Northumberland
Wildlife Trust



2025 - 2026

Annual report and accounts

















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A message from our Chair and Chief Executive



Nigel Porter
Chair of Trustees



Mike Pratt
Chief Executive

This has been a transformative year for Northumberland Wildlife Trust. We have grown our impact, influence and ambition, strengthening our role in leading nature's recovery north of the Tyne and delivering benefits for both people and wildlife. As a result, the Trust is better placed than ever to build on this momentum in the years ahead.

There is a risk that partnering with the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT) with the extraordinary ambition of purchasing The Rothbury Estate, overshadows the remarkable developments in many other areas of Northumberland Wildlife Trust's activity. And that includes the great work being done in helping engage an increasingly large number of communities with nature across Northumberland, Newcastle and North Tyneside.

So, it is important to recognise, alongside the ambition for The Rothbury Estate, the dramatic increase in Northumberland Wildlife Trust's impact on under-served communities. This includes young people unfamiliar with the natural environment and isolated groups of people, who have all benefitted enormously through the expansion of our community work.

Northumberland Wildlife Trust's staff have continued to strengthen their impact on nature's recovery. This is reflected, among many other examples, in the extensive peat survey work undertaken; the continued wilding of the large nature reserve at Whitelee; continued species reintroductions; the building of partnerships with Northumberland County Council and the other northern Wildlife Trusts; and the development of the idea of a Wilder Northumberland through the Simonside Connects partnership and the promotion of the vision of a 'Corridor for Nature', stretching from Druridge Bay, through National Trust land at Wallington and Cragside, The Rothbury Estate and neighbouring Hepple Estate, leading all the way up to Kielder.

It's also important to recognise the increasing professionalism of the internal arrangements developed within Northumberland Wildlife Trust over the last year. Expanding from 44 staff to 104 staff (as of October 2026) over a three-year period demands improved internal systems and more systematic organisation: these include improved financial controls; tighter processes covering areas like safeguarding, health and safety, and a demand for higher standards of equality, diversity and inclusion. Thanks to the work of key staff within the organisation, high standards of professionalism are being achieved, some of this is reflected in the positive financial audit.

Our ability to communicate effectively has also been strengthened by new appointments and new investments: unless we can get a strong message across to the public north of the Tyne in support of nature's recovery, the progress being made on the ground risks being weakened over time.

Finally, we're close to celebrating the fantastic achievement of successfully completing the purchase of The Rothbury Estate: the largest single land sale in England for over 30 years. Through the tremendous work of RSWT and Northumberland Wildlife Trust staff, working in partnership, this iconic area of land will be secured for the Wildlife Trusts' movement, for the public and for nature.

The opportunities for future exciting developments, including wildlife-friendly farming; the expansion of public access across the iconic Simonside Hills and the unique archaeological sites; the creation of a cycle way and footpath along the old railway line; the rapid expansion of wildlife across the whole area; and the offering of educational opportunities, are all there to be grasped over the next few years.

And in that way, we will be properly recognising the generosity of the 25,000+ members of the public who donated to the fundraising appeal, along with the major donors who gave us their trust by making large individual donations. It's up to us to demonstrate that their trust in us to fully restore and connect nature on an unprecedented scale on The Rothbury Estate is well placed.

Short-eared owls can be seen hunting across The Rothbury Estate

Trustees' report

Who we are

Northumberland Wildlife Trust is the region's leading nature charity, working to reverse wildlife decline and recover nature at scale across Northumberland, Newcastle and North Tyneside. Through practical conservation, partnership working, community engagement and collaboration, we are creating bigger, better and more connected habitats, helping people experience the benefits of nature and building a future where people and wildlife can thrive together as we tackle the nature and climate crises.

Northumberland Wildlife Trust is part of The Wildlife Trusts federation, a grassroots movement of people from all backgrounds that believe that we need nature and nature needs us. We are one of 46 independent, place-based Wildlife Trusts working across the UK, Alderney and Isle of Man, alongside the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts, the federation's central charity.

Our purpose

We create and protect wildlife-rich landscapes and seas, inspire people to value nature and lead nature's recovery across Northumberland, Newcastle and North Tyneside.

We achieve this by working towards three strategic objectives:

1. **Leading nature's recovery:** to include nature reserve management and conservation projects regionally
2. **Inspiring people and organisations to care and mobilising them to act:** to include partnership working, advocacy and education, community engagement and organising activity
3. **Ensuring an agile green culture and sustainable Wildlife Trust:** to include getting our own house in order and building organisational resilience

These objectives are underpinned by our values: Passionate, Visionary, Inspirational, Effective and Acting with Integrity.

Public benefit statement

The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when exercising their powers and duties. Northumberland Wildlife Trust exists to protect and restore wildlife and wild places across Northumberland, Newcastle and North Tyneside, and to help people connect with and take action for nature. The activities and achievements described throughout this report demonstrate how we have delivered these public benefits during the year.

Our strategy and business plan

Our *Wilder Northumberland* strategy, launched in 2020, set out our vision for nature's recovery to 2030. As we approach the latter half of that journey, we have reflected on the significant changes in the operating environment and the opportunities emerging for nature recovery across the region.

To ensure our future direction is informed by the widest possible range of perspectives, we have extended our strategic review and are engaging staff, supporters, partners and other stakeholders in shaping the next phase of Northumberland Wildlife Trust's development. The refreshed strategy will be launched in spring 2027 and will align with the ambitions of The Wildlife Trusts' *Bringing Nature Back: Strategy 2030*.

Priorities emerging through this work include strengthening our role in marine conservation, particularly through citizen science; becoming a more data-led organisation, including overseeing the development of a regional State of Nature report; supporting nature recovery at scale across land and sea; and preparing to deliver the long-term vision for The Rothbury Estate following its acquisition and an unprecedented period of fundraising and project development.

Our vision

A wilder future for Northumberland, Newcastle and North Tyneside.

In practice, this means a thriving natural world in North East England, where local people are taking action for nature's recovery and benefitting from a healthy environment.



Goal 1

Leading nature's recovery

Angus Lunn

Northumberland Wildlife Trust was saddened by the loss of Dr Angus Lunn MBE, one of our founders, Vice President and a tireless champion for Northumberland's wildlife. His vision and leadership helped secure protection for the internationally important Border Mires (as pictured) and shaped nature conservation across the county for more than five decades. His legacy remains visible in many of the landscapes we continue to restore and protect today.



Northumberland Wildlife Trust continued to deliver nature recovery at scale across land, freshwater and peatland habitats, while helping to shape a wilder Northumberland across the region.

A major milestone was the publication of the North of Tyne Local Nature Recovery Strategy, which Northumberland Wildlife Trust made a significant contribution to through our involvement in the steering and technical groups that developed it. We also strengthened our resources to better support land managers and farmers through the expansion of the Wilder Northumberland network, which now includes 27 members managing more than 30,000 hectares of land. Through advisory visits, events and a new Farm Liaison Officer post, we are helping create a connected landscape for wildlife stretching from Kielder to the coast.

Our work to bring back species continued to deliver encouraging results. Surveys confirmed that water voles reintroduced around Kielder are dispersing successfully into surrounding habitats, while populations in the North Pennines remain strong. During the year, we published the North East Water Vole Recovery Strategy and began developing a county-wide action plan to guide future recovery efforts. These plans are helping lay the foundations for large-scale mink (a non-native animal that predates on water voles) control programmes that will benefit one of the UK's fastest declining mammals.

There was also exceptional news for red squirrel conservation. After securing £4.86 million from the National Lottery Heritage Fund in March 2025 for the Red Squirrel Recovery Network, work began on creating a five-year programme across northern England and southern Scotland. The project will coordinate nature recovery action across an unprecedented landscape scale and support more than 50 volunteer groups working to secure the future of this iconic species.

Across our nature reserves and wider estate, restoration and habitat improvement continue at pace. At Druridge Bay, the Biodiversity Boost project, funded by Defra and National Lottery Heritage Fund's Species Survival Fund, delivered significant habitat improvements including woodland restructuring, river restoration, meadow creation, access improvements and the planting of 10,000 trees to create new wildlife corridors.

Our Estates team continued to improve habitats and visitor infrastructure across the nature reserve network. Highlights included extensive footpath improvements at Northumberlandia, new bird boxes across multiple nature reserves, invasive species control at sites including Annstead Dunes, peatland monitoring at Whitelee and the successful introduction of a biological control trial for Himalayan balsam at Fencerhill Woods.

The Northumberland Peat Partnership completed restoration work across 245 hectares at Moss Peteral and advanced plans for future peatland projects at Cauldhole Moss on The Rothbury Estate, Prestwick Carr and elsewhere.

Working with The Wildlife Trusts nationally, the joint endeavour to purchase The Rothbury Estate provides one of the most exciting landscape-scale nature recovery opportunities not only in the region, but in England. With part of The Estate now in Wildlife Trust ownership whilst funds are raised to purchase the rest, there has been a focus on ecological surveys to create a baseline understanding of wildlife on site, planning for peatland restoration, wildlife-friendly farm management, community engagement and a start made on building relationships and partnerships with neighbouring landowners and organisations. New wildlife discoveries, including previously unrecorded colonies of small pearl-bordered fritillary and the rediscovery of frog orchid, highlighted the ecological importance of the landscape and reinforced the long-term potential of The Rothbury Estate.



Goal 2

Inspiring people to care and act



Young People's Forum member

"I wanted to be more active and contribute more directly within my local community, and Northumberland Wildlife Trust's Championing Nature event provided this opportunity.

The event was so welcoming and inclusive, offering new knowledge on identifying trees, rewilding our local area and meeting like-minded young people. Through this, I was supported and directed to join the Young People's Forum, to continue an active involvement and participation in events and projects that the Trust conducts.

It has been an amazing opportunity, allowing me to continue being involved with events, meeting other young people and supporting my local community through conservation work. I was given a space to execute my own thoughts and ideas, and I also represented the Trust at the UK Youth for Nature event, giving a speech about my passion for tackling environmental crimes. Without the Trust's support, I wouldn't have had these opportunities to continue getting involved and being active in nature, making an impactful change within the North East.

Connecting people with nature remained central to our mission, with thousands of people of all ages and backgrounds engaging with Northumberland Wildlife Trust throughout the year.

The first year of our Championing Nature programme, funded by Wimbledon and Emirates, exceeded expectations, engaging 6,880 participants across Newcastle and North Tyneside, including 2,689 children and young people. Feedback following events demonstrated the transformative impact of nature connection, with 85% of participants reporting a better connection to nature and an improvement to their well-being. Almost all participants reported enjoying the opportunity and feeling welcomed and included, reflecting the programme's focus on removing barriers to participation, particularly within under-served communities.

