Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2026

ywt.org.uk

Driving nature's recovery in Yorkshire

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust is registered in England no. 00409650 and is a registered charity no. 210807. Registered Office: 1 St George's Place, York, YO24 1GN
Cover Image: Four spotted chaser by Jo Tully

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
Report of the Board of Trustees

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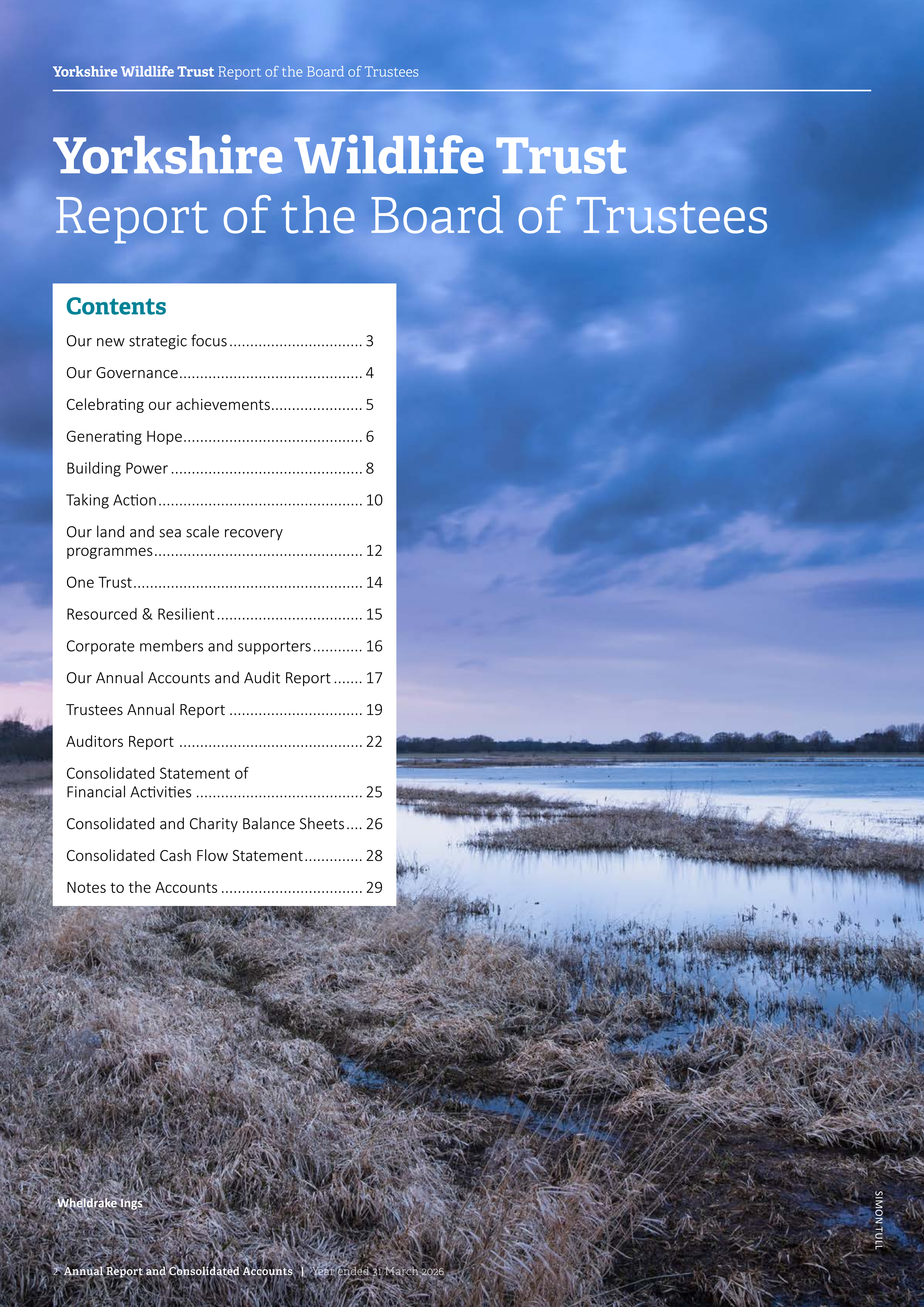


Wheldrake Ings

SIMON TULL

Our new strategic **focus**

As we approach our 80th year, we have refreshed our charitable strategy and focus under five new ambitions of **Generating Hope, Building Power** and **Taking Action**, **One Trust**, **Resourced and Resilient**. Building on last year's comprehensive new evidence from our 2024 State of Yorkshire's Nature report, we are also proud to present Bringing Yorkshire's Nature Back, our blueprint for Nature's recovery. This sets a direction of travel to secure 30 percent of land for nature's recovery, not just for the Trust, but as a rallying call for partners and policy makers, communities and landowners across the region.

Making the case for wildlife and the systems we all depend on has never been more urgent. Here in our annual report, we present our progress and incredible achievements from the previous 12 months. We thank all our funders, members, volunteers, supporters and partners – and most of all our people – for delivering phenomenal outcomes for wildlife, driving nature's recovery every day, creating a wilder, more nature positive region for all life in Yorkshire.

Nick Perks,
Chair of Trustees

Chris Parsons,
Honorary Treasurer

Our Governance

Directors and trustees

Trustees serving during the year are:

Nick Perks
Dr Mick Armitage
Peter Meadows
Dr Ceri Williams
Nabil Abbas
Michael Graham
Dr Jane Smart OBE
Suzannah Rockett
Anna Dimitropoulou
Neil Bramley
Chris Parsons (from Jan 26)

Patrons
Stephen Martin OBE

Officers of the Trust

President
Prof. Alastair Fitter CBE

Chair of the Board
Nick Perks

Honorary Secretary
Dr Ceri Williams

Honorary Treasurer
Chris Parsons

Directors of Yorkshire Wildlife Services Limited
Darren Tiffney
Pete Meadows

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
Charity number 210807
Company number 00409650

Yorkshire Wildlife Services Ltd
Company number 09922108

Registered and Principal Office
1 St. George's Place, York,
YO24 1GN

Legal Advisors
Harland & Co, 18 St Saviourgate,
York, YO1 8NS
Squire Patton Boggs, 6 Wellington
Place, Leeds, LS1 4AP

Auditors
Armstrong Watson Audit Limited,
Third Floor, 10 South Parade,
Leeds, LS1 5QS

Bankers
Barclays Bank plc, 1 Parliament
Street, York, YO1 8SE

Chief Executive Officer
Rachael Bice

Deputy Chief Executive
Martin Slater

Director of Finance and Central Services
Darren Tiffney

Director of Fundraising and Engagement
Lauren Perthen (interim)

Head of Human Resources
Jane Hamilton

Director of Nature Recovery
Dr Sharne McMillan

VICTOR TYAKHT

Celebrating our **achievements**

116
nature reserves, including Park Gill

44,661
hours contributed by 1464 volunteers

50
groups engaged as part of #TeamWilder

17,000
plants grown in our montane nursery at Ingleborough

1,243
task days run with help from our volunteers

324
events delivered with 15,628 attendees

£125,000
raised for our woodland reserves

2,400 ha
of additional peatland brought into restoration

67
broadcast interviews and 11 TV features promoting Yorkshire's wildlife

£3,041,000
a record-breaking year securing short and long-term philanthropic funding

300,000
oysters reintroduced to the Humber Estuary

40%
of our nature reserves were assessed for their potential to deliver Biodiversity Net Gain

Generating Hope

Showing how Yorkshire's nature can be restored and protected for future generations, through compelling evidence, case studies and campaigns for change.

Bringing Yorkshire's Nature Back

We launched our landmark publication *Bringing Yorkshire's Nature Back*, a blueprint which identifies evidence-based seven opportunities that will help Yorkshire to achieve the national and international 2030 targets for nature's recovery.

This publication is the first of its kind in the UK, and will bring together a coalition of organisations and people from across the region to deliver more for a wilder future in Yorkshire. So far, we've involved 50 organisations building the Trust's credibility and strengthening relationships and partnerships.

Our evidence from State of Nature report has been used to inform the development of Yorkshire's four Local Nature Recovery Strategies. We have been a key advisor across the region as these documents are developed.

MARK HAMBLIN/2020VISION

SIMON TULL

Woodlands for the Future

Thanks to the generosity of our members and supporters, the Trust received more than £100,000 for the Woodlands for the Future appeal, double the original target. These donations have been vital for overwintering improvement works at reserves like Askham Bog and Moorlands, where coppicing has taken place to open up more understorey space and several ponds have been restored. Our teams have also been hard at work mitigating the ongoing effects of ash dieback on reserves including Grass Wood, organising detritivore and invertebrate surveys at Hetchell Wood, and gearing up to tackle the encroachment of Himalayan balsam onto many of our reserves.

Yorkshire's most prevalent Invasive, Non-Native Species: Tackling Himalayan Balsam

A biological trial to tackle one of the UK's most pervasive invasive species has shown early success, with Himalayan rust fungus – a natural enemy of Himalayan balsam – successfully overwintering on release sites in Yorkshire and naturally re-infecting seedlings this spring. Himalayan balsam is found extensively along riverbanks, road and rail routes, can cause erosion along riverbanks, and grows to heights of up to three metres, smothering all other native plant species in the area. It has historically taken Yorkshire Wildlife Trust 700 hours across two months of work to remove, but trials with the new fungus at sites across Yorkshire through collaboration with CABI, the National Trust and Yorkshire Water show promise for controlling the species going forwards.

Building Power

We will work together with a diverse network of members, supporters and organisations to build the collective capacity, influence and resources to stand up for nature

Strengthening our voice

This year the Trust started a programme of engagement with Town and Parish Councils, offering advice on how they can make a difference for nature through improving connectivity, inspiring new ideas and educating them on better land management. We have attended Yorkshire Local Council Association training days for councillors, and have hosted a webinar on pond development and management.

We have strongly supported The Wildlife Trusts' Broken Promises campaign, holding the UK Government accountable for failing to deliver on pre-election pledges to protect the environment and restore nature, and the central campaign against the Planning and Infrastructure Bill (now Act). We have also built our relationships with regional MPs such as Luke Charters MP, Sally Jameson MP and Julian Smith MP by hosting them on site visits to our reserves in their constituencies.

Strategy and Partnerships is a new team who have created and refreshed several new policies and positions for the Trust, grounded in evidence, forging links with campaigns, advocacy and planning colleagues to improve consistency and strengthening wildlife's voice.

JON PARKES-WITHERS

JACKY THORPE

Robin Festival

Alongside the Trust's highly successful annual Puffin Festival at Flamborough and Fungi Festival at Potteric Carr in Doncaster, this year the Trust was delighted to welcome visitors through their doors for a new Robin Festival in December. A few hundred robin-loving folk joined us at Potteric Carr for a programme of talks, walks and Christmas retail. Over 200 knitted and crocheted robins were donated as part of a festival trail.

#TeamWilder

The Trust responded to calls to help more people garden for wildlife at home and created a new three-tier Wildlife Gardening Award; the Trust's first-ever Wildlife-Friendly Open Gardens event. Gardening Award recipients across Yorkshire opened their gardens to the local community; and an exhibition garden at RHS Wentworth Woodhouse on hoverflies.

#TeamWilder supported 50 community, education and youth groups to take meaningful action for nature in their neighbourhoods, and engaged with 5,886 people at 158 events and youth and community group sessions.

