

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
Annual Report & Accounts 2020-21



Registered charity number: 207238

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

CONTENTS

for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Page
Overview of the Year	2
Trustees' Report	3 - 23
Auditors' Report	24 - 26
Accounting Policies	27 - 29
Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities	30
Consolidated and Society Balance Sheets	31
Consolidated Cash Flow Statement	32
Notes to the Financial Statements	33 - 54

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR

for the year ended 31 March 2021

The natural world is so important to us all and we are proud to be leading the way to enable more people to connect with nature; raising the profile of the ecological and climate crisis we face and championing and demonstrating practical solutions.

This has been a difficult year with COVID-19 dominating all our lives, and our thoughts are with those who have lost loved ones and have been particularly impacted. Our natural world provides us with solace and joy but is in trouble – facing both an ecological and climate crisis. We believe we cannot just think about slowing the loss of the natural world and protecting what remains. We need to stop and reverse the declines, and put nature in recovery, at scale and at pace, to restore biodiversity, stabilise the climate, ensure food security, protect the health and wellbeing of billions of people, and much more.

We have stepped up our Wilder Future campaign and almost 265,000 people have taken action, many of whom are new to the work of The Wildlife Trusts. Our proposed Wildbelts proved invaluable in getting nature's recovery on the Government's agenda and this year the Agriculture Act became law, and we influenced some of its content, including the principle of 'public money for public goods'. The Fisheries Act also came into law - the first piece of fisheries legislation for nearly forty years and we are pleased that it aims to manage fisheries for the benefit of both the fishing industry and the marine environment. And finally, the Environment Bill has progressed to report stage. We are calling for it to be strengthened, in particular around setting a headline target to reverse nature's decline by 2030.

The Wildlife Trusts' media profile grew considerably this year and our social media audiences now total around 2 million followers. Our annual 30 Days Wild in June was completely digital due to COVID-19, and yet it was our most popular year, seeing growth of over 70%, with over 136,000 individuals, 1,400 Care Homes, 1,000 businesses, and almost 16,000 schools taking part. We also ran a number of new initiatives to reach new audiences, including a series of public Zoom events, Wild LIVE, featuring internal and external speakers, with a collective viewing of over 60,000.

Due to COVID-19, we did not have any face-to-face meetings within the movement this year, but we ensured that we had all the technology, platforms and support in place to grow our collective culture and impact, as well as supporting Wildlife Trusts. At our virtual AGM we were delighted to elect naturalist and TV presenter Liz Bonnin as President of The Wildlife Trusts, and Gillian Burke as Vice President as well as welcoming four new ambassadors. Although Craig has not been able to get out to meet Trusts on the ground, our technology has enabled

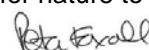
him to engage in real dialogue across the movement. Craig is leading an inclusive strategy reset process for The Wildlife Trust movement, including through Wildlife Trust Town Hall events open to all staff and trustees. Although these discussions are ongoing, it is already clear that we will be adopting bold goals that, by 2030, nature will be in recovery with abundant, diverse wildlife and natural processes creating wilder land and seascapes; people will be taking action for nature and the climate; and nature will play a central and valued role in addressing local and global problems of climate change and people's health and wellbeing.

We are extremely grateful for the support and flexibility given by all our funders during COVID-19, including emergency funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the National Lottery Community Fund enabling Our Bright Future projects to utilise funding for quality engagement with young people, and to embed the Three Asks within their organisations. Substantial unrestricted funds from players of People's Postcode Lottery have enabled us to reach out to many more people and deliver a step-change in our diversity and inclusivity work, as well as funding from the Postcode Climate Challenge to support the development of innovative Nature-Based Solutions projects.

Our long-term partnerships with businesses including Jordans Cereals, Vine House Farm, Redrow, Siemens, and Aggregate Industries continue to deliver benefits for the environment and people. COVID-19 curtailed our Wild Wellbeing days, but we provided digital content and support which was well received. This year we developed our partnerships with Tata Consultancy Services and Hogan Lovells and embarked on a number of new relationships. All of this work helps us reach out to more people so they can benefit from nature and have a voice in the future of our environment.

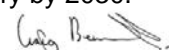
Our support to Wildlife Trusts continued with the integration of the website platform and Customer Relationship Management systems, and our Talent and Skills programme that was delivered virtually with a fantastic uptake of over 15,000 interactions.

Finally, as the UK begins to open up again, we want to thank you for your ongoing support as we navigate the year ahead, and invite you to be part of our goal for nature to be in recovery by 2030.



Peta Foxall
Chair





Craig Bennett
Chief Executive



REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered name	Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT)	
Also known as	The Wildlife Trusts	
Previously known as	Society for the Promotion of Nature Reserves (SPNR) Society for the Promotion of Nature Conservation (SPNC) Royal Society for Nature Conservation (RSNC)	
Registered charity number	207238	
Head office address	The Kiln Waterside Mather Road Newark NG24 1WT	
Principal bankers	NatWest Bank 225 High Street Lincoln LN2 1AZ	
Investment managers	Sarasin & Partners LLP Juxon House 100 St Paul's Churchyard London EC4M 8BU	CCLA Investment Management Senator House 85 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4ET
Pension scheme administrators	Capita Employee Benefits Ltd 65 Gresham Street London EC2V 7NQ	
Solicitors	Chattertons St Swithin's Court 1 Flavian Road Nettleham Road Lincoln LN2 4GR	Linklaters LLP One Silk Street London EC2Y 8HQ
Auditor	Saffery Champness LLP 71 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4BE	

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
TRUSTEES' REPORT
for the year ended 31 March 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

RSWT is a body corporate, incorporated under the Royal Charter of 2 March 1976, as amended in 1981, 1994, 1998, 2003 and 2007.

Patron	HRH The Prince of Wales	
President	Liz Bonnin	from 26 November 2020
Presidents Emeritus	Sir David Attenborough OM CH CVO CBE FRS FLS FZS FSA FRSGS Simon King OBE Tony Juniper CBE	
Vice Presidents	Prof J Chris Baines Nick Baker Ellie Harrison Prof David Macdonald CBE FRSE Bill Oddie OBE Julian Pettifer OBE Prof Sir Robert Worcester KBE	
Council:		
Chair	Peta Foxall	
Hon Secretary	Stewart Goshawk	
Hon Treasurer	Genevieve Landricombe	
Other Trustees:	Steve Garland Peter Young Ruth Sutherland CBE Anne Selby Jennifer Fulton Rob Pickford OBE David Jordan OBE Joanne Pike Sir Graham Fry KCMG Joanna Davidson CBE Stephen Aston Julian Woolford	to 26 November 2020 to 26 November 2020 to 8 April 2020 from 26 November 2020 from 26 November 2020
Chief Executive	Craig Bennett	from 1 April 2020

Appointment and induction of Trustees

Council comprises the Chair, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, one Wildlife Trust-nominated Trustee from each of Scotland, Wales and Ulster, the Chair of The Wildlife Trusts England Policy Committee and four other Trustees nominated by the English Wildlife Trusts. Trustees are elected by the corporate members at the Annual General Meeting. Council appoints a Vice Chair.

The Chair is elected to serve a single five-year term. Honorary Officers are elected, and other Trustees are appointed or elected, for up to two terms of three years. Council may also have two additional members possessing specialist skills, knowledge or expertise, as assessed by a skills audit.

The Chair introduces new Trustees at their first Council meeting. New Trustees are also given access to a dedicated intranet website which includes the charity's key documents, including its Royal Charter, Governance Handbook, Financial Standing Orders, latest Annual Report and Accounts, Five Year Plan, budget, minutes of recent Council meetings, relevant Charity Commission publications, and the Charity Trustee Network's 'Code of Conduct for Trustees'. New Trustees are also invited to attend induction sessions at the RSWT's office in Newark at the earliest convenient opportunity to receive introductory briefings on key work areas. Due to COVID-19 these were moved to Zoom sessions in 2020/21, which were well received.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the 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 group and parent charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the Royal Charter. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the group and parent charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2021

Organisational structure

The Royal Charter gives Council the powers to:

- administer the affairs of RSWT under the Bye-laws,
- exercise all the powers of RSWT, subject to the Bye-laws, and
- determine the policy of RSWT.

Council, as RSWT's governing body, is ultimately responsible, and directly accountable, to the charity's corporate members, the 46 independent Wildlife Trusts. Council operates a number of sub-committees. The main committees of Council are:

- The Wildlife Trusts England Policy Committee
- The Wildlife Trusts Countries Committee
- The Wildlife Trusts Resources and Audit Committee
- The Wildlife Trusts Strategic Development and Research Committee
- The Wildlife Trusts Marketing and Development Committee (paused from December 2020, pending a full governance review)

And main boards overseeing partnership programmes and grants:

- Biffa Award Grants Board
- Our Bright Future Steering Group
- Nature Friendly Schools Steering Group

Council is the primary leadership group for The Wildlife Trusts, aiming to deliver its stated purpose and mission as a movement. It also aims to lead The Wildlife Trusts in pursuit of excellent collective governance, ensuring that a collective strategy is in place and that the role of the RSWT as the central charity is clearly identified and effectively delivered.

The England Policy Committee has delegated authority to set English policy issues relating to our outcomes ranging from people being closer to nature to marine conservation.

The purpose of Countries Committee is to focus on building trust and understanding between the respective parts of the UK and headline political discussions relating to coordinating policy across the four countries.

The Strategic Development and Research Committee has responsibility for recommending The Wildlife Trust's development and research priorities to Council and for allocating grants that further the movement's agreed strategic objectives from the Strategic Development Fund and other similar funds held by RSWT. During 2020/21, the Strategic Development Fund was re-purposed as a Covid Emergency Fund, providing emergency financial support to help individual Wildlife Trusts weather the worst impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. It distributed about £300k of grants and £180k of loans to 16 Wildlife Trusts.

Resources and Audit Committee has responsibility for the operational effectiveness of The Wildlife Trusts as well as for overseeing the central charity's own resources.

The Marketing and Development Committee's purpose is to support the development of the movement's strategic approach to marketing, fundraising, mass communications and external reputation.

The Biffa Award Board has delegated powers to make grant offers in respect of our major grant fund, in accordance with the terms agreed with the respective funding bodies. The Biffa Award Board comprises six members, with RSWT and Biffa Group Ltd each appointing three members.

The Our Bright Future Steering Group involves all eight key partners overseeing this major programme of youth and environment work funded by £33m from the National Lottery Community Fund.

The Nature Friendly Schools Steering Group is comprised of a senior representative of each of the ten delivery partners, providing impartial and strategic governance across the programme, funded by the Department for Education (DfE) and the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra).

Trustee nominations and those for main committees are considered by a standing Nominations Advisory Panel before being presented to Council and onwards to the AGM in the case of Trustees.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2021

Much of the organisation's work is undertaken by a team of staff, reporting to a Chief Executive who is accountable exclusively to Council for achieving The Wildlife Trust's strategic objectives and for complying with Council's policies.

Remuneration of key personnel

In accordance with the agreed job evaluation framework and available benchmarking information, the Chief Executive has delegated authority to agree salaries. They will normally do so in conjunction with HR executives or, for Director level posts, with the input of key trustees. The Chief Executive's own salary is set by the Chair and Honorary Officers.

Fundraising

The individual Wildlife Trusts manage relationships with more than 850,000 members between them. These members make up our movement and when members are asked for financial contributions it is done in a responsible, respectful and ethical manner. The same applies to all our supporters including those giving one-off donations or legacies to RSWT or to their Wildlife Trust. We are always seeking to improve the ways in which we relate to supporters and RSWT helps Wildlife Trusts to develop and share best practice. To demonstrate our commitment to ethical fundraising practices, RSWT is an organisational member of the Fundraising Regulator and the Institute of Fundraising and adheres to their recognised standards.

The Wildlife Trusts do not believe in approaching vulnerable people for financial support and we aim to avoid causing distress to anyone.

We always want to exceed the expectations of our members and supporters in everything we do. However, we know that there may be times when we do not meet our own high standards. When this happens, we want to hear about it, in order to deal with the situation as quickly as possible and put measures in place to stop it happening again. As such, we have a Complaints Policy in place, to enable members and supporters to contact us and express their concerns. Further information on our Complaints Policy can be found on our website: www.wildlifetrusts.org/complaints-policy

We are also committed to disclosing the number of complaints received. No complaints relating to RSWT's fundraising practices were received between 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021.

We are proud of our corporate partnerships and seek to work with businesses with whom we share common cause. Any new collective corporate partnerships are subject to full scrutiny through well-established governance processes. Ongoing partnerships are governed by clear contractual obligations, relationship management and ongoing review and scrutiny by governance committees.

The outbreak of COVID-19 had a big impact on fundraising both for individual Wildlife Trusts and RSWT. During the year, we kept our own finances under close review, as well as working closely with Wildlife Trusts to understand the impact for them and support them where we could, and with government and funders to try to reduce this impact, wherever possible.

OBJECTIVES AND KEY ACTIVITIES

Supporting the work of The Wildlife Trusts

The Wildlife Trusts comprise 37 local Wildlife Trusts in England, five in Wales and a Trust for each of Ulster, Scotland, Isle of Man and Alderney. RSWT supports the whole federation and also represents the 37 English Trusts in advocating policy at an England level, including in Westminster. All 46 Trusts are corporate members of RSWT. Wildlife Trusts Wales acts for the five Welsh Wildlife Trusts to ensure an effective interface with the Welsh Government. Trusts in Scotland and Ulster undertake policy work with their devolved governments.

In this way the federation benefits both from local ownership and from a voice at each country level and across the UK into the European Union.

Taken together, The Wildlife Trusts represent an immense force for nature's recovery and people's connection to wildlife in the UK, working in the countryside, in cities and at sea.

The Wildlife Trusts' combined income is around £150 million, with over 850,000 members, including 150,000 junior members. There are 38,000 volunteers, including 600 Trustees, and more than 2,000 staff.

The impact of the movement's work on real places and real communities is vast in terms of: the land area managed for wildlife, of over 100,000 hectares; the many places saved from the wrong form of development; and the hundreds of thousands of people inspired about, and learning about, wildlife.

The work of The Wildlife Trusts remains even more relevant and important in the light of COVID-19. However, since much of individual Wildlife Trust work is done through our 35,000 volunteers and our people engagement work is primarily done in person, COVID-19 seriously curtailed our ability to carry out this face-to-face work. RSWT increased its work to promote The Wildlife Trusts' cause, and support Wildlife Trusts, with a focus on securing support for short-term funding issues and also with longer-term future planning. During the first lockdown around 60% of Wildlife Trust staff were furloughed, which will have significant short, medium and long-term impacts for wildlife and people.

Following the recruitment of our new CEO, Craig Bennett, in April 2020, the Wildlife Trust movement is collectively undergoing a strategy reset which includes its vision, purpose, approach, goals, transformations, enabling priorities and impact.

Although the strategy discussions are ongoing, it is already clear that we will be adopting bold goals that, by 2030, nature will be in recovery with abundant, diverse wildlife and natural processes creating wilder land and seascapes; people will be taking action for nature and the climate, resulting in better decision making for the environment; and nature will play a central and valued role in addressing local and global problems of climate change and people's health and wellbeing.

Our approach is driven by local action building our collective impact as part of a global story. We are ambitious in our desire not just to slow but to reverse the declines in nature, speaking with a bold and confident voice, to tell the truth about the state of nature and what needs to be done to put it in recovery. We demonstrate what is possible and look to establish common cause and work in partnership with others from all backgrounds, cultures, identities and abilities to achieve our mission with us, embracing the diversity of our society to change the natural world for the better.

There are five strategic transformations that are needed to deliver this change and these will be our focus over the next few years:

- Supporting and developing Wildlife Trusts as strong and effective independent actors
- Working effectively as a distributed network and collective movement
- Inspiring community organising and mobilising, especially amongst young people
- Undergoing a 'root and branch' digital transformation
- Delivering a step-change in the scale and diversity of funding for nature's recovery

The financial statements in this Annual Report and accounts refer only to the income and expenditure of the central charity in The Wildlife Trusts, RSWT. Each Trust also produces its own annual report and accounts.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2021

The role of RSWT – the central charity - is to ensure a strong voice for wildlife at a UK level, to help coordinate work between individual Wildlife Trusts and to lead the development of the movement and federation as a whole.