A particular highlight of the Championing Nature programme was the innovative Lloyd of the Flies augmented reality trail at Northumberlandia through the summer holidays. This attracted more than 3,100 visitors to explore nature through storytelling and technology. Thousands more participants took part in our family-focused celebration events, while targeted work with schools, young people and community organisations enabled us to reach audiences who may otherwise have limited opportunities to experience nature.

Our education programme continues to create meaningful opportunities for children and young people. School partnerships enabled hundreds of pupils to experience Northumberland's wildlife and green spaces, often for the first time. Through funded transport and tailored support, we worked with schools facing significant social and economic barriers, helping children build confidence, develop new skills and experience the benefits of learning outdoors.

Young people have played an increasing role in shaping our work. Through consultation with over 180 young people, we developed a programme centred around well-being, green skills and careers, practical action and opportunities to connect with like-minded peers. These insights are helping us create activities that are relevant, inclusive and meaningful for the next generation of environmental leaders.

Northumberland Wildlife Trust delivered more than 400 public events throughout the year, attracting over 20,000 attendees. Highlights included The Big Wild Weekend, Osprey Watch at Kielder Water, seasonal family activities at Northumberlandia and Weetslade, dark skies events at Hauxley, outdoor performances and guided wildlife experiences across the region.

Our visitor centres and nature reserves continued to provide welcoming gateways to nature. Northumberlandia welcomed more than 135,000 visitors, while Hauxley attracted over 80,000 visitors. We also hosted our first Nature for Health Fair, bringing together 192 attendees to explore the links between nature, health and well-being.

Volunteers remain one of the Trust's greatest strengths. Volunteers supported practical conservation, wildlife surveys, visitor engagement, citizen science and community outreach programmes across the region. Demand for volunteering opportunities remained exceptionally high throughout the year, demonstrating the growing appetite for people to actively contribute to nature's recovery.

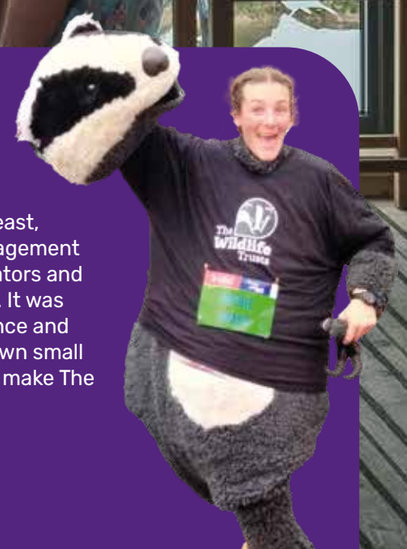
The annual VolFest celebration brought together around 50 volunteers and more than 20 staff members to celebrate volunteer achievements and recognise their extraordinary contribution to Northumberland Wildlife Trust's work. Volunteer feedback consistently highlighted the personal benefits of participation, including learning new skills, spending time in nature and contributing to meaningful action for wildlife.

Our communications and marketing activity helped bring wildlife to wider audiences than ever before. From The Rothbury Estate Appeal and supporting film from Sir David Attenborough, to golden eagle sightings, species recovery stories and community action, the Trust has featured regularly across local and national media. Our supporter newsletters continued to achieve engagement rates significantly above sector averages, whilst our growing digital channels helped us reach new and more diverse audiences.

Goal 3

Ensure a sustainable, agile and green culture

Raising money for Northumberland Wildlife Trust



I was really inspired by the ambitious fundraising appeal and the huge collective effort to secure The Rothbury Estate, so decided to take part in the Great North Run 2025 dressed as The Wildlife Trusts' badger!

I wanted to make my own small but personal contribution to the campaign and help support the fundraising efforts. I, or the badger at least, received incredible encouragement from fellow runners, spectators and supporters along the route. It was such a memorable experience and a real privilege to play my own small part in hopefully helping to make The Rothbury Estate a reality.

Sophie Bulgin

This year we continued to strengthen the organisation's resilience, ensuring we are well placed to deliver our ambitions for nature and people in the years ahead.

Delivering nature's recovery at the scale required will depend on securing diverse and sustainable sources of funding. During 2025-26, we continued to strengthen the Trust's financial resilience, generating total income of circa £5.64 million while maintaining a strong balance sheet with total funds of circa £11.19 million at year end. This financial stability provides an important foundation for investing in the long-term management of our nature reserves, delivering conservation and community projects and responding to emerging opportunities for nature recovery.

Alongside traditional sources of support from members, donors, grant-makers and commercial activities, we continued to develop new approaches to financing environmental outcomes. Work progressed on establishing our first Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Habitat Bank, including collaboration with Northumberland County Council to agree a habitat management and monitoring plan and secure the necessary legal agreements. This work creates the potential for long-term income streams linked directly to habitat creation and enhancement. We believe responsibly designed nature markets can play an important role in attracting private investment into conservation, helping to secure lasting benefits for wildlife while complementing, rather than replacing, public and philanthropic funding.

Our financial performance during the year reflected both continued investment in conservation delivery and prudent financial stewardship. Income from donations, legacies and charitable activities remained strong, while careful management of resources enabled the Trust to end the year with an overall moderate increase in funds of £149,503. We also continued to monitor wider environmental, regulatory and market developments to ensure that future funding opportunities are aligned with our charitable objectives and deliver genuine benefits for nature and local communities.

Recognising that environmental leadership extends beyond our conservation work, we are also measuring and monitoring our organisational carbon footprint and contributing to a federation-wide assessment of carbon performance across The Wildlife Trusts. This work will help inform our future emissions reduction plans and supports the movement's shared ambition to achieve net zero by 2030.

Meanwhile, throughout the year, we continued to invest in our people, volunteers and systems. New initiatives were introduced to improve volunteer retention, including learning events, networking opportunities and additional support for new starters. Staff well-being remained a focus, with ongoing participation in the Better Health at Work scheme and progression towards Gold Award status.

We continued to modernise our internal systems through the rollout of Smartlog, our integrated health, safety and facilities management platform. This has improved compliance, streamlined record keeping and strengthened oversight across the organisation. Health and safety performance remained strong, with no major accidents reported during the year.

Our visitor-facing operations also continued to evolve. Both the Lookout Café at Hauxley and Lady of the North Café at Northumberlandia maintained five-star hygiene ratings while expanding seasonal offers, improving visitor experiences and showcasing local suppliers. These facilities play an important role in generating income, enhancing visitor experiences and demonstrating Northumberland Wildlife Trust's commitment to supporting local businesses and sustainable products.

Across the organisation, teams continued to adapt and collaborate in new ways. Flexible working arrangements strengthened cross team partnerships, while increased collaboration with The Wildlife Trusts' movement helped us operate more efficiently and maintain a strong focus on our mission.

As we look ahead, Northumberland Wildlife Trust is in a strong position. Major new funding awards, growing public engagement, an expanding volunteer community and ambitious landscape-scale projects are helping us build a more resilient organisation capable of delivering lasting benefits for wildlife, people and the natural environment.

Our year in numbers



Charitable activities	£2,253,471	40%
Donations and legacies	£1,570,213	29%
Subsidiary trading	£1,191,801	21%
Visitor trading and similar	£594,777	10%
Other	£27,315	<1%



Charitable activities	£3,717,771	67%
Subsidiary trading	£1,073,512	20%
Cost of raising funds	£551,931	10%
Café and visitor centre trading	£187,458	3%



83p in every **£1** was spent on charitable activity

(excludes subsidiary company)

Nature recovery in action

11,991 trees planted across the region

2,500 metres of new hedgerow created

£4.86 million being invested in red squirrel recovery



Nature and well-being

1,850 people supported through Nature for Health programmes

100% Nature for Health participants reported a positive impact on their mood and mental health

30 Mental Health First Aiders supporting staff well-being



Bringing people and nature together

16,417 people engaged through our Communities and Nature programmes

142 community groups, schools and partner organisations supported

120 young people empowered through our Eco Influencers programme

20,000+ people attended more than 400 nature-themed events



Powered by volunteers

439 active volunteers helped drive nature's recovery

114 new volunteers joined Northumberland Wildlife Trust

25,973 volunteer hours donated



Speaking out for nature

46 television appearances and 65 radio interviews

1,450+ online media stories

325+ print media articles



Welcoming spaces

4,400+ visitors welcomed to Osprey Watch

16% increase in visitors to Lady of the North café at Northumberlandia

29,237 scones baked across our cafés



Equality, diversity and inclusion

We believe nature is for everyone.

To achieve our aims for nature's recovery, we must ensure that our sector is welcoming, inclusive and accessible, removing barriers to enable more people to connect with nature, benefit from healthy natural places and take action for wildlife.

During 2025/26, Northumberland Wildlife Trust continued to embed equality, diversity and inclusion across our governance, staffing and programmes through our commitment to The Wildlife Trusts' *Wild About Inclusion* framework.



Building a more inclusive organisation

We continued to strengthen diversity and representation within our leadership and decision-making. Our Young People's Forum, made up of nine young people aged 16-24 from across the region, played an active role in supporting campaigns, developing projects and representing us at national events.

In March 2026, we co-opted two young trustees, helping to bring fresh perspectives to our Trustee Board discussions and strengthen youth representation within our governance. To support this process, we worked with Connected Voice to provide trustee training to 22 young people, building the skills and confidence needed to take on governance roles.

We also became a Disability Confident Committed employer and continued to improve accessibility for staff through initiatives including Accessibility Passports, workplace adjustments, staff training and well-being support.

Creating opportunities

In the last year, we have hosted two long-term trainees and placements, and two short-term work experience students from a range of diverse backgrounds to provide experience and opportunities to people who might not have had access to a career or been able to progress their career in the environmental sector. Throughout these placements, we saw these individuals gain in self-confidence and pick up real world work experience, whilst extending their knowledge and transferable skills.

> I have enjoyed every bit of my placement and learned more than I thought! In the future I would be very interested to gain employment here as it was such a great experience, a very welcoming environment and it helped me leave my shell and gained me more confidence.
>
> **James**, *3-month trainee*

Expanding access to nature

Many people face barriers to accessing nature and environmental opportunities. Through our community engagement work, we focused activity in areas of greatest need, with 43% of sessions taking place in communities facing the greatest economic and social challenges and 67% in areas ranked among the 50% most disadvantaged areas nationally.

Our programmes continued to engage people who are often underrepresented in environmental activities. Through our Championing Nature programme, 27% of participants identified as living with a disability and 23% came from global majority communities (people of African, Asian, Indigenous, Latin American or mixed heritage backgrounds), while 100% reported feeling welcome and included. Our Eco Influencers programme connected 120 young people with nature and environmental action, including participants from special educational needs, LGBTQ+ and ethnically diverse backgrounds.