70 years of Moorlands nature reserve

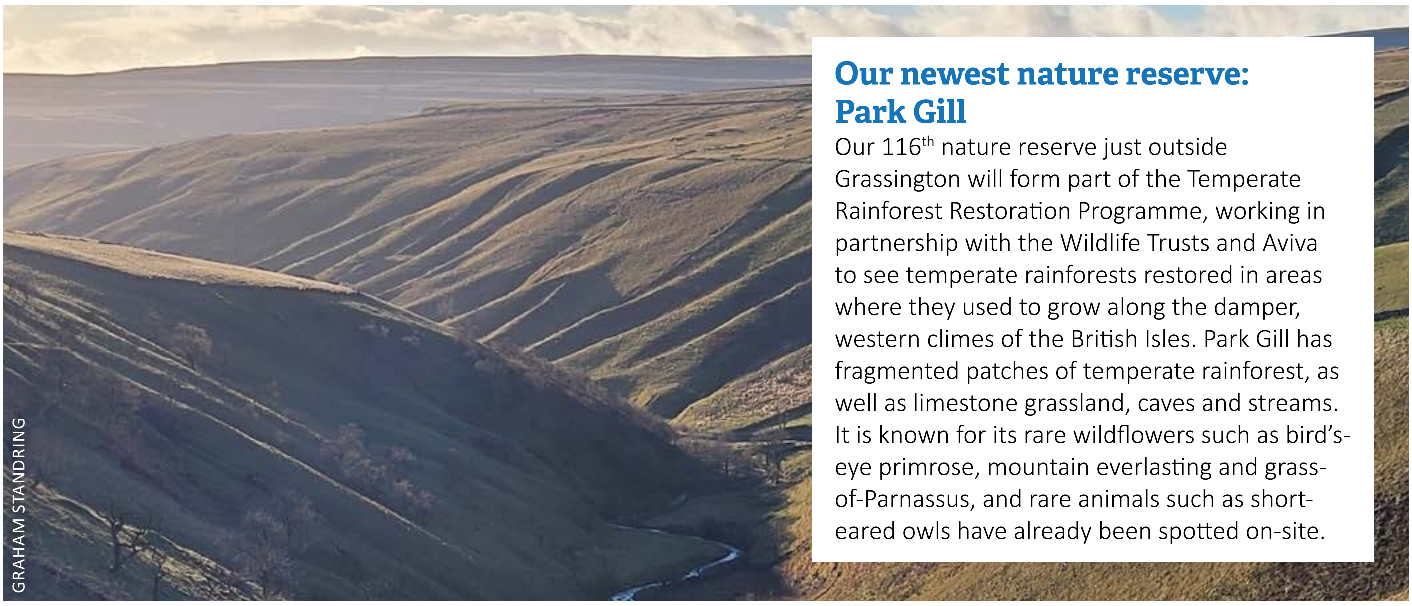
The Trust was delighted to celebrate the 70th anniversary of Moorlands nature reserve in York in September 2025. Members of the Moorlands Supporter group were joined by a staff, trustees and the Trust's former President Professor Sir John Lawton for a walk around the reserve to see the impact of the volunteers' work over the past 70 years. Bringing specialist and learned skills from forestry management to rhododendron expertise, Moorlands' volunteers are the vital puzzle piece that maintains one of the Trust's most popular visitor sites – whether they're creating dead hedges to improve access on site, or managing the increasing impact of drought on the reserve's ponds and ditches.

Taking Action

We will be at the heart of a coalition taking sustained action to ensure 30% of land, rivers and sea are positively managed for wildlife by 2030, enabling nature's recovery and adapting to climate change

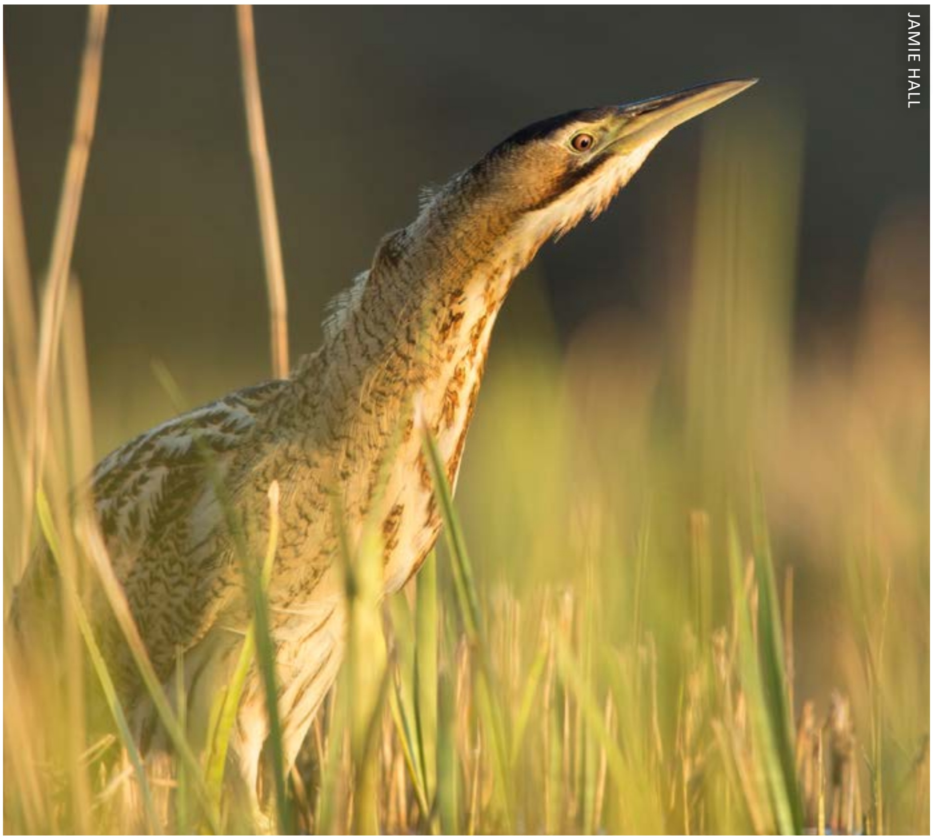
Reintroducing the lady's-slipper orchid

A project team led by Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and supported by partners Natural England, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, the National Trust, Plantlife, and the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland (BSBI) were delighted to discover the first new lady's-slipper orchid to appear in the wild for nearly 100 years.



Our newest nature reserve: Park Gill

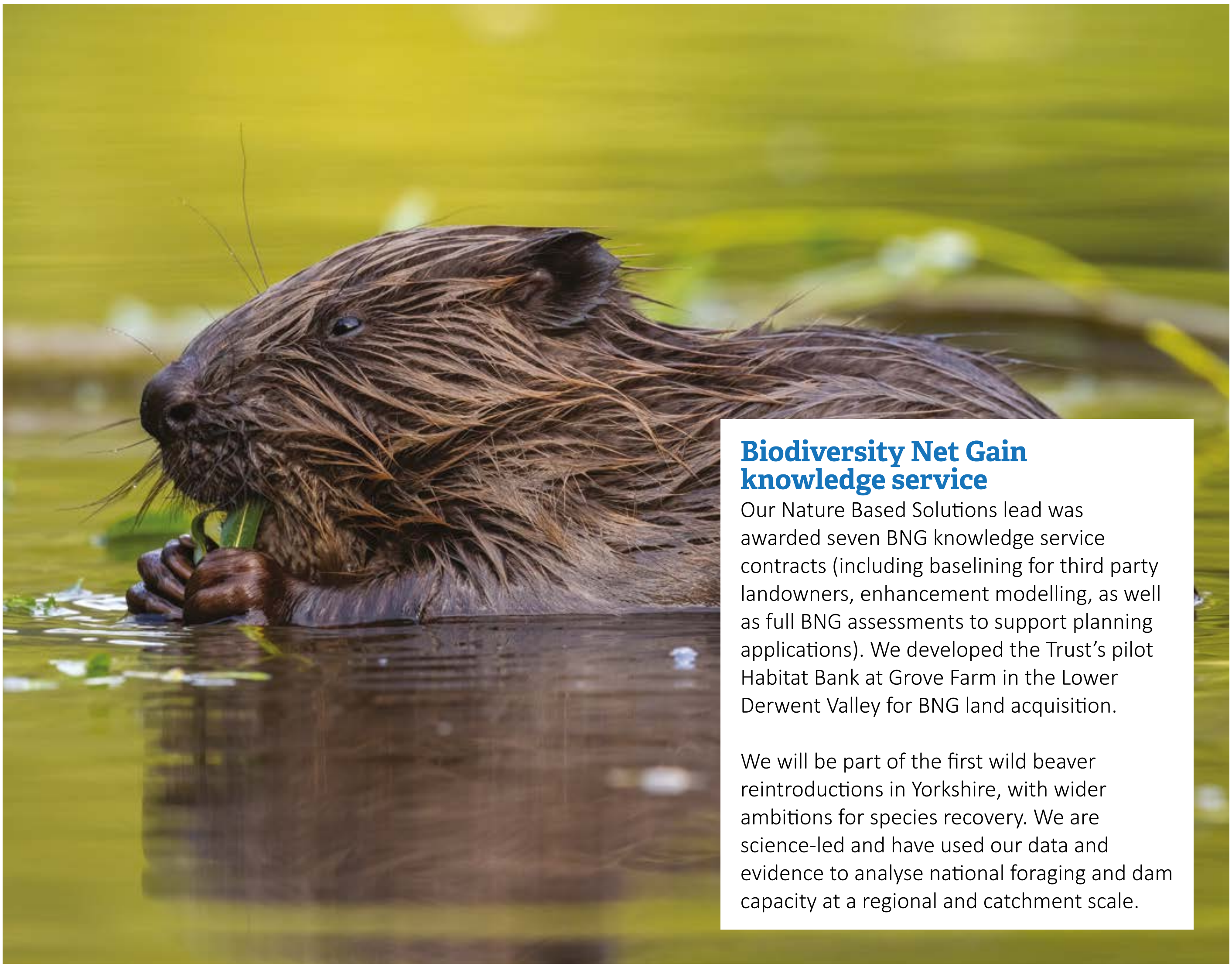
Our 116th nature reserve just outside Grassington will form part of the Temperate Rainforest Restoration Programme, working in partnership with the Wildlife Trusts and Aviva to see temperate rainforests restored in areas where they used to grow along the damper, western climes of the British Isles. Park Gill has fragmented patches of temperate rainforest, as well as limestone grassland, caves and streams. It is known for its rare wildflowers such as bird's-eye primrose, mountain everlasting and grass-of-Parnassus, and rare animals such as short-eared owls have already been spotted on-site.



Wildlife abounds at North Cave Wetlands

Bitterns bred for the first time at our North Cave Wetlands nature reserve near Hull. Bitterns were once declared extinct in the UK, and are still very rare in Yorkshire with roughly 20 breeding pairs last on record. The reserve also welcomed a clutch of common pochard chicks; a medium-sized diving duck which is on the IUCN red list of threatened species with only around 80 pairs breeding in Yorkshire, and regular sightings of an obliging otter.

Careful management at North Cave Wetlands, including close control of site water levels, expansion into new parts of the neighbouring quarry, and ongoing work to ensure the site is accessible to the widest variety of visitors, has made the reserve a highlight for both wildlife and increasing numbers of visitors.



Biodiversity Net Gain knowledge service

Our Nature Based Solutions lead was awarded seven BNG knowledge service contracts (including baselining for third party landowners, enhancement modelling, as well as full BNG assessments to support planning applications). We developed the Trust's pilot Habitat Bank at Grove Farm in the Lower Derwent Valley for BNG land acquisition.

We will be part of the first wild beaver reintroductions in Yorkshire, with wider ambitions for species recovery. We are science-led and have used our data and evidence to analyse national foraging and dam capacity at a regional and catchment scale.

Our land and sea scale **recovery programmes**

Yorkshire Peat Partnership

Yorkshire Peat Partnership's Wild Upland Wonderland project ran between April and October 2025, as part of Bradford's Year of Culture 2025. The project introduced over 260 children from 10 rural and urban schools within Bradford district to an educational programme that used nature connection and creative art approaches to support learning about Bradford's precious peatlands. In addition to practical and educational workshops, each school also took part in a live performance of their very own environmental artwork on a peatland, which was also exhibited in a Bradford 2025 public exhibition in Haworth, West Yorkshire.

As part of the Great North Bog coalition, our restoration work covered 4,614 hectares of peatland, with benefits for water, carbon and biodiversity.