How we have worked to achieve the above objectives is shown in the Achievements and Performance section beginning on page 10.

In the next five years RSWT will work to:

- Communicate the movement's vision, purpose, work and impact effectively through the website, media and social media, and support Trusts with their own communications to increase awareness of the dual climate and biodiversity emergencies, so that more people take action for nature.
- Develop our influencing and campaigning work to achieve our charitable aims as they relate to our bold goal that, by 2030, nature will be in recovery with abundant and diverse wildlife everywhere; people will be taking action for nature; and nature will have a full role in addressing local and global problems of climate change and people's health and wellbeing.
- Build relations with key decision makers in Westminster, Whitehall, the private sector, grant givers, others in the sector and beyond, and support Trusts in this regard.
- Continue to build the movement's collective effectiveness and efficiency through the strategy reset with Wildlife Trusts, with a full review of how we can best work as a federation; a full digital transformation programme; investment in training; and by support for income generation and financial management.
- Develop and drive forward the delivery of nature-based solutions to climate change and invest in evidence gathering and benchmarking.
- Better recognise and reduce inequalities in accessing and engaging with wildlife and bring diverse communities closer to nature, by using and developing our Wild About Inclusion roadmap and supporting Wildlife Trusts to do the same.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

RSWT's contribution to achieving The Wildlife Trusts' vision during 2020/21 is set out below, with all of this occurring during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Promoting The Wildlife Trusts' cause

- Our media profile grew considerably with regular appearances on BBC's Countryfile and Springwatch, BBC and ITV News, BBC Breakfast, BBC Radio 4 Farming Today, Today Programme, The Archers and various other radio and TV shows, as well as frequent coverage in many national newspapers ranging from the Daily Mail to the Financial Times. This has been a combination of both rapid responses to Government announcements as well as The Wildlife Trusts-led policy moments, such as Wildbelt, 30 by 30 and Bringing Back Beavers.
- Our social media audiences grew to just under 2 million followers across all the main Wildlife Trust accounts, boosted by our increased media profile and a step change in our campaign work outlined below.
- We ran a series of public events via Zoom - Wild LIVE, featuring internal and external speakers on topics including a natural health service, farming and peat. This popular series has had a collective viewing of over 60,000 and has built an email list of 6,000 contacts who receive regular emails on upcoming events across the UK.
- Over 136,000 individuals, 1,000 businesses, 1,400 Care Homes and almost 16,000 schools went wild with us during June! This year's 30 Days Wild was completely digital due to COVID-19 and yet it was our most popular year, with growth of over 70%. Wildlife Trusts produced inspiring videos including virtual tours of nature reserves and new "socially distanced" random acts of wildness. A follow-on email journey recruited over 500 new members for the movement.
- We elected naturalist and TV presenter Liz Bonnin as President of The Wildlife Trusts, Gillian Burke as Vice President and we also welcomed four new ambassadors this year – Prof. Dave Goulson, Cel Spellman, Mya-Rose Craig and David Oakes.
- Through the launch of the 30 by 30 campaign, we trialled new digital fundraising and membership campaigns, resulting in new members for the movement, with over 3,000 new memberships recruited through national activities in this first year.
- We trialled our first national fundraising challenge event with the Big Wild Walk, which raised £10,000 and has laid the groundwork to enable us to roll out the concept on a larger scale in 2021.
- We are undertaking research to understand how Wildlife Trusts can maximise opportunities to raise funds from gifts in wills to support our vital work.

Campaigning for a Wilder Future

- We really stepped up our Wilder Future campaign with Action for Insects, 30 by 30 - a new target of nature's recovery across at least 30% of land and seas by 2030; PlanningToFail challenging the Government's planning reforms in England; Wild Belt as part of our campaign to re-wild the planning system, The Big Wild Walk and Go Peat Free as well as being part of #CrackTheCrises, a multiple sector coalition to show solidarity and unite millions of people to tackle Covid, Injustice and Climate Change.
- We are supporting Team Wilder within the movement to increase campaigning collaboration and share lessons learnt. We supported many Wildlife Trusts with their campaigns including Wales Beaver reintroduction; Stop the Red Route against road widening plans in Wales; Wilder Broadmarsh for a new vision for Nottingham city centre; Tipner Super Peninsula against plans to build in Portsmouth Harbour.
- Almost 265,000 people have taken action as part of our Wilder Future campaigning work (including nearly 15,000 who contributed to the State of Nature petition as part of our coalition with Wildlife and Countryside Link). Many of these are new to the work of The Wildlife Trusts, and we have developed follow-on journeys to engage people more deeply in areas that interest them and to give them opportunities to support our work.

Managing key relationships and grants

Grant funders

- We worked closely with grant funders on how they could best support both Wildlife Trust core and project work throughout COVID-19, and 39 Wildlife Trusts plus RSWT secured invaluable Heritage Emergency

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2021

funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, totalling nearly £5m. CEO and Directors met with senior National Lottery contacts to maintain our strong relationships.

- Due to COVID-19, we worked even more closely with Trusts to support them in identifying and applying for grant funding, including the Government's Green Recovery Challenge Fund and 15 Wildlife Trusts received funding.
- Players of People's Postcode Lottery raised a generous £4.5m for the movement through RSWT, including nearly £2m which we secured through the Postcode Climate Challenge; this is supporting the development of innovative Nature-Based Solutions projects. In addition, Kent Wildlife Trust received funding from the Postcode Dream Fund for their ground-breaking conservation project that will see the introduction of bison to Blean Woods near Canterbury. Following changes to the law around society lotteries, future funding is intended to be awarded by Postcode Planet Trust, a promoting society of People's Postcode Lottery.
- We secured a grant of almost £300,000 over three years to support our work on nature-based solutions and nature recovery network mapping.
- Esmée Fairbairn Foundation has provided loan funding or entered into third party temporary "buy and buy back" arrangements that have enabled five Wildlife Trusts to purchase more than 122 hectares of land and thereby secure its role in nature's recovery. Over the course of 2020/21, the total value of this provision to the movement was over £2 million.
- Nature Friendly Schools, a programme funded by Department for Education and Defra, has had reduced funding and a delayed start, partly due to COVID-19, but delivery has started again in Summer 2021 term. The consortium consists of YoungMinds, Groundwork Trusts, Sensory Trust and the Field Studies Council.

The private sector

- We renewed our partnership with Jordans Cereals which supports their 34 oat farmers to manage at least 10% of their land for nature. We created a bespoke farm wildlife plan for one new grower and we also supported Jordan's first virtual Harvest Festival for schools across the UK.
- Our longstanding partnership with Vine House Farm continues to enable people to enjoy caring for birds and other wildlife in their gardens while raising funds for Wildlife Trusts.
- Having supported Redrow to develop an industry-leading biodiversity strategy, the focus turned to enabling them to deliver the strategy on their sites across England and Wales.
- We have begun work with Highways England on the 'Network for Nature' programme to deliver habitat improvements on sites which have been impacted by the historic construction and operation of the roads' network and on the road network itself.
- Our partnership with Aggregate Industries continued to support local Trust projects as well as the development of an innovative natural capital assessment approach for their sites.
- COVID-19 seriously curtailed our provision of Wild Wellbeing Days for Siemens and Hitachi Capital UK, however many employees benefited from on-line wellbeing sessions and downloadable content.
- COVID-19 also curtailed fundraising support from Hogan Lovells' employees and Tata Consultancy Services. Hogan Lovells have continued to provide invaluable pro-bono support and both have benefited from a variety of wellbeing resources.
- We have embarked on a number of new partnerships this year including with Cadent Foundation, Faith in Nature, Orbit Group, OVO Foundation and Marks & Spencer which will help create more space for wildlife and support people's engagement with nature.

Government

- Although we couldn't meet MPs face to face this year due to COVID-19, Wildlife Trusts continued to engage with MPs from all parties, to build trust and understanding of the environmental implications of Brexit; the importance of the Environment Bill; public money for public goods as a cornerstone of the Agriculture Bill; sustainability as part of the Fisheries Bill; the need for Highly Protected Marine Areas, the value of nature to mental health and wellbeing and more. RSWT supported this work and had regular calls with many stakeholders including Defra, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, Environment Agency, Natural England, Marine Management Organisation, National Grid, Public Health England and National Academy of Social Prescribing.

Influencing government (Westminster) policy and decision making in favour of wildlife

- The Agriculture Act came into law in November. We influenced this Act as it moved through Parliament, including the principle of 'public money for public goods' and continue to influence how it is rolled out. We

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2021

responded to the Environmental Land Management (ELM) Policy Discussion Document and submitted evidence to the EFRA Committee on ELM and called for more urgency in addressing issues - from climate change mitigation and diffuse pollution to species loss and habitat degradation - whilst delivering a well-managed transition toward farming that delivers public goods.

- The Fisheries Act came into law in November. This is the first piece of fisheries legislation for nearly forty years and we are pleased that it aims to manage fisheries for the benefit of both the fishing industry and the marine environment.
- The Environment Bill has progressed to report stage, with its new target deadline for Royal Assent for the autumn. We are calling for the Bill to be strengthened, in particular around setting a headline target to reverse nature's decline by 2030, a strong independent new environmental watchdog, Local Nature Recovery Strategies and non-regression of environmental principles.
- We were in close contact with the Prime Minister's advisors to influence his Green Industrial Revolution, in particular his promise to protect 30% of land for nature by 2030. We have also been working with Green Alliance to influence the Treasury's approach to investment in nature following the publication of the Dasgupta Review.
- Our Nature Recovery Network Handbook was recognised by Natural England and Defra as the most comprehensively developed approach and has been highly influential in the Government's thinking. It also forms the backbone of the approach to establishing a Wildbelts, which has proved to be invaluable in getting nature's recovery on the Government's agenda.
- We raised concerns that the seafloor cables which will transfer power from Hornsea 3 offshore wind farm to the mainland will go through two Marine Protected Areas, resulting in the Secretary of State setting a precedent that compensation will be required.
- We responded strongly to planning reforms announced by the Government, including an analysis of the White Paper, and we proposed a new designation for land that is put into recovery: the Wildbelts. We supported an alternative vision 'Our vision for planning', which was developed by a broad coalition of 18 organisations. Our proposed new Wildbelts, has been received well in Government and was mentioned in the Prime Minister's 2020 Conservative Party Conference keynote speech.
- Following Defra's emergency authorisation of the neonicotinoid thiamethoxam, we strongly urged the Government to reconsider their decision, which we consider to be both wrong and unlawful. Our public petition had over 100,000 signatures and thousands of emails were sent to MPs. Although the threat went away for 2021, it remains an issue.
- In light of Defra's consultation on the badger cull, Derbyshire Wildlife Trust led on the development of a national The Wildlife Trusts badger strategy and campaign, with over 36,000 people taking part.
- We orchestrated a strong collective response to a major Environment Agency consultation on the state of the water environment (23 signatory organisations) calling for large-scale approaches that build in biodiversity's recovery; a sub-group of EA's Water Leaders Group has since been established to look at this. We have continued to advocate for the use of Nature-based Solutions in tackling issues, including by giving oral evidence on Natural Flood Management to the EFRA Floods inquiry.
- As recognised leaders in beaver reintroduction in England, Wildlife Trusts influenced Government decision making, and have agreed a strong internal position ahead of an expected Government consultation on an England Beaver Strategy.
- We gave written and oral evidence to the House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee's inquiry into 'Biodiversity and Ecosystems'.
- We are working with Wildlife and Countryside Link on the concept of a back to work scheme (National Nature Service) for young people wanting to work in the environment sector.
- All seven of the Government-funded pilot Green Prescribing for Mental Health demonstration sites to test ways of connecting people with nature to improve their mental wellbeing involve Wildlife Trusts.
- We responded strongly following the financial impact on Trusts from the Covid-19 pandemic and were instrumental in securing new Government funding for environmental restoration projects through the Green Recovery Challenge Fund.
- We secured a debate in Parliament on "enabling access to nature to support mental health" and briefed a number of MPs ahead of it, who echoed our key asks.

Provide infrastructure support to ensure The Wildlife Trusts operate effectively as a collective

- Due to COVID-19, we did not have any face-to-face meetings this year, but we ensured that we had all the technology, platforms and support in place to grow our collective culture and impact, as well as supporting Wildlife Trusts.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2021

- We developed the systems and processes to support a new national membership user journey and fundraising via our national campaigns.
- Our new Leaders Conference was held in June, which included external speakers on our climate emergency and a leadership workshop which was the first step in our strategy reset.
- Each quarter the whole movement came together into a 'Wildlife Trusts' 'Town Hall' event to highlight specific projects, hear from guest speakers and panel discussions on specific subjects, as well having breakout spaces for people to meet colleagues from across the movement.
- We provided support to Trusts on running virtual AGMs, including a webinar led by Directory of Social Change. Our own AGM in November featured internal and external speakers.
- We ran two virtual Chair Induction Days, a virtual Open Day as well as inductions for new Trust CEOs.
- Following feedback from CEOs, we initiated informal CEO peer-support calls which have been well received.
- We have supported four Trusts with CEO recruitment.
- Our Talent and Skills Programme for this year was all run virtually and was very well received with every Trust accessing it, totalling over 15,000 interactions. We covered a range of topics, including some specific sessions around remote working.
- We launched our Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity Strategy, and supported Trusts with a 'Wild About Inclusion Roadmap' and a series of webinars, attended by over 950 staff and trustees from 26 Trusts.
- We have continued to make great strides in driving efficiency and quality through IT projects: The Wildlife Trusts' website platform hosts 40 Wildlife Trusts and nine Wildlife Trust microsites. The Customer Relationship Management system (ThankQ CRM) is used by 20 Wildlife Trusts, with a further eight Trusts running implementation projects. The Finance system is used by eleven Wildlife Trusts, with a further five working to go live in April 2021. Furthermore, we have a development roadmap for integrating ThankQ CRM with the Collective Web and have started on this journey. In addition, usage of WildNet, the movement-wide intranet, continued to grow with nine Trusts hosting a local intranet on the platform and a further 13 in development.

Driving Collective Governance, Strategy & Evidence Collation

- Following discussions with Trusts, our incoming CEO, Craig Bennett, began a strategy reset for the Wildlife Trusts movement as a whole. This is a very inclusive process, comprising of a series of strategy development days for Trust leaders and Town Hall events to involve the whole movement. The target is for the new strategy to 2030 to be adopted by the movement at the AGM in November 2021.
- The Christopher Cadbury Medal recognises the outstanding contribution to both nature conservation and The Wildlife Trusts. Ian Armstrong was the volunteer recognised for his contribution to conservation and Northumberland Wildlife Trust. Gina Gavigan from The Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales was the staff member recognised for her overall commitment, creativity, energy, and also her amazing work on Skomer Live.
- The Dame Mary Smeiton Research Award was awarded to Lancashire Wildlife Trust for their Large Heath Butterfly Feasibility Habitat Surveys project, which laid the foundations for the re-introduction of Large Heath butterflies – one of the UK's butterflies of greatest conservation concern – into Manchester heathlands.
- To increase The Wildlife Trusts' shared understanding of the urgent challenges posed by the climate crisis, we ran a series of webinars and workshops bringing in expert external speakers.
- We published the "Let Nature Help" report, setting out how nature's recovery is essential for tackling the climate crisis. It summarises the evidence around the carbon storage potential of common UK habitats, highlights some great work by individual Wildlife Trusts in this area and calls for more investment into the restoration of natural systems that capture carbon on land and at sea.

Managing central resources

- A full Board Effectiveness Review against the Charity Governance Code has been undertaken by an external evaluator. A timetable and action plan has been developed such that the necessary discussions and proposed changes will be integrated within the full strategy reset.
- All RSWT staff have been working from home since March 2020. We have ensured that they have the equipment, software and training they need and they have been fully supported by their line managers. We reviewed each role and our priorities in light of COVID-19 and have used the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme for some staff where appropriate. In addition, we carried out a full Display Screen

Equipment and Wellbeing Assessment over the summer for each member of staff to ascertain if they needed any extra support and have undertaken a number of staff surveys to ensure we continue to give the best support and to inform what a return to the office might look like. We have also helped a number of Trusts in their support of homeworking for some staff and furloughing for others.