We worked alongside a wide range of partners, including SEND schools, young carers, LGBTQ+ youth groups, faith organisations and groups supporting disabled people; adapting activities to meet participants' needs and reduce barriers to participation.

A particular highlight was our wildlife gardening course in Arthur's Hill, Newcastle, which brought together 31 participants from diverse backgrounds, including people with refugee status, wheelchair users, multilingual learners and those experiencing health challenges. The programme improved well-being, strengthened community connections and inspired ongoing action for nature through volunteering and community-led projects.

Creating accessible experiences

We continued to improve accessibility across our sites, communications and digital platforms, whilst acknowledging we've still got a way to go. Following an accessibility audit of our headquarters in Gosforth, a range of improvements were completed, including enhanced accessible parking, upgraded handrails and improvements to accessible facilities.

Our 'digital nature reserve' at Hauxley also continued to provide an alternative way for people to experience wildlife remotely, attracting thousands of visitors since launch and helping overcome some of the barriers associated with accessing nature reserves in person. We are looking to repeat this for more of our popular sites. We also installed a new accessible ramp to the bird hide at Cresswell Pond, helping more visitors to enjoy one of the region's premier wildlife-watching locations.

Looking ahead

During the year, we commissioned an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion audit through The Wildlife Trusts. The recommendations are now informing a refreshed action plan, with priorities including improving diversity monitoring, strengthening inclusive recruitment, making more improvements to accessibility across our nature reserves and digital channels, embedding anti-racist practice and ensuring all our activities are designed with inclusion at heart.

We know that creating a truly inclusive nature movement is a long-term commitment. By listening, learning and working alongside our communities, we will continue to break down barriers and ensure that more people can experience, value and take action for nature.

Our highlights

APRIL

We launched **Championing Nature**, a six-year programme helping people in Newcastle and North Tyneside connect with nature close to home. Funded by Wimbledon and Emirates, the ambitious initiative will create more opportunities for communities to access, enjoy and benefit from the natural world.

MAY

Supporters of the **Wilder Whitelee** appeal helped fund annual wildlife surveys at Whitelee Moor, one of England's most important peatland landscapes. An early morning survey in May recorded a wealth of birdlife, including encouraging signs for whinchat populations, helping shape future conservation management decisions.

JUNE

Families shrank to insect size at Northumberlandia as we teamed up with Aardman and the Royal Entomological Society to bring **Lloyd of the Flies** to life. The interactive augmented reality trail inspired visitors to discover the fascinating world of insects and the important role they play in the natural world.

JULY

Thanks to the ongoing collaboration between Northumberland Wildlife Trust, Northumbrian Water, Forestry England, Kielder Water and Forest Park Development Trust and Wild Intrigue even more people were able to follow the fortunes of nesting ospreys in Kielder with the installation of a live webcam. Meanwhile **Osprey Watch** at Tower Knowe continued to captivate visitors, with more than 4,400 people experiencing the wonder of these remarkable birds firsthand.

Our highlights

AUGUST

New research from the **Missing Lynx Project** revealed strong public support for lynx reintroduction across northern England and the Scottish Borders, following extensive consultation in the region. The findings from this partnership project marked an important step in understanding how people view the potential return of this long-lost native species.

SEPTEMBER

The **Ponteland Wildlife Group** celebrated its 50th anniversary, marking five decades of bringing people together to enjoy and learn about nature. To commemorate the milestone, members of the local group presented Northumberland Wildlife Trust with a £1,000 donation raised through their hugely popular talks programme.

OCTOBER

A major boost for nature came with the announcement of £95,000 in funding from BT in partnership with the Ministry of Justice, to deliver an ambitious plan to restore habitats and improve visitor facilities at the two popular nature reserves of **St Nicholas Park** and **Holywell Pond**, as well as train volunteers in the art of traditional hedge laying.

NOVEMBER

Nature recovery on the part of **The Rothbury Estate** that is already under Wildlife Trust ownership took another step forward with the expansion of the livestock team. By retaining experienced staff who transferred when parts of the Estate came under Wildlife Trust management, we're combining generations of local farming knowledge with a long-term vision to create a richer landscape for both wildlife and people.

Our highlights

DECEMBER

A year of pioneering a new inclusive wildlife gardening course culminated in recognition for Community Organising Officer, Leo Hargreaves, who received the prestigious **Marsh Award of Innovation**. The award celebrated their work for helping more people create spaces where both wildlife and communities can thrive.

JANUARY

Druridge Bay celebrated a successful start of the year with improved access and outstanding wildlife. Visitors welcomed the replacement of the ageing access ramp to the bird hide at Cresswell Pond, while nearby Hauxley Wildlife Discovery Centre recorded an impressive 157 bird species during 2025, underlining the area's importance as one of the region's premier wildlife destinations.

FEBRUARY

The **Northumberland Peat Partnership** began restoration work on important peatland habitat in the headwaters of the River Blyth. Supported by Environment Agency funding, the project will help lock up carbon, improve water quality and create healthier habitats for wildlife.

MARCH

Celebrations were in order as the fundraising appeal to secure the entirety of the historic Rothbury Estate received a **£5 million boost** from The National Lottery Heritage Fund. Passing the halfway point of the £30 million target, the ambition to create a landscape where nature, farming, heritage and people can thrive together got a little closer to becoming a reality.

Looking ahead

As we enter the final year of our current strategic period, we do so from a position of strength and renewed ambition. The year ahead will be an important one for Northumberland Wildlife Trust as we continue to recover nature at scale, inspire people to take action and build the foundations for our next five-year strategy. Drawing on the themes emerging through the development of that strategy, we will be focusing on becoming an even more effective, evidence-led organisation while continuing to deliver meaningful change for wildlife and communities across Northumberland, Newcastle and North Tyneside.

A key priority will be strengthening how we collect, manage and use data across the Wildlife Trust. By improving our digital and evidence capabilities, we will be better placed to understand our impact, make informed decisions and demonstrate the difference our work is making. This will include doing the groundwork in developing the first State of Nature report for Northumberland, Newcastle and North Tyneside, providing an important benchmark for monitoring nature's recovery in our region.

Once completed, the acquisition of The Rothbury Estate will mark the beginning of an exciting new chapter. Working alongside local communities, land managers, partners and stakeholders, we will begin turning a shared vision into reality, creating a nationally significant landscape where nature, climate and people can thrive together. The Estate will also sit at the heart of our ambition to develop a connected nature corridor, stretching from Kielder to the coast at Druridge Bay, improving habitat connectivity and strengthening partnerships across one of England's most important landscapes for nature recovery. This long-term vision will help wildlife move more freely through the landscape, building resilience, while delivering benefits for communities across the region.

Protecting and restoring priority species will remain central to our work. During the coming year we will begin implementing our Water Vole Recovery Strategy, while continuing to work with partners to strengthen populations of this threatened species across the region. We will also continue to play an active role in community and stakeholder engagement around the potential reintroduction of lynx, ensuring discussions are informed by evidence, local perspectives and ecological considerations.

Achieving nature's recovery at the scale required will depend on working beyond the boundaries of our own nature reserves. We will work to strengthen relationships with farmers and land managers across Northumberland, supporting the delivery of wildlife-friendly farming that benefits both nature and sustainable food production. By sharing knowledge, developing partnerships and helping unlock opportunities for nature-positive land management, we aim to play a leading role in restoring wildlife across the region.

We will continue to invest in people as a vital part of nature's recovery. In particular, through the Championing Nature programme, more young people in Newcastle and North Tyneside will have opportunities to develop skills, build confidence and take positive action for the environment. Across all our work, we want to create more opportunities for people to participate in, contribute to and lead action for nature.

We are also keen to strengthen our work at sea and along the coast, including exploring the development of a new marine citizen science programme that will enable local people to play a direct role in gathering valuable information about our marine environment and supporting its recovery. This builds on a wider ambition to create a more coherent approach to nature recovery across land, coast and sea.

Alongside these conservation and engagement priorities, we will continue to develop new and sustainable sources of income. A major milestone will be the sale of our first Biodiversity Net Gain units, helping to secure long-term investment in habitat creation and management, while supporting wider nature recovery ambitions across the region.

Looking further ahead, the year will also see the completion of our new strategy, which will launch in Spring 2027. It will build on the success of recent years while bringing greater focus to three long-term ambitions:

- Connecting nature recovery on land and sea
- Enabling more people to act for nature and influencing change across society
- Continuing to develop a stronger, more evidence-led and financially resilient organisation.



Principal risks and uncertainties

The trustees and Senior Leaders Team regularly review the risks facing Northumberland Wildlife Trust through a comprehensive risk management framework. The principal risks identified include:

- Changes to UK Government policy and the regulatory environment
- The impacts of climate change, severe weather and disease outbreaks on wildlife and our operations
- Economic uncertainty affecting funding and income generation
- Ensuring sufficient evidence and data to support decision-making
- Maintaining public trust and confidence in our work

Appropriate mitigation measures are in place for all significant risks and the trustees are satisfied that these are actively monitored and managed throughout the year.

These mitigation measures include developing a data-centric team to develop and standardise our evidence base; responding to opportunities to further support nature recovery networks to provide resilience and mitigate impacts of the climate and nature crises; investing in our communications and ensuring we are true to our values of being an open and honest organisation; and seeking diverse funding sources to avoid reliance on a single or limited number of funders.

Governance and organisational information

Governing document

Northumberland Wildlife Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

Trading subsidiaries

Northumberland Wildlife Trust has two subsidiary companies: EcoNorth Limited (ECN) and Northumberland Wildlife Enterprises Limited (NWE).

ECN is governed by a Board of Directors on which at least one trustee represents Northumberland Wildlife Trust's interests. The managing director reports to Northumberland Wildlife Trust's Chief Executive officer.

The individual company accounts for both of the subsidiary companies are filed annually with Companies House.

In this report, the accounts include the income, expenditure, assets and liabilities of the charity and both subsidiaries whenever the statements are referred to as 'consolidated' or 'group'.

Organisational structure and decision-making

Northumberland Wildlife Trust is governed by the Board of Trustees (Council), who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law. A list of trustees who served during the financial year is shown on page 59. Delegated authorities are set out in the Trust's governance framework.

Council delegates the responsibility for day-to-day management of Northumberland Wildlife Trust and the delivery of its strategy to the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive is required to consult trustees as appropriate and to provide regular reports on key decisions, material developments and organisational performance. A particular focus during the year was the proposed acquisition of The Rothbury Estate, with Council providing oversight of the associated strategic, financial and governance considerations. Matters requiring specific reporting include:

- New strategic projects and partnerships
- Significant budget variance or financial issues
- Matters with the potential to affect Northumberland Wildlife Trust's reputation

Council meets four times a year and operates to an annual forward plan. Agendas are agreed with the Chair of the Council in advance of each meeting and are supported by written reports from staff. Standing agenda items include strategic business matters, financial performance and management accounts, policy updates, risk management and operational activity reports.