FINN VARNEY

Wilder Humber

Wilder Humber, delivered in partnership by Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, achieved the largest release of native oysters in the intertidal zone by any restoration project in the UK to date. During 2025 the project introduced 300,000 oysters with support from Ørsted, The Oyster Restoration Company, and the Fisheries and Seafood Scheme operated by the Marine Management Organisation.

FINN VARNEY

Wild Ingleborough

The expansion of Ingleborough National Nature Reserve to include our nature reserves marked a milestone for this project. Supported by our recent Wild Ingleborough appeal, over the last two years we have removed boundaries between sites and spent time with local graziers to introduce cattle breeds like belted Galloway and red poll, and have seen more vulnerable and red-listed wildflower species on cattle-grazed sites, an explosion in the populations of every kind of invertebrate, and a much greater diversity of butterfly species.

Wild Ingleborough has now planted 150,000 Woodland Trust-supplied trees, nurtured well over 10,000 plants in the upland nursery – including spiked speedwell, a rare and protected species – and has restored over 400m of heritage dry stone wall, supported by our amazing volunteers. We connected 40 local primary schools with nature and saw 3,497 event attendees, including at our rapidly-growing Ground Nest Fest. There are no plans to slow down at Ingleborough either, with the ongoing steady development of the 3 Dales Project intended to build on our learnings from Wild Ingleborough and expand the nature-friendly management of the local landscape.

One Trust

Our trust is inclusive, integrated and innovative. Our diverse teams work collaboratively, enabled through digital technology and commitment to personal and professional training.

As part of our drive to work in a collaborative and innovative manner, we have started to streamline our policies and undertake a digital transformation of our working practices. Making these changes now will prepare the Trust for the future, and make our workforce resilient to a changing world and sector.

Staff Engagement: We continue to see staff and volunteer engagement as a vital part of delivering nature's recovery. We delivered training, held conferences and events as well as sharing briefings and stories regularly. We also ran our regular engagement surveys which again produced positive results this year and will guide where we can focus attention in future.

Photoshelter: Our new cloud-based image storage, with improved searchability and streamlined content, and new policies on data storage and image storage consent.

People First: Our new Human Resources portal gives staff greater control over annual leave requests, sickness, and personal detail management, and provides a centralised intranet space for important notices.

Health and Safety: We have refreshed how we communicate Health and Safety compliance and incidents internally, standardised training and equipment, improved compliance and expanding our monitoring.

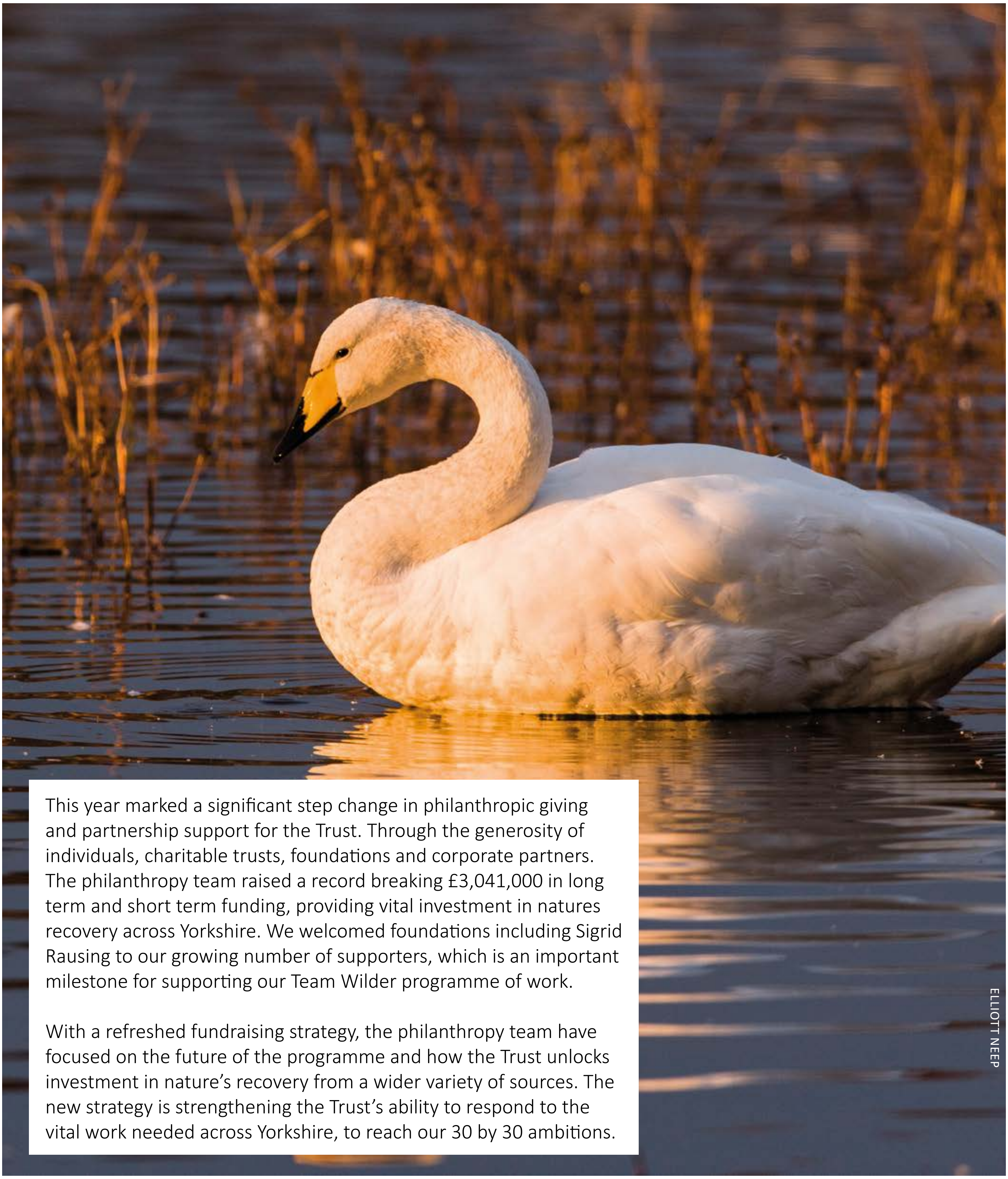
Asset Management: We have developed a full Asset Management Framework for the Trust in conjunction with Smartlog that will allow individuals to manage project and work assets in a fully compliant, effective and efficient manner.

WILDbase a new programme supports 62 users across the Trust, to use 98 Yorkshire specific, managed, reference datasets. Our data and evidence also better supports the tracking, projects, land interests and conservation activity across Yorkshire.

TERRY WHITTAKER/2020VISION

Resourced & Resilient

Our finances are resilient and balanced, with income secured from a diverse portfolio of sources, Our work programmes are carefully designed and risks effectively managed.



ELLIOTT NEEP

This year marked a significant step change in philanthropic giving and partnership support for the Trust. Through the generosity of individuals, charitable trusts, foundations and corporate partners. The philanthropy team raised a record breaking £3,041,000 in long term and short term funding, providing vital investment in natures recovery across Yorkshire. We welcomed foundations including Sigrid Rausing to our growing number of supporters, which is an important milestone for supporting our Team Wilder programme of work.

With a refreshed fundraising strategy, the philanthropy team have focused on the future of the programme and how the Trust unlocks investment in nature's recovery from a wider variety of sources. The new strategy is strengthening the Trust's ability to respond to the vital work needed across Yorkshire, to reach our 30 by 30 ambitions.

Corporate members and supporters

Corporate members and supporters create generative partnerships with us; through donations, affinity giving, sponsorship, Gifts in Kind, engagement events and Wild Work Days.

A warm welcome to our new corporate members:
Arc Building Solutions, Ibis Budget Leeds, Johnsons Facilities Ltd. and Meaningful Planet

We appreciate the ongoing support from a wide range of Yorkshire's businesses who value our work – thank you.

Gold Members

Arc Building Solutions
Colt Construction
GB Railfreight
Harmony Energy
Kelling Group
Symphony Group
University of Leeds
Wykeland

Silver Members

Birds Eye
Coxon Brothers
Classic Cottages
Close Brothers
Inntravel
Integrated Utility Services
Johnsons Facilities Ltd
Lightrock Power
Mighty Fine Co.
TOG24
Wolds Edge Holiday Cottages
University of York
Victrex
Yorkshire Hideaways
Xiros

Bronze Members

Aviva
Consulo Financial Planning
Croda International PLC
Elms Farming
Far 'n' Beyond
Forest Holidays
Friendship Estates
Huddersfield Astronomy Society
Ibis Budget Leeds
Jay-be
Meaningful Planet
Read Family Group
Reed Boardall Group
Rounton Coffee
Siddall & Hilton
Sinclairs
Sloemotion
Tennants Auctioneers
Termrim Construction Ltd
Weinerberger

Corporate Supporters

Airedale International Air Conditioning
Aire Logic
Beechfield Brands
Brabners LLP
Bradford 2025
Bradford College
Dechra
Ernst & Young
Fidra Energy
Gore Street Capital
Harrison Spinks
Hiscox
Hull Trains
Kerala Canteen
Moorlands Primary School
Morley Glass
Mute Animation Studio
Novuna
OnHand
Ørsted
Print.Work
Raising the Rafters
Seagrown
Second Nature
Unit 3 Compliance
Valpak
Whitby Distillery
Wynsor Shoes
Yorkshire Building Society
Yorkshire Water
Yorwaste

Our Annual Accounts and Audit Report

Despite the recent challenges to global energy security and world market stability, we have delivered a financially stable organisation with a turnover of £13.35m. Our finance team and trustees have worked together to oversee this performance and to ensure we have the reserves necessary to support the increased scale of organisation and programmes of work, and carefully manage our risks.

The trustees of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust are pleased to present their Annual Report and the Consolidated Audited Accounts for the year to 31st March 2026.

The year saw the Trust continue to champion large scale programmes of landscape restoration and species reintroduction. We did however, see a reduction in the overall level of charitable activity income. This was due to two reasons, the first was the planned reduction by Government of funds allocated by the Nature for Climate programme to peatland restoration. The second reflected the significant one-off investments made in the previous year for the acquisitions of Park Gill and Dryham Farm at Noth Cave. Thus, returning the Trust to income levels similar to 2023, and more reflective of expected income growth. 2025/26 was also the year that we engaged with the Landscape Recovery pilot schemes in the Yorkshire Dales, in what heralds an important milestone in our vision for landscape-scale long term restoration projects.