- Following a request from Wildlife Trusts Wales Council, we set up a steering group to oversee the process for a unified takeover of Wildlife Trusts Wales by RSWT. The intent was to ensure a strong advocacy voice in Wales to Welsh Parliament; to enable the Wildlife Trusts in Wales to agree on Welsh policy lines; and to strengthen The Wildlife Trusts partnership and ensure continued unity in Wales. The merger was completed on 1 April 2021, with a focus on 'business as usual' both internally within the movement and externally.

Administering Partnership Programmes and Grants

Grant-making policy

Grants are made subject to the terms and conditions placed upon RSWT by the relevant funding bodies. Biffa Award grants are subject to the approval of a board comprising nominees of Biffa and RSWT. Detailed criteria and procedures for applying for grants from Biffa Award can be found on the website: www.biffa-award.org. Grants from RSWT's own unrestricted funds are made at the discretion of Council.

Biffa Award programme

A major part of RSWT's turnover relates to the administration and distribution of Landfill Communities Funding through the Biffa Award programme. Our work in this area seeks to distribute funds to achieve the maximum benefit for the environment, and local community facilities across England and Northern Ireland.

The strategies, activities and achievements for these programmes during 2020/21 are described below. Details of the grants offered during the year can be found in Note 29.

The Biffa Award Main Grants programme aims to support improving local community facilities and the environment. The scheme funds projects which either provide or improve public amenities for the benefit of communities, or contributes to rebuilding biodiversity. Such projects must be within five miles of a Biffa operation or 10 miles of a Biffa landfill site. The distance criteria are increased to within 15 miles of a Biffa operation in the case of environmental projects.

The Biffa Award Partnership Grants programme funds projects that create or improve Built or Natural Environments considered to be regionally or nationally significant. Between £250,000 and £750,000 can be awarded for projects that are within 15 miles of a significant Biffa Group operation or active Biffa Landfill site. All projects must be within 10 miles of an active Landfill site.

Key Activities & Achievements

A total of £3.6 million of Biffa Award grants were awarded this year to 30 projects in England and Northern Ireland. Cumulatively, more than £180 million has now been awarded since 1997 across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Highlights of the year included:

- We worked closely with projects to proactively support them to improve their local communities during COVID-19. Examples include an award of £75k to Crondall Village Hall, Gloucestershire to replace its community hall roof, and Scotter War Memorial Playing Fields, Lincolnshire, were awarded £70,000 to replace a 30 year old children's play area in the village.
- The allocation of £2.36 million to Partnership projects including an award of £671k to Lancashire Wildlife Trust to improve and connect the Mosslands, supporting the reintroduction of the white-faced darter dragonfly and other species, including the purchase of 32 acres of bog and arable land to create a wetter farming demonstration site.

Our Bright Future

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2021

Leading a consortium of eight partner organisations, RSWT oversees a £33.2m portfolio of 31 projects across the UK. All the projects enable young people to build their skills and confidence, their leadership capability, their connection to the environment and make a genuine positive difference to the environment. The National Lottery Community Fund support means that each project engages young people with the environment, empowering them as people and as environmental leaders. Work has focussed on the impacts of COVID-19 and the legacy of the programme.

The National Lottery Community Fund has continued to be proactive and supportive of the programme during the COVID-19 pandemic, which has affected all projects and all project staff have been working at home. The impact on project delivery varies from project to project, with most able to deliver some elements online. Most projects had to put elements of their project on hold and just under half had to furlough some or all of their delivery staff during the past year. COVID-19 caused a reduction in project delivery however, some face-to-face delivery did happen throughout the year, dependent on local and regional restrictions.

Furthermore, due to the success of the programme over the past four years, the outcomes have been revised upwards with 140,000 young people expected to participate in Our Bright Future activities (original target 60,000) and 60,000 young people have increased environmental skills and knowledge (original target 26,000); 3,500 community spaces have been improved (original target 450); all projects have utilised the Share Learn Improve function to share best practice, collaborate and develop relationships with organisations that they may not previously have worked with (original target 80%).

Key Activities & Achievements

- A number of projects with underspends caused by COVID-19 have used this money to provide better or higher quality engagement with young people, and to embed the Three Asks within their organisations.
- An all-project online seminar including talks and interactive sessions was attended by approximately 75 people (including many young people).
- A new webinar series has very proved popular including 'Environmental Careers: Young People's Q&A' in December which was attended by 90 young people and youth practitioners.
- Our Bright Future Youth Voice Summit – Rethinking Water on 16 March was a joint event with the Environment Agency to influence future water management and EA's youth governance and engagement.
- Many examples of consortium organisations incorporating young trustees e.g. Ulster Wildlife's Board now includes two young people (under the age of 30), Impact Arts Board has a young trustee who is also a member of its Youth Steering Group; and a member of North Wales Wildlife Trust's Anglesey Youth Forum sits on their Board as a young trustee.
- The programme's innovative Share Learn Improve ethos has proved even more invaluable throughout COVID-19 in strengthening the programme and individual project outcomes, by sharing ideas, learnings and best practice.

Nature Friendly Schools

RSWT led a consortium to secure £6.4m from the Department for Education with support from the Defra and Natural England to bring thousands of children closer to nature as the flagship project as part of the Government's 25 year environment plan. The partnership - Resilience Through Nature (RTN) includes six Wildlife Trusts, YoungMinds, Groundwork UK, Field Studies Council and Sensory Trust. Working with schools with the highest proportion of disadvantaged pupils, it aims to demonstrate and understand how an increase in supported delivery of high-quality activities in natural environments contributes to improved mental health & wellbeing, engagement with school and other key programme outcomes.

Teachers across England will be supported over a period of 12 months, to promote positive mental health and wellbeing, and encourage pupils' engagement with school and nature. The project seeks to develop whole school confidence and capacity to embed outdoor learning within the everyday curriculum. As a legacy project, significant focus will be placed on developing the skills and confidence of teaching staff to deliver their lessons outside.

The project has demonstrated significant resilience during COVID-19, although there have been significant impacts with limited access to schools and a low uptake for online support. Following extensive discussions with project partners and Natural England, the project was paused, and delivery models revised, together with updated on the safeguarding plans and health and safety protocols.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2021

In January 2021 the project was notified that funding was at immediate risk due to funding streams being diverted towards COVID recovery. The project was awarded £1million for delivery year two, almost a £500,000 reduction to the original grant agreement. The project is now co-funded by the Department for Education and Defra. The project will work with 100 schools in 2021, with delivery commencing from 1 April.

Key Activities & Achievements

- The project completed year one of delivery to 84 schools. This included transforming 59 school grounds to accessible, nature-rich outdoor learning spaces; delivering CIPD and Academic Resilience Approach/mental health and wellbeing training to teachers (provided by YoungMinds); providing essential equipment and materials for outdoor learning to all schools, including Field Guide learning aids and specialist sensory outdoor learning packs (provided by the Field Studies Council) to 84 schools.
- 609 teachers signed up to the online community of practice.
- We provided providing wrap-around support in schools through the 'Team Around the School', with regional support for Education Officers on mental health (through YoungMinds) and educational specialists (through the Field Studies Council).
- We presented at the CAHMS Eco-Crisis Conference in February 2021, showcasing the impacts of the project, including feedback from teachers as "transformational", "supports children with highly complex needs to shine", "children who don't normally contribute in class grow in confidence outside", "we see children come alive".

Key factors relevant to achievement of RSWT's objectives

The continued support of our corporate members, the 46 individual Wildlife Trusts, remains key to the ability of RSWT to continue to achieve its objectives.

The recognition and support of all those we work closely with and their trust in our knowledge and capability are also key.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

RSWT's public benefit is enshrined in its charitable objects, as set out in the Royal Charter, being: 'to promote the conservation and study of nature, the promotion of research into such conservation and to educate the public in understanding and appreciating nature, in the awareness of its value and in the need for conservation'.

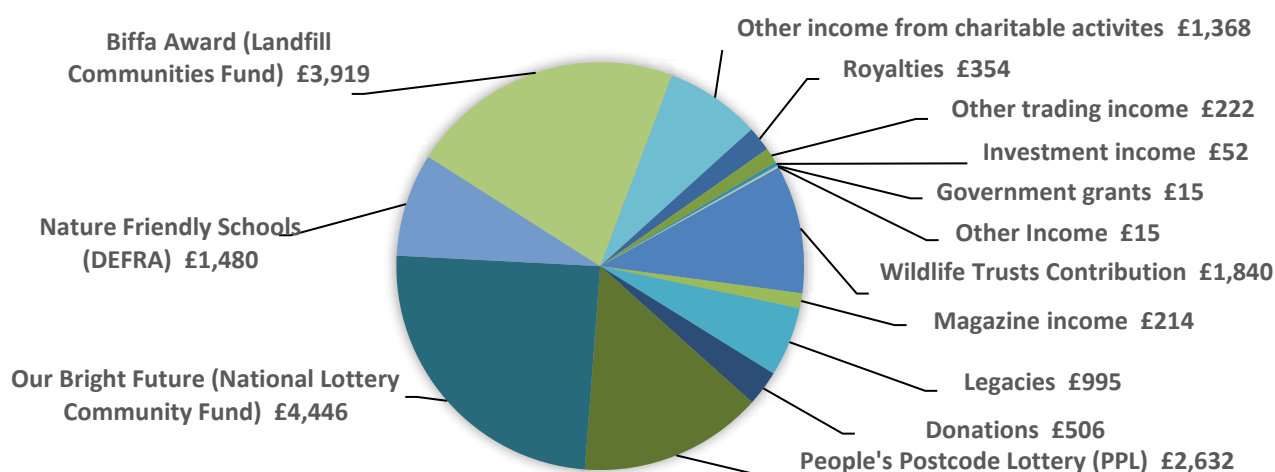
RSWT fulfils its objects and delivers its public benefit through two main strands of activity: Supporting the work of The Wildlife Trusts, and distributing grant funding to a wide range of external organisations through RSWT's Grants Programmes.

FINANCIAL REVIEW OF THE YEAR

Statement of Financial Activities

Incoming resources

2020/21 Total Income £18,058 (£'000)



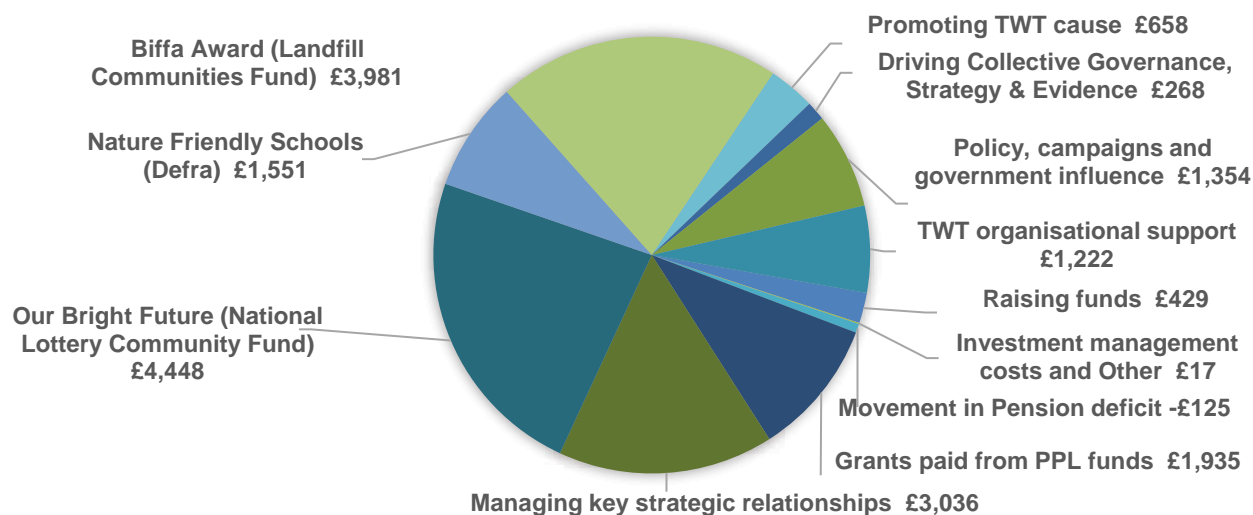
RSWT is very grateful for bequests included in legacy income from the estates of the following individuals:

Ruth Valerie Abrams Dinendra Narayan Bagchi Mayville Blay
 Francoise Louise Marie Butcher David Stanley Carey George Costa Alan Duxbury
 Shirley Anne Ferrill Sheila Rosalind Foot Sylvia Elsa Dorothy Harley
 Margaret Ellen Hayman Judith Mary Jones Adrian John Nuttal
 Beverley Ann Robin John Norman Smith Ernest Lionel Stonier Noreen Wallis

Resources expended

Total expenditure during the year amounted to £18.8 million (2020: £17.7 million) of which expenditure on charitable activities totalled £18.3 million (98% of the total).

2020/21 Total Expenditure 18,774 (£'000)



Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2021

Trading activities

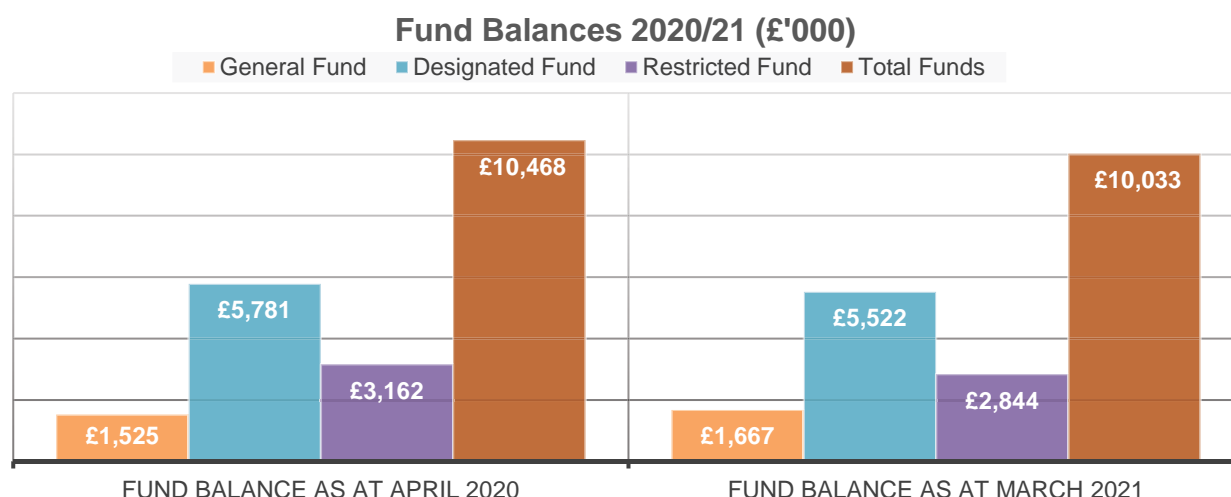
The charity's active trading subsidiary, The Wildlife Trusts Services Limited, provides services to Wildlife Trusts. Subsidiary turnover was £560,000 (2019/20: £595,000), primarily relating to income from corporate relationships. The subsidiary reported a net profit before and after tax of £41,000 (2019/20: £34,000).

Profits are paid as a gift aided donation to the charity in the following accounting year from which they are generated.

Investment gain/loss

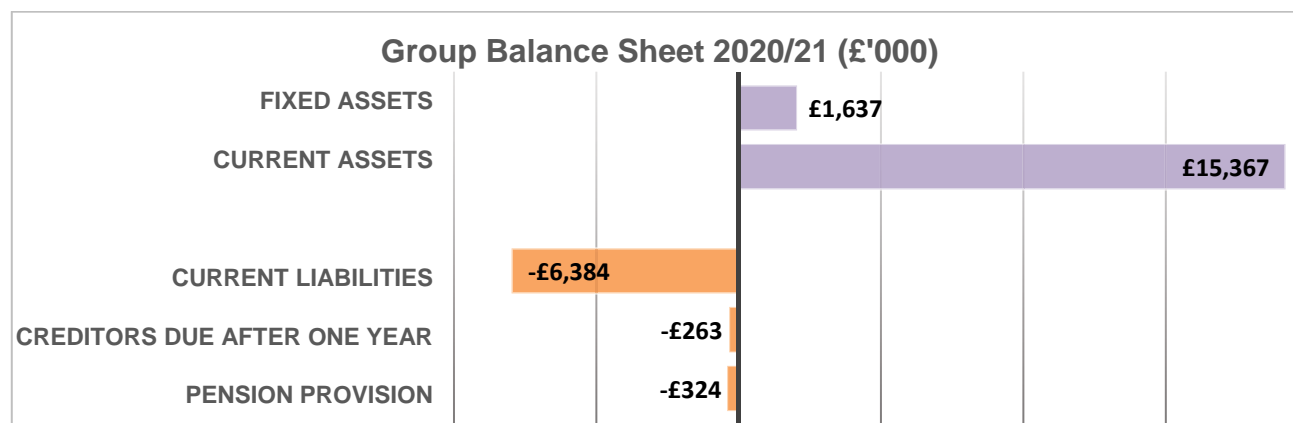
Our investments in Sarasin & Partners' Climate Action Endowment Fund and CCLA COIF Charities Ethical Investment Fund reported a total gain of £226,000 (2020: £40,000 loss) reflecting the movement in investment markets over the year.

