Helena Lee	Business Support Co-ordinator (Co-opted Company Secretary, November 2023)

Registered Office

Discovery Works, Unit 3
Third Avenue
Trafford Park
Manchester
M17 1BW

Auditors

McKellens
The Embankment Business Park
11 Vale Road
Heaton Mersey
Stockport SK4 3GN

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc, 42-46 Market Street, Manchester
Metro Bank, One Southampton Row, London, WC1B 5HA

CITY OF TREES TRUST

Accountants

Community Accountancy Service Limited
The Grange
Pilgrim Drive
Beswick
Manchester
M11 3TQ

Divestment

The charity was formerly part of Community Forest Trust (Registered Charity No.1072706) and divested from them on 1st July 2023. As part of the divestment, funds relating to City of Trees operations were transferred from Community Forest Trust as detailed in the accounts Notes 11 and 19.

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the charity are:

1. To promote for the benefit of the public, the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment through the planting and nurturing of the urban forest, in both urban and peri-urban areas across Greater Manchester and beyond.
2. To advance the education of the public through activities and engagement that aim to support all aspects of conservation, protection and improvement of the natural environment in an urban and peri urban setting.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, in planning future activities, and setting the policies for the year. City of Trees Trust meets the public benefit principles by specifically meeting these three charitable purposes:

- the advancement of education;
- the advancement of citizenship or community development;
- the advancement of environmental protections or improvement.

Strategies for Achieving Objectives

We have identified three core aims to guide us in achieving our objectives and identifying the focus of our work:

- **We plant trees;** for and with the people of Greater Manchester. We work with volunteers and landowners to plant trees and create new woodlands to make our region more resilient to climate change.
- **We look after trees;** and restore Greater Manchester's woodlands and green spaces for the benefit of communities and local nature recovery.
- **We promote a culture of trees;** we inspire a passion for trees and woods by creating meaningful engagement and volunteering opportunities for people to enjoy, learn about and celebrate our urban forest.

CITY OF TREES TRUST

City of Trees is part of England's Community Forests. As a Community Forest, all our charitable activities focus on care for the natural environment which encompasses public benefit. We review our aims, objectives and activities every year to ensure that we are meeting our stated objectives. The review includes evaluation of our activities to assess both what we have achieved and how we can learn from the outcomes of our work to contribute to future activities.

Activities for Achieving Objectives - How we work

The charity delivers its charitable aims in various ways:

- Through community engagement programmes and events for volunteers, facilitated by our staff.
- Through our in-house contract team which is designed to bring people into green jobs and upskilling opportunities
- In partnership with organisations where we can align our objectives and extend our reach and impact.

Our programme of work is spread across three key areas:

- **Tree planting:** taking a place-based approach, we plant trees in and around the Greater Manchester region. For example, we work with local councils, community groups, schools and landowners to develop our urban forest, through woodland creation and the planting of 'standard' larger trees and other types of trees outside woods.
- **Woodland management:** care and maintenance of existing woodlands is a vital aspect of our work to improve the quality of the urban forest - ensuring access to green spaces, encouraging nature recovery and building resilience in our local ecosystems.
- **Community engagement:** we create a variety of volunteering (Citizen Forester) opportunities for local people from all walks of life, and community groups, to get involved in our work. We provide environmental education and learning opportunities to empower people and improve their life prospects which results in fostering pride for local areas. We harness the collective power of people to make a positive difference for their environment, by supporting their motivations for getting involved and facilitating learning, social, citizenship and health & wellbeing outcomes.

We also are developing our offers in terms of:

- Our Green Jobs & Skills programme aims to diversify the forestry sector, engaging people in pathways and opportunities in all manner of roles relating to forestry and the environment through learning and educational opportunities. This seeks to address the local and national skills gap and to provide less-traditional routes into such roles, thus opening opportunities to a more diverse audience and those experiencing disadvantage.
- Consultancy services: we are a trusted partner with well-established networks, offering in-house specialist expertise to support others meet their environmental goals.

Structure, governance and management

City of Trees Trust is a charitable incorporated organisation governed by its constitution dated 4th of April 2023, and is registered with the Charity Commission (dated 5th April 2023).

CITY OF TREES TRUST

Recruitment and Appointment of trustees

As set out in the governing document, our trustees are appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. A charity trustee who has served for three consecutive terms may not be reappointed for a fourth consecutive term but may be reappointed after an interval of a least one year.

