Bumblebee Conservation Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st March 2026

Charity registration number: 1115634
Scottish Charity registration number: SC042830
Company registration number: 05618710

Thank you to our supporters

Collaboration is at the core of our work to see ‘a world where bumblebees are thriving and valued by everyone’. We cannot do it alone.

This is our opportunity to say a heartfelt ‘thank you’ to all our members, volunteers, individual donors, businesses, funders and organisations that so generously supported the charity financially in 2025-26, including all donors who wish to remain anonymous.

We do not have space to individually name all donors but would like to acknowledge the following who provided financial support of £5,000 or more within the financial year.

Baillie Gifford
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Brian D. Newman Foundation for the Environment
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T D Paton Trust
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Much of our successful work is underpinned by the generosity of supporters who have left a gift in their Will. All gifts, whatever their size, are hugely valuable. We would like to thank our generous benefactors for these important gifts.

BUMBLEBEE CONSERVATION TRUST

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BUMBLEBEE CONSERVATION TRUST

Legal and Administrative Information

Trustees	Angela Style (Chair) Catriona Gardiner Claire Inglis (Resigned 3 November 2025) Hazel Jackson (Resigned 29 April 2025) David McIntyre Georgia Romeril Grace Deepa Senapathi Sophie Theen Sabah Zdanowska (Resigned 10 January 2026) Theresa Dauncey
Charity Commission number	1115634
OSCR number	SC042830
Company number	05618710
Principal/correspondence address	Beta Centre Stirling University Innovation Park Stirling FK9 4NF
Registered office	International House 109-111 Fulham Palace Road London W6 8JA
Auditor	Buzzacott Audit LLP 130 Wood Street London EC2V 6DL
Bankers	Bank of Scotland plc 7/13 Port Street Stirling FK8 2EJ CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ

Foreword from the Chair of Trustees

In 2025, the Trust celebrated over 1,000 transects being submitted as part of our iconic citizen science BeeWalk survey. This unique dataset is fundamental to our evidence-led approach, and the data from 2025 showed that the populations of many of our bumblebee species appeared to bounce back, following the challenging extreme weather events of the previous year.

Our conservation projects continued to focus on putting flower-rich habitats back on the map, and we continued to work with farmers across the UK offering land management advice to benefit bumblebee species restoration. Our pipeline of projects continued to be received positively by funders, with new projects approved in Somerset, Carmarthenshire, and the seawalls of North Kent.

The Trust's invitation to be part of a pan-European paper assessing bumblebee monitoring, together with our invitation to provide conservation evidence to Westminster, were both shining examples of the progress being made in our strategic quest to be recognised as the UK's trusted experts on bumblebee populations, ecology and conservation.

Landmark new environment acts were passed this year in Scotland and Wales, hopefully paving the way for bumblebee recovery to be legally mandated within nature targets. However, we also saw several bumblebee-friendly options no longer available for farmers as part of the Sustainable Farming Initiative (SFI) in England, most notably species-rich grasslands options. This highlights the importance of our ongoing policy and advocacy work, as we fight to give bumblebees a voice.

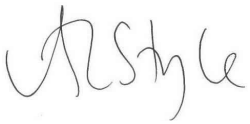
In communities up and down the UK, our outreach and public engagement work was focused on inspiring people and organisations to champion and take action for bumblebees. The tools at our disposal to have these conversations were extremely varied and ranged from talking with crofters in the Outer Hebrides about no-fence collars, to engaging corporate partners with our Bumblebee Manifesto.

The Cash Appeal that we launched at the end of July, in response to the challenging economic climate, was wonderfully supported by so many members and donors, and it was incredibly humbling to see just how important our mission is to the wider public. We are profoundly grateful to all those individuals who supported the Trust during such challenging financial times, and I'd like to reiterate my thanks to all of our members, supporters, volunteers and ambassadors, to say that we simply couldn't achieve what we do without that passionate, ongoing support.

At the start of February, we were delighted to have Dr Andrew Impey join the Trust as our new CEO. Andrew started his conservation career in the mid-90's and has been fortunate enough to work on conservation projects across four different continents. He therefore brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Trust, not least as the former Head of Global Habitats at the RSPB, Chief Executive of Essex Wildlife Trust for over eight years and Deputy Director of the Natural Environment at the City of London Corporation.

Andrew will be hoping for your continued support in the years to come, and I know that our incredible army of supporters, up and down the UK, will be right beside him as we continue our fight to give bumblebees a voice.

As the financial year drew to a close, we said goodbye to Andrew's predecessor, our hugely respected and much-admired CEO Gill Perkins. Gill had been CEO for the last decade, and a key senior member of staff for five years prior to that. The Trust owes Gill an immeasurable debt of gratitude for all that she achieved in the name of bumblebee conservation. Gill put the Trust on the map, and she grew it to where it is today through sheer passion, determination, dedication and unwavering commitment. We collectively congratulate and thank her for her incredible journey with the Trust.



Angela Style
Chair of Trustees

Objectives and activities

Purpose and aims

The objectives of the Trust are set out in its Articles of Association, being:

- To promote, for the benefit of the public, conservation of bumblebees
- To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the natural environment.

The aims of the Trust, incorporated into a 2024-29 strategic plan, are that:

1. We are the UKs trusted experts on bumblebee populations, ecology and conservation.
2. People and organisations, including policy makers, are inspired to champion and take action for bumblebees.
3. There is more, bigger, better and more joined up habitat for bumblebees in towns, cities and the countryside.
4. Our threatened bumblebees are on the road to recovery and no other bumblebee species become threatened.
5. We are an impactful, inclusive, bold and sustainable organisation.

The Trust's strategic delivery framework is defined in our 2024-29 strategic plan. Work is delivered via four delivery aims with an overarching fifth foundational aim focused on organisational capacity and efficiency. Strategic outcomes have been established to enable the Trust to monitor its performance against the strategic plan. Delivery against planned outcomes is monitored, evaluated, and reported to the Trustee Board at least twice a year.



Our work and impact

Aim 1 - We are the UKs trusted experts on bumblebee populations, ecology and conservation

Outcome 1.1 - BeeWalk provides a more complete understanding of bumblebee populations for all species (especially threatened species) in all parts of GB

An increase in capacity through our Skills for BeeWalk project, has allowed us to make good progress with this outcome during the reporting period. The main focus of this project is to create a BeeWalk Academy which includes a standalone online training curriculum alongside delivery of in-person training to support participants of our citizen science scheme BeeWalk.

2025 saw over 900 volunteer BeeWalkers submit data for 1,100 sites, adding to over fifteen years of survey data. This information is integral to monitoring population and range changes over time and helps us to spot trends so we can focus our conservation projects where they are needed most.

As one of the world's largest bumblebee datasets, holding over one million records, it enables a range of research to be undertaken by leading university research groups, for example into the interactions between bumblebees and honeybees, certain habitat interventions, impacts of pesticides and to better understand bumblebee behaviour. The dataset is also used by UK statutory agencies for nature conservation and as a wildlife abundance indicator at a national level.