A register of interests is maintained and reviewed annually. In addition, each Council meeting includes the opportunity for trustees to declare any actual or potential conflicts of interest relevant to the business being discussed.

A committee structure supports Council in the discharge of its responsibilities. The Finance and Risk Committee (FRC) has delegated authority for overseeing the effectiveness of Northumberland Wildlife Trust's financial systems and controls, and ensuring that risks are appropriately identified, managed, mitigated and reported. The FRC meets quarterly and is chaired by the Treasurer.

The Nature Recovery Committee (NRC) has delegated authority for ensuring Northumberland Wildlife Trust's resources and activities are directed as effectively as possible towards securing nature's recovery across Northumberland, Newcastle and North Tyneside.

The Governance and Compliance Committee (GCC) has delegated authority for overseeing governance, corporate responsibility and regulatory compliance. The committee provides oversight of key policy areas including equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI), health and safety, employment, safeguarding, data protection and complaints.

Informal groups also operate to enable more detailed discussion and development of issues before matters are considered by formal committees or Council. Examples include the EDI group and well-being working group.

During the coming year, additional trustee and staff working sessions will be held to support discussions around future priorities and areas of focus as Northumberland Wildlife Trust reviews and develops its next strategy.

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report, including the strategic report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the group, and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles set out in the Charities SORP (FRS 102)
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the group will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the transactions of both the group and the charitable company and to disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, their financial position. These records must also enable the trustees to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the group and the charitable company and for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Trustee appointments

Trustees may be elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) or appointed by Council through co-option. Elected trustees may serve for a maximum of nine years and are required to stand for re-election every three years. Co-opted trustees may serve for a maximum period of three years.

All trustees share the same duties and responsibilities, regardless of their route of appointment. The Board must comprise no fewer than eight and no more than twelve elected trustees, with up to four additional co-opted trustees permitted.

Trustees may claim reasonable travel and other out-of-pocket expenses incurred in carrying out their duties, but no trustee receives remuneration for services provided to the charity.

Trustee recruitment and selection is overseen by the Governance and Compliance Committee and approved by Council. Prospective trustees are asked to complete a skills assessment, which is considered alongside the Board's identified skills and experience needs. Candidates also meet with the Chair and Chief Executive as part of the appointment process.

Northumberland Wildlife Trust advertise trustee vacancies openly and seek specific expertise where required. In making appointments, consideration is also given to maintaining a diverse and inclusive Board that reflects the communities Northumberland Wildlife Trust serves.

Trustee induction and training

New trustees receive a comprehensive induction pack before attending their first meeting. This includes Northumberland Wildlife Trust's governing documents, recent Council minutes, the latest Annual Report and Accounts and other information relevant to their role.

Shortly after appointment, trustees are invited to attend an induction session with the Chair and senior staff. They are also encouraged to meet informally with a longer-serving trustee during the first few months to support their understanding of the organisation and governance responsibilities. The Chair holds an informal review discussion with each new trustee after approximately six months.

All trustees are required to complete a programme of mandatory induction training, including safeguarding and anti-money laundering awareness, with additional training provided as required throughout their tenure.

Council and senior staff also participate in an annual strategy and development session. These meetings provide an opportunity for more detailed consideration of key strategic issues than is typically possible at routine Council meetings, while also enabling trustees to visit Trust sites and projects and gain a deeper understanding of the organisation's work.

Financial reserves policy

Northumberland Wildlife Trust's reserve policy is to maintain sufficient financial resources to support its ongoing operations and meet expenditure commitments on projects where grant funding is received in arrears. The trustees review reserve levels regularly to ensure the Trust can continue to

deliver its charitable objectives, manage financial risks and respond to unforeseen circumstance while maintaining financial resilience.

The trustees have determined that unrestricted free reserves should be maintained at a level equivalent to a minimum of six months' non-project operating expenditure. This level is considered appropriate given the nature of the Trust's activities, the timing differences that can arise between project expenditure and grant income, and the need to respond to opportunities and challenges for nature's recovery.

At 31 March 2026, the Trust held total funds of £11.19 million (2025: £11.04 million), comprising unrestricted funds of £8.05 million (2025: £8.06 million) and restricted funds of £3.13 million (2025: £2.98 million). Restricted funds are held for specific purposes determined by donors and funders and are therefore not available for the general purposes of the Trust. These include externally funded conservation, engagement and species recovery projects such as the Red Squirrel Recovery Network and other programmes supported through grant funding.

Of the unrestricted funds held, £2.83 million relates to the revaluation reserve and £157,000 is held in designated funds. After excluding restricted funds and amounts not available for general expenditure, the Trust's free reserves at 31 March 2026 were £47,142, which is below the target reserve level of £900,000. However, the realisable liquid funds of £199,000 at the year end represent around 1 months worth of anticipated non project related running costs, due to loans of £817,000 being included within creditors due within one year relating to the acquisition of Earsdon West Forest. In April 2026, further long term funding was received to repay these short term loans, repayable once BNG sales materialise, therefore increasing realisable liquid funds and free reserves back to a level closer to 6 months worth of anticipated non project related running costs in April 2026. The trustees are satisfied with the year end reserves position, which is purely due to timing of events over the year end.

Information on fundraising practices

Northumberland Wildlife Trust is committed to fundraising in a respectful, ethical and transparent manner. The support of our members, donors and volunteers enables us to champion wildlife and wild places, inspire people to take action for nature and help create a more sustainable future for our region.

Northumberland Wildlife Trust is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and is committed to ensuring that its fundraising is legal, open and honest.

We adhere to standards set out in the Code of Fundraising Practice. During the year, no complaints were received from members of the public regarding our fundraising activities. A complaints procedure is in place and is publicly accessible.

The Trust employs face-to-face fundraisers at its nature reserves and at selected events, fairs and shows, but does not undertake street fundraising. We also engage a specialist agency to undertake supporter welcome and satisfaction calls and require them to comply with the Code of Fundraising Practice and our own standards and expectations.

We are committed to treating all supporters fairly and with respect, including those who may be in vulnerable circumstances or require additional support to make an informed decision about giving. Quality assurance and compliance checks are carried out periodically, including in-person observations and the monitoring of telephone calls, to ensure high standards are maintained.

Pay and remuneration

Northumberland Wildlife Trust operates a job evaluation framework that places all roles, including that of the Chief Executive, within one of seven salary bands. New employees are normally appointed at the minimum point of the relevant pay band and progress through up to four annual incremental stages, subject to performance and organisational policy.

Trustees review and approve annual pay awards, taking account of inflation, sector benchmarking and the financial position of the Trust. During the year the total remuneration paid to the senior management team was £243,988. One employee received remuneration in excess of £60,000 and the highest salary in the Trust was 3.4 times larger than the lowest salary.

Northumberland Wildlife Trust contributes to employees' pension arrangements through a defined contribution scheme and has no defined benefit pension liabilities.

Equality, diversity and inclusion

Northumberland Wildlife Trust is committed to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion across its governance, employment practices and charitable activities. The Board recognises its responsibility under the Charity Governance Code to foster an inclusive culture and ensure that equality, diversity and inclusion are considered in decision-making, trustee recruitment and organisational development. Oversight of this work is provided through the Governance and Compliance Committee.

The Wildlife Trusts' federation

Northumberland Wildlife Trust is part of The Wildlife Trusts' federation and a corporate member of the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT), which was founded in 1912. It is a federation that brings together 46 independent, place-based charities: 37 in England, five in Wales, plus Scottish Wildlife Trust, Ulster Wildlife, Alderney Wildlife Trust and Manx Wildlife Trust. Each has its own legal identity, deep roots in its community and a shared commitment to bring wildlife back and create a society where nature matters. Together these 47 charities form The Wildlife Trusts: a movement with national reach and strong local roots.

This enables every Wildlife Trust to respond to the needs of its place: for us across Northumberland, Newcastle and North Tyneside, while contributing to a wider shared strategy. Our strength lies in combining local autonomy with collective ambition. Meanwhile, the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT), undertakes a central strategic, fundraising, influencing, coordinating and communications role. Data and systems are shared across the movement, to demonstrate joined-up activity, effectiveness and reach, and we act in unison in key policy areas and in national campaigns.

All Wildlife Trusts pay a levy (linked to their unrestricted performance over five years) towards the costs of running this central organisation, and there is a comprehensive regional and national governance mechanism to facilitate collective decision-making.

The Wildlife Trusts are not a small voice in nature's corner, we are the UK's biggest movement for nature. We are a million people choosing to protect and restore wildlife, including 33,000 active volunteers, over 4,100 staff and nearly 600 trustees.

As a federation, we have 2,600 nature reserves, 123 visitor and education centres and 30 working farms. We make an annual investment of over £250 million in conservation, research and education, and have a vast wealth of knowledge and experience.

We work to protect and restore wildlife in local communities, through the hallways of power and right around the world.

Northumberland Wildlife Trust is an important contributor to this impact through its work in Northumberland, Newcastle and North Tyneside but also in partnership throughout the North East and the North of England. The effect of our working within The Wildlife Trusts' federation is that we can make a difference to conservation at local, sub-regional, regional and national scales.

Disclosure of information to auditors

Each of the trustees in office at the date of approval of this trustees' report has confirmed that:

- so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable group's auditor is unaware; and
- they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as trustees to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable group's auditor is aware of that information.

The trustees' report, which incorporates the strategic report and directors' report requirements of the Companies Act 2006, was approved by the Board of Trustees on 30 October 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



Nigel Porter
Chair of Trustees



Derek Coates
Treasurer

Independent auditor's report

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Northumberland Wildlife Trust Limited (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2026 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, the consolidated balance sheet, the company balance sheet, the consolidated statement of cash flows and the related notes, 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 group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2026 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ('ISAs (UK)') and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report. We are independent of the group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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 group's or the parent charitable company'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 other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. 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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report including the strategic report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the trustees' report and the strategic report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report including the strategic report.

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 group's and the parent charitable company'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 group or the parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below. However, it is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

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

We obtain and update our understanding of the charitable company, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the charitable company is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

Based on our understanding of the charitable company, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements including financial reporting legislation (including related companies legislation), distributable profits legislation, pension legislation and UK tax legislation. In addition, the charitable company is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines and litigation. We considered the extent to which non-compliance with laws and regulations might have a material effect on the financial statements and we have assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items.