Trustee induction and training

New trustees are provided with information about their role and responsibilities, as outlined in our Trustee Handbook and our Trustee Code of Conduct Policy. Trustees are also given a copy of our constitution, information about current staffing and current policy documents. If a trustee is appointed to a subgroup, they are given further information on funding and internal systems that are specific to that subgroup. Trustee meetings are sometimes held at a planting site where we will first discuss core business, then take part in a planting session. Trustees will be invited to take part in a planting day at least once per year to gain a fuller understanding of the charity's direct delivery work.

Organisational Structure

The board of trustees administers the charity and are legally responsible for ensuring that resources are used appropriately and only in support of our objectives. The board of trustees meet quarterly to review strategic business and make decisions that provide leadership and direction for the charity. The trustees delegate the day-to-day operations to the CEO and senior managers. A Finance & Risk Subgroup comprising nominated trustees, including the charity Treasurer, and senior staff meet quarterly with the external accountant.

City of Trees Trust believe in rewarding staff fairly and adhere to the National Living Wage standard. We also adhere to a salary framework devised by our outsourced HR provider, Solutions for HR, supported through bench-marking exercises set to remunerate our employees appropriately according to their specific skills and level of experience. We also want to retain skilled and expert staff for the long term and set our salaries at a competitive market rate. Our rates of pay are reviewed annually by our senior management team and trustees.

The senior management team at 30th of June 2024 comprised of:

Chief Executive Officer	Jessica Thompson
Operations Manager	Kevin Wigley
Partnerships Manager	Alex Bedford
Communications and Engagement Manager	Aimee Lawless
Data Manager	Bryan Cosgrove
Green Infrastructure Manager	Pete Stringer

Fundraising Standards

City of Trees Trust is a member of the Fundraising Regulator and has an Ethical Fundraising Policy. We fundraise through our in-house fundraising team including a dedicated Partnerships Manager who focuses on building relationships with companies and funding organisations who support our

CITY OF TREES TRUST

values. During financial year 2024-25 we will be recruiting a Partnerships Officer whose main focus will be on our individual giving scheme. We also employ one full-time Development Manager and one part-time Development Coordinator who write funding bids to grant-giving bodies.

Partners are required to sign non legally binding agreements when entering into a partnership with City of Trees which clearly outline the partnership expectation, goals, reporting requirements and use of the charity's logo in marketing materials. We do not outsource fundraising activities to third party organisations. Reports are completed and made available to donors in line with the donor's partnership agreement reporting schedule.

We did not receive any complaints regarding our fundraising practices during the 23/24 period.

City of Trees have a safeguarding policy which is upheld by all members of staff to ensure that vulnerable people and children are safeguarded when engaging with City of Trees. We have a dedicated child and vulnerable persons safeguarding officer and all staff receive training on our safeguarding policies annually. We regularly review our safeguarding policies to assess risk and ensure that there are clear channels for people to be able to report any concerns they may have. We are committed to ensuring that volunteers, staff, members of the public and other beneficiaries concerns are dealt with in an open and timely manner. In line with the Institute of Fundraising code of fundraising practice, when dealing with vulnerable potential donors, City of Trees will always err on the side of caution. If we suspect that a donor may be vulnerable we will always end the conversation immediately without making a request for a donation and without enquiring about the individual's capacity to make a decision.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work as a trustee with the charity. Any connection between a trustee or senior manager with any service providers must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party under our Conflict of Interest Policy.

A review of our achievements and performance

The main achievements during the year are:

- 1107 volunteers (Citizen Foresters) joined us at events across the year – 3905 hours recorded
- 4088 children joined us for tree planting and environmental education, it was a record year for the number of school children we worked with at schools across Greater Manchester
- In addition, 401 participants joined us at activities such as our Dementia-friendly walks and attended craft and education sessions as part of our Natural Cultural Health Service sessions in Manchester
- Worked with partners to prepare plans and bring forward over 460 hectares existing woodland into active management, including Trafford's Mersey Valley Woodlands, and Medlock Valley.
- We achieved a record year for the planting of 3,172 (larger, semi-mature trees) across Greater Manchester. We worked with social housing provider Onward Homes to plant 132

CITY OF TREES TRUST

standard trees across 20 locations and at many more sites across the region, including at sports clubs and on residential streets.