Net movement in funds and fund balances



The balance of designated funds decreased by £259,000 from April 2020 to March 2021. This was mainly due to People's Postcode Lottery Fund, for which draws for the calendar year 2020 largely took place before 1 April, with the income mainly being spent in financial year 2020/21. The balance of Restricted funds decreased by £318,000 over the year, with £200,000 from Building Momentum for A Living Landscape (Tubney) being used towards campaigns.

Balance Sheet



Financial Reserves

Designated funds

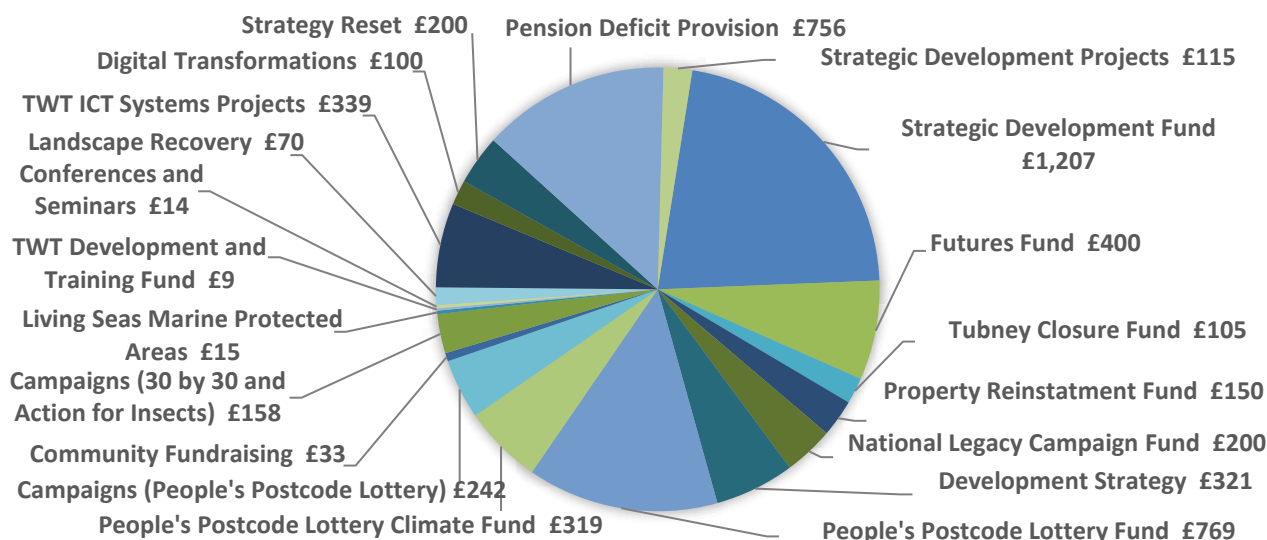
Designated funds are those unrestricted reserves that the Trustees have designated for particular purposes.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2021

2020/21 Designated Funds £5,522 (£'000)



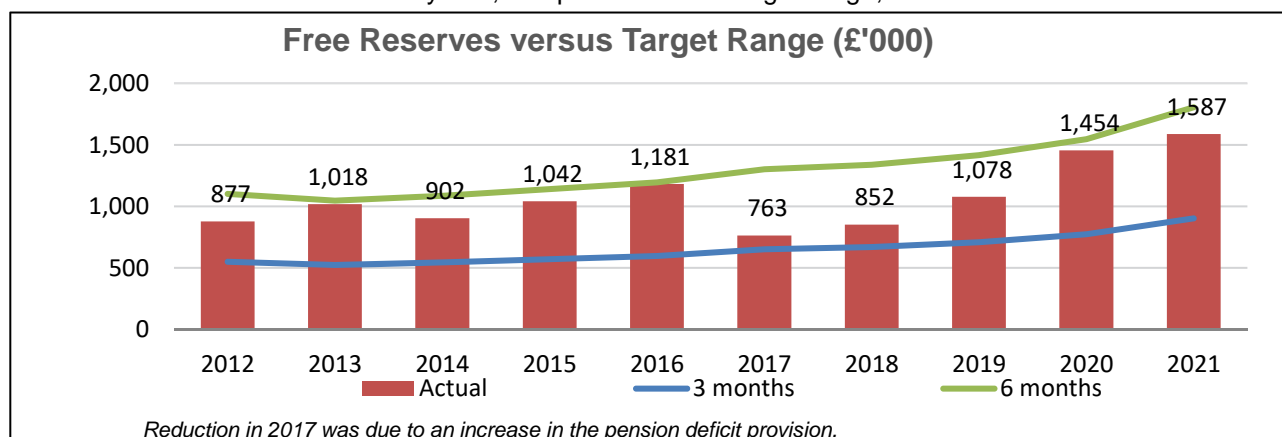
Free reserves

Free reserves provide the working capital requirements of the charity, whilst providing a buffer of liquid funds in case of any short-term decline in income, unexpected increase in costs or risk exposure. They are intended to ensure that contractual obligations to staff, premises and funding partners can be met. RSWT calculates its free reserves by deducting fixed assets from its general unrestricted funds.

Free Reserves Calculation	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
General Unrestricted Funds	1,667	1,525
Less: Tangible Fixed Assets	(80)	(71)
Free Reserves	1,587	1,454

The Trustees seek to maintain a level of free reserves of between three and six months' establishment and non-project staff costs. This currently equates to a range of £0.9 million to £1.9 million. The current level of free reserves is £1.6 million, falling within the target range and equating to approximately 5.0 months' of core costs.

The level of free reserves in recent years, compared with the target range, is shown in the chart below:



Investment policy

RSWT's Royal Charter empowers the Trustees to invest any funds not immediately required by the charity in any security authorised for the investment of Trust funds. The Trustees' investment objective is to maximise the charity's total return from investments, consistent with a moderate level of risk and a socially responsible investment policy.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2021

The Society's unrestricted investments are managed by two renowned charity investment managers, Sarasin & Partners and CCLA. At 31 March 2021 the Society's investments were valued at £1.303m, with 60.6% held in the Sarasin Climate Active Endowment Fund and 39.4% in CCLA's COIF Charities Ethical Investment Fund. During the year the investments produced an income of £36,000 (2020: £44,000).

Investments recovered well over the course of the year, from the opening balances which were heavily impacted by COVID-19. The Society's investments finished the year with total unrealised investment gains of £227,000.

Pension Commitments

The last full actuarial valuation of the Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme, as at 1 April 2019, reported a scheme deficit of £4.7 million.

In accordance with the revised schedule of contributions, RSWT's deficit recovery payments increased by 4.8% from August 2020, to £193,272, and are set to increase thereafter by 3% per annum. This equates to 23.7% of the total contributions being paid by The Wildlife Trusts. The repayment plan anticipates that the deficit will be eliminated by August 2026. RSWT's total commitment at 31 March 2021 amounted to £1.14 million (2020: £1.33 million). The present value of this commitment, when discounted at the current yield on AA rated 15 year+ corporate bonds of 1.95% (2020: 2.25%), amounted to £1.08 million (2020: £1.24 million).

The liability reflected in the balance sheet is based on defined benefit accounting principles, in accordance with FRS102. The assumptions used in this methodology result in a pensions liability for RSWT of £324,000 (2020: £504,000). A designated fund of £756,000 (2020: £732,000) sets aside funds representing the difference between this and the value of the payments due under the schedule of contributions.

Related parties

RSWT, together with a number of Wildlife Trusts, jointly participate as employers within The Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme, which is described in Note 28.

The charity has one active wholly-owned trading subsidiary, The Wildlife Trusts Services Limited, which provides services on a commercial basis to The Wildlife Trusts and makes an annual gift aid donation to RSWT.

Patience Thody, Deputy CEO for RSWT, is also a Director of Wildlife Trusts Services Limited.

Genevieve Landricombe, Honorary Treasurer for RSWT, is also a Director of Wildlife Trusts Services Limited.

RSWT's governing body, Council, includes a number of Trustees and Chief Executives from individual Wildlife Trusts across the federation of The Wildlife Trusts. No individual Trust benefits from their representation on Council.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

As outlined above, full plans are uncertain due to COVID-19. However, the work of Wildlife Trusts remains as critical as ever.

Support for The Wildlife Trusts

During the coming year, RSWT will support the work of The Wildlife Trusts by:

- Continuing to support individual Wildlife Trusts and The Wildlife Trusts movement through the COVID-19 crisis, continually reviewing where we can add the most value.
- Ensuring that our vision, purpose, work and impact are shared widely and raising the profile of nature's plight, the urgency for its recovery, and the need for people to be close to nature, exposing key risks and telling powerful stories.
- Supporting Wildlife Trusts to strengthen their profile and fundraising with the public and with their supporters, and to recruit and retain members.
- Deepening common cause with key partners, including the key Lottery bodies and corporate partners based on our beliefs and mission, championing nature-based solutions to climate change and the importance of nature for health and wellbeing for everyone.
- Influencing the Westminster government, and working with colleagues in the devolved nations, to ensure an ambitious and joined-up approach to both the climate and environmental crisis and to ensure that we achieve 30% of land and sea in recovery by 2030. We also need the same officials and politicians to understand and support nature's positive impact on people's health and wellbeing.
- Continuing to campaign for the need for world-leading environmental laws and governance that recognise nature's recovery is fundamental to our society, including our bold goal that, by 2030, nature will be in recovery with abundant and diverse wildlife everywhere; people will be taking action for nature; and nature will have a full role in addressing local and global problems of climate change and people's health and wellbeing.
- Facilitating a movement wide approach to each Trust being able to have a #TeamWilder.
- Supporting Wildlife Trusts in their aspirations for landscape recovery, including the role of keystone species reintroductions
- Pressing for at least 30% of our Marine Protected Areas network to be highly protected, while taking a whole site approach across the network for marine protected areas and influencing decisions affecting these sites and their carbon stores, not least fisheries and offshore developments.
- Working across the movement to reduce our carbon footprint and actively take part in the climate debate, developing and driving forward the delivery of nature-based solutions to climate change and invest in evidence gathering and benchmarking.
- Further developing and implementing our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion strategy through our Wild About Inclusion roadmap and supporting Wildlife Trusts to do the same.
- Ensuring The Wildlife Trusts are engaged with the most effective and cohesive partnerships and coalitions, such as Crack the Crises, to ensure we address diversity and social issues as a key part of tackling the nature and climate crises.
- Taking the Our Bright Future legacy, alongside wider youth programmes to the next stage and facilitating a movement wide approach to providing young people with the platform they need to take action for wildlife and lead a change for the better, tackling the nature, climate and health emergencies.
- Developing the whole life learning approach to our education work, ensuring that each point in people's lives can be an opportunity to learn more about wildlife and act for nature.
- Continuing to integrate the services that The Wildlife Trusts provide to formal and informal health programmes, leading the sector on health and wellbeing for people in relation to their connection with the natural world.
- Continuing to build the movement's collective effectiveness and efficiency through the strategy reset with Wildlife Trusts, and ensuring that we begin work on the five strategic transformations that are needed to deliver this change: supporting and developing Wildlife Trusts as strong and effective independent actors; working effectively as a distributed network and collective movement; inspiring community organising and mobilising, especially amongst young people; undergoing a 'root and branch' digital transformation; and delivering a step-change in the scale and diversity of funding for nature's recovery.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2021

- Further increase synergies in policy making, campaigns and communication across the UK following the merger of Wildlife Trusts Wales with RSWT, recognising that devolution is gathering pace with growing policy distinctiveness between the four nations; and this presents an opportunity for the whole movement to work more effectively.
- Supporting Trusts to take up and implement and integrate shared ICT systems, including the introduction of a common GIS platform, the ThankQ Customer Relationship Management system, Xledger Finance system and Collective Web platform, as well as providing high-quality programmes of Talent and Skills training.

Administration of Partnership Programmes and Grants

Biffa Award programme

Under legislation, the standard rate of Landfill Tax will increase from £94.15 per tonne to £96.70 from 1 April 2021. For 2021/22 the maximum percentage Landfill Tax that a site operator may claim for contributions to environmental bodies will remain at 5.3%. The programme's target for the percentage of total funds which should go towards Partnership projects has been maintained at 60% for 2021/22. Programme income and expenditure are expected to increase in 2021/22 and for the next five years.

Our Bright Future

Over the coming year, young people will continue to shape the programme, in particular its legacy through membership on the Steering Group, Evaluation Panel and Youth Forum. We will continue to focus on progressing the three policy asks developed by young people, namely: more time spent learning in and about nature; support to get into environmental jobs; and more attention paid to the needs of young people and the environment. A series of evaluation learning papers as well as the final evaluation report will be produced in 2021/22 so a major focus for the team will be sharing the impacts and learnings from the resources.

Nature Friendly Schools

The project received a budget of £1,040,831 for 2021/22. Over the coming year, the project will work with 100 schools in six commissioning areas in England, commencing from 1 April 2021. The budget for 2022/23 is yet to be confirmed and, as such, the Children and Nature programme has been notified of early closure in March 2022, removing the third and final year of delivery. The project has refined the delivery model and has a comprehensive delivery package and associated milestones agreed in order to achieve the anticipated outcomes within the reduced timescale. The project has reported strong engagement from schools, and a notable increase in participation, meaning initial activities delivered have had a high uptake and has set a positive and determined direction of travel for the year ahead. Natural England and Defra have committed to continually review opportunities to secure funding for a further year.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

In 2020/21 we carried out a full review of our approach to managing risks, and the trustees have signed off a new risk management policy for RSWT (in accordance with governance best practice) to ensure ongoing and active risk management with a focus on the headline strategic risks which might affect RSWT's ability to deliver against its strategy. In the opinion of the Trustees, RSWT's new processes and systems should allow the risks identified by them to be mitigated to an acceptable level in its day-to-day operations, even during these uncertain times.

The identification and management of a separate movement-wide risk process forms part of the strategy re-set process. In the meantime, Council has reviewed the top risks of Trusts, which are principally driven by COVID-19, weakening environmental legislation and climate change, and agreed the collective activity to mitigate.

The Trustees recognise that we continue to operate in very uncertain times with COVID-19 and continue to work closely with the Executive Team to review the best ways forward, being mindful of risks. The Executive Team are, in turn, working closely with Wildlife Trusts to keep abreast of their needs and with funders, stakeholders and other charities to influence where possible.

All our external work to promote our mission is affected by uncertainties in the political, economic and policy environment across the UK and in England. Leaving the European Union remains an overriding risk given the

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2021

strong and well implemented environmental regulations associated with the UK's EU membership, particularly due to continued delays to the Environment Bill.

We have excellent relations with other environmental groups and are working together with key partners to influence policy and legislation and public campaigning. We continue to build relations with Ministers and MPs, and in promoting our views to Government and business sectors. We have a leading role in influencing policy affecting marine wildlife; farmland wildlife and ecological health and in calling for ambitious domestic environmental legislation and in demonstrating the value of nature to health and wellbeing.

Other major risks include the building of damaging new infrastructure, such as major new roads, destructive bypasses, vast new areas of housing and HS2. The risks are made worse by the lack of ecological expertise in local authorities, cuts to the government agencies, and weakened planning policy in England. Damaging infrastructure such as HS2 is also exempt from having to meet biodiversity net gain requirements. In mitigation we are actively engaged in influencing central and local Government planning policy and decisions, campaigning publicly where necessary. We continue to engage with forward looking developers.