We also evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks related to posting inappropriate journal entries to manipulate financial results, management bias in

accounting estimates, as well as improper revenue recognition which includes fraudulent posting of journal entries to revenue.

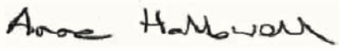
Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Inquiry of management and those charged with governance regarding actual and potential litigation or claims as well as whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Reviewing meeting minutes to identify reported frauds and any potential non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Identifying journal entries based on risk criteria and testing the identified entries to supporting documentation, in particular journal entries with unusual account combinations; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgments made by management in their significant accounting estimates and evaluating whether there was any evidence of bias by the directors that represented a risk of material misstatement due to fraud.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of any instances of noncompliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

Use of our report

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



Anne Hallowell BSc FCA DChA
(Senior Statutory Auditor) for and
on behalf of UNW LLP, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
Newcastle upon Tyne

30 October 2026



Financial statements

Northumberland Wildlife Trust

Consolidated statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2026

(incorporating income and expenditure account)

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2026 (£)	Restricted funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2026 (£)	As restated Total funds 2025 (£)
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	1,376,132	194,081	1,570,213	1,727,251
Charitable activities	3	20,809	2,232,662	2,253,471	2,266,246
Other trading activities	4	1,786,018	560	1,786,578	1,537,257
Investments		3,426	-	3,426	3,552
Other income		23,889	-	23,889	7,660
Total income		**3,210,274**	**2,427,303**	**5,637,577**	**5,541,966**
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	1,787,745	25,156	1,812,901	1,536,900
Charitable activities	7	1,290,314	2,427,457	3,717,771	3,185,480
Total expenditure		**3,078,059**	**2,452,613**	**5,530,672**	**4,722,380**
Net income/(expenditure) before taxation		132,215	(25,310)	106,905	819,586
Taxation	10	(7,402)	-	(7,402)	(9,823)
Net income/(expenditure) after taxation		124,813	(25,310)	99,503	809,763
Transfers between funds	20	(177,351)	177,351	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		**(52,538)**	**152,041**	**99,503**	**809,763**
Other recognised gains/(losses):					
Gains on revaluation of investment property	13	50,000	-	50,000	12,833
Net movement in funds		**(2,538)**	**152,041**	**149,503**	**822,596**
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		8,055,925	2,981,016	11,036,941	10,214,345
Net movement in funds		(2,538)	152,041	149,503	822,596
Total funds carried forward		**8,053,387**	**3,133,057**	**11,186,444**	**11,036,941**

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

The notes on pages 36 to 57 form part of these financial statements.

Northumberland Wildlife Trust

Consolidated balance sheet at 31 March 2026

	Note		2026 (£)		As restated 2025 (£)
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	11		-		-
Tangible assets	12		10,231,245		10,288,555
Investment property	13		600,000		550,000
			10,831,245		**10,838,555**
Current assets					
Stocks	15	13,160		12,442	
Debtors	16	1,002,827		830,432	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,627,641		1,316,649	
		2,643,628		**2,159,523**	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(2,135,701)		(984,634)	
Net current assets			**507,927**		**1,174,889**
Total assets less current liabilities			**11,339,172**		**12,013,444**
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	18		(90,899)		(912,906)
Provisions for liabilities	19, 20		(61,829)		(63,597)
Total net assets			**11,186,444**		**11,036,941**
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	22		3,133,057		2,981,016
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds	22	157,139		272,687	
General funds	22	5,064,806		4,951,796	
Revaluation reserve	22	2,831,442		2,831,442	
Total unrestricted funds			8,053,387		8,055,925
Total funds			**11,186,444**		**11,036,941**

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees on 30 October 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Nigel Porter
Chair of Trustees

Derek Coates
Treasurer

The notes on pages 36 to 57 form part of these financial statements.
Company registered number: 00717813

Northumberland Wildlife Trust

Balance sheet at 31 March 2026

	Note		2026 (£)		As restated 2025 (£)
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		10,028,782		10,079,213
Investment property	13		600,000		550,000
Investments	14		5,002		5,002
			10,633,784		**10,634,215**
Current assets					
Stocks	15	13,160		12,442	
Debtors	16	715,840		517,496	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,245,240		996,807	
		1,974,240		**1,526,745**	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(1,926,233)		(798,772)	
Net current assets			**48,007**		**727,973**
Total assets less current liabilities			**10,681,791**		**11,362,188**
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	18		(90,899)		(912,906)
Total net assets			**10,590,892**		**10,449,282**
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	22		3,133,057		2,981,016
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds	22	157,139		272,687	
General funds		5,528,567		5,423,450	
Revaluation reserve		1,772,129		1,772,129	
Total unrestricted funds	22		7,457,835		7,468,266
Total funds			**10,590,892**		**10,449,282**

The company's net movement in funds for the year was £141,610 (2025: £773,965).

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees on 30 October 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Nigel Porter
Chair of Trustees

Derek Coates
Treasurer

The notes on pages 36 to 57 form part of these financial statements.
Company registered number: 00717813

Northumberland Wildlife Trust

Consolidated statement of cash flows for the year ended 31 March 2026

	Note	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	24	442,890	474,079
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(108,826)	(1,510,185)
Net cash used in investing activities		**(108,826)**	**(1,510,185)**
Cash flows from financing activities			
New loans		300,000	1,172,100
Repayments of borrowing		(317,522)	(247,106)
Repayment of finance leases		(5,550)	(8,963)
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities		**(23,072)**	**916,031**
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		310,992	(120,075)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,316,649	1,436,724
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	25	**1,627,641**	**1,316,649**

The notes on pages 36 to 57 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

1 - ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

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

The consolidated statement of financial activities (SOFA) and consolidated balance sheet consolidate the financial statements of the company and its subsidiary undertakings. The results of the subsidiaries are consolidated on a line by line basis.

The company has taken advantage of the exemption allowed under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and has not presented its own statement of financial activities in these financial statements.

Company status

Northumberland Wildlife Trust Limited ('the company') is a charity dedicated to saving wildlife and wild places and helping people to get closer to nature.

The company is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in the United Kingdom and domiciled in England. The address of the registered office is given in the reference and administrative details page of this annual report. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 59. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company.

Basis of consolidation

The financial statements consolidate the accounts of Northumberland Wildlife Trust Limited and its subsidiary undertakings.

The company has taken advantage of the exemption contained within section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 not to present its own income and expenditure account. The income and expenditure account for the year dealt with in the accounts of the company was £141,610 (2025: £773,965).

Fund accounting

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

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the group for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

Income

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

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the company, can be reliably measured.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the company has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the company of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time is not recognised; refer to the trustees' report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the company which is the amount it would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

During the year the nature of a donation received in 2024 was reviewed, resulting in recognition of income previously classified as a loan. See Note 21 for further details.

Expenditure

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

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the group to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of

all fundraising activities, events and non-charitable trading.

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

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Going concern

In determining the appropriate basis of preparation of the financial statements, the trustees are required to consider whether the group can continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The group's business activities, together with factors that are likely to affect its future development, financial performance and financial position are set out in the strategic report. In addition, the material financial and operational risks and uncertainties that impact the group's performance are outlined in the strategic report.

The trustees have considered the position of the group at the year end, its recent financial performance and forecasts over a period of at least 12 months from the date of signing these financial statements. As a result of this process, at the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees are of the opinion that it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of preparation of the financial statements.

Intangible assets and amortisation

Intangible assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, intangible assets are measured at cost less any accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation is provided on the following basis:

- Website - 20% straight line

Asset residual values and useful lives are reviewed at the end of each reporting period, and adjusted if appropriate. The effect of any change is accounted for prospectively.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost for land and buildings held at valuation at the date of transition to FRS102), less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation is charged at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual values, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

- Freehold land - not depreciated
- Freehold property - 2%-25% straight line
- Long-term leasehold property - 2% straight line
- Furniture, fittings and equipment - 25% straight line
- Motor vehicles - 25% straight line
- External fixtures and fittings - 25% straight line
- Computer equipment - 50% straight line

Investment property

Investment properties are measured at fair value at each reporting date, with any changes in fair value recognised in the statement of financial activities. Investment properties are not depreciated.

Investments

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

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads. Cost is determined using the first-in first-out (FIFO) method.

Financial instruments

The group only enters into basic financial instruments transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade and other accounts receivable and payable, and cash and bank balances.

Debt instruments due within one year are measured, initially and subsequently at the transaction price. Debt instruments due after one year are measured initially at the transaction price and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

At the end of each reporting period debt financial assets are assessed for impairment, and their carrying value reduced if necessary. Any impairment charge is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the group; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash in hand.

Finance leases and hire purchase

Assets obtained under hire purchase contracts and finance leases are capitalised as tangible fixed assets. Assets acquired by finance lease are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives. Assets acquired by hire purchase are depreciated over their useful lives. Finance leases are those where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership are assumed by the group. 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 consolidated statement of financial activities so as to produce a constant periodic rate of charge on the net obligation outstanding in each period.

Employee benefits

Short-term benefits

Short-term benefits, including holiday pay and other similar non-monetary benefits are recognised as an expense in the period in which the employee's entitlement to the benefit accrues.

Defined contribution pension plan

The company operates a defined contribution pension plan for its employees. Contributions are recognised as an expense when they fall due. Amounts due but not yet paid are included within creditors on the balance sheet.

The assets of the plan are held separately from the company in independently administered funds.

Taxation

The taxation expense for the year comprises current and deferred tax and is recognised in the profit and loss account except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income, or directly in equity, in which case the tax expense is also recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity.

Current tax is the amount of income tax payable in respect of the taxable profit for the current or past reporting periods. It is calculated on the basis of tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred tax represents the future tax consequences of transactions and events recognised in the financial statements of current and previous periods. It is recognised in respect of all timing differences, with certain exceptions.

Unrelieved tax losses and other deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits.

Deferred tax is measured using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date that are expected to apply to the reversal of timing differences.

The company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charitable company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgments, assumptions and estimates that affect the application of accounting policies and amounts reported in the profit and loss account and balance sheet. Such decisions are made at the time the financial statements are prepared and adopted based on the best information available at the time. Actual outcomes may be different from initial estimates and are reflected in the financial statements as soon as they become apparent.