- We embarked on a large-scale woodland management programme, working in the Medlock Valley in partnership with Groundwork Greater Manchester, TCV, Canal & Rivers Trust and Mersey Rivers Trust and local authorities Manchester City Council, Oldham Council and Tameside Council. The project will enhance habitats at seven sites across the Medlock Valley, covering almost 30ha.
- We launched our in-house contract team in early 2024 to provide more job opportunities for those entering our sector and to add capacity to our direct delivery operations. The Urban Forester positions within the team are responsible for planting thousands of trees, where it would be challenging to involve volunteers on certain sites.
- We launched our refreshed City of Trees brand, including new organisational values and an updated visual feel. This was followed by a new website in February 2024 with an integrated booking system to improve user experience when signing up for volunteering opportunities. It also hosts a more streamlined donation function and an integrated map to show our impact within the region.
- We play key role in Chairing and coordinating the Greater Manchester Nature for Health Network, which supports practitioners and organisations working to deliver nature-based activities for health & wellbeing outcomes.
- We work strategically at a local, regional and national level as leaders and advocates for trees and woods, particularly in the urban setting. This has involved contributing to the development of the Local Nature Recovery Strategies.
- We have begun the initial phase of developing the Urban Forestry Centre at Barnfield in Bury by securing funds to set up a community tree nursery which forms part of the overall vision for the site.

Grants Made

Grants were made to third parties as part of our funding terms and in pursuit of our objectives as follows:

Bolton at Home (Urban Tree Challenge)	6,264
Oldham Council (Urban Tree Challenge)	27,143
Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council (Urban Tree Challenge)	10,022
First Choice Homes (Urban Tree Challenge)	16,704
Community Forest Trust (Life IP)	15,378
Salford City Council (Green Space Fund)	20,000
The National Trust	60,304
Groundwork Greater Manchester (Woodland creation)	<u>127,532</u>
Total	<u>283,347</u>

Plans for Future Periods

Our activities are arranged under the following organisational objectives:

Unlocking Land – (for planting, management, service opportunities)

- Continued delivery of Trees for Climate, a multi-million pound woodland creation programme, part of the national Government-led Nature for Climate Fund

CITY OF TREES TRUST

- A commitment to growing our woodland management offer to increase biodiversity at existing woodlands in Greater Manchester
- Growing our in-house contract function to serve the planting of trees (woodland creation and trees outside of woodlands) and woodland management
- Continuing the implementation of Natural Flood Management to support climate resilience in the region
- Launching a new Forest Plan which will be a spatial strategy to develop our urban forest and treescapes in and around Greater Manchester

Engaging communities – growing reach across Greater Manchester

- Growing our Citizen Forester offer of volunteering, including working with hard to reach communities
- Developing the collection of health and wellbeing outcomes from engagement events, to further understand the impacts of our work
- Continuing our work engaging and educating schools through on-site planting days

Urban forest – growing our urban forest and raising the profile

- Continuing to develop our Green Jobs offer to widen opportunities in the sector
- Developing the National Urban Forestry Centre at the Bury Council-owned Barnfield site in Prestwich including launching our trees nursery and engagement opportunities on the site

Financial review

The charity divested from Community Forest Trust on 1st of July 2023 and brought over funds and in kind donations totalling £3,040,886. The charity had ended the year with income totalling £4,115,332. Expenditure of £3,365,668 was incurred leaving a surplus of £749,664. Unrestricted reserves at the year end, were £1,127,593 of which £55,861 was designated for general tree maintenance and £101,130 related to capital assets still to be depreciated and £289,586 for future lease commitments.

Investment powers and policy

The trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of operating the charity, have recently placed available funds in an interest bearing deposit account. Advice is being taken from an independent financial advisor for the most suitable modes of investment for the charity going forward.

Reserves policy and going concern

The balance held in unrestricted reserves at 30th of June 2024 was £1,127,593 of which £681,016 is free reserves, after allowing for funds tied up in tangible fixed assets and designated funds (£446,577). Restricted reserves totalled £ 730,912 with £30,345 relating to fixed assets (spent), £170,756 relating to future maintenance plans and £529,811 relating to revenue.

The trustees aim to establish and maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately six months of charitable expenditure (currently £1,659,519). This includes a planting budget as grants are largely claimed in arrears so the charity has to invest funds in the initial planting schemes. The trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to meet cash flow demands and respond to changes in the funding environment. Currently free reserves

CITY OF TREES TRUST

including designated funds stand at just over 3.6 months running costs. Having regard to the 25/26 budget and supplemented by the general funds the trustees consider that the charity is a going concern.