Outcome 1.2 - The Trust is recognised (by conservationists, scientists, journalists and policy makers) as the best source of UK bumblebee evidence

BeeWalk is the main source of our evidence and is increasingly in demand externally for research to increase understanding of bumblebee populations, as demonstrated by the huge number of downloads of our data from NBN, GBIF, and Figshare. During this reporting period over 1.3 billion data points were downloaded resulting in citations in 27 scientific publications and the UK Pollinator Monitoring Scheme annual report. Trust staff were contributing authors on three scientific papers (and five more submitted but not yet published) with academic or other partners. The impact of these publications in terms of attention in traditional and social media, policy documents and other researchers is measured via Altmetric.com.

- RestPoll: Restoring Pollinator habitats across European agricultural landscapes based on multi-actor participatory approaches. Research Ideas & Outcomes 11: e181727. 2025 https://doi.org/10.3897/rio.11.e181727. *Altmetric score 8 = High, 86th percentile for outputs of the same age*
- Leveraging Biodiversity Net Gain to address invertebrate declines in England. Insect Conservation & Diversity, vol. 8, issue 4, pp. 485-493, 2025 http://doi.org/10.1111/icad.12820 *Altmetric score 12 = High, 90th percentile for outputs of the same age*
- Assessing monthly habitat quality for bumblebees in grasslands using a habitat trait model: a case study in Worcestershire, UK. J Insect Conserv 30, 2. 2026

https://doi.org/10.1007/s10841-025-00735-y. *Altmetric score 2 = Above average, 58th percentile for outputs of the same age*

In policy and advocacy terms, BeeWalk data are used in the England species abundance indicator, including data for 12 bumblebee species within the "all species" measure used to track progress towards the Government's legally binding targets to halt species decline by 2030 and reverse declines by 2042 (Indicators of species abundance in England - GOV.UK) and during the period we participated in discussions that will hopefully see the data included in the Welsh equivalent in future. We have ongoing direct engagement with JNCC, OEP and the Parliamentary Office of Science & Technology over biological data (central support, ongoing use, etc).

We use all our evidence to develop our policy positions statements and support the Bumblebee Manifesto which are important reference documents for government consultations and briefings, and to provide information to our Species Champions and the All Party Parliamentary Group on Pollinators.

Aim 2 - People and organisations, including policy makers, are inspired to champion and take action for bumblebees

Outcome 2.1 – More people and organisations are taking more actions to help bumblebees survive and thrive.

Our digital communications channels allow us to cost-effectively reach a wide audience with our messaging about the importance of bumblebees, and the simple actions people can take to help them. During the reporting period, over 163,000 people visited our website, with the pages providing information about bumblebee species and nests being among the most popular. Although this is a reduction on the previous year of approximately 15%, this is not uncommon across all sectors given the rise of AI searches (which deliver information without recording a visit to the website).

In the 2025/26 financial year, our social media messages reached almost twice as many people as in 2024/25 (1.9x the reach). This was despite the fact that, in Q4, we made the decision to remove X (Twitter) as a communication channel for the Trust. Social media posts incorporating entertaining and informative video clips about ways people can take action had the most engagement. Our monthly e-newsletters also performed strongly, with almost three-quarters (74%) of the audience opening at least one e-newsletter during the financial year.

Volunteers are integral to the delivery of the Trust's work, contributing across monitoring, outreach, and project activity. BeeWalk volunteers play a crucial role in monitoring changes in bumblebee populations over time. Outreach volunteers support public engagement by working with a wide range of audiences, including schools and community groups. They help raise awareness of bumblebees, their importance to the environment, and the practical actions people can take to support them. Alongside this, project volunteers play a vital role in delivering hands-on conservation work, including habitat creation and species surveying within project areas. During the reporting period, a total of 135 outreach activities were delivered by volunteers, including 76 stalls, 25 safaris, and 34 community talks. These activities provided

valuable opportunities to connect directly with the public, share key messages, and engage with over 6,400 adults and children.

The Trust's education work continued to inspire young people, educators and communities to take action for bumblebees through curriculum-linked learning, practical conservation activities and the expansion of the Bumblebee Friendly Education Awards. Education remains a key element of the Trust's strategy to create long-term behaviour change, helping young people develop a lasting connection with nature while providing educators with accessible, science-led resources.

This year, 30 new Bumblebee Friendly School awards were achieved, by schools from 24 UK counties or council areas. The programme engaged 2,951 students in learning about bumblebees, and supported schools to carry out habitat creation and monitoring activities, including recording 497 bumblebees and planting bumblebee-friendly flowers on school grounds. Four schools who had previously achieved an award progressed to a higher award level, demonstrating sustained commitment to bumblebee conservation. In addition, through a partnership with Cannock Chase Council, the Trust supported 14 schools to start their Bumblebee Friendly Schools Award journey, providing workshops and guidance to help schools take practical action for bumblebees.

Alongside growth in the schools programme, the Trust developed and launched the new Bumblebee Friendly Early Years Award, extending engagement to younger children. Development involved collaboration with 24 nurseries and early-years practitioners, helping ensure that resources were age-appropriate, practical and aligned with early-years learning needs. The award was launched as a physical resource package designed specifically for children under five.

Through the Trust's Bumblebee Friendly Education Awards, young people have the opportunity to create habitat, develop bumblebees survey skills, involve their communities, and embed pollinator conservation into everyday life.

Most Trust projects contribute to delivering this outcome, in total across our projects during the year we delivered 92 engagement events including training days on bumblebee identification and land management, habitat work parties, farm days and community outreach events. Specific examples from the reporting period include:

- Coordination of the Outer Hebrides Wildlife Festival as part of the multi-partner **Species on the Edge** project. This Festival included over 90 community-led events developed by local artists, businesses, community centres and other groups to bring nature and people together. Example events include bumblebee safaris, bat walks, whale watching, art exhibitions, seashore foraging and gin tasting. Attendance has been increasing year on year and far outstrips the target figures developed at the start of the project with a total of 5446 people attending events or exhibitions.
- **The Natur am Byth Shrill Carder Bee** project has been engaging military families from the Castlemartin military base in Pembrokeshire. Military families are often underserved with less well-established connections to their local community and can be isolated from local services. However, they are local to our target species the

Shrill Carder Bee. NaB SCB project officer, Anna Hobbs has delivered several activities with the military families groups in the Castlemartin area and surrounds. These include bee safaris and 3 bumblebee-friendly planting sessions with the families and home education groups in their community garden with 70+ bumblebee-friendly plants and 170 spring-flowering bulbs planted. Repeat engagement through this series of activities has been high.

- Activity delivered through our **Buzzing in the East End** project engaged people across south-east London at four Bumblebee Blitz community recording events, six online and 17 in-person bumblebee identification training sessions, and a variety of other creative and well-being focused engagement events. 47 volunteers were recruited to support the aims of the project, helping to establish five new BeeWalk transects and create bumblebee-friendly habitat at four flagship sites.