Significant judgments in applying accounting policies

In preparing these financial statements, no significant judgments were required in the process of applying the company's accounting policies.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Estimates included within these financial statements include investment property valuation, depreciation and asset impairments (for example provisions against debtors). None of the estimates made in the preparation of these financial statements are considered to carry significant estimation uncertainty, nor to bear significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

2 - INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted funds 2026 (£)	Restricted funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2026 (£)
Donations	106,221	169,869	276,090
Legacies	250,667	-	250,667
Grants	636,462	-	636,462
Sponsorship and membership subscriptions	382,782	24,212	406,994
Total 2026	**1,376,132**	**194,081**	**1,570,213**

	Unrestricted funds 2025 (£)	Restricted funds 2025 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
Donations	123,651	514,037	637,688
Legacies	256,883	-	256,883
Grants	446,397	-	446,397
Sponsorship and membership subscriptions	362,471	23,812	386,283
Total 2025	**1,189,402**	**537,849**	**1,727,251**

3 - INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds 2026 (£)	Restricted funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2026 (£)
Charitable activities	20,809	2,232,662	2,253,471

	Unrestricted funds 2025 (£)	Restricted funds 2025 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
Charitable activities	39,605	2,226,641	2,266,246

4 - INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

Income from non charitable trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2026 (£)	Restricted funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2026 (£)
Subsidiary trading income	1,191,801	-	1,191,801
Visitor trading and similar income	594,217	560	594,777
Total 2026	**1,786,018**	**560**	**1,786,578**

4 - INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

	Unrestricted funds 2025 (£)	Restricted funds 2025 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
Subsidiary trading income	1,051,419	-	1,051,419
Visitor trading and similar income	485,350	488	485,838
Total 2025	**1,536,769**	**488**	**1,537,257**

5 - EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS - SUMMARY

	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
Cost of raising funds (note 6a)	551,931	439,106
Fundraising trading expenses (note 6b)	187,458	159,433
Subsidiary trading costs (note 6c)	1,073,512	938,361
Total	**1,812,901**	**1,536,900**

6 - EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

a) Costs of raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2026 (£)	Restricted funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2026 (£)
Travel, training & recruitment	14,472	-	14,472
Leaflets and publishing	19,884	-	19,884
Legal and professional	3,217	-	3,217
Office & project costs	76,288	25,069	101,357
Wages and salaries	413,001	-	413,001
Total 2026	**526,862**	**25,069**	**551,931**

	Unrestricted funds 2025 (£)	Restricted funds 2025 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
Travel, training & recruitment	11,458	-	11,458
Leaflets and publishing	25,754	-	25,754
Legal and professional	1,636	-	1,636
Office & project costs	75,547	216	75,763
Wages and salaries	324,495	-	324,495
Total 2025	**438,890**	**216**	**439,106**

6 - EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS (CONTINUED)

b) Fundraising trading expenses

	Unrestricted funds 2026 (£)	Restricted funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2026 (£)
Visitor cost of sales and other fundraising costs	183,852	87	183,939
Support costs allocated to trading activities	3,519	-	3,519
Total 2026	**187,371**	**87**	**187,458**

	Unrestricted funds 2025 (£)	Restricted funds 2025 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
Visitor cost of sales and other fundraising costs	144,497	1,306	145,803
Support costs allocated to trading activities	13,630	-	13,630
Total 2025	**158,127**	**1,306**	**159,433**

c) Subsidiary trading costs

	Unrestricted funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2026 (£)
Cost of sales	220,415	220,415
Administration expenses	100,960	100,960
Cost of sales staff costs	364,373	364,373
Administration staff costs	357,551	357,551
Administration depreciation	30,213	30,213
Total 2026	**1,073,512**	**1,073,512**

	Unrestricted funds 2025 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
Cost of sales	160,035	160,035
Administration expenses	82,918	82,918
Cost of sales staff costs	328,684	328,684
Administration staff costs	341,950	341,950
Administration depreciation	24,774	24,774
Total 2025	**938,361**	**938,361**

7 - ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES

	Activities undertaken directly 2026 (£)	Support costs 2026 (£)	Total funds 2026 (£)
Charitable activities	2,717,483	1,000,288	3,717,771

	Activities undertaken directly 2025 (£)	Support costs 2025 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
Charitable activities	2,354,074	831,406	3,185,480

Analysis of direct costs

	Total funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
Staff costs	1,657,497	1,413,490
Depreciation	134,145	88,270
Direct project costs	637,638	583,863
Travel	53,544	60,348
Training & recruitment	40,692	20,385
Legal & professional	19,483	46,170
Overheads, publishing and office costs	174,484	141,548
Total	**2,717,483**	**2,354,074**

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
Staff costs	619,304	537,885
Travel	3,369	3,344
Training & recruitment	12,651	7,727
Legal & professional	19,555	21,082
Overheads, publishing and office costs	204,491	168,248
Premises and utilities	105,871	55,354
Governance costs	35,047	37,766
Total	**1,000,288**	**831,406**

8 - AUDITOR'S REMUNERATION

The auditor's remuneration amounts to an audit fee of £18,060 (2025: £17,200), and fees in respect of other services of £975 (2025: £890). Fees payable to the group's auditor in respect of the auditing of accounts of subsidiaries of the group amounts to £8,200 (2025: £7,100).

9 - STAFF COSTS

	Group 2026 (£)	Group 2025 (£)	Company 2026 (£)	Company 2025 (£)
Wages and salaries	2,781,793	2,463,392	2,191,562	1,907,881
Social security costs	321,914	224,710	255,495	157,339
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	308,019	258,402	242,745	210,650
Total	**3,411,726**	**2,946,504**	**2,689,802**	**2,275,870**

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

	Group 2026 (No.)	Group 2025 (No.)	Company 2026 (No.)	Company 2025 (No.)
Business and management	12	10	12	10
Charitable activities	54	61	54	61
Fundraising and publicity	30	19	30	19
Subsidiary	17	16	-	-
Total	**113**	**106**	**96**	**90**

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

	Group 2026 (No.)	Group 2025 (No.)
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	1

Key management personnel have been determined to be the trustees, Chief Executive Officer, Director of Conservation, Head of Fundraising and Director of Finance. Trustees received no remuneration or benefits. The total remuneration of the senior management team was £243,988 (2025: £236,178).

During the year, no trustees (2025: none) were reimbursed for expenses.

10 - TAXATION

	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
Corporation tax		
Current tax on net income/(expenditure) for the year	9,170	8,313
Total current tax	**9,170**	**8,313**
Deferred tax		
Origination and reversal of timing differences	(1,768)	1,510
Total deferred tax	**(1,768)**	**1,510**
Taxation on net income/(expenditure)	**7,402**	**9,823**

10 - TAXATION (CONTINUED)

The tax assessed for the year is lower than (2025: lower than) the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 25% (2025: 25%). The differences are explained below:

	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
Net income/(expenditure) before tax	106,905	819,586
Net income/(expenditure) multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 25% (2025: 25%)	26,726	204,897
Effects of:		
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	(17,556)	(196,584)
Short term timing difference leading to an increase/(decrease) in taxation	(1,768)	1,510
Total tax charge for the year	**7,402**	**9,823**

There are no factors considered likely to affect future tax charges.

11 - INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Group

	Website (£)
Cost	
At 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026	10,773
Amortisation	
At 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026	10,773
Net book value	
At 31 March 2025 and 31 March 2026	-

No intangible assets are held by the company.

12 - TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Group

	Land and buildings (£)	External fixtures and fittings (£)	Furniture, fittings and equipment (£)	Motor vehicles (£)	Total (£)
Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2025	10,496,200	636,393	413,943	373,783	11,920,319
Additions	-	52,272	37,210	19,344	108,826
Disposals	-	-	-	(45,722)	(45,722)
At 31 March 2026	**10,496,200**	**688,665**	**451,153**	**347,405**	**11,983,423**
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2025	448,059	611,899	295,259	276,547	1,631,764
Charge for the year	55,537	17,756	57,843	35,000	166,136
On disposals	-	-	-	(45,722)	(45,722)
At 31 March 2026	**503,596**	**629,655**	**353,102**	**265,825**	**1,752,178**
Net book value					
At 31 March 2026	9,992,604	59,010	98,051	81,580	10,231,245
At 31 March 2025	10,048,141	24,494	118,684	97,236	10,288,555

Company

	Land and buildings (£)	External fixtures and fittings (£)	Furniture, fittings and equipment (£)	Motor vehicles (£)	Total (£)
Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2025	10,334,720	635,845	274,708	358,802	11,604,075
Additions	-	52,272	13,877	19,344	85,493
Disposals	-	-	-	(45,722)	(45,722)
At 31 March 2026	**10,334,720**	**688,117**	**288,585**	**332,424**	**11,643,846**
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2025	448,059	606,635	208,394	261,774	1,524,862
Charge for the year	55,537	17,756	27,631	35,000	135,924
On disposals	-	-	-	(45,722)	(45,722)
At 31 March 2026	**503,596**	**624,391**	**236,025**	**251,052**	**1,615,064**
Net book value					
At 31 March 2026	9,831,124	63,726	52,560	81,372	10,028,782
At 31 March 2025	9,886,661	29,210	66,314	97,028	10,079,213

Included in group land and buildings is freehold land at valuation of £9,133,092 (2025: £9,133,092) which is not depreciated. Land and buildings include leasehold land and buildings with a net book value of £11,883 (2025: £12,327).

The net book value of motor vehicles above includes an amount of £1,402 (2025: £14,785) in respect of assets held under hire purchase contracts.

13 - INVESTMENT PROPERTY

Group and company

	Freehold investment property (£)
Valuation	
At 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026	550,000
Surplus on revaluation	50,000
At 31 March 2026	**600,000**

Northumberland Wildlife Trust owns the freehold property situated at The Haining, Elsdon, Northumberland. A formal valuation was performed in September 2023 by Richard Brown & Partners, external Chartered Surveyors, valuing the property at £550,000. The trustees consider there to have been a small uplift of £50,000 in fair market value since the last independent valuation was performed, as a result of improvements made to the property.