Risk management

The trustees have conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Each risk is assessed according to its likelihood and potential impact, and appropriate actions and procedures are agreed to mitigate any risks the charity faces. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers, service users and visitors.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with general applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting principles and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2015 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safekeeping the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the trustees



Chair Dr Carl Austin-Behan

Date: 24 April 2025



Treasurer Tam Watson

Date: 24 April 2025

City of Trees Trust

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of City of Trees Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of City of Trees Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 30 June 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activity, 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 applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards comprising Charities SORP – FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (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 June 2024 and of 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 Charities Act 2011.

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's 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 directors' 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 directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' 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.

City of Trees Trust

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of City of Trees Trust

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Charities Act 2011

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.

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 Charities Act 2011 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; or

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 8, the directors 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 directors 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 directors 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 directors either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's 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.

City of Trees Trust

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of City of Trees Trust

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 Charities Act 2011, taxation legislation and data protection, anti-bribery, employment, environmental and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- that 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;
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- understanding the design of the charity's remuneration policies.

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

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

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but 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.

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.

City of Trees Trust

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of City of Trees Trust

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members 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 charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



.....
Paul Roper (Senior Statutory Auditor)
McKellens Ltd
11 Riverview
The Embankment Business Park
Vale Road
Heaton Mersey
Stockport
SK4 3GN

28 April 2025

CITY OF TREES TRUST

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2024

	NOTES	2024	
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Fixed Assets	13		134,687
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock	14	22,997	
Debtors & Prepayments	15	3,086,378	
Cash at Bank and in Hand		2,489,628	
		<u>5,599,003</u>	
CREDITORS:			
Amounts falling due within one year	16	<u>(789,190)</u>	
		<u>(789,190)</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			4,809,813
CREDITORS:			
Amounts falling due after more than one year	18		(3,085,995)
TOTAL NET ASSETS			<u><u>1,858,505</u></u>
ACCUMULATED RESERVES			
Unrestricted Funds	20		1,127,593
Restricted Funds	20		730,912
			<u><u>1,858,505</u></u>

Approved on behalf of the board of trustees:



Trustee

Dr Carl Austin-Behan



Trustee

Mr Tam Watson

Date 24 April 2025

The notes on pages 16 to 24 form part of these accounts.

CITY OF TREES TRUST
(incorporating income and expenditure account)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds Period 5 April 2023 to 30 June 2024 £
INCOME FROM:				
Donations & Legacies	3	136,644	46,844	183,488
Charitable Activities	4	320,223	3,583,889	3,904,112
Other Trading Activities	5	27,624	-	27,624
Investment Income	6	71	-	71
Other Income		37	-	37
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		484,599	3,630,733	4,115,332
EXPENDITURE ON				
Raising Funds	7	46,630	-	46,630
Charitable activities	8	131,523	3,187,515	3,319,038
TOTAL		178,153	3,187,515	3,365,668
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE)		306,446	443,218	749,664
Transfers between funds	19	(57,617)	57,617	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		248,829	500,835	749,664
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Transfer on Divestment	11	878,764	230,077	1,108,841
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	19	1,127,593	730,912	1,858,505

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

The notes on pages 16 to 24 form part of these accounts.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024
	£
Net movement in funds	749,664
Add back depreciation	47,353
deduct donation in kind	(16,252)
Deduct investment income	(71)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(3,086,378)
Increase in stock	(22,997)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>3,875,185</u>
Net cash used in operating activities	<u><u>1,546,504</u></u>
Cash flows from investment activities:	
Interest	71
Purchase of fixed assets	(165,788)
Sale of Fixed Assets	
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>(165,717)</u>
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year	1,380,787
Transfer of Funds on Divestment	1,108,841
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	<u><u><u>2,489,628</u></u></u>

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**(a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern**

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

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

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

(b) Funds structure

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor.

When the requirements of the restricted funds are met (eg assets are purchased) the transaction is shown as a movement in funds from restricted to capital funds.

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.

The charity has created a designated capital fund to meet the future depreciation charge of its assets. Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 16.

(c) Income recognition

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 income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and grants are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation or grant is subject to conditions that require a level of performance 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 those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period. Grants, including those in restricted funds, specifying performance in future periods are deferred. Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

(d) Expenditure Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. For more information on this attribution refer to note (f) below.

(e) Taxation & Irrecoverable VAT

The charity registered for VAT. Irrecoverable vat is charged against expenditure.

No provision has been made for taxation as exemption has been granted by HMRC from taxation under Sections 466 to 493 of the Corporation Taxes Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Capital Gains Act to the extent that surpluses and gains are applied for charitable purposes.