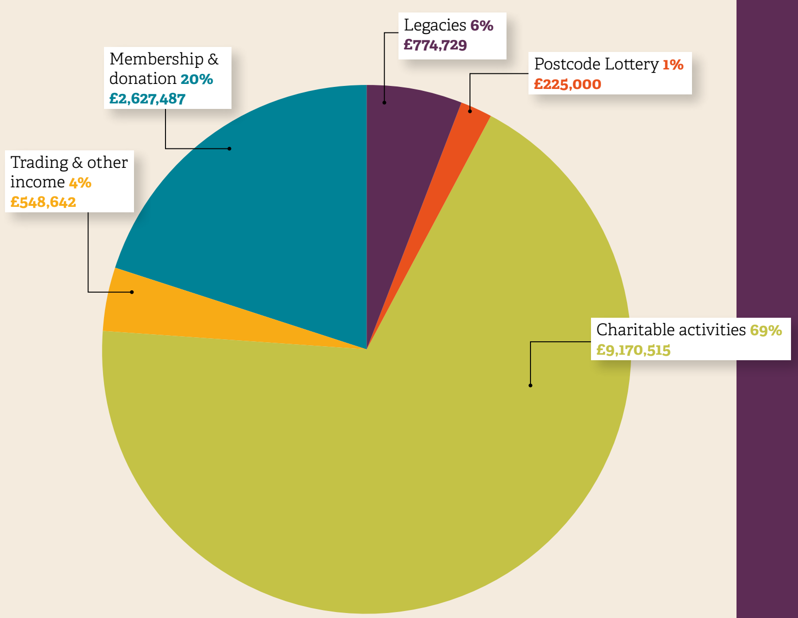
Strategic investment in green finance initiatives such as our BNG pilot site at Grove Farm and developing a digital transformation strategy aimed at advancing the Trust's effectiveness and capacity, are important signposts to our future ambitions. We have also reinvigorated our fleet; an important first step in decarbonising and utilising smart technology to maximise our effectiveness for nature.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties. The Annual Report and consolidated accounts are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

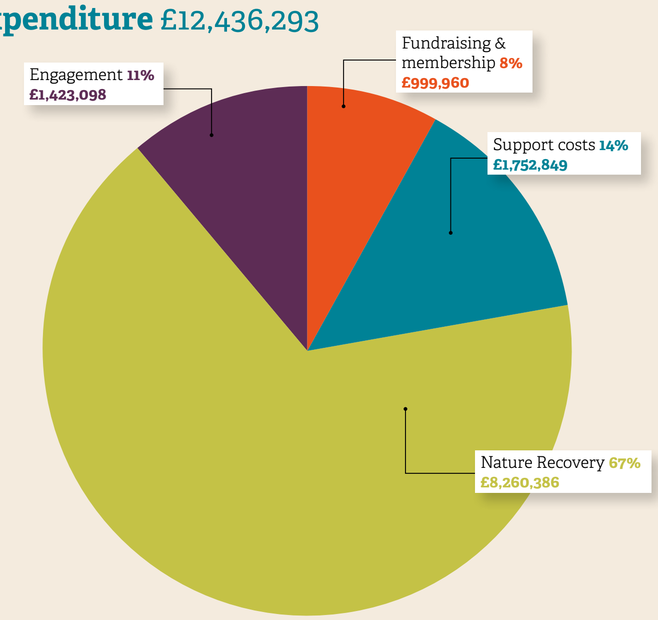
The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (Effective 1 January 2019).

Financial summary

Income £13,346,373



Expenditure £12,436,293



Financial and Fundraising overview

This year marked a significant step change in philanthropic giving and partnership support for Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. Through the generosity of individuals, charitable trusts, foundations and corporate partners, the fundraising team raised a record breaking £3,041,000 in short- and long-term funding providing vital investment in nature's recovery across Yorkshire.

With a refreshed fundraising strategy developed within year, the fundraising team have been focused on the future of the programme and how the Trust unlocks investment in nature's recovery from a wider variety of sources. The new strategy is strengthening the Trust's ability to respond to the vital work needed across Yorkshire to reach our 30 by 30 ambitions.

Philanthropic support continued to grow, with an increasing number of donors choosing to make significant investments in our vision for a wilder Yorkshire. Large gifts have enabled the Trust to strengthen its capacity to deliver ambitious conservation programmes, support strategic land acquisition, restoration opportunities, and invest in long-term nature recovery initiatives across the county.

Support from charitable trusts and foundations remained a cornerstone of our fundraising success. During the year, we secured funding from 20 trusts and foundations, demonstrating the incredible hard work of operational teams and the philanthropy team.

Our corporate partnerships portfolio also continued to expand, with businesses increasingly recognising the role they can play in supporting nature recovery and environmental resilience. Contributions from business members, strategic partners and corporate supporters helped to fund conservation activity across our reserves and wider landscapes. In addition to financial support, many businesses contributed through volunteering, fundraising activities and advocacy, strengthening our collective impact.

Public support remained exceptional throughout the year. Our Woodlands Appeal exceeded all expectations, raising £125,000 in donations surpassing our original fundraising target. This remarkable response has enabled the Trust to develop an enhanced programme of woodland restoration and management, delivering additional measures to improve the health, resilience and biodiversity of woodland habitats across Yorkshire.

In March 2026, we launched the Action for Askham Bog appeal to help restore one of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust's most iconic nature. The response from individuals, local businesses and supporters was overwhelming, with the campaign receiving an exceptional level of support from the outset. The generosity shown during the opening weeks of the six-month appeal provided a strong foundation for the restoration programme and demonstrated the deep connection that local communities have with this much-loved reserve.

Thank you

We have been fortunate in recent years to receive funds in legacies, which this year totalled £774,729 for which we are humbly grateful. Gifts in Wills remain a critical funding source in enabling us to achieve significant steps to protect and restore wild places and wildlife for future generations.

Carbon reduction

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust is committed to reach carbon net zero by 2030, and strives to embed best practice and adopt a holistic approach to carbon reduction through its work, people and activities.

We are continuing to evolve our measurement in this area. The table shows Scope 1 &2 emissions over which we have more control, including electricity and heating, transportation at work and our conservation grazing herd of livestock. These are shown in both absolute terms, and relative to our growing size. We also monitor indirect Scope 3 emissions associated with staff commutes, home working and, most recently, procurement. The data shows our actual emissions from 2021 – 2026 and the target forecast for 26/27.

While we have made progress in some areas, there is more work to do to reduce our operational emissions. YWT also contributes towards net zero through some of our habitat work, such as peat and seagrass restoration, and through encouraging members, supporters and partners to take action for climate and nature.

Table One – Yorkshire Wildlife Trust Carbon Emissions

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust Carbon Emissions						Target
	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
General Scope 1 & 2 emissions (tCO2e)	135	147	152	152	144	140
Conservation Grazing Livestock (tCO2e)	178	262	255	252	265	260
Carbon intensity Scope 1 &2	37.7	32.7	29	24.3	32.9	31.5
(tCo2e per £m expenditure) Scope 3 emissions: staff travel and home working (tCO2e)	151	206	194	210	246	240
Scope 3 emissions: procurement (tCO2e)	Not measured	1,422	1,130	1,079	892	800

Trustees' Annual Report

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees regularly review the risks the charity faces and where appropriate establish processes and procedures to mitigate those risks identified, including, where appropriate, putting in place insurance and setting aside financial reserves. The Trust's principal risks and uncertainties arise from:

- UK Government continuing to frame nature recovery and climate action as constraints on economic growth, resulting in policy, regulatory and public spending decisions that prioritise housing, infrastructure, energy and short-term economic development over environmental protection, climate resilience and long-term natural capital recovery infrastructure projects over nature's recovery, climate action and nature-based-solutions.

- Increasing likelihood of adverse climate events, particularly flooding, storm damage and fire incidents, across the portfolio of nature reserves, potentially exceeding capacity and resources to respond and compromising long term conservation objectives and site integrity.

- The risk of an inability to maintain delivery and momentum due to constraints on capacity and capability to undertake necessary digital transformations.

- Increasing cybersecurity threats including data breaches, malware attacks, and sophisticated online financial fraud attempts, which could compromise sensitive information, disrupt operations, and result in financial losses and reputational damage.

- Involvement in large-scale multi-partner grant-funded projects increases financial liabilities and cash flow pressures due to complex funding arrangements, partner performance issues, or project delivery challenges, potentially impacting the charity's financial stability.

- Potential for reputational damage to the Trust from significant internal incidents, external events, or stakeholder concerns that could undermine public confidence, funder and donor support, impacting the Trust's credibility and effectiveness.

Financial Reserves Policy and Going Concern considerations

The Trust's financial reserves policy is reviewed annually by the trustees. In setting the Trust's reserve policy, the trustees consider various financial metrics and data, cash flow movements and working capital requirements, anticipated risks, fixed assets equity availability and material future commitments. The Trust's key driver in setting its general unrestricted target is maintaining sufficient cash flow to allow it to continue to trade and to ensure it can fund the large number of projects for which grant funding is received in arrears, whilst at the same time not retaining large sums of money that could be put to use to support nature conservation in Yorkshire. The Trust's target level of general unrestricted reserves is £1.23m, with a minimum of 80% set for budgeting below which we should not fall.

At 31 March 2026, the Trust had total Funds of £19.12m including unrestricted, restricted, designated funds and fixed asset reserves. Of this, our unrestricted funds (including fixed assets and designated funds) totalled £3.83m, with general unrestricted funds up £0.05m to £1.38m (2025: £1.33m). The agreed budget for 26/27 forecasts a year end deficit of £0.12m, which would reduce the unrestricted funds to £1.26m.

General unrestricted funds represent available funds of the charity which trustees are free to use in accordance with the charitable objectives of the Trust. Funds used to purchase fixed assets, net of the Trust's long-term mortgage liability, are set aside as allocated funds as these assets are not generally available for day-to-day operations of the Trust. These comprise primarily nature reserves, which are held as part of the charitable objectives of the Trust and cannot be readily sold, and also Trust premises and equipment which are required for us to operate effectively. These assets may from time to time be used to raise funding if it is in the best interest of the Trust to do so.

Investment Policy

The Trust's Articles of Association enable it to invest monies not immediately needed for its purposes in such investments deemed appropriate, subject to such conditions as may be required by law. While trustees have delegated authority for the management of investments to a Finance and Risk Committee and to fund managers, they retain ultimate responsibility for all matters relating to and affecting the Trust's investments.

The investment policy objectives are:
- Investment objectivity and integrity
- Preservation of real value of the Trust's monetary assets
- Optimisation of capital growth and income generated from the Trust's monetary assets, with appropriate consideration and management of investment risk
- Invest in an ethical manner, consistent with the Trust's charitable status
- Flexibility and accessibility of invested funds

During the financial year, the trustees continued to hold all Yorkshire Wildlife Trust investments within stocks, shares or funds in those investments that are subject to screening of an ethical nature and to ensure that no investments are made which are knowingly contrary to the objects of the Trust. All Trust investments are currently held in either CCLA COIF Ethical Investment Fund or the Eden Tree Amity Global Equity Fund.

Global financial markets suffered a year of instability capped by a weak final quarter brought about by international conflict resulted in overall modest investment losses of (£0.01m) (2025:£0.05m loss).

Fundraising Disclosure

In accordance with the Charities Act 2011, as amended in 2016, the Trust endeavours to adhere to the Code of Fundraising Practice governed by the Fundraising Regulator, and all relevant guidance published by the Chartered Institute of Fundraising including treating donors fairly. The Director of Fundraising and Engagement coordinates our fundraising activity to ensure the highest standards of fundraising practice. We did not receive any complaints in relation to fundraising in the year.

Our commitment to supporters

Through our members' magazine, our website, events and activities and our other communications we will always tell you about how you are helping to make a difference for wildlife so you know how your money is being spent. We strictly adhere to the Code of Fundraising Practice as defined by the Fundraising Regulator and follow all relevant guidance from the Chartered Institute of Fundraising.

All fundraisers representing us receive training so as to understand the standards we expect when they are speaking to members of the public on our behalf, to ensure a positive experience. We will always take action if others acting on our behalf fail to meet our high standards and we will never sell your data to anyone else or share it without consent or having a legitimate reason to do so.* Yorkshire Wildlife Trust has a procedure for handling complaints, and we are committed to dealing with all complaints constructively, impartially and effectively. We will make every effort to ensure that all complaints receive a complete, accurate and timely response and no complaint is ever disregarded. If we cannot resolve a fundraising related complaint, we will provide information about how to raise a complaint with the Fundraising Regulator. In the year 25/26 we received a total of 6 complaints of which none were related to our fundraising activity.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust is committed to providing access and equality in its activities, across its nature reserves, as well as supporting equal opportunities and equal treatment for its staff, volunteers, members and supporters regardless of sex, gender, race, religion or belief, age, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy/ maternity, sexual orientation or disability. The Trust has a dedicated group tasked with developing the approach to equality, diversity and inclusion.

Governing document

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee, governed by its Articles of Association. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The Articles of Association were updated at the 2012 AGM.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purposes of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees.

The Trust currently has 11 trustees. The trustees serving during the year are listed on page 3. Rachael Bice was Chief Executive throughout the year.

The Chief Executive Officer and the Senior Leadership Team together comprise the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the Trust on a day to day basis. The pay of the Chief Executive and Senior Leadership Team is reviewed annually.

Trustee appointment, induction and training

Trustees are elected by the members of the Trust at the Annual General Meeting for an initial period of 4 years and are then eligible to seek re-election for a further 4 year period. Trustees may from time to time co-opt an eligible person to fill a temporary vacancy until the next Annual General Meeting when the co-opted trustees can subsequently stand for election.