Examples of organisations taking more action through working with the Trust include:

- *Brentford Football Club* (BFC) – working in partnership with BFC's Sports Foundation, we engaged children across three schools via assemblies and planting sessions. We also provided bespoke bumblebee-friendly planting guidance which BFC shared with their communities and implemented across their managed sites.
- *British Solar Renewables* (BSR) – the Trust is working in partnership with BSR to support the implementation of their Nature Protection Pledge. Following our advice they planted tailored wildflower mixes and continue to manage grassland around their sites specifically for bees, the rare Shrill carder bee in particular.
- *Penningtons Law* – Penningtons staff volunteered their time at our Buzzing in the East End habitat work party in November 2025. The organisation also engaged its staff with bumblebees via educational and inspiring virtual presentations, a bumblebee photography competition and through the development of limited-edition bumblebee merchandise that staff can wear to raise the profile of bumblebees and the Trust with their clients.

Outcome 2.2 – Bumblebee conservation is given greater consideration in policy and legislation at all levels of government

Our 'Bumblebee Manifesto' is our main tool for engaging with government officials at all levels. It is a clear summary of what bumblebees need from decision-makers at every level. Developed with input from leading researchers, and backed by our evidence-based position statements, we use it to call for politicians to:

1. Prioritise pollinators, not pesticides - by legislating to reduce pesticide use on farms, end pesticide use for cosmetic purposes in our towns and cities, and change the way in which pesticides are tested and authorised for use.
2. Put flower-rich habitats back on the map - by embedding pollinator-friendly action into all land-use policies so that farming, planning and development decisions always consider the needs of bumblebees.
3. Target support for rare species - by providing more funding for research, monitoring and conservation work.
4. Go further, faster to tackle climate change - by taking action to cut greenhouse gas emissions and investing in the creation of more grassland habitats, to provide food

and shelter for bumblebees but also provide a vital carbon sink (Grasslands in the UK are estimated to store up to 2billion tonnes of carbon)

5. Better regulate the use of managed bees (honeybees and factory-reared bumblebees used for pollination of soft fruits) - by implementing stronger rules to control where and how managed bees are used, and better monitoring and regulations to prevent disease spread and reduce competition between managed and wild bees.

Much of our policy work is delivered in partnership with strategic networks, including The Pesticide Collaboration, Scottish Environment LINK, Wales Environment LINK, Wildlife and Countryside LINK and Rethink Nature. These umbrella organisations bring together dozens of nature charities, allowing us to pool expertise, amplify our voice, and open doors to government and decision-makers. Key successes this year include:

- Passing of the Natural Environment Bill Scotland. All three of our MSP Nature champions voted it through and Mark Ruskell played a significant role in strengthening the legislation.
- Environment (Principles, Governance and Biodiversity Targets) (Wales) Act passed, introducing legally binding nature recovery targets and establishing the new Office of Environmental Governance Wales. Wales Environment Link played a major role in shaping the legislation and our Shrill Carder Bee Champion, Delyth Jewell, helped strengthen its biodiversity commitments.
- We attended the inaugural All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Bees and Pollinators event in House of Lords and asked a key question about farm cluster facilitation funding, which led to us developing a connection with APPG Chair, Barry Gardiner, MP. We have since suggested written PM questions to Barry's office. There was also a recent announcement that the facilitation fund is set to re-open.
- We provided generic guidance to all 48 local authorities in England developing their Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) and have responded to several with specific details relevant to bumblebees in their area. Many have included our recommendations.
- The Trust was mentioned in the Nature Champion debate in the Scottish Parliament in February.
- During the reporting period we worked collaboratively with Buglife and Butterfly Conservation to develop the Declaration on UK Insect Declines at Wild Summit 2025 and the Big Insect Rescue Plan. Over 2500 people contributed to the plan development survey.

Aim 3 - There is more, bigger, better and more joined up habitat for bumblebees in towns, cities and the countryside

Outcome 3.1 – More publicly owned land is managed in bumblebee friendly ways

We continue to work closely with Kent County Council on delivery of Kent's Plan Bee via a seconded member of staff. Our role is primarily to monitor the impact of changes in the Council's land management practices on pollinator abundance and to engage communities in taking action for pollinators. We hope to roll out a similar project with Highlands Council

focusing on road verge management for the Great Yellow bumblebee using best practice learnt from the Kent project. Our Land Management and Partnerships team successfully secured a tender to work with Taunton Town Council on developing and delivering a pollinator plan for the town.

Many of our other projects also involve habitat improvement on local council managed-land, particularly Buzzing in the East End where several council-owned green spaces have joined us to become flagship sites or community hubs for bumblebee-friendly plantings and management regimes. During the year across all our projects we have delivered 5Ha of improved habitat for bumblebees on publicly owned land, along with many kms of linear features such as road verges.

With our partners we have campaigned for local councils to reduce pesticide use and for a total ban on urban pesticides. We have also campaigned for local authorities and communities to support “No Mow May”.

Outcome 3.2 – More agricultural land is managed in bumblebee friendly ways

We are delivering our agricultural strategy including advocacy for better Agri-environment scheme (AES) options for bumblebees in England, Wales and Scotland, training of staff to deliver AES advice and promoting bumblebee friendly land management through networks such as the Nature Friendly Farming Network and Groundswell Conference. Many of our conservation projects are focused on partnerships with farmers to advise and implement bumblebee-friendly farm management. In both our Species on the Edge and Natur am Byth projects we have helped farmers to implement improved conservation grazing regimes and in the Outer Hebrides have had significant success using NoFence collars to reinstate cattle grazing on machair, a key habitat for the Great Yellow bumblebee. During the year across all our projects and core work we have engaged over 50 new farmers or farm/grower’s groups, held 10 farm days and habitat workshops, directly advised on 596Ha and delivered 507Ha of improved habitat for bumblebees on agricultural land.

Aim 4 - Our threatened bumblebees are on the road to recovery and no other bumblebee species become threatened

Outcome 4.1 – We have more clearly defined criteria for determining priority targeted species work

We have automated several data handling processes to facilitate more efficient use of BeeWalk and other data to determine priority species and landscapes for targeted surveys, research and conservation action. We have calculated a Favourable Conservation Status (using Natural England methodology) for each of our 8 target species which sets our ambition for the final step in Species Recovery Assessment (Step 9 - species has recovered) and enables us to monitor our progress towards it. Very pleasingly in our annual review of Species Recovery Assessments we assessed three species as having improved status since the previous year. Shrill carder bee progressed from stage 5 (remedial actions

identified) mostly complete (5.3) to stage 6 (recovery solutions trialled) mostly complete (6.3) as we now have evidence that the conservation work that we have been doing in south Wales and Kent is working, and Shrill carder distribution and abundance is increasing in those areas. Broken-belted bumblebee and Red-shanked carder bee progressed from stage 1 (taxonomy understood) complete (1.4) to stage 3 (national monitoring scheme in place) mostly complete (3.3) thanks to increased coverage of both these species in the BeeWalk data.