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

(f) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to independent examination and legal and professional fees together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs. Governance costs and support costs relating to charitable activities have been apportioned based on staff time and the usage of facilities and services for management purposes. The allocation of support and governance costs is analysed in note 9.

(g) Costs of raising funds

The costs of raising funds consists of staffing and fundraising overheads.

(h) Charitable Activities

Costs of charitable activities include governance costs and an apportionment of support costs as shown in note 8.

(i) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and valued at historical cost. In the charity's opening year, some assets less than £500 have been capitalised on set up.

Depreciation is charged on the following basis:

Leasehold Improvements	20% on cost
Plant & Equipment	20% on cost
Fixtures & Fittings	20% on cost
Computer Equipment	33.33% on cost
Website	50% on cost

The total of any capital grants are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year they are received, as required by the SORP, and not deferred over the life of the related assets.

(j) Stock

Stock is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value on a first in first out basis.

(k) Debtors

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

(l) Creditors and Provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

(m) Realised gains and losses

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying values or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their varying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(n) Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. Contributions payable for the year are charged against the income and expenditure account.

The pension scheme is an auto enrolment compliant scheme. The charity has no liabilities beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employee's contributions.

(o) Operating Leases

Payments under operating leases are charged to the income and expenditure account in the period to which they relate.

(p) Contingent liabilities

There were no contingent liabilities at 30th June 2024.

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

(q) Donated Services

The charity had over 1000 volunteers in the period contributing 3,861 volunteer hours, assisting with planting. In addition there were two student placements.

No financial value has been reflected in the accounts for these donated services.

2 NET INCOMING RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR

This is stated after charging:

Depreciation	£
Audit Fees	47,353
	<u>6,000</u>

3 DONATIONS & LEGACIES

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £
Donations & Gift Aid	136,644	16,252	152,896
Donation - The Mailing Room (match funding)		30,592	30,592
	<u>136,644</u>	<u>46,844</u>	<u>183,488</u>

4 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £
Groundwork New to Nature	-	19,055	19,055
Groundwork - Green Spaces	-	43,250	43,250
Life IP	-	10,030	10,030
Community Forest Trust conduit grant - Northern Forest	-	2,041,442	2,041,442
Less: deferred for maintenance		(1,269,916)	(1,269,916)
Oglesby Charitable Trust	-	295,000	295,000
Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council	-	93,750	93,750
Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council - legacy grant	-	83,184	83,184
Forestry Commission England - Tree Production Capital Grant		61,071	61,071
Forestry Commission England - Urban Tree Challenge	-	412,164	412,164
Cheshire West & Cheshire Council conduit grant - Trees for Climate		1,593,917	1,593,917
Less: deferred for maintenance		(340,162)	(340,162)
Veolia	-	37,391	37,391
GMCA - Woodland Creation Accelerator Fund	-	149,223	149,223
Local Authority & Housing Association grants	188,153	125,834	313,987
Green Recovery Challenge Fund	-	74,188	74,188
Bolton MBC - UKSPF Clean & Green grant	-	13,000	13,000
Ignition	-	24,158	24,158
City Releaf	-	44,768	44,768
Boz Park	-	17,715	17,715
Grantscape - Silverdale	-	22,962	22,962
Other Grants	(1,271)	8,750	7,479
Salford City Council Match Funding Grant	-	10,281	10,281
Six Town Housing - Match Funding Grant	-	10,627	10,627
Services:			
Surveys & Feasibility Studies	54,965	-	54,965
Training & Workshops	1,747	-	1,747
Corporate Social Responsibility Education Days	17,527	-	17,527
Site Development & Planting	59,102	479	59,581
Tree maintenance	-	1,728	1,728
	<u>320,223</u>	<u>3,583,889</u>	<u>3,904,112</u>

The total government grants receivable in the year to 30th June 2024 was £2,089,427. The specific funders are as follows: £176,934 relates to grants from Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council planting and maintenance; a further £473,234 was received from Forestry Commission England to support the Urban Tree Challenge. Cheshire West and Cheshire Council granted £1,593,917 with £340,162 deferred towards the Trees for Climate project. Greater Manchester Combined Authorities granted £149,223 towards woodland creation which runs to December 2024. Salford City Council gave £10,281 in match funding towards Northern forests and Bury Council gave £13,000 towards urban trees. Bolton council via the UK Shared Prosperity Fund gave £13,000 towards Clean and Green. All terms of the grants have been fulfilled apart from those monies deferred for future project costs and maintenance.