New trustees undergo an induction to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Articles of Association, the committee and decision- making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the Trust. They are also invited to meet key employees and other trustees. New trustees attend an induction day, led by the Chief Executive and hold trustee feedback sessions each year with Chair of the Board of Trustees.

*It is sometimes necessary for YWT to allow its carefully vetted suppliers to use supporter data to carry out work on our behalf, such as undertaking member satisfaction surveys or sending out mailings to our supporters. We may also sometimes have to share data in other circumstances, for example where there's a legal requirement to do so. Please see our privacy policy on the website.

Organisation

The Board of Trustees administers the charity and meets at least five times a year. The Finance and Risk Committee comprises a minimum of three trustees and up to two other members of the Trust who can be appointed by the Board, and meets at least four times a year. The Chief Executive is appointed by the trustees to manage the day to day operations of the charity. The trustees actively engage with the Chief Executive Officer and Senior Leadership Team, working collectively in development of organisational strategy.

Supporter groups operate to encourage, coordinate and focus the active participation and contribution of volunteers to the Trust's projects and objectives at local level. Supporter groups are part of the Trust's volunteer structure, reporting through staff, and may be formed around a specific project, site or community, a group of sites or wider geographic area, according to the interests of group members.

The Trust is an active member of The Wildlife Trusts. This is a national partnership of 46 independent Wildlife Trusts and the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT) which operates throughout the UK. All the Wildlife Trusts contribute an annual levy to fund RSWT to provide advocacy and representation at a national level.

Trading Subsidiary

Yorkshire Wildlife Services Limited (YWSL), a company registered in England, is a wholly owned trading subsidiary of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. YWSL commenced trading on 1 April 2016, with a view to generating funds on behalf of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust for the furtherance of its charitable objectives and ensuring continued compliance with UK tax legislation. Profits generated by YWSL are generally distributed to the charity using gift aid. Further information is included in Notes 15 and 23 of the accounts.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual 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 which 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 the income and expenditure, of the charitable group for that year. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

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

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

Each of the persons who are trustees at the time when this Trustees' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Charitable Company's auditor is unaware, and
- the trustees has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a director in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Charitable Company's auditor is aware of that information.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website.

Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This statement is agreed by Yorkshire Wildlife Trust Board of Trustees, and signed on their behalf by;

Nick Perks, Chair

Independent Auditor's Report to Members

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiary (together 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 notes to the financial statements, including 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 and Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the 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 Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report, other than the financial statements and our Auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Other 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 Group Strategic report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' report and the Group 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 Group and 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 Group Strategic report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 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 Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement on page 21, 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

We have been appointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with those Acts.

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.

Explanation as to what extent 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:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the group's or the parent charitable company's 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. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the group's or parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention

in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the group or parent charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation (ie. gives a true and fair view).

- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

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 instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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.

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.

Steven Williams (Senior statutory auditor)
Statutory Auditors for and on behalf of

Armstrong Watson Audit Limited

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Leeds

Date:

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

for the year ended 31 March 2026

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
INCOME					
Donations and legacies	4	2,937,204	690,013	**3,627,217**	3,782,435
Charitable activities	5	1,540,146	7,630,369	**9,170,515**	12,221,764
Other trading activities	6	476,764	3,920	**480,684**	450,341
Investment Income	7	67,957	-	**67,957**	105,536
Total Income		**5,022,071**	**8,324,302**	**13,346,373**	**16,560,076**
EXPENDITURE					-
Raising Funds		1,064,628	71,151	**1,135,779**	975,516
Charitable Activities		3,863,086	7,437,428	**11,300,514**	15,107,707
Total Expenditure	**8**	**4,927,714**	**7,508,579**	**12,436,293**	**16,083,223**
Gains (Losses) on investment assets	15	2,189	(10,866)	**(8,677)**	(50,304)
Net income before transfers and other gains/(losses)		**96,545**	**804,857**	**901,403**	**426,549**
Transfers between funds	19	-	-	**-**	-
Net incoming resources before other recognised gains		**96,545**	**804,857**	**901,403**	**426,549**
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Gains on fixed assets		15,861	-	**15,861**	800
Net movement in funds		**112,406**	**804,857**	**917,263**	**427,349**
Reconciliation of funds					
Funds brought forward		3,720,567	14,478,051	**18,198,618**	17,771,268
Total funds carried forward	**19**	**3,832,973**	**15,282,908**	**19,115,880**	**18,198,617**
Represented by:					
General unrestricted funds		1,382,294	-	**1,382,294**	1,334,338
Designated funds		151,922	-	**151,922**	280,089
Restricted income funds		-	6,220,313	**6,220,313**	5,533,181
Fixed asset purchases fund		2,298,757	9,062,595	**11,361,352**	11,051,009
Total funds	**19**	**3,832,973**	**15,282,908**	**19,115,880**	**18,198,617**

All income resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities. The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

A fully detailed consolidated statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2025 is shown at note 22.

The Statement of Financial Activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
CONSOLIDATED AND CHARITY BALANCE SHEETS
as at 31 March 2026

		Group		Charity	
		2026	2025	2026	2025
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**11a**	5,410,729	5,384,357	5,410,729	5,384,357
Heritage assets	**11b**	6,266,602	6,077,278	6,266,602	6,077,278
Investments	**15**	2,519,481	2,528,158	2,519,491	2,528,168
Total fixed assets		**14,196,812**	**13,989,793**	**14,196,822**	**13,989,803**
Current assets					
Stock	**12**	162,675	131,661	113,323	76,241
Debtors	**13**	3,680,924	4,242,380	4,036,187	4,590,375
Cash at bank and in hand		3,287,566	3,123,926	2,970,102	2,799,298
Total current assets		**7,131,165**	**7,497,968**	**7,119,612**	**7,465,914**
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**14**	1,920,107	2,967,070	1,908,564	2,935,026
Net current assets		**5,211,058**	**4,530,898**	**5,211,048**	**4,530,888**
Total assets less current liabilities		**19,407,871**	**18,520,691**	**19,407,871**	**18,520,691**
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	**14**	291,990	322,074	291,990	322,074
Net assets		**19,115,880**	**18,198,617**	**19,115,880**	**18,198,617**
The funds of the charity:					
General unrestricted funds		1,382,294	1,334,338	1,382,294	1,334,338
Designated funds		151,922	280,089	151,922	280,089
Restricted income funds		6,220,313	5,533,181	6,220,313	5,533,181
Fixed asset purchases fund		11,361,352	11,051,009	11,361,352	11,051,009
Total funds	**19**	**19,115,880**	**18,198,617**	**19,115,880**	**18,198,617**

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on and signed on their behalf by:

Nick Perks
Chair

Chris Parsons
Hon. Treasurer

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust

CHARITY BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 March 2026

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2026 £	2025 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**11a**	1,645,835	3,764,894	5,410,730	5,384,358
Heritage assets	**11b**	968,902	5,297,700	6,266,601	6,077,277
Investments	**15**	990,054	1,529,437	2,519,491	2,528,168
Total fixed assets		**3,604,791**	**10,592,031**	**14,196,822**	**13,989,803**
Current assets					
Stock	**12**	113,323	-	113,323	76,241
Debtors	**13**	995,328	3,040,858	4,036,187	4,590,375
Cash at bank and in hand		(35,834)	3,005,936	2,970,102	2,799,298
Total current assets		**1,072,817**	**6,046,794**	**7,119,612**	**7,465,913**
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**14**	552,645	1,355,918	1,908,563	2,935,026
Net current assets		**520,172**	**4,690,876**	**5,211,048**	**4,530,888**
Total assets less current liabilities		**4,124,963**	**15,282,907**	**19,407,870**	**18,520,691**
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	**14**	291,990	-	291,990	322,074
Net assets		**3,832,973**	**15,282,907**	**19,115,880**	**18,198,617**
The funds of the charity:					
General unrestricted funds		1,382,294	-	1,382,294	1,334,338
Designated funds		151,922	-	151,922	280,089
Restricted income funds		-	6,220,313	6,220,313	5,533,181
Fixed asset purchases fund		2,298,757	9,062,595	11,361,352	11,051,009
Total funds	**19**	**3,832,973**	**15,282,908**	**19,115,880**	**18,198,617**

Nick Perks
Chair

Chris Parsons
Hon. Treasurer

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	2026 £	2025 £
Cash inflow from operating activities	**20**	737,511	2,262,191
Cash outflow from investment activities	**20**	(531,796)	(1,651,310)
Cash outflow from financing activities	**20**	(42,076)	(52,572)
Change in net cash in the year		**163,639**	**558,309**
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		3,123,926	2,565,617
Cash and cash equivalents at end of reporting period		**3,287,565**	**3,123,926**
Represented by:			
Cash at Bank		3,287,566	3,123,926
Accrued investment income		-	-
		3,287,566	**3,123,926**

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
for the year ended 31 March 2026

Company information

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust is a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Articles of Association, and a charity registered in England and Wales. The registered office is 1 St George's Place, York, YO24 1GN.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. *Basis of accounts*

(i) These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

(ii) The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

(iii) At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees deemed the Trust to have sufficient resources to continue to operate for a period of at least 12 months and there are no material uncertainties regarding the Trust's financial position. The financial statements have therefore been prepared on a going concern basis.

(iv) Yorkshire Wildlife Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

(v) Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes. The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the group and charity.
Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

b. *Funds held by the charity*

Restricted Funds

(i) Restricted funds are those held where a use has been specified by the donor. These are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes.

(ii) Where the cost of delivering a restricted project is only partially funded by restricted income, a transfer between funds, of unrestricted income to a restricted fund is made.

Unrestricted Funds

(iii) Unrestricted funds are those held where there are no restrictions and which the Trustees are free to use, in accordance with the charitable objectives of the Trust.

(iv) The Trustees occasionally vote to designate unrestricted funds for specific projects or programmes of work, thereby reclassifying as designated funds.

c. *Income and Expenditure*

(i) Membership subscriptions are accounted for on a cash received basis.

(ii) Income from legacies is recognised when the entitlement to the legacy is known with certainty, the value of the legacy receipt can be quantified with reasonable certainty and the timing of receipt is known with reasonable probability.

(iii) Grants income is recognised in the period to which it relates. Where a grant is restricted by the funder for use in a future period, its recognition is deferred until the charity becomes entitled to the resource. Grants in respect of specific projects are credited to a restricted fund, against which relevant expenditure is charged.

(iv) Contractual income is recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the related goods and/or services. Where such income is received in advance then the income is deferred until the charity becomes entitled to the resource.

(v) Investment income and gains and losses on disposals are allocated on the basis of whether the funds invested are for restricted use or for general unrestricted purposes.

(vi) Income from all other Trust activities is accounted for when it is receivable.

(vii) Resources used are accounted for on an accruals basis, inclusive of any irrecoverable VAT. Resources used are apportioned on the basis of whether the incoming resources were for restricted purposes or for general unrestricted purposes.

(viii) Support costs, which include administration costs and the running and maintenance of the Trust's offices, and which are not directly attributable to any one specific activity, are apportioned and allocated to the other direct activities on the basis of total expenditure attributable to that activity. Expenditure directly attributable to specific activities has been allocated directly to those activities.

d. Tangible Fixed Assets

(i) Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets over their expected useful lives, with a full year's charge in the acquisition year as follows:

- Plant and Equipment, including Fixtures and Fittings, together with Motor Vehicles are written off on a straight line basis over five years.
- Freehold property is valued at cost less depreciation, which is applied on a straight line basis over 100 years.
- Leasehold Improvements are valued at cost less depreciation, which is applied on a straight line basis over the duration of the lease.