Outcome 4.2 – Targeted species work is better connected across appropriate landscapes

During the FY25-26 we undertook the following species recovery projects in targeted landscapes: Species on the Edge (Scottish coasts and islands for Great Yellow bumblebee), Natur am Byth (south Wales for Shrill carder bee) and Buzzing in the East End (south-east London) and Kent's Plan Bee (Kent) for several species (Shrill carder bee, Brown-banded carder bee, Moss carder bee, Red-shanked carder bee and Ruderal bumblebee). During the year over all these projects we have engaged 35 new site owners/managers, delivered over 510Ha of improved habitat and advised on a further 453Ha.

We undertook an intensive research project, Moss Carders, in three differing landscapes across England (in Cornwall, Northern Pennines and Kent) to better understand their habitat requirements and why they do not respond to our conservation work as well as other rare species. This has enabled us to develop more bespoke habitat interventions for this species which we will begin trialling in the next phase of this project starting in 2026. We were part of the Northern Ireland Species Recovery Framework developing conservation actions plans and fundraising for delivery for Moss carder bee and Bilberry bumblebee in key landscapes in Northern Ireland.

We provided mapping of rare and threatened species distributions for LNRS development across England along with management guidance.

Aim 5 - We are an impactful, inclusive, bold and sustainable organisation

Financial sustainability

The Trust, in common with the wider charitable sector, faced significant financial challenges during 2025-26. Early identification through effective management accounting processes allowed us to take timely action to ensure the ongoing financial sustainability of the organisation. Our reserves position and cashflow remain strong. We have good diversity of income sources and have seen growth in most areas. Our expenditure is well understood and controlled.

Environmental sustainability

The Trust has monitored and reduced its carbon footprint over the previous 5 years by taking part in the PlanetMark scheme. Over 80% of the Trust's carbon emissions result from

business travel which is no longer included in the criteria for PlanetMark certification. Therefore from 2024 we withdrew from the scheme and in 2025 implemented our own automated system to calculate travel carbon directly from staff travel expenses claims. We have encouraged staff to reduce business travel by, wherever feasible, combining multiple meetings and events in one journey, using public transport, lift-sharing, cycling or walking and hiring EVs where there is no other alternative to driving their own petrol or diesel vehicles. In 2025, compared with 2024, travel carbon emissions were reduced by 2% even though total miles travelled was 6% higher. The first quarter of 2026 showed a reduction in travel carbon emissions of 8% compared with the same period in 2025. We are now focusing on reducing our digital carbon footprint, including developing a meaningful indicator of improvement, and an environmentally sustainable procurement policy.

Evaluating impact

During the period, the Trust has worked with an external evaluation consultant to review and improve how we better monitor the impact of our public and landowner engagement activities. Going forwards we will be using the **COM-B** model for measuring behaviour change which recognises that effective conservation action relies on three key factors: **Capability, Opportunity**, and **Motivation**. These elements help us ensure that individuals learn about bumblebees and feel empowered and supported to take meaningful action.

Building Capability: Knowledge and Resources
To foster informed action, we provide education and practical skills to improve confidence in conservation efforts. Through training, workshops, and accessible resources, we equip people with the tools to create and manage pollinator-friendly habitats at any scale, from small urban gardens to large farmland sites.

Creating Opportunities: Supportive Environments and Networks
It is crucial to make it easier for people to engage with conservation. By offering accessible events, tools, and guidance, we lower barriers to participation. Additionally, we strengthen peer and societal influences by fostering a conservation-oriented community, ensuring that taking action for bumblebees becomes a widely shared goal.

Sustaining Motivation: Encouraging Long-Term Engagement
We nurture positive attitudes and intentions towards conservation by highlighting the tangible benefits of supporting bumblebees. Through ongoing engagement, volunteering, and advocacy opportunities, we encourage conservation to become a habit rather than a one-time action.

By embedding these principles into our public engagement, we ensure that more people take meaningful action for bumblebees.

Inclusivity

Throughout the year we continued to be a place where everyone flourishes. We undertook initiatives to reinforce our culture and values and to further develop and embed our wellbeing framework.

During the year, the Trustees remained committed to promoting equity, equality, diversity and inclusion (EEDI) across the Trust's governance, activities and culture. The Board maintained oversight of EEDI through regular discussion and review, ensuring that EEDI considerations were embedded within strategic decision-making, recruitment, service delivery and stakeholder engagement. Feedback from beneficiaries, staff, volunteers and partners was actively sought through surveys, consultations and engagement activities to help identify areas for improvement and ensure that a broad range of voices informed the Trust's work. Progress against the Trust's EDI objectives was monitored and reported to Trustees, with actions taken where opportunities to improve representation, accessibility or participation were identified. The Trust supported ongoing learning and development through staff training focused on Anti-racism during the period. Practical measures were also taken to foster an inclusive culture, including reviewing policies and procedures through an EDI lens, improving the accessibility of communications and events, widening opportunities for involvement from underrepresented groups, and encouraging an environment in which all individuals are treated with dignity, respect and fairness. The Trustees recognise that EDI is an ongoing journey and remain committed to continuous improvement in this area. In addition, the Trust will continue to play an active role in challenging the external status quo, to address the well documented inequalities that the environmental sector currently labours under.

Fundraising activities

Funds are generated either to support the core activities of the Trust or to enable the delivery of specific projects. The Trust raises funds from a variety of primary sources:

- Grants and Charitable Trusts – for both core activities and projects
- Legacies – gifts in Wills from individuals
- Membership fees – from individuals/families and businesses
- Donations – from individuals and businesses
- Merchandise – bumblebee related products sold by the Trust
- Consultancy – Trust expert staff providing services to landowners, managers, businesses and developers

Fundraising standards

The Trust is committed to ensuring high standards in respect of fundraising and is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and the Fundraising Preference Service. The Trust has a small team of fundraisers who are employees of the Trust, has adopted the Code of Fundraising Practice and ensures its standards are met by all individuals and businesses when undertaking fundraising activities on behalf of the Trust. No professional fundraisers are appointed by the Trust.

The Trust has commercial participator agreements with businesses: the substance of the agreements provides the Trust with a donation equal to a proportion of sales proceeds made by the commercial participator for specific goods or services purchased by third parties.

During the financial year no complaints were received in respect of fundraising activities undertaken by Trust staff or other individuals/businesses associated with the Trust.

Financial review

The Trust's activities largely relate to either core activities, typically unrestricted, and project activities that are usually restricted activities. The Trust entered the 2024-2025 financial year with a resilient balance sheet, which has retained its strength during the year. The Trustees consider the Trust to be a going concern and have prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

Overall, total income for the year was £2,702,708 compared to £2,460,693 in 2024-2025 and total expenditure was £2,371,470 compared to £2,555,652 in 2024-2025.

Unrestricted income increased from £1,429,362 in 2024-2025 to £1,468,006 in 2025-2026. Increases have occurred across most unrestricted income streams however a fall in income was experienced from legacies and fund generating activities (book and merchandise sales).

Unrestricted expenditure in 2025-2026 increased from £1,446,856 to £1,729,862 primarily reflecting a modest growth in staff costs and other costs. Overall, costs were kept under control through close scrutiny and effective management.