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

5 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES		Unrestricted	Restricted	2024
		£	£	£
100 Trees Club Fundraising		6,000	-	6,000
Consultancy		21,624	-	21,624
		<u>27,624</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,624</u>
6 INVESTMENT INCOME				£
Bank Interest Receivable				<u>71</u>
7 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS		Unrestricted		
		Funds	Total 2024	
		£	£	
Wages & Salaries		45,157	45,157	
Fundraising Costs		1,473	1,473	
		<u>46,630</u>	<u>46,630</u>	
8 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		Corporate	Tree Planting	
		Social	&	
		Responsibility	Maintenance	Total 2024
		£	£	£
Employment Costs	Staff Time	2,377	962,689	965,066
Recruitment & DBS Checks	Staff Time		3,299	3,299
Seconded Staff	Staff Time		56,975	56,975
Staff Training	Staff Time		11,868	11,868
Staff Travel	Staff Time		133	133
Staff Welfare	Staff Time		60	60
Relocation Costs	Floor Area		12,886	12,886
Rent & Service Charge	Floor Area		86,167	86,167
Rates & Water	Floor Area		10,982	10,982
Light & Heat	Floor Area		12,126	12,126
Waste Collection	Floor Area		4,406	4,406
Repairs & Renewals	Floor Area		8,235	8,235
Dilapidations	Floor Area		36,000	36,000
Security	Floor Area		819	819
Cleaning	Floor Area		3,167	3,167
Insurance	Floor Area		1,685	1,685
<i>Project Costs:</i>				
Travel and Subsistence	By Project	3	9,241	9,244
Vehicle Expenses	By Project		29,714	29,714
Project Consultancy	By Project		34,335	34,335
Partner Grants Made	By Project		283,347	283,347
Trees & Supplies	By Project		599,870	599,870
External Contractors	By Project		519,909	519,909
Materials	By Project		254,402	254,402
Protective Clothing	By Project		10,660	10,660
Small Tools & Equipment	By Project	1,449	7,340	8,789
Equipment Hire	By Project		19,470	19,470
Project Refreshments	By Project	1,087	657	1,744
Events	By Project		6,284	6,284
Room Hire	By Project		1,180	1,180
Insurance	By Project		8,693	8,693
Other Costs	By Project	4	1,175	1,179
Laundry	By Project		353	353
Support Costs	Note 9	2,724	263,875	266,599
Governance Costs	Note 9		49,392	49,392
		<u>7,644</u>	<u>3,311,394</u>	<u>3,319,038</u>
Restricted		-	3,187,515	3,187,515
Unrestricted		7,644	123,879	131,523
Total		<u>7,644</u>	<u>3,311,394</u>	<u>3,319,038</u>

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

9 ALLOCATION OF GOVERNANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS

		Support Costs	Governance Costs	Total 2024
		£	£	£
Management & Admin Salaries	Staff Time	81,621	4,296	85,917
Rent & Service Charge	Floor Area	9,574		9,574
Rates & Water	Floor Area	1,220		1,220
Light & Heat	Floor Area	1,347		1,347
Waste Collection	Floor Area	489		489
Repairs & Renewals	Floor Area	915		915
Dilapidations	Floor Area	4,000		4,000
Cleaning	Floor Area	352		352
Insurance	Floor Area	187		187
Equipment Rental	Direct	3,766		3,766
Computer Maintenance & Software	Direct	14,650		14,650
Marketing & Communications	Direct	14,212		14,212
Minor Equipment	Direct	3,582		3,582
Office Refreshments	Direct	2,842		2,842
Printing, Post and Stationery	Direct	1,963		1,963
Subscriptions & Licences	Direct	10,077		10,077
Telephone	Direct	2,002		2,002
Website Costs	Direct	1,217		1,217
Payroll Costs	Direct	2,691		2,691
HR Costs	Direct	10,691		10,691
Sundry	Direct	1,705		1,705
Depreciation	Direct	47,352		47,352
Irrecoverable VAT	Direct	30,104		30,104
Accountancy Support	Direct	20,040		20,040
Audit & Accountancy	Governance		11,962	11,962
Legal Fees	Governance		17,850	17,850
Professional Fees	Governance		4,722	4,722
Management fee (CFT)	Governance		10,000	10,000
Bank Charges & Interest	Governance		562	562
TOTAL		266,599	49,392	315,991
Restricted Funds		245,851	27,146	272,997
Unrestricted Funds		20,748	22,246	42,994
Total		266,599	49,392	315,991

Included within audit and accountancy is £6,000 relating to the audit of the charity's accounts. A provision of £3,000 was set aside in relation to a specific fund audit . No other fees are payable to the auditors.