(ii) Tangible fixed assets costing over £1,000 are capitalised at cost and are depreciated at the rates as set out above.

e. Heritage Assets

(i) The Trust holds heritage assets in the form of land for furtherance of the charitable objects of the Trust. These assets are nature reserves and cannot be readily sold and so in the normal operations of the Trust are not available for other use. The Trustees consider that owing to the incomparable nature of these reserves, conventional valuation approaches lack sufficient reliability and that, even if valuations could be obtained, the costs would be onerous compared with the additional benefits derived by the Trust and users of the accounts. The figures in the accounts represent the cost or valuation of the asset on acquisition where available, or where this is not available are included at the historic book cost. No depreciation is charged.

f. Investments

(i) Quoted Investments held in the nature of fixed assets are stated at market value. Gains and losses on disposal and revaluation are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they arise. The investment in the subsidiary is stated at cost.

g. Stock

(i) Retail stock is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for any obsolete items.

(ii) Livestock assets are stated at fair value less estimated costs of sale

h. Operating Leases

(i) Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

i. Consolidated financial statements

(i) The financial statements consolidate the results of the charity and its wholly owned subsidiary Yorkshire Wildlife Services Limited on a line-by-line basis. A separate Statement of Financial Activities and Income and Expenditure Account for the charity has not been presented because the charity has taken advantage of the exemption afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006. The Charity only income amounts to £12,839,287 (2025: £16,010,958) with a Charity only net movement in funds of £917,263 (2025: £420,994).

j. Financial Instruments

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

k. Taxation

(i) The Trust is a registered charity and as such is a charity within the meaning of schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010. Accordingly, the Trust is potentially entitled to tax exemption under part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 in respect of income and gains arising. Given this, no tax charge arises on the charity.

(ii) The trading subsidiary is liable to corporation tax on its chargeable profits. Current tax, including UK Corporation and foreign tax, is provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantially enacted at the balance sheet date. As all profits arising in the subsidiary are gift aided to the parent charitable company and paid within 9 months of the year end, no corporation tax arises.

l. Debtors and Other Assets

(i) Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

(ii) Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through profit and loss, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date.

(iii) Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected. The impairment loss is recognised in the income and expenditure account.

m. Creditors, loans and provisions

(i) Creditors, loans and provisions are recognised where there is a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be estimated reliably.

(ii) Creditors, loans and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

(iii) Financial Liabilities are only derecognised when, and only when, obligations are discharged, cancelled or they expire. Amounts recognised as provisions are best estimates of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting end date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

n. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

(i) In the application of the group's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors considered to be relevant.

(ii) The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised, if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

(iii) The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities are outlined below:

Critical estimates

Depreciation of tangible assets

Depreciation policies have been set according to experience of the useful lives of the assets in each category and are reviewed annually. A full year of depreciated is charged in the year of acquisition.

Legacies

Legacies are recognised as income when probate has been granted, the charity has established its entitlement to the funds and sufficient information is available to allow the measure of entitlement, and it is probable that the funds are receivable.

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

for the year ended 31 March 2026

2. APPEALS

	2026	2025
	£	£
Woodlands Appeal	115,820	-
Askham Appeal	109,504	-
Species Recovery	8,763	29,321
Staveley Appeal	4,163	1,886
Marine Appeal	4,038	
Wild Ingleborough Appeal	6,051	62,454
Wetlands Appeal	486	351
North Cave Wetlands Appeal	151	1,085
Give Seas a Chance	-	32,282
Other Appeals	-	3,225
Total	**248,977**	**130,604**

3. LEGACIES

The Trust received income in the year from legacies from the following benefactors who were kind enough to make bequests of over £5,000 in their wills:

	2026 £	2025 £
Elizabeth Cornforth	192,000	154,425
Donald Grant	122,888	-
Morgan Rees	100,000	-
Patricia Bradley	96,000	-
Desma Mills	55,822	-
Kenneth Jackson	42,943	-
Ann Bryden Barton	40,890	65,000
John Woodward	40,000	-
Reuben Appleton	22,500	-
Geoffrey Moore	15,000	-
Aedeen Caplin	10,000	-
Shirley Ann Hopkinson	10,000	-
Audrey Dixon	5,000	-
Christopher Till	5,000	-
Peggy Farrar		115,000
Alison Armstrong		70,000
Brian Robertshaw		56,212
George Hollingworth		38,091
Joan Glen		30,000
Betty Kitching		25,545
Patricia Tablor		19,724
Margaret Burley		19,130
Diana Tetley		17,833
Margaret Bower		17,000
Joan Dalby		15,570
Linda Welburn		15,017
Helen Roberts		14,516
Susan Orchard		10,000
Eric Weightman		10,000
Antony Smith		10,000
Michael Brumhead		9,489
Eileen Allanach		8,000
Margaret Hornby		6,281
Other legacies	16,686	18,378
Total	**774,729**	**745,212**

Legacy income includes accrued legacy income of £11,375 (2025:£Nil), notified by year end over which we had sufficient certainty of the amount receivable and the timing of receipt. The value of legacies notified, but which have not yet been included within the above figures due to uncertainty as to value and the timing of receipt, is estimated at approximately £1,897,000 (2025: £357,500).

4. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Membership subscriptions		1,696,532	-	**1,696,532**	1,642,570
Legacies	**3**	774,729	-	**774,729**	745,212
Donations		240,943	441,036	**681,979**	1,039,049
People's Postcode Lottery		225,000	-	**225,000**	225,000
Appeals	**2**	-	248,977	**248,977**	130,604
Total Donations and Legacies		**2,937,204**	**690,013**	**3,627,216**	**3,782,436**

In 2024-25 Donations & Legacies of £3,782,436 comprised of £2,704,206 Unrestricted and £1,078,230 Restricted Funds.

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Grants & subsidies	929,035	6,771,911	**7,700,946**	10,423,619
Contract & consultancy	304,557	812,429	**1,116,986**	1,500,947
S106 Agreements & compensation	-	40,449	**40,449**	-
Rents & other income	125,822	5,358	**131,180**	127,726
Green Finance	25,590	-	**25,590**	-
Admissions, education and workshops	155,143	221	**155,364**	169,473
Total income from charitable activities	**1,540,146**	**7,630,369**	**9,170,515**	**12,221,764**

In 2024-25 Income from Charitable Activities of £12,221,764 comprised of £1,158,258 Unrestricted and £11,063,505 Restricted Funds.

Charitable income includes £5.3m (2025: £8.0m) of income from various Government funding streams. This includes land management subsidies through various Government schemes totalling £0.55m (2025: £0.51m) and various Government grants and contracts totalling £4.7m (2025: £7.5m). These relate to works including land management on behalf of local authorities, various land, rivers and marine restoration projects.

6. INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Catering & other ancillary sales	454,244	780	455,024	422,868
Fundraising events	22,520	3,140	25,660	27,472
Total	**476,764**	**3,920**	**480,684**	**450,341**

In 2024-25 Income from Other Trading Activities of £450,341 was £445,210 Unrestricted and £5,131 Restricted Funds

7. INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2026	Total 2025
	£	£	£	£
Dividend Income - UK	-	-	-	22,405
Bank interest - UK	67,957	-	**67,957**	51,104
Total investment income	**67,957**	**-**	**67,957**	**73,509**

In 2024-25 Investment Income of £73,509 comprised of £51,694 Unrestricted and £21,815 Restricted Funds.

8. ANALYSIS OF TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Direct staff costs	Other Direct Costs	Support costs (Note 9)	Total 2026	Total 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of raising funds					
Fundraising & Membership	675,341	324,620	135,818	**1,135,779**	975,516
Total	**675,341**	**324,620**	**135,818**	**1,135,779**	**975,516**
Cost of charitable activities					
Nature Recovery - All Activities	3,942,248	4,318,137	1,372,865	**9,633,251**	13,402,773
Engagement	910,526	512,572	244,165	**1,667,263**	1,704,934
Total cost of charitable activities	**4,852,774**	**4,830,709**	**1,617,030**	**11,300,514**	**15,107,707**
Total resources expended	**5,528,115**	**5,155,329**	**1,752,849**	**12,436,293**	**16,083,223**

In 2024-25 The total of £16,083,223 was made up of Total Direct Staff costs of £5,107,622 , Total Other Direct costs of £9,351,996 and Total Support costs of £1,623,605.

This is stated after charging:	**2026**	**2025**
	£	£
Operating lease rentals: Land & buildings and other per note 17	17,160	18,424
Auditor's remuneration:		
Audit fees	20,000	18,870
Taxation services	1,000	1,150
Depreciation	380,322	548,156
Trustees expenses	31	250

No Trustees were remunerated for their role as Trustees during the year.

Trustees were reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, with total expenses of £31 (2025: £250).

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

for the year ended 31 March 2026

9. ALLOCATION OF SUPPORT COSTS

	Fundraising Membership	Nature Recovery	Engagement	Total 2026
	£	£	£	£
Financial Services	24,538	202,705	34,922	**262,166**
Premises & Insurance	34,866	288,014	49,619	**372,498**
Communications & IT	26,020	214,947	37,031	**277,999**
Audit & Governance	7,218	59,625	10,272	**77,115**
HR & Training	20,331	167,948	28,934	**217,213**
Administration	15,494	127,992	22,050	**165,537**
Depreciation	7,351	311,634	61,336	**380,322**
Total	**135,818**	**1,372,865**	**244,165**	**1,752,849**

For comparison to previous year please see below.

	Fundraising Membership	Nature Recovery	Engagement	Total 2025
	£	£	£	£
Financial Services	14,118	190,818	24,060	**228,996**
Premises & Insurance	23,051	311,548	39,282	**373,881**
Communications & IT	14,420	194,892	24,573	**233,885**
Audit & Governance	4,229	57,160	7,207	**68,596**
HR & Training	12,778	172,706	21,776	**207,261**
Administration	9,798	132,425	16,697	**158,920**
Depreciation	5,649	294,301	52,117	**352,067**
Total	**84,042**	**1,353,850**	**185,713**	**1,623,605**

10. EMPLOYEES

Total staff costs	2026 £	2025 £
Wages & salaries	4,906,509	4,665,123
Employers Nat Ins Costs	420,123	394,564
Employers Pension costs	393,453	367,598
Total staff costs	**5,720,085**	**5,427,284**

Average number of employees (and full-time equivalent) analysed by activity for the year ended 31st March 26	2026 Head count	2026 FTE	2025 Head count	2025 FTE
Nature Recovery - All activities	103	99	105	101
Engagement (including Nature Discovery Centres)	40	30	45	34
Membership and Fundraising	22	16	24	17
Support	17	15	17	14
Total staff	**181**	**160**	**191**	**166**

At 31 March 2026, the Trust had 182 (2025: 188) employees (Head Count)

In addition to our employees, the Trust relies on volunteers to help in all aspects of our work, particularly practical conservation work and involving and inspiring activities such as education, events and membership. During the financial year the Trust had 1,464 (2025: 1,428) active registered volunteers providing 44,661 (2025 48,138) volunteer hours. In accordance with Charities SORP (FRS 102), the value of volunteer time is not recognised in the financial statements.

The number of employees whose emoluments (including taxable benefits in kind but excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000, was as follows:	2026 Number	2025 Number
£90,000 - £99,999	1	1
£80,000 - £89,999	-	-
£70,000 - £79,999	1	1
£60,000 - £69,999	1	2
Total over £60,000	**3**	**4**

During 2025/26, employee salary and benefits of the key management personnel of the Trust, comprising the Chief Executive, Deputy CEO/Director of Operations, Director of Fundraising & Engagement, Director of Nature Recovery and Director of Finance & Central Services, totalled £327,684 (2025: CEO and 4 Directors £307,725). Trustee roles are voluntary and received £nil remuneration (2025: £nil).

11a. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (excluding Heritage Assets)

Group and Charity	Freehold Property £	Leasehold Improvements £	Motor vehicles £	Plant & equipment £	Total £
Cost					
at 1 April 2025	5,260,389	166,528	734,085	3,284,145	9,445,146
Additions	32,110	-	123,924	250,660	406,694
Disposals	-	-	(72,428)	(151,566)	(223,994)
31 March 2026	**5,292,499**	**166,528**	**785,581**	**3,383,238**	**9,627,845**
Depreciation					
at 1 April 2025	571,918	61,061	674,898	2,752,911	4,060,788
Disposals	-	-	(72,428)	(151,566)	(223,994)
Charge for the year	52,926	5,550	54,155	267,691	380,322
31 March 2026	**624,844**	**66,611**	**656,625**	**2,869,036**	**4,217,116**
Net book value					
31 March 2025	4,688,471	105,467	59,187	531,233	5,384,357
31 March 2026	**4,667,655**	**99,917**	**128,956**	**514,202**	**5,410,729**

In October 2005, the Trust granted a legal charge to Barclays Bank plc over the property at 1 St Georges's Place, York. As at 31 March 2026 the Trust had no liability to the charge.