14 - FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

Company

	Investments in subsidiary companies (£)
Cost or valuation	
At 1 April 2025	5,002
At 31 March 2026	5,002
Net book value	
At 31 March 2026	5,002
At 31 March 2025	5,002

15 - STOCKS

	Group 2026 (£)	Group 2025 (£)	Company 2026 (£)	Company 2025 (£)
Finished goods and goods for resale	13,160	12,442	13,160	12,442

16 - DEBTORS

	Group 2026 (£)	Group 2025 (£)	Company 2026 (£)	Company 2025 (£)
Due within one year				
Trade debtors	847,171	651,749	627,555	397,408
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	15,784	-
Other debtors	6,595	1,283	273	1,283
Prepayments and accrued income	149,061	177,400	72,228	118,805
Total	**1,002,827**	**830,432**	**715,840**	**517,496**

17 - CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Group 2026 (£)	Group 2025 (£)	Company 2026 (£)	Company 2025 (£)
Other loans (note 17)	817,906	17,421	817,906	17,421
Trade creditors	174,050	240,552	161,418	220,725
Amounts owed to group undertakings	-	-	-	68,617
Corporation tax	9,341	8,039	-	-
Other taxation and social security	151,585	178,533	86,460	96,399
Obligations under finance lease and hire purchase contracts	4,000	5,550	4,000	5,550
Other creditors	14,076	15,789	4,247	3,712
Accruals and deferred income	964,743	518,750	852,202	386,348
Total	**2,135,701**	**984,634**	**1,926,233**	**798,772**

Deferred income

	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
Group and company		
Brought forward as at 1 April	319,064	640,100
Deferred in year	524,208	155,398
Released in year	(138,923)	(476,434)
Carried forward at 31 March	**704,349**	**319,064**

18 - CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	Group 2026 (£)	Group As restated 2025 (£)	Company 2026 (£)	Company As restated 2025 (£)
Other loans	89,566	907,573	89,566	907,573
Net obligations under finance lease and hire purchase contracts	1,333	5,333	1,333	5,333
Total	**90,899**	**912,906**	**90,899**	**912,906**

Included within the above are amounts falling due as follows:

	Group 2026 (£)	Group As restated 2025 (£)	Company 2026 (£)	Company As restated 2025 (£)
Between one and two years				
Other loans	18,497	17,951	18,497	17,951
Between two and five years				
Other loans	58,936	857,297	58,936	857,297
Over five years				
Other loans	12,133	32,325	12,133	32,325

18 - CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR (CONTINUED)

At the balance sheet date, the company had loans with an aggregate carrying amount of £907,000. The loans were received in connection with the purchase of Earsdon West Forest, Morpeth, Northumberland, to develop the Biodiversity Net Gain service and in relation to the Whitelee Peatland Restoration project.

The loans comprise:

- £500,000 outstanding on an unsecured loan, which bears interest at 3% per annum and was repaid in full on 30 April 2026;
- £108,000 outstanding on an unsecured loan, which bears interest at 3% per annum and is repayable by instalments until October 2031; and
- £300,000 outstanding on an unsecured, interest-free loan, with no fixed repayment date.

At the balance sheet date, £818,000 was classified as falling due within one year and £90,000 was classified as falling due after more than one year.

Details on the prior year restatement are provided in note 21.

19 - DEFERRED TAXATION

Group

	2026 (£)
At the beginning of the year	48,597
Charge for the year	(1,768)
Total	**46,829**

The deferred tax liability is made up as follows:

	Group 2026 (£)	Group 2025 (£)
Land held at valuation	(46,829)	(48,597)
Total	**(46,829)**	**(48,597)**

20 - PROVISIONS

Group

	Other provisions (£)
At 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026	15,000

The provision relates to obligations under an ongoing contract in the subsidiary EcoNorth Limited, where the performance obligations relating to the estimated liability will fall due over an extended period.

21 - PRIOR YEAR RESTATEMENT

In 2024 the Trust received a contribution from a benefactor to fund the purchase of land. This was initially accounted for as a loan governed by a memorandum of understanding between the Trust and the benefactor. However, following a review of the legal position during the year, the trustees consider the amount to be a restricted donation in the year ended 31 March 2024, as there is no expectation or legal basis for repayment. Consequently, the prior year figures have been restated to reduce the loan balance by £925,000 and to increase restricted funds by the same amount. The impact of this restatement is presented below:

Balance sheet at 31 March 2024

	As previously reported (£)	Restatement (£)	Restated (£)
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	935,883	(925,000)	10,883
Restricted funds	2,015,709	925,000	2,940,709
Total funds	9,289,345	925,000	10,214,345

Balance sheet at 31 March 2025

	As previously reported (£)	Restatement (£)	Restated (£)
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	1,837,906	(925,000)	912,906
Restricted funds	2,056,016	925,000	2,981,016
Total funds	10,111,941	925,000	11,036,941

22 - STATEMENT OF FUNDS

Statement of funds - current year

	As restated Balance at 1 April 2025 (£)	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Transfers in/out (£)	Gains/ (Losses) (£)	Balance at 31 March 2026 (£)
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Xledger Development and Training	5,000	-	(3,302)	(1,698)	-	-
Briar Wood Bank Fencing	20,000	-	(6,475)	-	-	13,525
Cresswell Hide Ramp	27,000	-	(17,132)	-	-	9,868
Staff Wellbeing, Training and Development	45,000	-	(5,556)	-	-	39,444
Benshaw Moor Gateways	5,000	-	(3,527)	(1,473)	-	-
BNG Audit and Survey Fees	55,687	-	(29,358)	(26,329)	-	-
Gosforth Drainage and Car Park	52,000	-	(40,800)	(11,200)	-	-
Gosforth Bathrooms	40,000	-	(36,994)	6,994	-	10,000
HWDC External Courtyard Timber	23,000	-	(7,451)	1	-	15,550
Finance Team Restructuring	-	-	-	28,752	-	28,752
Office, Buildings and Facilities	-	-	-	15,000	-	15,000
Haining Property	-	-	-	25,000	-	25,000
Total	**272,687**	**-**	**(150,595)**	**35,047**	**-**	**157,139**
General funds						
General funds	3,752,195	2,015,047	(1,837,104)	(105,978)	50,000	3,874,160
Hauxley Visitor Centre fixed asset reserve	740,456	-	(16,848)	-	-	723,608
Subsidiary trading funds	459,145	1,195,227	(1,080,914)	(106,420)	-	467,038
Revaluation reserve	2,831,442	-	-	-	-	2,831,442
Total	**7,783,238**	**3,210,274**	**(2,934,866)**	**(212,398)**	**50,000**	**7,896,248**
Total unrestricted funds	**8,055,925**	**3,210,274**	**(3,085,461)**	**(177,351)**	**50,000**	**8,053,387**
Restricted funds						
General Estates	22,394	67,977	(78,230)	3,408	-	15,549
Fundraising and Development	9,949	15,550	(1,709)	-	-	23,790
Nature Recovery	6,528	247,772	(257,430)	48,129	-	44,999
Nature Reserves	1,966,050	627,778	(580,246)	(19,245)	-	1,994,337
Peat Partnership	-	406,376	(433,508)	46,135	-	19,003
Red Squirrel	42,731	530,836	(531,814)	60,802	-	102,555
Wild City	8,364	457,870	(491,024)	32,614	-	7,824
Nature Based Solutions	-	65,044	(70,552)	5,508	-	-
Visitors Centre	-	8,100	(8,100)	-	-	-
Earsdon West Forest	925,000	-	-	-	-	925,000
Total	**2,981,016**	**2,427,303**	**(2,452,613)**	**177,351**	**-**	**3,133,057**
Total of funds	**11,036,941**	**5,637,577**	**(5,538,074)**	**-**	**50,000**	**11,186,444**

22 - STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Designated funds
Transfers into designated funds from unrestricted funds have been made to set aside resources for specific purposes.

Transfers out of designated funds represent the release of amounts no longer required, for those purposes.

Details of the specific grants and donations making up the designated funds are as follows:

XLedger Development and Training
Development of the XLedger system to increase automation.

Briar Wood Bank Fencing
Replacement of Briar Wood Bank fencing.

Cresswell Hide Ramp
Replacement of Cresswell Hide ramp.

Staff Wellbeing, Training and Development
Started by the well-being working group, the charitable company is in the process to work towards its Gold for Better Health at Work Award.

Benshaw Moor Gateways
Replacement of Benshaw Moor gateways.

Biodiversity Net Gain Audit and Survey Fees
Fees and external audit cost needed to register and obtain licencing and approval to sell Biodiversity Net Gain units.

Gosforth Office Drainage and Car Park
Improvements to the car park and the addition of a washing bay with adequate draining for cars.

Gosforth Office Bathrooms
Replacement of the Greenhouse toilets and the build of accessible toilets with a shower.

Hauxley Wildlife Discovery Centre (HWDC) External Courtyard Timber
Repairs to the HWDC estate, walkways and hides.

Finance Team Restructuring
Restructuring of the team to increase reporting criteria and create a service delivery to budget holders.

Haining Property
Replacement of batteries to The Haining as life span of current batteries has come to an end.

Office, Buildings and Facilities
Required maintenance on buildings and facilities at Gosforth office to adhere to EDI and H&S policies for staff use.

22 - STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Restricted funds
Transfers into restricted funds from unrestricted funds have been made to meet shortfalls in restricted project funding.

Transfers out of restricted funds are in relation to capital spend.

Details of the specific grants and donations making up the restricted funds are as follows:

General Estates
This covers general maintenance, land management and monitoring.

Fundraising and development
Giving tree funds at Hauxley Wildlife Discovery Centre.

Nature Recovery
Significant habitat and species projects that add, create and restore habitats and reverse the decline of species; projects that facilitate nature-friendly management of land with the aim of connecting nature at scale.

Nature Reserves
For specific reserves for monitoring, management of habitats/species; includes capital elements such as equipment, hides, buildings, access improvements; and raising public awareness/action.

Peat Partnership
Monitoring, management and restoration of peatland as well as public engagement.

Red Squirrel
Monitoring and protecting red squirrels in their natural habitats, raising awareness and providing guidance to increase red squirrel conservation.

Wild City
Contributes to our work reconnecting a wider range of people with nature so that they will act for nature and climate.

Nature Based Solutions
Grant offered by Postcode Innovation Trust. The grant will be claimed for a project focused on developing a new, sustainable income stream through Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG). The funding will be used to establish the organisational framework, systems, and operational processes required to successfully implement and deliver Biodiversity Net Gain services, ensuring the organisation has the capability and infrastructure to support this new area of activity on a sustainable basis.

Visitors Centre
Grant offered by Community Foundation North East. £8,100 was issued to build an accessible woodland classroom at Hauxley visitor centre site.

Earsdon West Forest
This fund represents contributions received towards the acquisition of Earsdon West Forest and the long-term conservation of the site. Income recovered from the use of the land is intended to be reinvested in further conservation activities, subject to agreement with the funders.