Restricted income increased from £1,031,331 in 2024-2025 to £1,234,702 in 2025-2026. Significant projects were underway during the year including Natur Am Byth, Buzzing in the East End and Species on the Edge, with new projects including Save our Shrills (Somerset) and Cynefin i Wenyn commencing at the year end. Restricted expenditure decreased from £1,108,796 in 2024-2025 to £641,608 in 2025-2026 reflecting the commencement of much new activity late in the financial year. The primary expenditure within restricted activities is staff costs, funding dedicated staff members to undertake project activities, be they conservation, science or engagement.

Overall, funds increased by £331,238 to £1,813,882 in the period. The balance of unrestricted funds held by the Trust as at 31 March 2026 was £1,304,414 and in line with the Reserves Policy we designated reserves of £877,000. Restricted fund balances were £509,468 made up of balances to be utilised on specific projects in future years.

Reserves Policy

There is no single reserves level that is right for all charities. The Trustees believe that the level set out below is appropriate for the charity's current circumstances.

Charities are required to have a reserves policy to show that they have sufficient reserves to continue to meet their obligations and to show that excess reserves are not being held.

It is the Trust's policy to retain only sufficient reserves to safeguard the continuity of our operations, thereby committing the maximum possible resources to the delivery of our charitable objectives. The total reserves of £1,814k at March 31, 2026, are detailed in note 21 to the financial statements and fall into two categories:

Restricted funds (£509k): these funds which can only be used for a specific purpose, which arise because of restrictions on their use imposed by the donor at the time of receipt or because the funds were collected in an appeal to raise money for a particular purpose.

Unrestricted funds (£1,304k): these are of two types:

– Designated funds (£877k); these are unrestricted funds that have been allocated by the Board for a specific purpose and that are not available for general usage. In line with the reserves policy of the Trust, at the end of March 2026 funds had been designated for three specific purposes as follows:

- **Project** - To co-fund projects or allow the initiation of projects while external funding is sought (£377k)
- **Strategic** - To finance investment in new strategic projects and fundraising opportunities, in line with the Strategic Plan 2024-2029 (£200k).
- **Safety** - To cover income variances and allow contingency actions to be affected, and to provide a buffer for more radical action in the event of a more serious or more sustained variance than anticipated (£300k)

– General unrestricted funds (£427k); these represent funds which will be used at the discretion of the Trustees to pursue the aims of the Trust's agreed strategy, manage financial risks including cashflow and income fluctuations and build in both resilience and agility. These reserves may also be used to facilitate an orderly wind down of the Trust if this becomes necessary.

Investment Policy

Trustees have the power to invest in such assets as they see fit. Given their obligations to safeguard the resources of the Trust, Trustees will consider options for investment primarily on the basis of the security of the investment and only then will they consider access to funds (liquidity) and the return of offer (yield). At 31st March 2026, the charity held cash balances of £1,101,623 (2025: £858,523). Several of the Trust's funders provide grant funding in advance of expenditure being incurred and funds were held in cash to meet those cash flow requirements. Other funds were held to ensure that expenditure could be met pending receipt of income in respect of funders who settle in retrospect. During the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 financial years, funds were held on deposit among various financial institutions. £350,255 (2025: £nil) funds are held in short term fixed term deposits or notice accounts and are categorised as current asset investments.

Plans for future periods

The strategic plan for 2024-2029 Is now embedded with the Trust working towards the delivery of its aims.

The trustees intend to utilise a portion of the charity's free reserves to support strategic development over the coming years. This includes investment in organisational capacity, systems, people, and service development to enhance the charity's effectiveness and achieve sustainable growth. The planned expenditure is consistent with the trustees' objective of balancing financial stability with investment in future charitable impact and ensuring that reserves are used in a way that delivers long-term value to beneficiaries.

Structure, governance and management

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Trust's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (FRS 102), Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Governance

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and was incorporated on 10 November 2005 as amended by special resolutions dated 8 June 2006 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Following the resolution at the AGM in 2017, it was approved by the members that the Articles be amended to follow updated Charity Commission model guidance. The Trust was registered with the Charity Commission (England and Wales) on 31 July 2006 and with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator on 28 December 2011.

The Trustees, who are also the Directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the period from 1 April 2025 to the date the financial statements were approved (unless otherwise stated) is set out on page 1 of this report.

The Directors of the Trust are also charity Trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the Trust's articles are also the Members. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, Trustees agree to a fixed term of office of three years which can be extended by re-election.

None of the Directors has any beneficial interest in the Trust. All the Directors are members of the Trust and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The Trust's Board of Trustees holds at least four ordinary meetings per year to discuss a range of business activities and issues and to monitor progress. Trustees set the overall strategy of the Trust and work with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to develop policy, as well as oversee and monitor business activities. The CEO is responsible for the day-to-day running of the charity.

Senior Staff

Dr Andrew Impey	Chief Executive Officer (joined 2/2/2026)
Gill Perkins	Chief Executive Officer (left 26/2/2026)
Dawn Ewing	Head of Fundraising, Marketing and Communications
Dr Amy Plowman	Head of Conservation and Science
Sarah Martin	Head of Finance and Operations
Ceri Cambridge	Head of Outreach and Volunteering (left 29/1/2026)

Trustee recruitment

The Trust's work focuses on the conservation of bumblebees and the creation of their flower-rich habitat both in urban and rural landscapes. In order to govern the Trust effectively the Trustee board is made up of individuals with experience in this and allied fields, business, finance, fundraising, engagement, human resources and management to bring the skills needed to oversee the running of a charity. Various Board activities are delegated to committees comprising Conservation and Science, Finance, HR and Remuneration, and Fundraising and Engagement.

Recruitment of Trustees is carried out with reference to the Charity Commission's and OSCR's guidelines. Trustees are co-opted by the Board during the course of the year and are appointed at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) by ordinary resolution. Co-opted Trustees appointed by the Board hold office until the following AGM at which they are subject to formal appointment. Training is offered to Trustees on a range of matters and individually Trustees undertake their continuing professional development.

Risk management

The Trust's risk management policy implements and maintains an effective and efficient risk management framework which enables the early identification and management of risks to the organisation and so helps ensure that the Trust achieves its objectives successfully.

Risk management procedures to support the framework are based on best practice and are regularly updated as appropriate. The Trust reviews its appetite for risk in consideration of its objectives and strategic plan regularly.

In developing our risk policy and procedures we have taken into consideration the Charity Commission Guidance (CC26) 'Charities and Risk Management' and NCVO Knowhow Nonprofit's 'How to Manage Risk'.

The Trustees are ultimately responsible for risk management. Our approach to risk requires that everyone (staff, volunteers and Trustees) is involved with the identification and actions required to minimise the likelihood and impact of our identified risks. We have also explored our risk appetite and that will be reflected in establishing the level of future risks the Trust is prepared to take. One principal document, the risk register, is maintained to facilitate the identification, recording, assessment and management of risks. Key risks identified include: reliance on key staff; unpredictable economic environment and income uncertainty impacting on project funding and achieving income targets. Mitigations include: Workforce planning and robust management structure, strong financial controls and regular performance monitoring, diversification of income and ongoing review of fundraising strategy and an IT strategy road map and significant digital transformation programme.