In February 2014, the Trust granted a legal charge to the Trustees of the National Heritage Memorial Fund over certain elements of its land and buildings located at Spurn Point. As at 31 March 2026, the Trust had no liability to the charge.

In September 2016, the Trust granted a legal charge to HSBC Bank plc over freehold land at Low Carr Farm, near Pickering, North Yorkshire. Further details are given in Note 14.

11b. HERITAGE ASSETS

Group and Charity Cost or valuation	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
at 1 April 2025	968,903	5,108,375	6,077,278
Additions	-	189,324	189,324
Disposals	-	-	-
at 31 March 2026	**968,903**	**5,297,699**	**6,266,602**

Five year summary of heritage asset transactions	2025-26 £	2024-25 £	2023-24 £	2022-23 £	2021-22 £
Additions:					
Purchases	189,324	1,358,733	106,770	88,630	300,097
Donations	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	(1,298)	-	-
	189,324	**1,358,733**	**105,472**	**88,630**	**300,097**

12. STOCK	Group		Charity	
	2026	2025	2026	2025
	£	£	£	£
Goods held for resale	**49,352**	59,591	-	4,171
Livestock	**113,323**	72,070	113,323	72,070
Total	**162,675**	**131,661**	**113,323**	**76,241**

13. DEBTORS	Group		Charity	
	2026	2025	2026	2025
Amounts falling due within one year	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	**639,280**	439,254	632,222	431,177
Accrued income	**2,971,524**	3,713,026	2,971,524	3,713,026
Prepayments	**67,008**	90,100	67,008	90,100
Other Debtors	**3,112**	-	3,112	-
Amounts due from group undertakings	**-**	-	362,320	356,072
Total	**3,680,924**	**4,242,380**	**4,036,187**	**4,590,375**

14. CREDITORS

Amounts falling due within one year	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Trade creditors	**966,055**	1,735,549	958,577	1,725,945
Taxation, social security and pension	**240,980**	164,446	240,914	164,424
Other creditors	**17,398**	16,879	17,398	16,879
Mortgage Under 1 Year	**23,990**	35,982	23,990	35,982
Accruals	**602,707**	979,156	598,707	975,156
Deferred income	**68,977**	35,058	68,977	16,640
Total	**1,920,107**	**2,967,070**	**1,908,564**	**2,935,026**

Amounts falling due after more than one year	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Mortgage	**291,990**	322,074	**291,990**	322,074
Total	**291,990**	**322,074**	**291,990**	**322,074**

Included in creditors amounts falling due after more than one year is an amount of £181,570 (2025 - £250,365) which is due after five years in respect of the mortage provided by HSBC. YWT has two mortgages as follows:
- Mortgage provided by Barclays Bank Plc, secured on the Trust's York Office, which has now been repaid.
- Mortgage provided by HSBC Bank PLC, Secured on land owned by the Trust at Low Carr Farm, nr Pickering North Yorkshire, repayable by September 2036 at an interest rate of 1.8% over HSBC Base Rate.

Deferred income	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Balance as at 1 April 2025	**35,058**	-	35,058	-
Amount released to income	**(35,058)**	-	(35,058)	-
Amount deferred in year	68,977	35,058	68,977	35,058
Balance as at 31 March 2026	**68,977**	**35,058**	**68,977**	**35,058**

Deferred income comprises contract income received in the year relating to works to be undertaken in 2026-27. £23,579 of which is for works beyond 26-27 for BNG Ecosystem services.

15. INVESTMENTS

Group and Charity	**2026**	**2025**
Listed investments	**£**	**£**
Market value at 1 April 2025	2,528,158	2,633,159
Net (withdraw)/additions	0	(54,698)
Gains (Losses) on investment assets	(8,677)	(50,304)
Market value at 31 March 2026	**2,519,481**	**2,528,158**
Cash held for reinvestment	-	-
Accrued investment dividend	-	-
Total	**2,519,481**	**2,528,158**
Historical cost of investments	**1,202,272**	**1,202,272**

	2026	**2025**
Charity only Analysis of investments by type	**%**	**%**
COIF Charities Ethical Investment Fund	68%	72%
EdenTree Amity Global Equity Fund for Charities	32%	28%

At 31 March the geographic allocation of investments was as follows:

	2026	**2025**
Geographic Analysis of investments	**%**	**%**
UK	100%	100%
Total	**100%**	**100%**

The above investments were all held with UK registered funds, that include overseas holdings.

Charity

In addition to the above investments, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust also invests in the following:

Yorkshire Wildlife Services Limited

On 18 December 2015, Yorkshire Wildlife Services Limited ("YWSL") a company registered in England was incorporated. Yorkshire Wildlife Trust owns the entire share capital of YWSL (10 ordinary shares of £1).

Further information is provided at Note 23.

The investment in YWSL (£10) is included in the balance sheet of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust at cost.

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
for the year ended 31 March 2026

16. PENSION SCHEME

The Trust operates one pension arrangement: a Standard Life auto-enrolment defined contribution scheme. Total contributions to the scheme (employer) during the year were £414,088 (2025: £393,453).

17. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 March 2026, the Trust had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows;

	2026		2025	
Annual operating lease commitments in respect of leases expiring	**Land & buildings £**	**Other £**	**Land & buildings £**	**Other £**
Within one year	10,823	1,715	8,718	1,815
Between one and five years	21,390	858	19,563	1,225
After five years	14,750	-	20,750	-
Total	**46,963**	**2,573**	**49,030**	**3,040**

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
for the year ended 31 March 2026

18. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Peter Meadows, Trustee of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust is also a Director of Yorkshire Wildlife Services Limited, the Trust's wholly owned trading subsidiary.

During the course of the year, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust undertook regular operational transactions with Yorkshire Wildlife Services Limited, its subsidiary company. This included the sale of goods and services between the two organisations. Yorkshire Wildlife Trust also entered into an agreement with Yorkshire Wildlife Services Limited for the provision of operational and administrative services to the trading subsidiary. During the year the following transactions took place between the Trust and Yorkshire Wildlife Services Ltd (YWSL):

- Purchases of £28,126 (2025: £88,918) were made from YWSL
- Recharges for goods and services provided by the Trust to YWSL of £339,827 (2025: £337,999)
- The transfer under gift aid of the trading profits of YWSL to the Trust of £5,025 (2025: £6,355)
- YWSL Collected cash and card payments on behalf of the trust during the year totalling £77,698 (2025: £79,182)

Outstanding at the year end was a debtor balance due from YWSL of £344,851 (2025: £356,072)

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
for the year ended 31 March 2026

19. Analysis of Net Accumulated Funds

	Balance 1 April 2025	Movement in Funds					Balance 31 March 2026
		Incoming resources	Expended in year	Gains & Losses	Transfers in year	Transfer to Asset purchase	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS							
General Unrestricted Funds	1,334,338	5,022,071	(4,680,805)	18,049	(94,647)	(216,712)	1,382,294
Unrestricted Fixed Asset Funds	2,106,140	-	(118,742)	-	94,647	216,712	2,298,757
Total Unrestricted Funds	**3,440,478**	**5,022,071**	**(4,799,547)**	**18,049**	**-**	**-**	**3,681,051**
DESIGNATED FUNDS							
Strategic Development Fund	150,000	-	(6,420)	-		-	143,580
Joyce Mary Mountain Fund	130,089	-	(121,747)	-	-	-	8,342
Total Designated Funds	**280,089**	**-**	**(128,167)**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**151,922**
	3,720,567	**5,022,071**	**(4,927,714)**	**18,049**			**3,832,973**
RESTRICTED FUNDS							
North Cave Long Term Fund	899,892	-	(72,777)	(4,744)	-	-	822,372
Robertshaw Legacy	524,036	-	(600)	-	-	-	523,436
Manor Farm	328,573	-	(9,613)	(2,752)	-	-	316,208
Orsted Biodiversity	298,588	601,402	(562,039)	-	21,689	(12,150)	347,491
YW Land Acquisition	257,997	-	-	-	(150,000)	-	107,997
Living Went - YWEU22	249,500	-	-	-	-	-	249,500
Lower Aire - YWEU23	218,786	-	(38,777)	-	-	-	180,009
Dealtry - North Cave	210,618	-	-	(1,862)	-	-	208,756
Ripon CW Endowment Fund	176,353	-	(11,023)	(1,508)	-	-	163,823
Hookstone Beck - YWEU	175,726	-	(35,828)	-	-	-	139,898
Crimple Beck YWEU	173,489	-	(35,129)	-	-	-	138,360
Wild Ingleborough Appeal	133,414	21,735	(85,382)	-	-	-	69,767
River Dove/Kirbymoorside NFM	112,340	68,500	(94,870)	-	-	-	85,969
West Yorkshire Comb. Auth	90,732	319,298	(355,798)	-	-	(9,754)	44,477
Orsted Seagrass	84,649	-	(39,260)	-	-	-	45,389
North Rivers Fund	81,028	-	(20,000)	-	-	(3,650)	57,377
Marine Appeal	75,315	6,198	(11,759)	-	(30,000)	-	39,755
Rebel Restoration - Ingleborough	58,504	-	(54,244)	-	-	-	4,260
Environment Agency - Nature Bid 2	54,544	-	(16,443)	-	-	-	38,100
Garfield Weston - Ingleborough	53,124	-	-	-	-	-	53,124
EA Turning the Tide	49,000	100,000	(31,344)	-	(117,656)	-	-
EA Fleets	46,999	23,967	(67,073)	-	(210)	-	3,683
Doing More for the Derwent	45,593	10,600	(22,461)	-	-	-	33,732
River Hull Yorkshire Water	40,308	218,243	(73,211)	-	-	(9,812)	175,528
Derwent Catchment Partnership	40,076	172,990	(85,222)	-	-	-	127,844
Dearne Valley Yorkshire Water	38,779	-	-	-	-	(1,105)	37,674
Park Gill - RSWT	36,717	1,264	(37,981)	-	-	-	-
WWF/Michael Uren - Ingleborough	35,969	91,912	(115,705)	-	-	-	12,177
River Hull Chalkshire	31,888	-	(827)	-	-	-	31,061
Askham YWEU22	30,637	40	(30,677)	-	-	-	-
Nature for Climate - Humberhead	29,191	917,516	(744,923)	-	-	(50,349)	151,435
Dryham Farm - Heritage Lottery	27,908	16,653	(33,022)	-	-	(11,538)	-
South Projects Fund	26,720	-	(327)	-	15,000	-	41,393
Regional Flood & Coastal Committees	26,403	-	(7,830)	-	-	-	18,574
Crimple RCW YWEU23	25,195	-	-	-	-	-	25,195
North Sea Advocacy (Esmee Fairburn)	24,055	43,200	(52,926)	-	-	-	14,329
North East Reserves	23,614	-	(17,801)	-	-	-	5,814
Acaster Ings	23,051	-	2,079	-	-	(25,130)	-
Hull Rivers	22,000	-	-	-	-	-	22,000
Subtotal	**4,881,311**	**2,613,517**	**(2,762,792)**	**(10,866)**	**(261,176)**	**(123,488)**	**4,336,506**

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
for the year ended 31 March 2026