Trust in charities remains high and Wildlife Trusts are generally well-trusted, helped by the fact that we are local and have 650 trustees (giving a strong reach into local communities and an unusually close governance eye on day to day activities). We always want to exceed the expectations of our members and supporters in everything we do, but we know that there may be times when we do not meet our own high standards. To address this, we have a clear and transparent Complaints Policy to enable us to rectify any mistakes and learn from them. We are working to increase the diversity of our staff, trustees and volunteers so that we better represent the communities where we work. We are regularly monitoring our diversity and progress against our Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity strategy, with an annual formal report scheduled each year. Our governance review will also seek to improve the diversity within our own trustee board. We are expressing our beliefs and explaining how our organisation works more effectively to the public and members, through our website.

Pension deficit payments remain high despite our Final Salary scheme closing in 2005. We have funds centrally to meet these needs and have set aside a designated fund to cover the deficit payments that are due under the current Schedule of Contributions, which is due to end in August 2026.

As with any organisation we are exposed to the risk of loss of income, failures in executive or governance performance and loss of key trustees or senior staff. Loss of ICT functionality is another ongoing risk. We have a full business continuity plan and our ICT systems are kept very up to date, and consistently and comprehensively backed up. This was demonstrated by how effectively we were able to move to home-working in March 2020 with the outbreak of COVID-19, and how successful this move has been for staff.

Our principal funding from individual Trusts is a key threat due to the uncertainties of their own funding in light of COVID-19, and the implications of this for their current and future willingness and ability to pay. In view of this, we are working on various future models and contingency plans.

Finally, our new Chief Executive joined in April 2020. Although he has been unable to visit many Trusts due to COVID-19, he has brought the movement together through a very inclusive strategy reset process, quarterly "Wildlife Trusts' Town Hall" events and countless Zoom calls. Furthermore, he is supported by an excellent senior team.

This Trustees' Report was approved by Council and signed on its behalf.



Peta Foxall
Chair
21 July 2021

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF WILDLIFE TRUSTS

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (the 'parent charity') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise a consolidated statement of financial activities, group and charity balance sheets, a consolidated 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, including Financial Reporting Standard 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 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources 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 trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

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

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

Other information

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

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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- the charity has not kept sufficient accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 5, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under that Act.

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 auditors' 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.

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

Identifying and assessing risks related to irregularities:

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement and how fraud might occur, including through discussions with management and the trustees, discussions within our audit team planning meeting, updating our record of internal controls and ensuring these controls operated as intended. We evaluated possible incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements. We identified laws and regulations that are of significance in the context of the charity by discussions with management and updating our understanding of the sector in which the charity operates.

Laws and regulations of direct significance in the context of the charity include the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, guidance issued by the Charity Commission for England and Wales and the provisions of the Royal Charter of 2 March 1976, as amended.

Audit response to risks identified:

We considered the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items including a review of financial statement disclosures. We reviewed the charity's records of breaches of laws and regulations, minutes of meetings and correspondence with relevant authorities to identify potential material misstatements arising. We discussed the charity's policies and procedures for compliance with laws and regulations with members of management responsible for compliance.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
AUDITORS' REPORT
for the year ended 31 March 2021

During the planning meeting with the audit team, the engagement partner drew attention to the key areas which might involve non-compliance with laws and regulations or fraud. We enquired of management whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations or knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud. We addressed the risk of fraud through management override of controls by testing the appropriateness of journal entries and identifying any significant transactions that were unusual or outside the normal course of business. We assessed whether judgements made in making accounting estimates gave rise to a possible indication of management bias. At the completion stage of the audit, the engagement partner's review included ensuring that the team had approached their work with appropriate professional scepticism and thus the capacity to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Saffery Champness LLP

for and on behalf of Saffery Champness LLP

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors	71 Queen Victoria Street London EC1V 4BE
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Date: 21 September 2021

Saffery Champness LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Accounting convention

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 note(s) 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) Second Edition 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. Whilst COVID-19 has undoubtedly caused delays to several of our projects, we have been working closely with our funders and the Government to reduce the impact of the pandemic upon our finances. Reviewing roles and priorities, and moving to new ways of working (such as digital fundraising and online project delivery) has also helped to mitigate the risks faced by the charity in light of COVID-19.

Basis of consolidation

RSWT's active wholly owned trading subsidiary, The Wildlife Trusts Services Limited, has been consolidated on a line-by-line basis in the SOFA and balance sheet.

Incoming resources

Income is generally recognised on a receivable basis and is reported gross of related expenditure, where there is entitlement and the amount is reasonably certain and when there is adequate probability of receipt. The specific bases used are:

- Donations include grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature.
- Legacies are recognised when there is sufficient evidence to provide the necessary probability that the legacy will be received and the value of the legacy can be measured with sufficient reliability. Income is not recognised for legacies which remain subject to a life interest.
- Fundraising income, comprising corporate sponsorship and royalties, is recorded when receivable.
- Subsidiary trading income is the total amount received for goods and services provided, excluding VAT and trade discounts.
- Contractual income is recorded when receivable.

- Investment income is recorded when receivable.
- Grants and donations are recognised once entitlement and value have been confirmed in writing.
- Grants and donations that are subject to donor imposed conditions that specify the time period in which the expenditure of resources can take place are accounted for as deferred income and recognised as a liability until the relevant accounting period in which RSWT is allowed by the condition to expend the resource. Grants and donations without such pre-conditions are not deferred, even if the resources are received in advance of the expenditure on the activity funded by the grant or donation.
- Direct beneficiary lottery income from People's Postcode Lottery is recorded net. RSWT has no ability to alter the price of tickets, determine the prizes or reduce the management fee. As such, PPL is treated as acting as the principal and not RSWT. Therefore, only net proceeds due to RSWT are recognised under People Postcode Lottery (PPL) income in the statement of financial activities.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been allocated to the appropriate heading in the accounts.

- Fundraising costs relate to expenditure incurred in raising voluntary income for RSWT, fundraising trading costs and investment management costs.
- Charitable activities' expenditure relates to expenditure on meeting RSWT's charitable objects. This includes the costs of fundraising on behalf of individual Wildlife Trusts and the costs of publications, the primary purpose of which is environmental education, awareness and advocacy. It also includes all grant-making programmes.
- Support costs, including finance, human resources, telecommunications, information systems, office accommodation, governance and general management, are fully apportioned to other cost categories, based on direct staffing levels.
- Governance costs are costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs include internal and external audit, legal advice for Trustees and costs associated with meeting constitutional and statutory requirements, such as the cost of Trustees' meetings and the preparation of statutory accounts. This category also includes costs associated with the strategic, as opposed to day-to-day, management of the charity's activities.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

for the year ended 31 March 2021

Grants paid and payable are included as a liability when a constructive obligation is entered into by RSWT, being the date a grant offer is communicated to the grant recipient and any conditions relating to the grant are outside the control of RSWT.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Volunteer help

Honorary Officers and Trustees provide support to RSWT and The Wildlife Trusts. It is not practical or feasible to place a value on the time volunteered in this respect by these persons or other temporary or occasional volunteers.

Pension costs

RSWT, together with a number of other employers, operates The Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme (WTPS). This is a multi-employer hybrid scheme, the defined benefit section of which was closed in October 2005.

The defined benefit scheme amount charged in resources expended is the net of the interest cost and interest income relating to the Society's share of the assets in the scheme. Re-measurements are recognised immediately in Other recognised gains and losses.

The WTPS is funded, with the assets of the scheme held separately from those of the Society, in pension trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high-quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme's liabilities. The Society's share of the resulting defined benefit asset or liability is presented separately after other net assets on the face of the balance sheet. Full actuarial valuations for the scheme are obtained triennially.

Pension contributions are allocated across unrestricted and restricted funds in line with salary costs.

RSWT also contributes to a group personal pension plan on behalf of eligible employees. The contributions to this scheme are accounted for on an accruals basis.

Full details of RSWT's pension arrangements are given in Note 28.

Fund accounting

General funds can be used in accordance with the RSWT's charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated funds are funds set aside by the Trustees out of unrestricted funds for specific purposes or projects.

Unrestricted funds are the total of general and designated funds.

Restricted funds are funds set aside for undertaking an activity specified by the donor.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Tangible assets

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised and included at cost. The minimum capitalisation value for an individual fixed asset is £250.

Fixed assets, with the exception of freehold land, are depreciated so as to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, in equal annual instalments over their useful economic lives, as follows:

Property fixtures and fittings	5-15 years
Computer hardware	3 years
Computer software	3-5 years
Furniture and other office equipment	5 years
Vehicle	6 years

Investments

RSWT's investment in its trading subsidiary is stated at the lower of cost and net asset value and is treated as a fixed asset investment.

Marketable investments are stated at mid-market price at the balance sheet date. The movement shown in the consolidated statement of financial activities comprises both realised and unrealised gains and losses.

The gain or loss on investments is calculated after charging transaction costs but before deducting investment management fees, which are shown separately on the Statement of Financial Activities.

Concessionary Loans

The carrying amount of loans to Trusts is calculated from the original loan value adjusted for any repayments. As programme-related investments, no effective rate of interest is applied.

Current investments

Current investments represent funds held in interest bearing deposit accounts with notice periods of more than one day and less than 12 months.

Deferred income

Income which has been received, or is receivable, but which is subject to conditions which prevent its recognition in the current financial year is recognised as a liability in the balance sheet until the relevant accounting period in which RSWT is allowed by the condition to expend the resource.

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Debtors

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

Cash at bank and in hand

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

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.

Finance leases

Finance leases are those where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership are assumed by the company. Obligations under such agreements are included in creditors net of the finance charge allocated to future periods. The finance element of the rental payment is charged to the statement of financial activities so as to produce a constant periodic rate of charge on the net obligation outstanding in each period.

Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Financial instruments

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

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 March 2021

		2021			2020		
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Notes	Funds £'000	Funds £'000	2021 £'000	Funds £'000	Funds £'000	2020 £'000
Incoming from:							
Donations and legacies	1	3,314	27	3,341	2,416	10	2,426
Charitable activities	2	1,050	10,392	11,442	1,067	12,152	13,219
Other trading activities	3	3,208	-	3,208	4,107	-	4,107
Investments	4	48	4	52	82	30	112
Other income	5	15	-	15	-	-	-
Total income		7,635	10,423	18,058	7,672	12,192	19,864
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	6	433	-	433	380	-	380
Charitable activities	7	8,159	10,182	18,341	6,284	11,036	17,320
Total expenditure	8	8,592	10,182	18,774	6,664	11,036	17,700
Net gains/(losses) on investments	15	226	-	226	(40)	-	(40)
Net income/(expenditure)		(731)	241	(490)	968	1,156	2,124
Transfers between funds	22	559	(559)	-	399	(399)	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):							
Moved to defined benefit accounting for pensions	28	-	-	-	803	-	803
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension scheme	28	55	-	55	(1)	-	(1)
Net movement in funds		(117)	(318)	(435)	2,169	757	2,926
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		7,306	3,162	10,468	5,137	2,405	7,542
Total funds carried forward		7,189	2,844	10,033	7,306	3,162	10,468

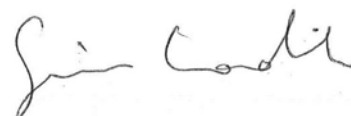
The statement of financial activities contains all gains and losses for the year and all activities relate to continuing operations.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
CONSOLIDATED AND SOCIETY BALANCE SHEETS
as at 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		Group £'000	Charity £'000	Group £'000	Charity £'000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14	80	80	71	71
Investments	15	1,303	1,353	1,081	1,131
Social investments	16	254	254	213	213
Total fixed assets		1,637	1,687	1,365	1,415
Current assets					
Stock		7	7	6	6
Debtors	17	3,164	3,046	2,304	2,186
Investments	18	3,355	3,355	5,934	5,934
Cash at bank and in hand		8,841	8,294	6,603	5,895
Total current assets		15,367	14,702	14,847	14,021
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	19	6,384	5,873	5,186	4,445
Net current assets		8,983	8,829	9,661	9,576
Total assets less current liabilities		10,620	10,516	11,026	10,991
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	19	263	200	54	54
Net assets before pension provision		10,357	10,316	10,972	10,937
Pension provision	28	324	324	504	504
Total net assets	23	10,033	9,992	10,468	10,433
The funds of the charity:					
General funds		1,667	1,626	1,525	1,490
Designated funds	21	5,522	5,522	5,781	5,781
Total unrestricted funds		7,189	7,148	7,306	7,271
Restricted income funds	22	2,844	2,844	3,162	3,162
Total funds		10,033	9,992	10,468	10,433

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by Council on 21 July 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Genevieve Landricombe
Hon. Treasurer

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 March 2021

Group	Notes	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	24	(359)	544
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends received		36	44
Interest received		15	52
Money market fund income received		1	16
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		20	-
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(54)	(24)
Net cash provided by investing activities		18	88
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting periods		(341)	632
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		12,537	11,905
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	24	12,196	12,537

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

1. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2021			2020		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds £'000	Funds £'000	2021 £'000	Funds £'000	Funds £'000	2020 £'000
Legacies	995	-	995	428	-	428
Wildlife Trusts' contributions	1,840	-	1,840	1,840	-	1,840
Donations	479	27	506	148	10	158
Total income from donations and legacies	3,314	27	3,341	2,416	10	2,426

The estimated value of legacies notified, but not included within the accounts, amounted to £793,000 (2020: £827,000), of which £48,000 (2020: £127,000) relates to life interests. The balance of £745,000 (2020: £700,000) relates to residual legacies, where the value of the legacy cannot yet be accurately ascertained.

Donations include a gift in kind for legal services which have been valued in the accounts at £105,000.

2. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2021			2020		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds £'000	Funds £'000	2021 £'000	Funds £'000	Funds £'000	2020 £'000
Income from charitable activities:						
Biffa Award (Landfill Communities Fund)	-	3,919	3,919	-	4,388	4,388
Red Squirrels United - SciuriousLIFE	-	(0)	(0)	-	483	483
Our Bright Future (National Lottery Community Fund)	-	4,446	4,446	-	5,873	5,873
Nature Friendly Schools (Defra/DfE)	-	1,480	1,480	-	1,234	1,234
Grants Team	-	9,845	9,845	-	11,978	11,978
Magazine Income	214	-	214	222	-	222
Government grants - Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	15	-	15	-	-	-
Other income	821	547	1,368	845	174	1,019
RSWT (England & UK functions)	1,050	547	1,597	1,067	174	1,241
Total income from charitable activities	1,050	10,392	11,442	1,067	12,152	13,219

The funding objectives of the Grants Team's funding bodies are set out in the Trustees' Report. RSWT (England & UK functions) income represents funds arising from the charitable activities of RSWT, acting in its capacity as the co-ordinating body of the England and UK functions of The Wildlife Trusts. Contributions made by individual Wildlife Trusts to RSWT are included within voluntary income, as detailed in Note 1.

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2021			2020		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds £'000	Funds £'000	2021 £'000	Funds £'000	Funds £'000	2020 £'000
Income from other trading activities:						
Royalties	354	-	354	268	-	268
Subsidiary trading income	222	-	222	182	-	182
People's Postcode Lottery (PPL) income	2,632	-	2,632	3,657	-	3,657
Total income from other trading activities	3,208	-	3,208	4,107	-	4,107

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 March 2021

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES (Cont.)

During the year RSWT received the proceeds of lotteries held by PPL from four draws (2020: six draws). RSWT has no ability to alter the price of tickets, determine the prizes or reduce the management fee. As such, PPL is treated as acting as the principal and not RSWT. Therefore, only net proceeds due to RSWT are recognised under People's Postcode Lottery (PPL) income in the statement of financial activities. The net proceeds received are analysed as follows:

	2021			2020		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Ticket Value	8,224	-	8,224	11,430	-	11,430
Prize Fund	(3,284)	-	(3,284)	(4,572)	-	(4,572)
Management Fee	(2,308)	-	(2,308)	(3,201)	-	(3,201)
Net proceeds received	2,632	-	2,632	3,657	-	3,657

4. INVESTMENTS

	2021			2020		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income from investments:						
Dividends - UK	36	-	36	44	-	44
Loan Interest - SDF	-	-	-	2	-	2
Bank interest - UK	12	3	15	36	14	50
Money market fund income - overseas	-	1	1	-	16	16
Total income from investments	48	4	52	82	30	112

Money market fund income relates to income from the Deutsche Global Liquidity Series' Deutsche Sterling Managed Fund. The company is listed in Ireland.