Auditor

Buzzacott were re-appointed as auditors for this financial year.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees, who are also the Directors of Bumblebee Conservation Trust for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then 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 accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Trust will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

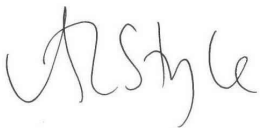
The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Trust's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of accounts may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the Trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

This report has has been prepared in accordance with the special provision of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The Trustees' Report was approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:



Angela Style
Chair of the Trustees

Date: 09.10.2026

BUMBLEBEE CONSERVATION TRUST
Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of Bumblebee Conservation Trust for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Bumblebee Conservation Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2026 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2026 and of its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

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

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

Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the report of the Trustees, which is also the directors' report for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the report of the Trustees, which is also a director's report for the purposes of company law, has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006, Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- proper and adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the Trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small company exemptions in preparing the directors' report and take advantage of the small company exemptions from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities contained within the Trustees' report, 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 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 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 as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with regulations made under 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.

Extent to which an audit is 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:

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the charitable company, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The most relevant frameworks we identified include UK GAAP, Companies Act 2006, Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulation 2008, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

We gained an understanding of how the charitable company is complying with these laws and regulations by making enquiries of those responsible for the operation of the charity. We corroborated these enquiries through our review of submitted returns, relevant correspondence with regulatory bodies and board meeting minutes.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charitable company financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur, by meeting with management and those charged with governance to understand where it was considered there was susceptibility to fraud. This evaluation also considered how management and those charged with governance were remunerated and whether this provided an incentive for fraudulent activity. We considered the overall control environment and how management and those charged with governance oversee the implementation and operation of controls. In areas of the financial statements where the risks were considered to be higher, we performed procedures to address each identified risk.

The following procedures were performed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free of material fraud or error:

- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Reviewing the level of and reasoning behind the charitable company's procurement of legal and professional services; and
- Performing audit work procedures over the risk of management override of controls, including reviewing journal entries, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business (if any) and reviewing judgements made by management in their calculation of accounting estimates for potential management bias.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to the risk of material misstatements in the financial statements, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures performed and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we are to become aware of it.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-andhttps://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspxguidance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-forhttps://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspxaudit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspx. 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 and to the charitable company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members and its Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company, the charitable company's members as a body and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

……

Gumayel Miah (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Buzzacott Audit LLP, Statutory Auditor

130 Wood Street
London
EC2V 6DL

Date:

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

Statement of Financial Activities Including Income and Expenditure Account For the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	Unrestricted funds general £	Unrestricted funds designated £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Income from:						
Donations and legacies	**3**	1,331,321	-	1,201,626	2,532,947	2,378,014
Charitable activities	**4**	99,209	-	32,486	131,695	46,916
Other trading activities	**5**	22,883	-	590	23,473	19,675
Investments	**6**	14,593	-	-	14,593	16,088
Total income		**1,468,006**	**-**	**1,234,702**	**2,702,708**	**2,460,693**
		£	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	**7**	280,728	-	-	280,728	264,182
Charitable activities	**8**	1,449,134	-	641,608	2,090,742	2,291,470
Total Expenditure		**1,729,862**	**-**	**641,608**	**2,371,470**	**2,555,652**
Net (expenditure) / income		**(261,856)**	**-**	**593,094**	**331,238**	**(94,959)**
Transfers between funds	**19/20**	55,856	150,000	(205,856)	-	-
Net movement in funds		**(206,000)**	150,000	387,238	331,238	**(94,959)**
Reconciliation of Funds						
Fund balances at 1 April 2025		633,414	727,000	122,230	1,482,644	1,577,603
Fund balances at 31 March 2026		427,414	877,000	509,468	1,813,882	1,482,644

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006. All of the charity's activities derived from continuing operations during the above two financial periods. All recognised gains and losses are included in the above statement of financial activities.

Balance Sheet
As at 31 March 2026

	Notes	2026 £	2026 £	2025 £	2025 £
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	**13**		35,444		47,260
Non-current investment		50,000			
Current assets					
Stocks	**14**	16,371		18,000	
Debtors	**15**	409,343		809,511	
Short term deposits		350,255		-	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,101,623		858,523	
		1,927,592		1,686,034	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**16**	(149,154)		(250,650)	
Net current assets			1,778,438		1,435,384
Total assets less current liabilities			**1,813,882**		**1,482,644**

Balance Sheet (cont)
As at 31 March 2026

The funds of the charity:					
Restricted funds	**19**		509,468		122,230
Unrestricted funds - designated					
Safety reserve	**21**	300,000		350,000	
Underwriting/project reserve	**21**	377,000		264,105	
Strategic fund	**21**	200,000		112,895	
			877,000		727,000
Unrestricted funds - general			427,414		633,414
			1,813,882		**1,482,644**



Angela Style
Trustee

Date: 09/10/2026

Company Registration No. 05618710

Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	2026 £	2026 £	2025 £	2025 £
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash provided by / (used in) operations	**24**		628,762		(417,745)
Cash flows from Investing activities					
Net cash invested in term deposits		(400,256)		-	
Interest received		14,593		16,088	
Net cash generated from investing activities			(385,663)		16,088
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			**(243,099)**		**(391,309)**
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			858,524		1,249,833
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			**1,101,623**		**858,524**
Relating to:					
Cash at bank and in hand			1,101,623		858,524
			1,101,623		**858,524**

1 Accounting policies

Trust information

Bumblebee Conservation Trust (the Trust) is a charitable company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is International House, 109-111 Fulham Palace Road, London, W6 8JA and the business address is Beta Centre, Stirling University Innovation Park, Stirling, FK9 4NF. The Trust is registered with the Charity Commission (England and Wales) (no. 1115634) and with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (no. SC042830).

1.1 Accounting convention

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 “The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland” (“FRS 102”), Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

The Trust is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Trust. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The Trust has availed itself of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006, as permitted in paragraph 4(1) of Schedule 1 of SI 2008 no 409, and adapted the Companies Act formats to reflect the special nature of its charitable activities.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence and to meet liabilities as they fall due. They have made this assessment for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements, and they have not identified any material uncertainties with regards to the Trust’s ability to continue. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds are those which have been allocated from the unrestricted funds of the charity by the Trustees to fulfil certain purposes. There are no legal or constructive restrictions on these funds and they can be allocated to different uses at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Trust is entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received. Income is represented by invoices issued, grants and other monies received in the course of the Trust's ordinary activities during the year.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Trust has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income from legacies is recognised when there is sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to the charity and the executor of the estate has expressed satisfaction that the assets so gifted are not required to satisfy claims on the estate.

Deferred income represents income received in the current financial year for future periods. This is released to income in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to it.

Membership income, including life subscriptions, is recognised when received.