10 STAFF COSTS

	2024
	£
Wages and Salaries	967,500
Social Security Costs	78,314
Pension Costs	50,326
	<u>1,096,140</u>

No employee earned £60,000 per annum or more.

The charity considers its key staff comprises the Chief Executive Officer, Operations Manager and Business Support Co-ordinator.

The remuneration, including employers NICs and pension contributions, of key staff in the year was £141,349

The average number of employees during the year was:

Tree Planting & Maintenance	27
Management & Administration	6
	<u>33</u>

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

17 DEFERRED INCOME

Deferred income comprises grants set aside for future maintenance commitments.

	2024
	£
Amount deferred from divestment transfer	1,932,045
Amount deferred in year	1,610,078
	<u>3,542,123</u>

18 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2024
	£
Deferred Income - Maintenance	3,085,995
	<u>3,085,995</u>

19 ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS

	Transferred on Divestment				Balance At
	net of	Incoming net	Transfers	Outgoing	30/06/2024
	deferrals	of deferrals			
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Revenue:					
Barnfield	-	10,000	-	(1,138)	8,862
Bolton Orchards	9,926	-	-	-	9,926
Urban Tree Challenge	(177,204)	481,472	54,214	(473,956)	(115,474)
Ignition	5,057	24,158	-	-	29,215
Northern Forest Grow Back Greener (conduit grant via CFT) & match	-	809,952	(21,227)	(793,506)	(4,781)
Oglesby Charitable Trust	289,677	295,000	(12,467)	(280,890)	291,320
Life IP - Natural Course	(4,373)	10,030	-	(20,906)	(15,249)
City Releaf	(605)	44,768	-	(25,997)	18,166
Environment Agency - Crompton Moor	-	-	-	(106)	(106)
Green Recovery Challenge Fund	(77,906)	74,188	3,540	178	-
Green Social Prescribing	11,147	-	-	(2)	11,145
Groundwork - Green Spaces	39,032	43,250	-	(31,926)	50,356
Green Spaces - other	-	479	-	(479)	-
Nature for Health	-	-	12,570	(12,570)	-
New to Nature & UFA's	-	32,055	-	(28,847)	3,208
Silverdale - Grantscape	-	25,502	-	(25,429)	73
TCMP Trafford	140,956	176,934	-	(22,574)	295,316
Veolia SWP	-	37,391	-	(34,331)	3,060
WCAF	(13,335)	149,222	-	(200,347)	(64,460)
Tree Production Capital Grant & match	-	91,663	(4,898)	(114,624)	(27,859)
Cheshire West & Chester Council - Trees for Climate	-	1,253,755	(118,776)	(1,100,912)	34,067
Trees for Climate - Other	-	1,728	-	(1,728)	-
UFA	(11,000)	8,750	2,250	-	-
Medlock Landscape Assessment	3,026	-	-	-	3,026
Maintenance Funds					
Boz Park	14,726	17,715	-	(2,302)	30,139
Northern Forest Grow Back Greener	-	26,469	7,223	(11,086)	22,606
CWAC Trees for Climate	-	-	118,011	-	118,011
Managing Manchester's Trees	953	-	(953)	-	-
Capital:					
Oglesby Charitable Trust	-	-	12,467	-	12,467
Donation in Kind - equipment	-	16,252	-	(4,037)	12,215
CWAC Trees for Climate	-	-	765	-	765
Tree Production Capital Grant	-	-	4,898	-	4,898
Total Restricted Funds	<u>230,077</u>	<u>3,630,733</u>	<u>57,617</u>	<u>(3,187,515)</u>	<u>730,912</u>