5. OTHER INCOME

	2021			2020		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Other income						
Profit on sale of fixed assets	15	-	15	-	-	-
Total other income	15	-	15	-	-	-

6. EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	2021			2020		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Costs of obtaining donations, legacies and grants*	213	-	213	194	-	194
Fundraising trading: costs of goods sold and other costs	216	-	216	178	-	178
Investment management costs	4	-	4	8	-	8
Total expenditure on raising funds	433	-	433	380	-	380

*Expenditure relates primarily to supporting individual Wildlife Trusts with their fundraising but corresponding income is not shown here as it is reported in individual Wildlife Trust accounts.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

7. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2021			2020		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	2021	Funds	Funds	2020
Expenditure on charitable activities by fund	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Administering major grant programmes	298	9,682	9,980	333	10,852	11,185
Policy, campaigns and government influence	1,258	96	1,354	1,124	48	1,172
The Wildlife Trusts organisational support	1,217	5	1,222	922	-	922
Promoting The Wildlife Trusts' cause	646	12	658	796	6	802
Managing key relationships and grants (inc PPL)	4,613	358	4,971	2,750	130	2,880
Driving collective governance, strategy & evidence	239	29	268	467	-	467
Other	13	-	13	33	-	33
Movement of pension deficit provision	(125)	-	(125)	(141)	-	(141)
Total expenditure on charitable activities	8,159	10,182	18,341	6,284	11,036	17,320

8. TOTAL EXPENDITURE

	2021					Total 2021 £'000
	Direct Staff costs	Other direct costs	Grants expended	Support costs	Govern- ance costs	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Expenditure on raising funds	138	238	9	38	6	429
Investment management costs	-	4	-	-	-	4
Raising Funds	138	242	9	38	6	433
Expenditure on charitable activities:						
Biffa Award (Landfill Communities Fund)	142	120	3,601	109	9	3,981
Our Bright Future (National Lottery Community Fund)	226	231	3,905	74	12	4,448
Nature Friendly Schools (Defra/DfE)	146	29	1,317	51	8	1,551
Grants Team	514	380	8,823	234	29	9,980
Policy, campaigns and government influence	751	226	146	198	33	1,354
The Wildlife Trusts organisational support	386	426	270	121	19	1,222
Promoting The Wildlife Trusts' cause	296	225	-	118	19	658
Managing key relationships and grants (inc PPL)	303	453	4,106	94	15	4,971
Driving collective governance, strategy & evidence	155	66	3	38	6	268
Other	-	13	-	-	-	13
Movement of pension deficit provision	(125)	-	-	-	-	(125)
RSWT (England & UK functions)	1,766	1,409	4,525	569	92	8,361
Total expenditure	2,418	2,031	13,357	841	127	18,774

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

8. TOTAL EXPENDITURE (Cont.)

Comparative information:

	2020					
	Direct Staff costs £'000	Other direct costs £'000	Grants expended £'000	Support costs £'000	Govern- ance costs £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Expenditure on raising funds	97	232	-	37	6	372
Investment management costs	-	8	-	-	-	8
Raising Funds	97	240	-	37	6	380
Expenditure on charitable activities:						
Biffa Award (Landfill Communities Fund)	176	135	3,488	120	10	3,929
Red Squirrels United - SciurusLIFE	87	63	343	30	5	528
Our Bright Future (National Lottery Community Fund)	216	210	5,376	69	10	5,881
Nature Friendly Schools (Defra/DfE)	143	38	612	47	7	847
Grants Team	622	446	9,819	266	32	11,185
Policy, campaigns and government influence	620	259	109	159	25	1,172
The Wildlife Trusts organisational support	272	534	-	101	15	922
Promoting The Wildlife Trusts' cause	324	355	-	107	16	802
Managing key relationships and grants (inc PPL)	258	509	2,025	76	12	2,880
Driving collective governance, strategy & evidence	97	18	329	20	3	467
Other	31	2	-	-	-	33
Movement of pension deficit provision	(141)	-	-	-	-	(141)
RSWT (England & UK functions)	1,461	1,677	2,463	463	71	6,135
Total expenditure	2,180	2,363	12,282	766	109	17,700

The RSWT Grants Team distributes funds provided through major funding programmes. The detailed objectives for each of these programmes are included within the Trustees' report. Details of the grants offered within each programme are shown in Note 10. Full details are included within Note 29.

The Society's activities on behalf of The Wildlife Trusts aim to ensure that the interests of the movement are represented at a UK and England level when a strong collective voice is required, and to provide leadership for its development.

An element of staff costs is contained within support and governance costs.

Total Expenditure includes:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Operating lease rentals:		
Land & buildings	38	38
Cars & office equipment	8	8
Auditor's remuneration:		
Fees payable to the Charity's auditor for the audit of the Charity's annual accounts	13	13
The audit of the Charity's subsidiary, pursuant to legislation	4	6
Accountancy services	0	1
All other services	8	4
Depreciation:		
On owned assets	40	37
Payments to Trustees:		
Trustees expenses	1	7

Four Trustees were reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties (2020: 14).

No Trustees were remunerated for their services during the year (2020: none).

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

9. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	2021						
	General management £'000	Finance £'000	HR £'000	IT £'000	Premises and administ- rative support £'000	Govern- ance £'000	Total 2021 £'000
Expenditure on raising funds	8	8	6	9	7	6	44
Expenditure on charitable activities:							
Biffa Award (Landfill Communities Fund)	11	11	8	13	66	9	118
Our Bright Future (National Lottery Community Fund)	14	16	11	18	15	12	86
Nature Friendly Schools (Defra/DfE)	10	12	8	13	8	8	59
Grants Team	35	39	27	44	89	29	263
Policy, campaigns and government influence	40	45	31	52	30	33	231
The Wildlife Trusts organisational support	24	26	18	29	24	19	140
Promoting The Wildlife Trusts' cause	23	25	17	29	24	19	137
Managing key relationships and grants (inc PPL)	19	20	14	23	18	15	109
Driving collective governance, strategy & evidence	7	8	6	9	8	6	44
RSWT (England & UK functions)	113	124	86	142	104	92	661
Total support costs 2021	156	171	119	195	200	127	968

Support costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the weighted average number of staff directly engaged in those activities.

Comparative information:

	2020						
	General management £'000	Finance £'000	HR £'000	IT £'000	Premises and administ- rative support £'000	Govern- ance £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Expenditure on raising funds	6	7	7	8	9	6	43
Expenditure on charitable activities:							
Biffa Award (Landfill Communities Fund)	10	12	13	14	71	10	130
Red Squirrels United - SciriousLIFE	4	6	6	7	7	5	35
Our Bright Future (National Lottery Community Fund)	11	14	13	15	16	10	79
Nature Friendly Schools (Defra/DfE)	7	10	10	11	9	7	54
Grants Team	32	42	42	47	103	32	298
Policy, campaigns and government influence	24	34	33	38	30	25	184
The Wildlife Trusts organisational support	15	20	19	22	25	15	116
Promoting The Wildlife Trusts' cause	16	22	20	25	24	16	123
Managing key relationships and grants (inc PPL)	11	15	15	17	18	12	88
Driving collective governance, strategy & evidence	3	4	4	5	4	3	23
RSWT (England & UK functions)	69	95	91	107	101	71	534
Total support costs 2020	107	144	140	162	213	109	875

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

10. ANALYSIS OF GRANTS EXPENDED

Programme	2021				Total 2021 £'000
	Activities undertaken directly £'000	Grants to Wildlife Trusts £'000	Grants to other institutions £'000	Administ- ration and support costs £'000	
Biffa Award (Landfill Communities Fund)	-	1,713	1,888	380	3,981
Our Bright Future (National Lottery Community Fund)	-	1,263	2,642	543	4,448
Nature Friendly Schools (Defra/DfE)	-	813	504	234	1,551
Strategic Development Fund	-	273	-	85	358
People's Postcode Lottery Fund (People's Postcode Lottery)	147	1,935	-	36	2,118
Climate Fund (People's Postcode Lottery)	17	1,660	-	2	1,679
Campaigns (People's Postcode Lottery)	69	32	-	13	114
30 by 30 Campaign	133	78	-	-	211
JustGiving donations distribution to Trusts	-	9	-	1	10
Healthy Minds (Cadent Foundation)	-	226	-	5	231
Distribution of royalties (Vine House Farm)	3	286	-	1	290
Marine Protected Areas Fighting Fund (Tubney)	-	15	12	2	29
Water Voles Database	-	5	-	-	5
Offshore Wind (Esmée Fairbairn Foundation)	29	3	-	-	32
Total grants expended	398	8,311	5,046	1,302	15,057

RSWT does not issue grants to individuals. A full list of grants expended during the year is included in Note 29.

Comparative information:

Programme	2020				Total 2021 £'000
	Activities undertaken directly £'000	Grants to Wildlife Trusts £'000	Grants to other institutions £'000	Administ- ration and support costs £'000	
Biffa Award (Landfill Communities Fund)	-	1,029	2,459	441	3,929
Red Squirrels United - SciuriousLIFE	-	163	180	185	528
Our Bright Future (National Lottery Community Fund)	-	1,550	3,826	505	5,881
Nature Friendly Schools (Defra/DfE)	-	376	236	235	847
Strategic Development Fund	-	329	-	23	352
People's Postcode Lottery Fund (People's Postcode Lottery)	99	1,865	-	37	2,001
Campaigns (People's Postcode Lottery)	94	88	-	10	192
Distribution of royalties (Vine House Farm)	-	160	-	-	160
Marine Protected Areas Fighting Fund (Tubney)	-	(4)	(1)	2	(3)
CaBA Programme (Rivers Trust)	-	19	-	1	20
Water Voles Database	-	5	-	-	5
Living Seas	-	2	-	-	2
Total grants expended	193	5,582	6,700	1,439	13,914

11. STAFF COSTS

The movement in the year is after charging:	Note	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Wages & salaries		2,313	2,075
Holiday pay accrual		29	1
Social Security costs		230	203
Pension costs	28	477	456
RSWT Staff		3,049	2,735
Seconded staff costs		46	10
Total		3,095	2,745

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 March 2021

11. STAFF COSTS (Cont.)

The average number of employees, calculated on a head count basis, analysed by function was:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
The Wildlife Trusts (England & UK functions)	35	25
Grants Team	12	16
Fundraising & Trading	5	5
Support & Governance	21	19
Total staff (Headcount)	73	65
Total staff (FTE basis)	69	63

The number of employees whose emoluments (including taxable benefits in kind but excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000, was as follows:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
£120,000 - £129,999	1	-
£80,000 - £89,999	1	1
£60,000 - £69,999	2	-
Total over £60,000	4	1

Of the charity's employees, seven members of staff classify as key management personnel (2020: seven). The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel during the year for their services to the charity was £499,793 (2020: £453,971). One of these individuals moved out of a key management role during the year and one joined the organisation during the year.

During the year the charity made termination payments totalling £nil (2020: £1,377).

12. SUBSIDIARY COMPANY

RSWT's wholly owned trading subsidiary, **The Wildlife Trusts Services Limited** (company number: 02540956), provides a range of services to Wildlife Trusts and RSWT. Its trading performance and balance sheet are summarised as follows:

Profit and loss account

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Turnover	560	595
Cost of sales	(419)	(452)
Gross profit	141	143
Administrative expenses	(100)	(111)
Operating profit	41	32
Interest received	-	2
Profit for the year before and after tax	41	34

Assets, liabilities and funds

Assets	674	843
Liabilities	(583)	(759)
Total net assets and shareholder's funds	91	84

WTS Ltd made a profit of £41,000 in the year (2020: £34,000 profit). WTS Ltd gift aids its profits to RSWT.

RSWT charged WTS Ltd £91,000 (2020: £98,000) in the year for staff and administration charges. WTS Ltd also purchased a group life assurance deal for RSWT and eight other Trusts and finance software services for RSWT and 16 other Trusts. RSWT paid WTS Ltd for its share of these costs.

The inter-company balance WTS Ltd owed to RSWT at the accounting date was £8,000 (2020: £19,000).

RSWT has two other wholly owned trading subsidiaries, Natural Solutions Services Limited and Wilder Futures Services Limited. These are both currently dormant.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

13. RSWT CHARITY RESULTS (EXCLUDING SUBSIDIARY)

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
The summarised results of the parent charity are as follows:		
Total incoming resources	17,623	19,465
Total resources expended	(18,346)	(17,235)
Net incoming resources	(723)	2,230
Holding gains/(losses)	227	(40)
Actuarial gains on Defined pension schemes	55	802
Net movement in funds	(441)	2,992
Funds brought forward	10,433	7,441
Funds carried forward	9,992	10,433

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Group	2021				2020			
	Fixtures, fittings & equipment (finance lease) £'000	Freehold Land & buildings (owned) £'000	Fixtures, fittings & equipment (owned) £'000	2021 £'000	Fixtures, fittings & equipment (finance lease) £'000	Freehold Land & buildings (owned) £'000	Fixtures, fittings & equipment (owned) £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Cost								
1 April	22	10	494	526	22	10	472	504
Additions	-	-	54	54	-	-	24	24
Disposals	-	(5)	(1)	(6)	-	-	(2)	(2)
31 March	22	5	547	574	22	10	494	526
Depreciation								
1 April	22	-	433	455	22	-	398	420
Disposals	-	-	(1)	(1)	-	-	(2)	(2)
Charge for the year	-	-	40	40	-	-	37	37
31 March	22	-	472	494	22	-	433	455
Net book value								
Preceding 31 March	-	10	61	71	-	10	74	84
31 March	-	5	75	80	-	10	61	71

Charity	Fixtures, fittings & equipment (finance lease) £'000	Freehold Land & buildings (owned) £'000	Fixtures, fittings & equipment (owned) £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Fixtures, fittings & equipment (finance lease) £'000	Freehold Land & buildings (owned) £'000	Fixtures, fittings & equipment (owned) £'000	Total 2020 £'000
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost								
1 April	22	10	410	442	22	10	388	420
Additions	-	-	54	54	-	-	24	24
Disposals	-	(5)	(1)	(6)	-	-	(2)	(2)
31 March	22	5	463	490	22	10	410	442
Depreciation								
1 April	22	-	349	371	22	-	314	336
Disposals	-	-	(1)	(1)	-	-	(2)	(2)
Charge for the year	-	-	40	40	-	-	37	37
31 March	22	-	388	410	22	-	349	371
Net book value								
Preceding 31 March	-	10	61	71	-	10	74	84
31 March	-	5	75	80	-	10	61	71

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

15. INVESTMENTS

	2021		2020	
	Group	Charity	Group	Charity
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Investments in subsidiaries				
The Wildlife Trusts Services Limited and other subsidiaries - £1 ordinary shares	-	-	-	-
The Wildlife Trusts Services Limited - 5% preference shares	-	50	-	50
Total subsidiary investment	-	50	-	50
Other investments reflects holdings at market value	1,303	1,303	1,081	1,081
Total investments	1,303	1,353	1,081	1,131

Analysis of movements in other investments

	2021		2020	
	Unrestricted	Total	Unrestricted	Total
	Funds	2021	Funds	2020
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Group and charity				
Market value at 1 April	1,081	1,081	1,128	1,128
Less: Investment management fees	(4)	(4)	(8)	(8)
Add: Net gain on revaluation	226	226	(39)	(39)
Market value at 31 March	1,303	1,303	1,081	1,081

Other investments reflects holding in both CCLA COIF Charities Ethical Investment Fund and Sarasin & Partners' Climate Action Endowment Fund.

16. SOCIAL INVESTMENTS

	2021		2020	
	Group	Charity	Group	Charity
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Amounts falling due within one year				
Loans to Trusts due within one year	97	97	208	208
Loans to Trusts due after more than one year	157	157	5	5
Total	254	254	213	213

The loans to Trusts balance relates to eight Trust loans from the Strategic Development Fund. Repayment schedules vary between loans. In 2020/21 one Trust was charged interest on its loan at Bank of England base rate. The other loans being interest free. If loans are repaid late interest is charged at Bank of England base rate plus 7%.