22 - STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Statement of funds - prior year

	As restated Balance at 1 April 2024 (£)	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Transfers in/out (£)	Gains/ (Losses) (£)	Balance at 31 March 2025 (£)
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Xledger Development and Training	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
Briar Wood Bank Fencing	-	-	-	20,000	-	20,000
Cresswell Hide Ramp	-	-	-	27,000	-	27,000
Staff Wellbeing, Training and Development	-	-	-	45,000	-	45,000
Benshaw Moor Gateways	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
BNG Audit and Survey Fees	-	-	-	55,687	-	55,687
Gosforth Drainage and Car Park	-	-	-	52,000	-	52,000
Gosforth Bathrooms	-	-	-	40,000	-	40,000
HWDC External Courtyard Timber	-	-	-	23,000	-	23,000
Total	**-**	**-**	**-**	**272,687**	**-**	**272,687**
General funds						
General funds	3,194,511	1,722,017	(1,365,082)	187,916	12,833	3,752,195
Hauxley Visitor Centre fixed asset reserve	899,324	-	(16,848)	(142,020)	-	740,456
Subsidiary trading funds	348,359	1,054,971	(948,184)	3,999	-	459,145
Revaluation reserve	2,831,442	-	-	-	-	2,831,442
Total	**7,273,636**	**2,776,988**	**(2,330,114)**	**49,895**	**12,833**	**7,783,238**
Total unrestricted funds	**7,273,636**	**2,776,988**	**(2,330,114)**	**322,582**	**12,833**	**8,055,925**
Restricted funds						
General Estates	-	389,802	(256,650)	(110,758)	-	22,394
Fundraising and Development	21,145	4,840	(11,884)	(4,152)	-	9,949
Nature Recovery	-	492,211	(464,859)	(20,824)	-	6,528
Nature Reserves	1,990,911	738,953	(378,690)	(385,124)	-	1,966,050
Peat Partnership	-	482,145	(428,923)	(53,222)	-	-
Red Squirrel	-	297,196	(426,766)	172,301	-	42,731
Wild City	3,653	306,497	(380,983)	79,197	-	8,364
Nature Based Solutions	-	53,334	(53,334)	-	-	-
Earsdon West Forest	925,000	-	-	-	-	925,000
Total	**2,940,709**	**2,764,978**	**(2,402,089)**	**(322,582)**	**-**	**2,981,016**
Total of funds	**10,214,345**	**5,541,966**	**(4,732,203)**	**-**	**12,833**	**11,036,941**

23 - ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2026 (£)	Restricted funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2026 (£)
Tangible fixed assets	7,406,245	2,825,000	10,231,245
Investment property	600,000	-	600,000
Current assets	1,633,472	1,010,156	2,643,628
Creditors due within one year	(1,433,602)	(702,099)	(2,135,701)
Creditors due in more than one year	(90,899)	-	(90,899)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	(61,829)	-	(61,829)
Total	**8,053,387**	**3,133,057**	**11,186,444**

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2025 (£)	As restated Restricted funds 2025 (£)	As restated Total funds 2025 (£)
Tangible fixed assets	7,463,555	2,825,000	10,288,555
Investment property	550,000	-	550,000
Current assets	1,684,443	475,080	2,159,523
Creditors due within one year	(665,570)	(319,064)	(984,634)
Creditors due in more than one year	(912,906)	-	(912,906)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	(63,597)	-	(63,597)
Total	**8,055,925**	**2,981,016**	**11,036,941**

24 - RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	Group 2026 (£)	Group 2025 (£)
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	99,503	809,763
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	166,136	124,935
Increase in stocks	(718)	(7,336)
Increase in debtors	(172,395)	(204,348)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	350,830	(265,446)
Other provision	-	15,000
Net cash outflow relating to corporation tax	(466)	1,511
Net cash provided by operating activities	**442,890**	**474,079**

25 - ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	Group 2026 (£)	Group 2025 (£)
Cash in hand	1,627,641	1,316,649

26 - ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT

	As restated At 1 April 2025 (£)	Cash flows (£)	Other non-cash changes (£)	At 31 March 2026 (£)
Cash at bank and in hand	1,316,649	310,992	-	1,627,641
Debt due within 1 year	(17,421)	17,522	(818,007)	(817,906)
Debt due after 1 year	(907,573)	-	818,007	(89,566)
Finance leases	(10,883)	5,550	-	(5,333)
Total	**380,772**	**334,064**	**-**	**714,836**

27 - PENSION COMMITMENTS

The group operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the group in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the group to the fund and amounted to £308,019 (2025: £258,402). Contributions totalling £5,349 (2025: £23,244) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

28 - OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 March 2026 the group and the company had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	Group 2026 (£)	Group 2025 (£)	Company 2026 (£)	Company 2025 (£)
Not later than 1 year	2,346	665	-	665
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	1,081	-	-	-
Total	**3,427**	**665**	**-**	**665**

29 - FINANCE LEASE COMMITMENTS

Minimum lease payments under finance lease fall due as follows:

	Group 2026 (£)	Group 2025 (£)	Company 2026 (£)	Company 2025 (£)
Within one year	4,736	6,435	4,736	6,435
After one year and before five years	1,579	6,314	1,579	6,314
Less finance costs allocated to future periods	(982)	(1,866)	(982)	(1,866)
Total	**5,333**	**10,883**	**5,333**	**10,883**

30 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Remuneration of key management personnel is disclosed in note 9.

During the year the charitable company purchased consultancy services of £38,561 (2025: £69,911) from EcoNorth Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary, and charged EcoNorth £29,981 (2025: £28,087) for services supplied. At the year end the charitable company was owed £6,571 from EcoNorth Limited (2025: £68,617 owed to EcoNorth Limited).

During the year Northumberland Wildlife Enterprises Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary, received money on behalf of the charitable company. At the year end the charitable company was owed £9,213 from Northumberland Wildlife Enterprises Limited (2025: £nil).

During the year the charitable company purchased goods and services totalling £129 (2025: £nil) and sold services totalling £nil (2025: £nil) to Alnwick Garden Enterprises Limited. At the year end, Alnwick Garden Enterprises Limited, of which a trustee of Northumberland Wildlife Trust is a director, owed the charitable company £nil (2025: £nil).

During the year the charitable company supplied services totalling £nil (2025: £14,363) and purchased goods totalling £nil (2025: £1,000) from Urban Green Newcastle. At the year end, Urban Green Newcastle, of which a former trustee of Northumberland Wildlife Trust is a director, owed the charitable company £nil (2025: £nil).

During the year the charitable company supplied services totalling £nil (2025: £nil) and purchased services totalling £nil (2025: £1,000) to/from Northumberland National Park Foundation, which is related by virtue of a common director. There were no balances outstanding at the year end.

31 - PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARIES

The following were subsidiary undertakings of the company:

Names	Company number	Principal activity	Class of shares	Holding	Included in consolidation
EcoNorth Limited	02274277	Ecological consultancy	Ordinary	100%	Yes
Northumberland Wildlife Enterprises Limited	02044288	Receipt of rental income on behalf of the charitable company	Ordinary	100%	Yes

The financial results of the subsidiaries for the year were:

Names	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Profit for the period (£)	Net assets (£)
EcoNorth Limited	1,233,788	(1,110,895)	122,893	602,837
Northumberland Wildlife Trust Enterprises Limited	-	-	-	-

Acknowledgements of financial and other support for 2025-2026

We would like to thank all the individuals and organisations who made our work this year possible.

Charitable trusts, foundations and grant funders giving £1,000 or more:

- Ernest Cook Trust
- Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
- Fidelity UK Foundation
- Goldman Sachs Gives (UK)
- Hadrian Trust
- Monday Charitable Trust
- National Lottery Community Fund Awards for All
- National Lottery Heritage Fund
- Northumberland Inclusive Economy Community Partnership
- Northumberland High Sheriff Award
- Percy Hedley 1990 Charitable Trust
- Postcode Lottery Social Investment Fund
- Swire Charitable Trust
- The W A Handley Charity Trust

Organisations and companies contributing £5,000 or more towards our income and charitable objectives through donations and corporate partnership agreements:

- All England Lawn Tennis Club (AELTC) and Emirates
- BT
- Legal & General
- Natural England
- Northumberland County Council
- Northumbrian Water

Organisations and companies contributing £1,000 or more from company memberships:

- Aaron Optometrists Ltd
- Andrew Poplett Enterprises Ltd
- Egger (UK) Ltd
- Ringtons Holdings Ltd
- Tarmac Ltd
- Thermofisher Scientific
- Thompsons of Prudhoe Ltd
- Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd

Legacies and in memoriam donations contributing £1,000 or more:

- Mrs Patricia Davison
- Mr Frank Heatley
- Miss Joan Mary Hodgson
- Mr Peter John Lomax
- Miss Mabel Moffitt
- Mr Peter William Morton
- Mrs Joan Isabell Rasmussen
- Mrs Melpa Stevens

Individual gifts of £5,000 or more (acknowledging that many donors prefer anonymity):

- Ms Valerie Bess
- Mr John Bishop
- Dr Philip Brookes & Mrs Pat Brookes
- Miss G Firbank
- Mr Philip Forth & Ms Julie Stober
- Mr Ian Harris
- Mrs B Percy

Pro bono support:

We would like to thank the following supporters for their pro bono support during the last year:

- Sintons
- Squire Patton Boggs

Reference and administrative details

Charity name
Northumberland Wildlife Trust

Charity registration number
221819

Company registered number
00717813

Registered office
The Garden House
St Nicholas Park
Jubilee Road
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE3 3XT

Trustees
Chair
Nigel Porter
Vice Chair
Karen Statham
Honorary Treasurer and Chair of FRC
Derek Coates
Honorary Secretary
Ailsa Hobbson
Trustees
Michael Jeffries
Trai Anfield
Eveline Brunton
John Baker Cresswell *(Chair of NRC)*
Suren Kanagasundaram
Rosie Tapsfield
Ian Jackson *(appointed May 2025)*
Katie Stevens *(Chair of GCC)*
Chris Taylor *(co-opted in December 2025)*
Hugh Ferrand *(co-opted in December 2025)*
Patricia Cresswell *(resigned July 2025)*
Graham Gill *(resigned October 2025)*

President and Vice Presidents
President
Conrad Dickinson
Vice Presidents
Ian Armstrong
Graham Gill
Angus Lunn *(deceased August 2025)*

Senior leadership team
Chief Executive
Mike Pratt
Director of Conservation
Duncan Hutt
Director of Engagement and Fundraising
Sheila Sharp *(retired December 2025)*
Joanna Richards
Head of Finance and Central Services
Blanche Phillips
Head of Fundraising and Development
Catherine Kirkham
Head of Nature Recovery
Katy Barke

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Newcastle upon Tyne
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Solicitors
Hay & Kilner
Merchant House
30 Cloth Market
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 1EE

Glossary

BNG – Biodiversity Net Gain
DEFRA - Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
ECN - EcoNorth Limited
EDI – Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
FRC – NWT Trustee-led Finance and Risk Committee
GCC - NWT Trustee-led Governance and Compliance Committee
HWDC - Hauxley Wildlife Discovery Centre
NRC – NWT Trustee-led Nature Recovery Committee
NWE - Northumberland Wildlife Enterprises Limited
NWT - Northumberland Wildlife Trust
RSWT - Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
SORP - Statement of Recommended Practice for Charity Accounts

Northumberland
Wildlife Trust

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Registered Company No. 00717813



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