Income from trading activities includes income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the Trust. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred.

Charitable activities relates to consultancy income and book sales and is recognised on receipt unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount.

1.5 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenses as soon as there is legal or constructive obligation committing the Trust to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category and include irrecoverable VAT.

Raising funds comprise all costs associated with generating income from all sources, including donations, other than from undertaking charitable activities.

Charitable expenditure is incurred in pursuance of the Trust's principal objects and as set out in the Trustees' report.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the Trust but do not directly undertake charitable activities.

1.6 Intangible fixed assets

Intangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost, net of amortisation and any impairment losses.

Amortisation is recognised so as to write off the cost of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Intangible assets	20% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are basic financial assets and include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks and other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition. Deposits for more than three months but less than one year have been disclosed as short term deposits. Cash placed on deposit for more than one year is disclosed as a fixed asset investment.

1.9 Financial instruments

The Trust has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 ‘Basic Financial Instruments’ and Section 12 ‘Other Financial Instruments Issues’ of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Trust's balance sheet when the Trust becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are measured at transaction price including transaction costs.

Derecognition of financial assets

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the Trust transfers the financial asset and substantially all

the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors are recognised at transaction price.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Trust's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received. Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charitable company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

The Trust operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the accounts as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

1.12 Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged to expenditure on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Trust'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 that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

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 where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

The key sources of estimation are summarised as follows:

Legacies

Income from legacies are recognised at the point it can be reliably measured and that the Trust is entitled to the legacy. This is typically at the point probate has been granted, the value of the estate can be reliably measured along with the amount due to the Trust.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Donations and gifts	801,638	304,488	1,106,126	857,408
Legacies receivable	239,902	-	239.902	424,121
Grants receivable	10,000	897,138	907,138	830,549
Membership fees	279,781	-	279,781	265,936
	1,331,321	**1,201,626**	**2,532,947**	**2,378,014**
Year ended 31 March 2025				
Donations and gifts	662,701	194,707		857,408
Legacies receivable	424,121	-		424,121
Grants receivable	7,079	823,470		830,549
Membership fees	265,936	-		265,936
	1,359,837	**1,018,177**		**2,378,014**

4 Income from charitable activities

	2026	2025
	£	£
Consultancy income	131,695	46,916
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds – general	99,209	35,449
Restricted funds	32,486	11,467
Totals	**131,695**	**46,916**

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Year ended 31 March 2026				
Fund generation income	22,883	590	23,473	19,675
Year ended 31 March 2025				
Fund generation income	17,988	1,687		19,675

6 Income from investments

	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Interest receivable	14,593	16,088

All interest receivable related to unrestricted funds.

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Fundraising and publicity				
Fundraising and publicity costs	30,985	-	30,985	19,994
Staff costs	249,642	-	249,642	242,393
	280,626	-	280,626	262,387
Trading costs				
Other trading activities	102	-	102	1,795
	280,728	**-**	**280,728**	**264,182**

Year ended 31 March 2025			
Fundraising and publicity	262,387	-	262,387
Trading costs	1,795	-	1,795
	264,182	**-**	**264,182**

8 Charitable activities

	2026 £	2025 £
Staff costs	1,577,202	1,659,370
Local projects and event costs	5,431	14,044
Land management	52,163	57,563
Printing, postage, stationery and computer expenses	3,915	5,862
Consultancy, professional and PayPal fees	39,153	131,748
Staff training and travelling expenses	48,218	52,732
Equipment	19,376	37,498
Publicity and advertising	2,363	4,199
Rent, rates, insurance and premises expenses	1,553	1,284
Telephone and internet	4,112	4,660
Recruitment and payroll expenses	2,014	2,468
Sundry expenses	1,575	779
	1,757,075	1,972,207
Support costs (note 9)	318,316	304,148
Governance costs (note 9)	15,351	15,115
	2,090,742	2,291,470
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	1,449,134	1,184,188
Restricted funds	641,608	1,107,282
	2,090,742	2,291,470

9 Support costs

	Basis of allocation	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2026 £	2025 £
Rent, rates, insurance and premises	Direct	28,967	-	28,967	40,265
Printing, postage and stationery	Direct	74,939	-	74,939	66,762
Telephone and internet	Direct	43,720	-	43,720	37,810
Staff training and travel	Direct	84,062	-	84,062	56,657
Equipment	Direct	2,696	-	2,696	3,065
Publicity and advertising	Direct	5,400	-	5,400	7,563
Recruitment and payroll expenses	Direct	10,895	-	10,895	6,367
Consultancy, professional and PayPal	Direct	26,791	-	26,791	23,918
Sundry expenses	Direct	10,713	-	10,713	12,805
Legal and professional fees	Direct	30,133	-	30,133	48,936
Audit fees	Direct	-	15,351	15,351	14,816
Board and governance costs		-	-	-	299
		318,316	15,351	333,667	319,263
Analysed between					
Charitable activities		**318,316**	**15,351**	**333,667**	**319,263**

10 Auditor's remuneration

The analysis of the auditor's remuneration is as follows:

	2026 £	2025 £
Audit of the annual accounts	15,351	14,816

11 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) (2024: none) received any remuneration during the year, and 3 Trustees (2025: one) were reimbursed £363 (2025: £8) for travel expenses.

12 Employees

Number of employees
The average monthly number of employees during the year was (headcount):

	2026 Number	2025 Number
Charitable and support	56	61

Employment costs

	2026 £	2025 £
Wages and salaries	1,524,048	1,630,462
Social security costs	161,314	140,433
Employers contributions to defined contribution pension schemes	122,786	130,868
Redundancy costs	18,697	-
	1,826,845	1,901,763

There was 1 employee (2025: 1 employee) whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

Information regarding the remuneration payable to the charity's key management personnel is provided within note 23 to the financial statements.

Redundancy and termination payments
During the year the charity incurred redundancy and termination costs of £18,697 (2025: £0) following an organisational restructure. Termination benefits are recognised when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminating employment before the normal retirement date or providing termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy.
At 31 March 2026, £0 of the above amount remained unpaid and has been included within creditors falling due within one year

13 Intangible fixed assets

	Database £
Cost	
At 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026	**59,076**
Amortisation	
At 1 April 2025	11,816
Charge for the year	11,816
At 31 March 2026	**23,632**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2025	47,260
At 31 March 2026	**35,444**

14 Stocks

	2026 £	2025 £
Finished goods and goods for resale	16,371	18,000

15 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year	2026 £	2025 £
Trade debtors	39,413	144,869
Other debtors	364,622	657,911
Prepayments	5,308	6,731
	409,343	**809,511**

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2026 £	2025 £
Trade creditors	23,512	20,583
Other creditors	18,508	50,117
Other tax and social security	39,780	47,067
Deferred income	52,954	115,983
Accruals	14,400	16,900
	149,154	**250,650**

17 Deferred income

	2026 £	2025 £
Total deferred income at 1 April	115,983	18,667
Amount credited to sofa	(115,983)	(18,667)
Amount deferred in year	52,954	115,983
Total deferred at 31 March	52,954	115,983

Deferred income represents income received in the current and previous years for which entitlement to the income arises in future accounting periods.