17. DEBTORS

	2021		2020	
	Group	Charity	Group	Charity
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Amounts falling due within one year				
Trade debtors	529	423	498	380
Amounts due from group undertakings	-	8	-	19
Other debtors	1	1	1	1
Prepayments and income receivable	2,629	2,609	1,805	1,786
Total	3,159	3,041	2,304	2,186

	2021		2020	
	Group	Charity	Group	Charity
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Amounts falling due after more than one year				
Prepayments and income receivable	5	5	-	-
Total	5	5	-	-

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

18. SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS

	2021		2020	
	Group £'000	Charity £'000	Group £'000	Charity £'000
Market value at 1 April	5,934	5,934	6,498	6,498
Net additions	(2,579)	(2,579)	(564)	(564)
Market value at 31 March	3,355	3,355	5,934	5,934

Short-term investments represent monies held on Deutsche Bank's Dublin based money market funds and interest-bearing deposit accounts at UK banks, with notice periods of up to 12 months.

19. CREDITORS

	2021		2020	
	Group £'000	Charity £'000	Group £'000	Charity £'000
Amounts falling due within one year				
Trade creditors	348	251	376	267
Other taxes and social securities	111	107	56	56
Other creditors	27	27	25	24
Accruals	365	263	277	116
Grants payable	5,188	5,188	3,962	3,962
Deferred income	345	37	490	20
Total	6,384	5,873	5,186	4,445

	2021		2020	
	Group £'000	Charity £'000	Group £'000	Charity £'000
Amounts falling due after more than one year				
Deferred income	63	-	-	-
Grants payable	200	200	54	54
Total	263	200	54	54

20. ANNUAL OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

	2021		2020	
	Land & buildings £'000	Other £'000	Land & buildings £'000	Other £'000
Total operating lease commitments of the group and charity:				
Within one year	38	5	38	8
Between one and five years	77	5	114	10
Total	115	10	152	18

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

21. DESIGNATED FUNDS

Group and charity	2021				
	Balance	Movement in Funds			Balance
	1 April	Incoming	Expended	Transfers	31 March
	2020	resources	in year	in year	2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Strategic Development Fund	591	8	(358)	966	1,207
Futures Fund	250	-	-	150	400
Tubney Closure Fund	105	-	-	-	105
Marketing Fund	10	-	-	(10)	-
National Legacy Campaign Fund	200	998	(203)	(795)	200
Property Reinstatement Fund	140	-	-	10	150
The Wildlife Trusts ICT Systems Projects	295	40	(111)	115	339
Development Strategy Fund	434	3	(187)	71	321
People's Postcode Lottery Fund (People's Postcode Lottery)	2,488	635	(2,144)	(210)	769
Climate Fund (People's Postcode Lottery)	-	1,997	(1,678)	-	319
Campaigns (People's Postcode Lottery)	295	4	(101)	44	242
Campaigns (30 by 30 and Action for Insects)	-	171	(213)	200	158
Community Fundraising	46	-	(13)	-	33
Living Seas Marine Protected Areas (Michael Uren Foundation)	30	-	-	(15)	15
The Wildlife Trusts Development and Training Fund	12	8	(11)	-	9
Conferences and Seminars	-	-	-	14	14
Landscape Recovery	-	-	-	70	70
Digital Transformation	-	-	-	100	100
Strategy Reset	-	-	-	200	200
Wildlife Trusts Wales	-	7	(7)	-	-
Pension Deficit Provision	732	-	-	24	756
Strategic Development Projects	153	-	(109)	71	115
Total Designated Funds	5,781	3,871	(5,135)	1,005	5,522

The **Strategic Development Fund** supports strategically important initiatives for The Wildlife Trusts movement. £765,000 of legacy income was credited to the Fund this year, and a further £272,000 was transferred to increase emergency funding available for Trusts needing financial assistance. The current projects will go on for between one and three years. £279,000 of grants were made to Wildlife Trusts during the year. The fund also provides loans to Wildlife Trusts, reducing the cash available in the fund to £953,000. Where projects are managed by RSWT the funds are shown in **Strategic Development Projects**. £71k was allocated to these projects during the year.

The **Futures Fund** sets aside funds to meet future needs. £150,000 was added to the fund from General funds during the year.

The **Tubney Closure Fund** was created from funds arising on the transfer of Tubney Charitable Trust's remaining assets to RSWT in March 2012. It is anticipated that this fund will continue to be gradually released over the next two years to support the operations of the charity.

The **Marketing Fund** supports the costs of our marketing campaigns. £10,000 was released to General funds during the year.

The **National Legacy Campaign Fund** supports the costs of our legacy campaign.

The **Property Reinstatement Fund** sets aside funds to meet the costs of refurbishing or relocating at the end of the charity's Newark office lease.

The **ICT Systems Project** sets aside funds for future development of The Wildlife Trusts ICT systems, including a new Customer Relationship Management system and intranet.

The **Development Strategy Fund** provides funds to assist with the implementation of the 2020 strategy across the Wildlife Trusts.

The **People's Postcode Lottery Fund** supports the Forest Schools initiative delivered by Trusts, campaigns and strategy. During the year £50,000 was transferred to General funds, £44,000 to **Campaigns**, £96,000 to **Development Strategy Fund** and £20,000 towards **Strategic Development Fund** emergency funding. £1,935,000 was given out in grants to Trusts. The current balance of the fund will be used over the coming year.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 March 2021

21. DESIGNATED FUNDS (Cont.)

The **Climate Fund** was set up through funding from People's Postcode Lottery draws. £1,660,000 was given out in grants to Trusts during the year.

The Campaigns (People's Postcode Lottery) fund received transfers from People's Postcode Lottery. It is funding the Wilder Future campaign. Wildlife Trusts are able to apply for a portion of money from the fund.

£200,000 of Tubney restricted funds was transferred to **Campaigns (30 by 30 and Action for Insects)**. The campaigns raise funds to be used towards the target of seeing that at least 30% of land and seas be connected and protected for nature's recovery by 2030.

The **Community Fundraising Fund** was set up using donations from corporates, and will be used to support Trust fundraising.

The Michael Uren Foundation donated £30,000 to RSWT in 2019/20 which has been designated towards **Living Seas Marine Protected Areas**.

The **Wildlife Trusts Development and Training Fund** is to fund salaries and Trust wide training.

£14k **Conferences and Seminars** income has been designated to support face to face events in the future.

£70k of income from corporates has been designated for use on **Landscape Recovery**.

The **Digital Transformation** fund has been set up to support the movement in securing funding for digital upgrades.

The Wildlife Trusts movement is currently undergoing a **Strategy Reset** and £200k has been set aside to fund the outcomes.

The **Wildlife Trusts Wales** designated project was set up to ensure that costs incurred on behalf of Wildlife Trusts Wales are charged against related income.

The **Pension Deficit Provision** has been created to set aside funds to cover the difference between the FRS 102 valuation of the pension deficit and the value of the payments due under the schedule of contributions (see Note 28 for further details).

Comparative information:

	Balance 1 April 2019 £'000	2020 Movement in Funds			Balance 31 March 2020 £'000
		Incoming resources £'000	Expended in year £'000	Transfers in year £'000	
Group and charity	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Strategic Development Fund	773	2	(352)	168	591
Futures Fund	300	-	-	(50)	250
Tubney Closure Fund	158	-	-	(53)	105
Marketing Fund	30	-	-	(20)	10
National Legacy Campaign Fund	200	428	(200)	(228)	200
Property Reinstatement Fund	130	-	-	10	140
The Wildlife Trusts ICT Systems Projects	328	45	(152)	74	295
Development Strategy Fund	184	-	(145)	395	434
People's Postcode Lottery Fund (People's Postcode Lottery)	1,550	3,657	(2,001)	(718)	2,488
Campaigns (People's Postcode Lottery)	200	14	(192)	273	295
Community Fundraising	-	46	-	-	46
Living Seas Marine Protected Areas (Michael Uren Foundation)	-	30	-	-	30
The Wildlife Trusts Development and Training Fund	-	-	-	12	12
Pension Deficit Provision	-	-	-	732	732
Strategic Development Projects	122	-	(29)	60	153
Total Designated Funds	3,975	4,222	(3,071)	655	5,781

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

22. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Group and charity	2021				
	Balance	Movement in Funds			Balance
	1 April	Incoming	Expended	Transfers	31 March
	2020	resources	in year	in year	2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Biffa Award (Landfill Communities Fund)	1,284	3,923	(3,696)	(307)	1,204
Our Bright Future (National Lottery Community Fund)	58	4,446	(4,448)	-	56
Nature Friendly Schools (Defra/DfE)	403	1,480	(1,538)	-	344
Grants Team funds	1,745	9,849	(9,682)	(307)	1,605
Building Momentum for <i>A Living Landscape</i> (Tubney)	1,085	-	-	(250)	835
Marine Protected Areas Fighting Fund (Tubney)	184	-	(27)	(2)	155
John Ellerman Fisheries (John Ellerman Foundation)	32	-	(1)	-	31
Marine Projects (Tubney Marine Protected Area Fighting Fund)	11	-	(1)	-	10
Wildflowers on the Verge (Rees Jeffreys Road Fund)	4	-	-	-	4
Henocq Law Trust Restricted Donation	25	10	(12)	-	23
Local Partnerships Development Fund (Aggregate Industries)	56	-	(49)	-	7
Network for Natures Recovery (Highways England)	8	81	(78)	-	11
Rethink HS2 (Catalyst Foundation)	2	-	(2)	-	-
CaBA Programme (Rivers Trusts)	10	1	(4)	-	7
Healthy Minds (Cadent Foundation)	-	254	(231)	-	23
Nature Based Solutions (Samworth Foundation)	-	97	(27)	-	70
Offshore Wind (Esmée Fairbairn Foundation)	-	67	(32)	-	35
Website development (National Lottery Heritage Fund)	-	28	(28)	-	-
Wild School Award (UPS)	-	17	-	-	17
Funding Nature (The Prism Charitable Trust)	-	10	(5)	-	5
Badger Campaign	-	7	(1)	-	6
Nature Recovery Networks (Natural England)	-	2	(2)	-	-
RSWT (England & UK functions)	1,417	574	(500)	(252)	1,239
Total Restricted Funds	3,162	10,423	(10,182)	(559)	2,844

Biffa Award funds are contributed by Biffa Group Ltd under the Landfill Communities Fund. In 2020/21 £297,000 was transferred from the fund to General funds to cover the administration costs of the programme. A further £10,000 of the fund contributed to the Designated Property Reinstatement Fund.

Our Bright Future is a grants programme funded by the National Lottery Community Fund which has a portfolio of 31 projects across the UK.

RSWT is one of 11 partners working together to deliver the **Nature Friendly Schools** project, which is funded by Defra and DfE. The project will support the delivery of increased outdoor learning in recruited schools.

Tubney Charitable Trust made a substantial contribution to our work on *A Living Landscape* and *Living Seas*, prior to its closure in March 2012. £200k was used in the year to support the 30 by 30 campaign.

The **Henocq Law Trust Restricted Donation** is restricted for use towards education, £12,000 of the fund was spent during the year on educational activities.

The Cadent Foundation provided £254,000 for the **Healthy Minds** project. Four Wildlife Trusts are delivering the projects which connect people with nature to improve health and wellbeing.

The Samworth Foundation provided three years of funding to support our work in publishing and evidencing how **Nature Based Solutions** can tackle the global climate crisis and benefit communities and the economy.

Three years of funding has been secured from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation to support work on **Offshore Wind**, working to minimise the harm to the marine environment resulting from expansion of offshore wind farms.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

22. RESTRICTED FUNDS (Cont.)

Comparative information:

Comparative information:	2020				
	Balance 1 April 2019 £'000	Movement in Funds			Balance 31 March 2020 £'000
		Incoming resources £'000	Expended in year £'000	Transfers in year £'000	
Group and charity					
Biffa Award (Landfill Communities Fund)	840	4,417	(3,606)	(367)	1,284
Red Squirrels United - SciriousLIFE	62	483	(528)	(17)	-
Our Bright Future (National Lottery Community Fund)	65	5,874	(5,881)	-	58
Nature Friendly Schools (Defra/DfE)	5	1,234	(836)	-	403
Grants Team funds	972	12,008	(10,851)	(384)	1,745
Building Momentum for A Living Landscape (Tubney)	1,085	-	-	-	1,085
Marine Protected Areas Fighting Fund (Tubney)	179	-	5	-	184
John Ellerman Fisheries (John Ellerman Foundation)	36	-	(4)	-	32
Marine Projects (Tubney Marine Protected Area Fighting Fund)	14	-	(3)	-	11
Natural Service Stations (Rees Jeffreys Road Fund)	6	-	(6)	-	-
Wildflowers on the Verge (Rees Jeffreys Road Fund)	4	-	-	-	4
Henocq Law Trust Restricted Donation	30	10	-	(15)	25
Local Partnerships Development Fund (Aggregate Industries)	79	74	(97)	-	56
Network for Natures Recovery (Highways England)	-	42	(34)	-	8
Rethink HS2 (Catalyst Foundation)	-	28	(26)	-	2
CaBA Programme (Rivers Trusts)	-	30	(20)	-	10
RSWT (England & UK functions)	1,433	184	(185)	(15)	1,417
Total Restricted Funds	2,405	12,192	(11,036)	(399)	3,162

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

23. ANALYSIS OF GROUP NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Fund balances at 31 March 2021 are represented by:

Group	Note	2021			Total Funds £'000
		Unrestricted		Restricted £'000	
		General £'000	Designated £'000		
Tangible fixed assets	14	80	-	-	80
Investments	15	1,303	-	-	1,303
Social investments	16	-	254	-	254
Fixed assets		1,383	254	-	1,637
Stock		7	-	-	7
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	17	748	347	2,064	3,159
Debtors: amounts falling due after more than one year	17	5	-	-	5
Short-term investments	18	-	1,000	2,355	3,355
Cash and bank		951	5,522	2,368	8,841
Current assets		1,711	6,869	6,787	15,367
Grants payable: amounts falling due within one year		286	1,468	3,434	5,188
Other creditors: amounts falling due within one year		754	127	315	1,196
Current liabilities	19	1,040	1,595	3,749	6,384
Long term liabilities	19	63	6	194	263
Pension deficit	28	324	-	-	324
Total net assets		1,667	5,522	2,844	10,033

Comparative information:

Comparative information:		2020		
Group	Unrestricted		Restricted £'000	Total Funds £'000
	General £'000	Designated £'000		
Tangible fixed assets	71	-	-	71
Heritage assets	-	-	-	-
Investments	81	1,000	-	1,081
Social investments	-	213	-	213
Fixed assets	152	1,213	-	1,365
Stock	6	-	-	6
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	645	65	1,594	2,304
Short-term investments	1,500	1,000	3,434	5,934
Cash and bank	896	3,792	1,915	6,603
Current assets	3,047	4,857	6,943	14,847
Grants payable: amounts falling due within one year	167	191	3,604	3,962
Other creditors: amounts falling due within one year	1,003	84	137	1,224
Current liabilities	1,170	275	3,741	5,186
Long term liabilities	-	14	40	54
Pension deficit	504	-	-	504
Total net assets	1,525	5,781	3,162	10,468

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

24. NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Group	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Reconciliation of net (expenditure) / income to net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities		
Net (expenditure) / income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(490)	2,124
Depreciation	40	37
(Gain) / loss on investments	(226)	40
Investment management fees	4	8
Investment income	(52)	(112)
New loans issued to Trusts	(199)	-
Loan repayments received	158	104
Gain on sale of fixed assets	(15)	-
Increase in stock	(1)	-
Increase in debtors	(860)	(437)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	1,282	(1,220)
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	(359)	544

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents		
Cash at bank and in hand	8,841	6,603
Cash deposits	3,355	5,934
Net cash and cash equivalents	12,196	12,537

	2021		
	At 1st April £'000	Cashflow £'000	At 31 March £'000
Movements in cash and cash equivalents			
Cash at bank and in hand	6,603	2,238	8,841
Cash deposits	5,934	(2,579)	3,355
Net cash and cash equivalents	12,537	(341)	12,196

Comparative information:	2020		
	At 1st April £'000	Cashflow £'000	At 31 March £'000
Movements in cash and cash equivalents			
Cash at bank and in hand	5,407	1,196	6,603
Cash deposits	6,498	(564)	5,934
Net cash and cash equivalents	11,905	632	12,537

25. CONTINGENT ASSETS

Future legacy income notified but not yet included within these financial statements is detailed in Note 1.

26. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There are no contingent liabilities.

27. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The charity, RSWT has one active wholly owned subsidiary, The Wildlife Trusts Services Limited. An overview of transactions between the two organisations can be found in Note 12.

RSWT's governing body, Council, includes a number of Trustees and Chief Executives from individual Wildlife Trusts across the federation of The Wildlife Trusts. No individual Trust benefits from their representation on the Council.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 March 2021

28. PENSION COSTS

The Society operates two pension arrangements: a Royal London group personal pension, and The Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme. Auto-enrolment into the group personal pension scheme commenced in July 2014.

The Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme (WTPS)

The WTPS is a multi-employer scheme with RSWT acting as the lead employer on behalf of 12 other Wildlife Trusts. The defined contribution section of the Scheme, which included further Trusts, was closed with effect from 31 March 2019.

The defined benefit or 'final salary' category closed to future accrual of benefits in October 2005. This section of the Scheme provides retirement benefits based on members' salaries when they left employment. The assets of the Scheme are held in a separately administered fund and the Scheme is administered by the Trustee (independent of the Employers) who is responsible for ensuring that the Scheme is sufficiently funded to meet current and future obligations. However, the assets and liabilities are not segregated between the Employers.

The liabilities set out in this note have been calculated based on the preliminary results of the full Scheme Funding Assessment as at 31 March 2019, updated to 31 March 2021. The present value of the defined benefit obligation was measured using the projected unit credit method. 2020 was the first year that the Society was able to report the obligation in this way, having previously accounted for the Scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. This change in approach generated a significant reduction in the value of the pension liability recognised in the balance sheet between 2019 and 2020.

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Pension liability at 31 March 2019 calculated on old basis	-	1,447
Change to Defined Benefit method of accounting for pension (recognised as a gain within Other recognised gains/(losses))	-	(803)
Pension liability at 1 April	504	644
Contributions paid	(199)	(182)
Costs included in Net income/(expenditure)	74	41
Movement of pension deficit provision (Note 7)	(124)	(141)
Remeasurements included in Other recognised gains/(losses)	(55)	1
Pension provision at 31 March on Defined Benefit basis	325	504

The Employers have agreed a funding plan with the Trustee. A Designated Fund (£756,000) exists to cover the difference between the FRS102 valuation at 31 March 2021 (£324,000) and the net present value of the deficit recovery payments at the same date (£1,080,000), up to the end of the current Schedule of Contributions which is August 2026.

The following disclosures are based on calculations carried out as at 31 March 2021 by an independent qualified actuary. RSWT moved to defined benefit accounting during the year ending 31 March 2020 and, in accordance with FRS 102, the change of accounting was accounted for in that year rather than by restating the prior year.

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Defined benefit obligation at start of year	3,909	4,036
Benefits paid	(144)	(164)
Administration expenses	63	28
Interest expense	87	95
Remeasurements - actuarial gains and (losses)	422	(86)
Defined benefit obligation at end of year	4,337	3,909

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

28. PENSION COSTS (Cont.)

Changes in the fair value of assets

	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Fair value of assets at start of year	3,405	3,392
Interest income	76	82
Remeasurements - return on Scheme assets excluding interest income	477	(87)
Employer contributions	199	182
Benefits paid	(144)	(164)
Fair value of assets at end of year	4,013	3,405

Costs relating to defined benefit scheme included in the SOFA

	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Interest expense	(87)	(95)
Interest income	77	82
Administration expenses	(64)	(28)
Costs included in Net income/(expenditure)	(74)	(41)
Return on Scheme assets excluding interest income	477	(87)
Actuarial gains and (losses)	(421)	86
Remeasurements included in Other recognised gains/(losses)	56	(1)

Net defined benefit liability recognised in the balance sheet

	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Fair value of Scheme assets	4,013	3,405
Defined benefit obligation	(4,337)	(3,909)
Defined benefit liability recognised in the balance sheet	(324)	(504)

Principal assumptions

	2021	2020
	per annum	per annum
Discount rate	1.95%	2.25%
Retail Prices Index (RPI) Inflation	3.45%	2.70%
Consumer Prices Index (CPI) Inflation	2.65%	1.70%
Future increases to deferred pensions	2.65%	1.70%
Rate of increase to pensions in payment:		
Fixed 5% per annum	5.00%	5.00%
RPI max 5% per annum	3.20%	2.65%
	2021	2020
	years	years
Life expectancy of a male aged 65 at the Balance Sheet date	22.7	22.5
Life expectancy of a male aged 65 in 20 years from the Balance Sheet date	24.0	23.9
Life expectancy of a female aged 65 at the Balance Sheet date	25.0	24.8
Life expectancy of a female aged 65 in 20 years from the Balance Sheet date	26.4	26.2

Mortality (before and after retirement) assumptions for both years: Males: 96% of S3PA, Females: 95% of S3PA. CMI_2018 / CMI_2019 with a long term rate of improvements of 1.25% per annum and initial addition to mortality improvements of 0.5%.

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 March 2021

28. PENSION COSTS (Cont.)

Cash commutation assumptions for both years: Members are assumed to take 25% of their pension as tax-free cash, subject to HMRC restrictions, using cash commutation factors currently in force.

For the avoidance of doubt, the financial assumptions above are in absolute terms. They are single equivalent rates, however in practice full yield curves are used.

Asset breakdown

The major categories of Scheme assets as a percentage of total Scheme assets are:

	2021	2020
UK Equities	4.3%	4.0%
Overseas Equities	29.9%	22.3%
Diversified Growth Funds	23.5%	22.4%
UK Government Fixed Interest Bonds	14.3%	18.8%
UK Government Index Linked Bonds	14.7%	16.9%
UK Corporate Bonds	9.7%	10.3%
Property	2.1%	2.5%
Cash	1.5%	2.8%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

The pension scheme has not invested in any of the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts' own financial instruments, nor in properties or other assets used by the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts. The assets are all quoted in active markets.

Pension contributions in the year

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme - RSWT	190	182
Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme - Section 75 allocation	8	-
Group personal pension scheme	287	274
Total employer pension contributions	485	456

Employer contributions include contributions in respect of salary sacrifice arrangements made available to employees from August 2017.

The charity makes contributions to the scheme deficit in accordance with an agreed recovery plan. The charity paid contributions of £199,000 in the year ended 31 March 2021 (2020: £182,000). The amount paid by the charity exceeds the expense for the year as calculated on an actuarial basis by £125,000 (2020: £141,000). This difference is separately presented as a reduction in expenditure in Note 7.

Pension contribution liabilities

The following pension contributions were payable at the year-end and are included within creditors:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme	16	15
Group personal pension schemes	26	24
Total pension contribution liabilities	42	39

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

29. GRANT EXPENDITURE

RSWT Grants

	2021				2020			
	People's Postcode Lottery	Strategic Develop- ment Fund	Other	Grand Total	People's Postcode Lottery	Strategic Develop- ment Fund	Other	Grand Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Alderney Wildlife Trust	20	-	-	20	-	-	-	-
Avon Wildlife Trust	86	24	8	118	67	12	1	80
Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust	20	6	23	49	10	35	11	56
Cheshire Wildlife Trust	106	-	8	114	70	-	3	73
Cornwall Wildlife Trust	20	5	-	25	9	17	-	26
Cumbria Wildlife Trust	150	-	6	156	1	-	2	3
Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	40	-	102	142	1	10	3	14
Devon Wildlife Trust	155	-	13	168	66	62	6	134
Dorset Wildlife Trust	25	-	5	30	-	-	3	3
Durham Wildlife Trust	20	-	5	25	-	-	2	2
Essex Wildlife Trust	47	-	15	62	-	-	6	6
Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust	20	15	10	45	-	79	5	84
Gwent Wildlife Trust	23	-	3	26	-	-	3	3
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust	41	-	20	61	-	-	12	12
Herefordshire Wildlife Trust	20	6	4	30	-	8	3	11
Hertfordshire & Middlesex Wildlife Trust	20	-	11	31	-	-	4	4
Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust	20	18	-	38	-	16	-	16
Kent Wildlife Trust	23	-	13	36	-	-	3	3
Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust	86	-	6	92	67	-	3	70
Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust	20	-	19	39	1	-	7	8
London Wildlife Trust	86	10	27	123	71	-	6	77
Manx Wildlife Trust	20	-	-	20	-	18	-	18
Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust	20	45	1	66	-	-	-	-
Norfolk Wildlife Trust	20	-	11	31	-	-	6	6
North Wales Wildlife Trust	20	10	4	34	10	-	2	12
Northumberland Wildlife Trust	225	-	4	229	208	-	2	210
Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust	106	-	3	109	72	-	2	74
Radnorshire Wildlife Trust	30	-	-	30	-	-	-	-
Scottish Wildlife Trust	530	(3)	17	544	500	-	9	509
Sheffield Wildlife Trust	106	-	27	133	66	15	1	82
Shropshire Wildlife Trust	20	5	4	29	5	12	20	37
Somerset Wildlife Trust	121	28	6	155	4	-	3	7
Staffordshire Wildlife Trust	20	-	6	26	5	-	3	8
Suffolk Wildlife Trust	20	-	10	30	-	-	4	4
Surrey Wildlife Trust	20	-	11	31	5	-	5	10
Sussex Wildlife Trust	181	-	16	197	-	15	8	23
Tees Valley Wildlife Trust	23	-	1	24	-	-	-	-
The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire	46	-	19	65	5	-	7	12
The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country Ltd	86	23	40	149	66	-	2	68
The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester & North Merseyside	136	-	81	217	116	20	4	140
The Wildlife Trust of South & West Wales	45	61	8	114	30	-	4	34
Ulster Wildlife	20	-	1	21	-	-	-	-
Warwickshire Wildlife Trust	86	-	7	93	66	-	3	69
Wildlife Trusts Wales	200	-	-	200	205	-	-	205
Wiltshire Wildlife Trust	24	20	7	51	1	10	3	14
Worcestershire Wildlife Trust	20	-	6	26	1	-	3	4
Yorkshire Wildlife Trust	434	-	34	468	225	-	8	233
Grants to Non-Trusts Under £25,000	-	-	12	12	-	-	(1)	(1)
Total RSWT grants	3,627	273	634	4,534	1,953	329	181	2,463

Figures in brackets indicate grants previously offered which have been underspent or withdrawn by the Fund

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

29. GRANTS EXPENDITURE (Cont.)

Biffa Award Grants

	2021	2020		2021	2020
	£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000
Association of Independent Museums	-	667	Nedging with Naughton Village Hall and Community Council	70	-
Avon Wildlife Trust	20	-	Newton Hall Community Partnership	-	30
Belbroughton Recreation Centre	33	-	North Wales Wildlife Trust	-	(18)
Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust	34	-	Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust	-	750
Birkenhead Youth Club	-	22	Oulton Institute	75	-
Boston Spa Village Hall	51	-	Pelsall Methodist Church	74	-
Trust	-	(122)	ROPETH	-	16
Cheshire Wildlife Trust	43	-	RSPB	470	-
Clayton Brook Community Church	-	48	Ryde Methodist Church	-	12
Clifford Village Hall	-	75	Scotter War Memorial Playing Fields	70	-
Clifton Campville Village Hall	-	75	Sedlescombe Village Hall	-	43
Cogenhoe & Whiston VHM	41	-	Sheffield Wildlife Trust	-	35
Colliers End Village Hall	15	-	Somerset Wildlife Trust	55	-
Copsale Village Hall	-	75	Spen Valley Civic Society	(5)	-
Creeping St Mary Diamond Jubilee Hall	11	-	St Mark's Church, Stockport	-	15
Crondall Village Hall	75	-	St Mark's Church, Wootton	-	58
Deafness Resource Centre	-	42	St Paul & St Barnabas Parish	-	74
Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	(1)	75	St Pauls, Winchester	-	75
Devon Wildlife Trust	41	-	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust	-	75
Dunston Activity Centre	44	-	Standbridge Community Centre	-	70
Durham Wildlife Trust	75	-	Stourbridge & District Scouts/TSA	-	12
Eccleshall Cricket Club	-	37	Swannington Play Area Ltd	6	58
Essex Wildlife Trust	264	-	Tees Valley Wildlife Trust	-	(1)
Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust	66	(8)	Thatto Heath Crusaders ARLFC	(15)	15
Grange Park Centre	-	13	The Freshwater Biological Association	-	(34)
Hall for Gwinear	-	41	The Sheppey Hall Trust	39	-
Harbury Village Hall	66	-	The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester & North Merseyside	671	111
Hartsholme Community Trust	-	65	The Woodland Trust	550	250
Heads Together Productions	31	-	Trinity Methodist Church & Community Halls	-	52
Henbury Village Hall	41	-	Ulster Wildlife	-	11
Hilton Village Hall	(2)	35	W.I. Community Hall	-	11
Kent Wildlife Trust	-	(2)	Water Orton Methodist Church	-	18
Kenton Methodist Church & Community Centre	-	30	Westhoughton Active Volunteers Enterprise	-	41
Langley Village Hall	-	10	Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust	-	74
Littleworth Community Association	75	-	Wiltshire Wildlife Trust	443	-
Longfield Hall	-	55	Winchester Science Centre & Planetarium	-	292
Loughton Methodist Church	-	52	Winterton Bowling & Recreation Club	75	-
Manor Church and Community Project	-	59	Total Biffa Award grants	3,601	3,489

Figures in brackets indicate grants previously offered which have been underspent or withdrawn by the Fund

Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2021

29. GRANTS EXPENDITURE (Cont.)

Our Bright Future Grants

	2021	2020		2021	2020
	£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000
Avon Wildlife Trust	126	174	RNIB (formerly Action for Blind People)	-	10
Belfast Hills Partnership Trust	92	120	Sense	76	210
Centre for Sustainable Energy	112	223	Shropshire Wildlife Trust	147	140
Cornwall Wildlife Trust	210	225	St Mungo Community Housing Association	117	193
Down to Earth Project	132	174	Students Organising for Sustainability UK	137	85
Falkland Stewardship Trust	136	168	The Learning through Landscapes Trust	-	50
Foundation for Social Entrepreneurs t/a U	143	223	The National Trust	-	287
			The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester		
Friends of the Earth Trust	167	207	& North Merseyside	150	182
Global Feedback Limited	261	50	Ulster Wildlife	177	210
Groundwork London	168	233	UpRising Leadership	101	269
Hill Holt Wood	162	216	vInspired	-	31
Impact Arts (Projects) Ltd	171	235	Wiltshire Wildlife Trust	109	192
Middlesbrough Environment City Trust Ltd	99	196	Women's Technology Training Limited	326	191
North Wales Wildlife Trust	219	194	Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust	115	189
NUS	-	62	Yorkshire Wildlife Trust	124	233
Probe Limited	128	204	Total Our Bright Future grants	3,905	5,376

Nature Friendly Schools

	2021	2020		2021	2020
	£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000
Devon Wildlife Trust	26	9	Shropshire Wildlife Trust	54	24
Essex Wildlife Trust	72	44	The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the		
			Black Country	174	61
Federation of Groundwork Trusts	155	104	The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester		
Field Studies Council	46	21	& North Merseyside	225	145
Sensory Trust	152	97	Yorkshire Wildlife Trust	262	93
			Young Minds Trust	151	14
			Total Nature Friendly Schools grants	1,317	612

Red Squirrels United - SciriousLIFE

	2021	2020		2021	2020
	£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000
Forestry Commission Research Agency	-	32	The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester		
Newcastle University	-	40	& North Merseyside	-	30
Northumberland Wildlife Trust	-	28	The Wildlife Trust of South & West Wales	-	10
Red Squirrels Trust Wales	-	109	Ulster Wildlife Trust	-	94
			Total Red Squirrels United - SciriousLIFE	-	343

Figures in brackets indicate grants previously offered which have been underspent or withdrawn by the Fund