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

19 cont...	Transferred on Divestment				Balance At 30/06/2024
	net of deferrals £	Incoming net of deferrals £	Transfers £	Outgoing £	£
Restricted Funds from Page	230,077	3,630,733	57,617	(3,187,515)	730,912
Unrestricted:					
General Funds	823,856	484,599	(449,286)	(178,153)	681,016
Designated - lease commitments	-	-	289,586	-	289,586
Designated - Maintenance Funds	54,908	-	953	-	55,861
Designated Capital Funds	-	-	101,130	-	101,130
	<u>878,764</u>	<u>484,599</u>	<u>(57,617)</u>	<u>(178,153)</u>	<u>1,127,593</u>
	<u>1,108,841</u>	<u>4,115,332</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,365,668)</u>	<u>1,858,505</u>
Transfer on Divestment			On 5th April 2023 City of Trees Trust became an established charitable incorporated organisation and divested its projects on 1st July 2023 from Community Forest Trust, registered charity no.1072706.		
Transfers			Transfers are made to the designated capital fund due to grants being spent on fixed assets. The balance represents the book value of assets still to be depreciated. Transfers are also made to ringfence monies committed to leases		
Purpose of Restricted Funds:					
Barnfield			Development of a community tree nursery and National Urban Forestry Centre		
Bolton Orchards			Ongoing establishment and maintenance of 5 orchards for Bolton Council		
Defra Urban Tree Challenge			Ongoing establishment and maintenance of standard trees across Greater Manchester		
Ignition			Development of innovative financing solutions for investment in Greater Manchester's natural environment		
Northern Forest Grow Back Greener			Ongoing establishment and maintenance of standard trees across Greater Manchester		
Oglesby Charitable Trust			General support for ongoing organisational activities and costs		
Life IP - Natural Course			Funding for improved design of projects to better understand and overcome some of the biggest barriers preventing the achievement of "good ecological status" in the North West River Basin District		
City Releaf			Project development and delivery : semi-mature tree planting in Manchester City Centre		
Environment Agency - Crompton Moor			Installation of natural flood management projects and ongoing monitoring of their impact		
Green Recovery Challenge Fund			Capital works and volunteer engagement in Bury and Trafford		
Green Social Prescribing			Baselining and development of GSP network, bringing together stakeholders and practitioners		
Green Spaces			Supporting community-led projects across Greater Manchester		
Nature for Health			Administration and chairing of network		
New to Nature & UFA's			To support new posts, training and development.		
Silverdale - Grantscape			Capital works (planting), biodiversity and conservation, and volunteering engagement at Silverdale Salford		
TCMP Trafford			Management, coordination and delivery of the Trafford Countryside Management Partnership, in conjunction with Trafford Council, AMEY plc and The Conservation Volunteers		
Veolia SWP			Capital works and volunteer engagement at Sale Water Park, Trafford		
WCAF			Revenue funding for Woodland Creation Advisors and Coordinator		
Tree Production Capital Grant			Capital works project at Barnfield, Bury		
Designated Funds			Amounts are ringfenced to cover outstanding lease commitments on the 3rd Avenue property, to cover unfunded woodland maintenance and to cover future depreciation still to be charged on assets (spent funds).		

CITY OF TREES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

19 Cont ...

Purpose of Restricted Funds:

Cheshire West & Chester Council - Trees	Tree planting project
UFA	Green skills development
Medlock Landscape Assessment	Woodland condition assessment and identification of potential planting areas

20 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	104,342	30,345	134,687
Net Current Assets	1,023,251	3,786,562	4,809,813
Long Term Liabilities	-	(3,085,995)	(3,085,995)
Net Assets at 31 March	<u>1,127,593</u>	<u>730,912</u>	<u>1,858,505</u>

21 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

Contracted but not provided for	£	<u>nil</u>
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22 OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The total future lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are:

	Equipment 2024	Land and Buildings 2024	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Within one year	575	81,000	81,575
Between 2 - 5 years	1,511	229,500	231,011
After 5 years	-	-	-
	<u>2,086</u>	<u>310,500</u>	<u>312,586</u>

A new 5 year lease in respect of the property at Discovery Works, Third Avenue, Trafford Park runs from May 2023 to April 2028.

23 There are no transactions with related parties. City of Trees Trust divested from Community Forest Trust but do not share any trustees in common, though continue to be a partner in funded projects.

24 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised on a transaction value and subsequently measured at their value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at an amortised cost using the effective interest method.

25 POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There are no significant post balance sheet events that the trustees consider would have an impact on the financial statements as presented.











City of Trees 30 June 2024 accounts for signature-agreement

Final Audit Report

2025-04-29


Created:	2025-04-24
By:	City of Trees Team (team@cityoftrees.org.uk)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAvwFsRusf3MEVBifeJ6vIEQ1CRmBVVxH4

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-  Document created by City of Trees Team (team@cityoftrees.org.uk)
2025-04-24 - 3:43:11 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Carl Austin-Behan (carl@austin-behan.uk) for signature
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2025-04-29 - 11:03:07 AM GMT
-  Signer Jonathan Roper (paul.roper@mck.co.uk) entered name at signing as JP Roper
2025-04-29 - 11:04:26 AM GMT

 Document e-signed by JP Roper (paul.roper@mck.co.uk)

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 Agreement completed.

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