18 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The Trust operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Trust in an independently administered fund.

The charge to the Statement of Financial Activities in respect of defined contribution schemes was £122,786 (2025: £130,868).

19 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

		Movement in funds			
	At 1 April 2025	Income	Expend-iture	Transfers	At 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£	£
Skills for Beewalk	5,245	51,797	(40,526)	(16,222)	294
Saving Brechfas Bumblebees	4,483	13,733	(8,281)	(4,614)	5,321
Natur Am Byth	(23,884)	199,666	(137,454)	(63,885)	(25,557)
Kent Plan B	14,929	50,365	(39,022)	-	26,272
Shrill Carder Recovery	(6,852)	5,011	(31,239)	-	(33,080)
Skills for Bees (Scotland)	28,842	44,359	(23,313)	(13,366)	36,522
Great Yellows on the Verge	599	-	-	(599)	-
-Species on the Edge	15,883	198,918	(138,440)	(68,741)	7,620
Moss Carder Bees of Cornwall	(919)	112,915	(68,268)	(16,800)	26,928
West Country Buzz	6,146	-	-	-	6,146
Carmarthenshire Coast	3,909	-	-	-	3,909
Buzzing for the future	73,849	-	(52,501)	-	21,348
Save our Shrill (Somerset)	-	119,965	(9,407)	-	110,558
Species recovery partnership Northern Ireland	-	7,100	(7,100)	-	-
Buzzing in the East End	-	200.266	(63,291)	(21,629)	115,346
Cynefin I Wenyn	-	111,885	-	-	111,885
Seawalls for Bumblebees	-	18,900	-	-	18,900
Species recovery – Great Yellow	-	12,862	(10,091)	-	2,771
Suffolk Project	-	30,000	-	-	30,000
SE England Project	-	28,234	(504)	-	27,730
Species recovery – Moss Carder	-	3,787	(38)	-	3,749
Species recovery – Broken Belted Bumblebee	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Champions of High Weald	-	-	(1,330)	-	(1,330)
No fence collars	-	11,544	(9,653)	-	1,891
Beewalk	-	3,395	(1,150)	-	2,245
Total	**122,230**	**1,234,702**	**(641,608)**	**(205,856)**	**509,468**

		Movement in funds			
	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expend-iture	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Bee Connected	289	95,988	(125,105)	28,828	-
Calon Gwenyn	(572)	-	(226)	798	-
Donations	75	2	(3)	(74)	-
Natur Am Byth	(23,924)	130,254	(130,214)	-	(23,884)
Skills for Bee walk	52,724	-	(47,479)	-	5,245
Saving Brechfas Bumblebees	19,092	5,788	(20,397)	-	4,483
Buzzing in the East End	30,710	22,217	(54,547)	1,620	-
Kent Plan B	45,746	18,738	(49,555)	-	14,929
Shrill Carder Recovery	(39,366)	74,775	(42,261)	-	(6,852)
Skills for Bees (Scotland)	27,332	35,150	(33,640)	-	28,842
Bee Inspired Wallsall	(12,719)	98,751	(87,911)	1,879	-
Save our Shrill (Somerset)	(278)	303	(92,513)	92,488	-
Great Yellows on the Verge	16,564	-	(15,965)	-	599
Species on the Edge	(38,302)	247,530	(193,345)	-	15,883
West Country Buzz	6,210	-	(64)	-	6,146
Connecting the Carmarthenshire Coast	(9,209)	169,619	(156,501)	-	3,909
Moss Carder Bees of Cornwall	(234)	36,815	(37,500)	-	(919)
Bumblebuzz	-	4,228	(4,246)	18	-
Buzzing for the future	-	84,773	(10,924)		73,849
Honeybee v Bumblebee	-	6,400	(6,400)		-
	74,138	**1,031,331**	**(1,108,796)**	**125,557**	**122,230**

The transfers from unrestricted funds represent the Trust's contribution to restricted fund projects. Transfers from restricted funds to unrestricted funds represent contribution to fixed cost recovery on the basis that the restriction has been satisfied.

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2025
	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2026 are represented by:				
Intangible assets	35,444	-	-	35,444
Net current assets	391,971	877,000	509,468	1,778,439
	427,415	**877,000**	**509,468**	**1,813,883**

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2025
	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2025 are represented by:				
Intangible assets	47,260	-	-	47,260
Net current assets	586,154	727,000	122,230	1,435,384
	633,414	**727,000**	**122,230**	**1,482,644**

21 Designated funds

The income funds of the Trust include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the Trustees for specific purposes:

		Movement in funds			
	At 1 April 2025 £	Income £	Expend-iture £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2026 £
Safety reserve	350,000	-	-	(50,000)	300,000
Underwriting & project reserve	377,000	-	-		377,000
Strategic fund		-	-	200,000	200,000
Total	**727,000**			**150,000**	**877,000**

The **safety reserve** has been set aside to cover budget variances, to allow contingency actions to be effected, and to provide a buffer for more radical action in the event of a more serious or more sustained variance than anticipated.

The **underwriting and project reserve** has been set aside to enable co-fund projects or allow the initiation of project while external funding is sought.

The strategic fund is to finance investment in new strategic projects and fundraising opportunities, in line with the Strategic Plan 2024-2029.

For the year ended 31 March 2025

		Movement in funds			
	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expend-iture £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
Safety reserve	400,000	-	-	(50,000)	350,000
Underwriting reserve	131,173	-	-	132,932	264,105
Project funding	369,156	-	-	(256,261)	112,895
Total	**900,329**			**(173,329)**	**727,000**

22 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the Trust had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2026	2025
	£	£
Within one year	2,904	2,904
Between two and five years	1,914	1,914

The total lease cost recognised as an expense during the year was £14,436 (2024 £14,640).

23 Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows

	2026	2025
	£	£
Aggregate compensation	£253,042	210,721

Key management personnel also received reimbursement of expenses of £4,235 (2025: £2,788).

Transactions with related parties

The following amounts were outstanding at the reporting end date:

	Amounts owed to related parties	
	2026	2025
	£	£
Andrew Impey	826	
Amy Plowman	5	5

Other than the above, there were no other related party transactions during the year ended 31 March 2026 (2025 - no other).

24 Cash flows from operating activities

	2026 £	2025 £
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	331,238	(94,959)
Adjustments for:		
Investment income receivable	(14,593)	(16,088)
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	11,816	11,816
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease / (Increase) in stocks	1,629	(10,348)
Decrease / (Increase) in debtors	400,168	(417,101)
(Decrease) / Increase in creditors	(38,467)	147,065
Decrease in deferred income	(63,029)	(38,130)
Net cash generated from / (used in) operating activities	**628,762**	**(417,745)**

25 Analysis of changes in net debt

The Trust had no external debt finance at either the start or end of the financial year. Movements in cash and cash equivalents from the start to the end of the financial year is provided within the statement of cash flows.