19. Analysis of Net Accumulated Funds (Cont'd)

	Balance 1 April 2025	Movement in Funds					Balance 31 March 2026
		Incoming resources	Expended in year	Gains & Losses	Transfers in year	Transfer to Asset purchase	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Project Funds (cont'd)							
Nature for Climate 1 - Peat	-	656,623	(855,058)	-	198,435	-	-
Nature for Climate 3 - Peat	-	223,664	(194,694)	-	(28,970)	-	-
Thornton Stewart - PT003	-	210,000	(210,000)	-	-	-	-
Three Dales Project - LRS Pilot	-	183,772	(183,626)	-	-	-	146
Sigrid Rausing - Engagement	-	180,000	-	-	-	-	180,000
LAPWDP Humberhead	-	171,098	(167,419)	-	-	-	3,679
Grove Farm - BNG	-	156,000	8,194	-	-	(164,194)	-
High Royd YWEU25	-	150,000	-	-	-	-	150,000
Ferris WRF	-	127,329	(127,329)	-	-	-	-
Woodlands Appeal	-	117,682	(51,107)	-	-	-	66,575
NLHF NDC Resilience	-	112,427	-	-	-	-	112,427
Nature for Climate 2 - Peat	176	149,454	(10,165)	-	(139,465)	-	-
YDNPA Faring in Protected Land	-	96,754	(93,692)	-	-	(3,062)	-
Wild Eye - NYCC	-	85,134	(85,134)	-	-	-	-
MMO FASS - Wilder Humber	-	84,394	(180,360)	-	95,966	-	-
WRF Capital	-	78,562	(64,860)	-	-	-	13,702
Derwent WRF RPA SSSi	-	76,755	(57,291)	-	-	(19,464)	-
Worwin - RSWT	-	74,207	(36,871)	-	-	-	37,336
INNS Mapper Redevelopment Fund	-	71,000	(14,188)	-	2,341	-	59,153
River Foss FCRM	-	54,086	(24,997)	-	-	-	29,089
Land Trust - Carr lodge	-	52,182	(52,182)	-	-	-	-
Potteric Carr Habitat Improvement	-	51,192	(16,700)	-	-	-	34,492
Denaby ings extension	-	50,000	(235)	-	-	(49,765)	-
Environment Agency - WRF	-	43,831	(34,549)	-	-	-	9,282
Askham Bog S106	-	40,449	(108)	-	-	-	40,342
Environment Agency - LSL BB	-	40,000	(40,000)	-	-	-	-
EA Catchment Partnership	-	40,000	(25,407)	-	-	-	14,593
YPIP - PA006	-	32,268	(18,510)	-	-	-	13,758
Yorkshire Water - MP001	-	30,500	(20,813)	-	-	-	9,687
Dearne YWEU24	-	-	(15,119)	-	150,000	-	134,881
All Other Restricted Projects	651,694	2,271,421	(1,911,987)	-	(17,132)	(19,333)	- 974,664
Restricted Long Term & Project Funds	**5,533,181**	**8,324,302**	**(7,246,999)**	**(10,866)**	**-**	**(379,306)**	**6,220,313**
Restricted Fixed Asset Funds	**8,944,869**	**-**	**(261,580)**	**-**	**-**	**379,306**	**9,062,595**
Total Restricted Funds	**14,478,050**	**8,324,302**	**(7,508,579)**	**(10,866)**	**-**	**-**	**15,282,908**
Total Funds	**18,198,617**	**13,346,373**	**(12,436,293)**	**7,184**	**-**	**-**	**19,115,880**

For full Restricted Fund analysis from 2024-25, please refer to Annual Report and Audited Accounts 2024-25.

19. Analysis of Net Accumulated Funds (cont'd)

The general unrestricted funds represents the available unrestricted funds of the charity which the Trustees are free to use, in accordance with the charitable objectives of the Trust.

Designated funds represent unrestricted funds set aside by the Trustees for essential spend or future purposes.

In the Financial year 24/25, the Board of Trustees agreed to designate £150,000 for the purposes of advancing the Digital Transformation of the Trust, investment in fundraising capacity and to assist with a strategic review of salary grading. This work will predominantly be delivered in 26/27.

Selected Restricted Fund Narrative

- The North Cave Long Term Fund is restricted to the North Cave wetland reserve to advance its restoration and infrastructure work funded by individual donations.
- The Robertshaw Legacy is a restricted legacy gift focussed on the acquisition of land in the Brockadale area.
- Manor Farm is a section 106 restricted fund for the management and restoration of land on Manor Farm reserve, Doncaster.
- Orsted Biodiversity is restricted to activities delivered through the Wilder Humber programme including Seagrass reintroduction and Oyster restoration in partnership with Orsted.
- YWT is a recipient of enforcement undertakings, donations made to environmental charities that results from enforcement proceedings carried out by the Environment Agency. When these funds are received we use these funds to undertake enhancement works in the relevant catchments, looking for the most impactful opportunities for wildlife. In 25/26 we undertook works on River Went, Aire, Hull, Hookstone and Crimple Beck, and High Royd. These habitat enhancement programmes will continue into 26/27.
- The Dealtry fund is an invested legacy restricted to wildlife and habitat restoration with a focus at North Cave but including wider East Yorkshire reserves.
- The Ripon City Wetlands is restricted to restoration and management of Ripon City Wetlands through a Section 106 Fund.
- Nature for Climate - Humberhead is a Natural England funded restoration programme with a particular focus on peatland restoration. This programme has received an extension year into 26/27.
- Nature for Climate 1 & 3 is a Natural England funded peatland restoration programme centred in the Yorkshire Dales delivered in partnership with North Pennines Area of Natural Beauty (NPAONB). This programme has received an extension year into 26/27.
- The Three Dales Project is a Landscape Recovery pilot programme led by YWT with 8 partnership entities, to develop and submit a proposal for a 30 year restoration project in the 3 Dales area of the Yorkshire Dales.
- The Sigrid Rausing Trust have supported the Trust to deliver an ambitious programme of digital transformation to be delivered in 26-28.
- LAPWDP Humberhead is a government-led restricted fund initiative in Lowland Peat Water Discovery developing sustainable water management in lowland areas of Peat.
- Grove Farm is the Trust's first site acquired to develop BNG opportunities the initial acquisition was supported by Yorkshire Water.
- The remaining funds included within restricted funds comprise a number of individually immaterial balances. In the opinion of the trustees, separate disclosure would not enhance the understanding of the financial statements.
- The fixed assets funds represent the net book value of tangible fixed assets, net of the Trust's long term mortgage liability. The allocation of tangible fixed assets is carried out on the basis of whether the funds used for the acquisition were from restricted funds or from unrestricted funds. Transfers to Asset Purchase represents expenditure on items capitalised as fixed assets at 31 March 2026 and movement from general unrestricted funds to reflect the annual capital repayment of the Trust's mortgage liability. Transfers In year arise when restricted funds are moved to a specific Budget area, unrestricted money is utilised to contribute towards delivery of a restricted fund project or the designation of general unrestricted funds.

20. Cash flow analysis

	Note	2026 £	2025 £
Operating activities			
Net incoming resources before gains/(losses)		**910,080**	**476,853**
Adjustment for:			
Interest costs		19,596	25,739
Investment income		(67,957)	(105,536)
Depreciation	**11a**	380,322	352,067
Changes in working capital:			
Increase in stock		(31,014)	18,158
Decrease in debtors	**13**	561,456	2,164,903
Decrease in creditors	**14**	(1,034,971)	(669,992)
Net cash inflow (outflow) from operating activities		**737,511**	**2,262,191**

Investment activities		**£**	**£**
Investment income received		67,957	105,536
Accrued investment income			
Interest paid		(19,596)	(25,739)
Purchase of fixed & heritage assets		(596,018)	(1,805,038)
Purchase of investments		(0)	54,698
Sale proceeds of disposal of assets		15,861	19,233
Net cash inflow (outflow) from investment activities		**(531,796)**	**(1,651,310)**

		£	**£**
Debt due within one year:			
Increase / (decrease) of secured loan (mortgage)	**14**	(11,991)	(9,125)
Debt due beyond one year:			
Decrease of secured loan (mortgage)	**14**	(30,084)	(43,447)
Net cash inflow (outflow) from financing activities		**(42,076)**	**(52,572)**
Total Net Cash inflow (outflow)		**163,639**	**558,309**

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
for the year ended 31 March 2026

20. Cash flow analysis

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22. Comparative Group statement of financial activities for the financial year to 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £
INCOME			
Donations and legacies	2,704,206	1,078,229	**3,782,435**
Charitable activities	1,158,258	11,063,505	**12,221,764**
Other trading activities	445,210	5,131	**450,341**
Investments	96,755	8,781	**105,536**
Total Income	**4,404,430**	**12,155,646**	**16,560,076**
EXPENDITURE			
Raising Funds	933,552	41,964	**975,516**
Charitable Activities	3,460,510	11,647,197	**15,107,707**
Total Expenditure	**4,394,062**	**11,689,161**	**16,083,223**
Gains/(losses) on investment assets	(2,985)	(47,319)	**(50,304)**
Net income / (expenditure)	**7,383**	**419,166**	**426,549**
Transfers between funds	-	-	-
Net incoming resources before other recognised gains	**7,383**	**419,166**	**426,549**
Other recognised gains/(losses)			
Gains/(losses) on fixed assets	800	-	**800**
Net movement in funds	**8,183**	**419,166**	**427,349**
Reconciliation of funds			
Funds Brought Forward	3,712,385	14,058,884	**17,771,268**
Total funds carried forward	**3,720,567**	**14,478,050**	**18,198,617**

Balance Sheet YWT	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	1,547,865	3,836,493	5,384,358
Heritage assets	970,200	5,107,077	6,077,277
Investments	447,711	2,080,457	2,528,168
Total fixed assets	**2,965,776**	**11,024,027**	**13,989,803**
Current assets			
Stock	76,241	-	76,241
Debtors	793,352	3,797,022	4,590,375
Cash at bank and in hand	599,122	2,200,176	2,799,298
Total current assets	**1,468,715**	**5,997,198**	**7,465,913**
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	391,850	2,543,176	**2,935,026**
Net current assets	**1,076,865**	**3,454,023**	**4,530,888**
Total assets less current liabilities	**4,042,641**	**14,478,050**	**18,520,691**
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	322,074	-	322,074
Net assets	**3,720,567**	**14,478,050**	**18,198,617**
The funds of the charity:			
General unrestricted funds	1,334,338	-	1,334,338
Designated funds	280,089	-	280,089
Restricted income funds	-	5,533,181	5,533,181
Fixed asset purchases fund	2,106,140	8,944,869	11,051,009
Total funds	**3,720,568**	**14,478,050**	**18,198,617**

23. TRADING SUBSIDIARY

Yorkshire Wildlife Services Limited

On 18 December 2015, Yorkshire Wildlife Services Limited ("YWSL") a company registered in England was incorporated. Yorkshire Wildlife Trust owns the entire share capital of YWSL (10 ordinary shares of £1). YWSL was incorporated as a wholly owned subsidiary, with a view to generating funds on behalf of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and ensuring continued compliance with UK tax legislation. YWSL commenced trading on 1 April 2016. On 1 April 2016, the retail and catering operations of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust were moved to YWSL. All retail and catering stock at 1 April 2016 was transferred to YWSL.

During the 12 months to 31 March 2026, a profit of £5,321 before taxation was generated and subsequently distributed to Yorkshire Wildlife Trust under the gift aid scheme.

Profit and loss account **for 12m to 31 March 2026**	**2026** **£**	**2025** **£**
Turnover	532,211	549,118
Cost of sales	496,743	507,615
Gross Profit	**35,468**	**41,504**
Administrative expenses	30,147	35,149
Profit before taxation	**5,321**	**6,355**
Gift Aid Donation to Yorkshire Wildlife Trust	5,321	6,355
Transfer to retained earnings	**-**	**-**

Balance sheet **at 31 March 2025**	**2026** **£**	**2025** **£**
Current assets		
Stock	49,352	55,420
Debtors	7,058	8,077
Cash at bank and in hand	317,463	324,628
Total current assets	**373,874**	**388,126**
Current Liabilities		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	373,864	388,116
Net current assets	**10**	**10**
Capital and Reserves		
Share Capital	10	10
Profit and loss reserves	-	-
Total equity	**10**	**10**

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