

Charity Registration No. 214927
Company Registration No. 738693 (England & Wales)

**THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED AND
ITS SUBSIDIARY COMPANY**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATION

Trustees	B Stothart (Chair) R H Marrs G Coates (resigned November 2020) P R Cheek (resigned November 2020) H Carey P Rushton S Steer (resigned 31 March 2021) C Neame S Judd S Williams C Swarbrick S Ridsdale (appointed November 2020) J Roscoe (appointed November 2020)
Secretary	Andrea Castling (resigned February 2021)
Chief Executive	Charlotte Harris (acting Secretary from February 2021)
Registered office	Bickley Hall Farm Bickley Malpas Cheshire SY14 8EF
Charity number	214927
Company number	738693
Auditors	Mitchell Charlesworth LLP Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor 3 rd Floor 44 Peter Street Manchester M2 5GP
Bankers	CAF Bank 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
Solicitors	Hibbert Durrad Moxon 25 Barker Street Nantwich Cheshire CW5 5EN

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

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TRUSTEES' REPORT

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The year in question, April 2020 to March 2021, was dominated by the Coronavirus pandemic. In England we were effectively in lockdown for seven months of the year, and under restrictions for the entire year.

In the first half of the year, surviving and sustaining the organisation through the pandemic became the short-term objectives instead of our real objectives. CWT took action to minimise the impact of the restrictions and any financial challenges, and to maintain our activities to pursue our objectives where possible. For some of the time, however, our events programme, education work and all volunteering were suspended. In April 2020, two-thirds of staff were furloughed. However, many were able to return by the summer due to an easing of restrictions for land-based industries and our work to bring about nature's recovery was then largely unaffected for the remainder of the year. However, disruption caused by the pandemic and changes to some funding sources meant that building on the Trust's prior achievements to grow our impact was affected.

In the light of these circumstances, the achievements and performance shown in the Trustees' Report from page 9 and the financial review from page 18 are notable, if not outstanding, results. We protected, restored and created over 8,000 Ha of space for nature – including creating 94 new ponds, working with over 100 farmers and reintroducing the beaver to Cheshire. We engaged almost 53,000 people, grew our membership to its highest ever level and launched several successful policy campaigns. The Trust returned a surplus for the fifth successive year and remains in a stable financial position.

For the last two years, I have written that 'it is a critical time for nature and wildlife, and they are in danger'. We continue to face a biodiversity crisis and a climate crisis. Cheshire Wildlife Trust, and Wildlife Trusts across the country, have a critical role engaging and energising people to play an active part in combatting these challenges and enabling nature's recovery. Your continued support is both valued and essential.

I would like to thank all staff, members, volunteers, supporters and Trustees; it is their efforts, perseverance and resilience that have sustained the Trust through a difficult year. The hard work of staff and the support of others are ever more important and appreciated.

We need more space for wildlife, and more people on nature's side.



Bill Stothart
Chair

Date: 21 October 2021

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the audited accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) – Accounting and Reporting by provisions of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (effective 1 January 2019).

Strategic overview

Cheshire Wildlife Trust is the only charity dedicated to the conservation of wildlife and wild places in the Cheshire region.

Formed in 1962 by volunteers, Cheshire Wildlife Trust is one of 46 independent charities, which together form the UK-wide Wildlife Trust movement. The Trust benefits from the support of over 15,000 members and over 300 volunteers, is governed by a 10-strong Board of Trustees and currently employs 49 dedicated staff. We are passionate about securing a future for local wildlife on land and at sea and work as part of the Wildlife Trust movement to influence decision making for nature at the highest level nationally.

Cheshire Wildlife Trust Limited is required by charity and company law to act within the objects of its Memorandum of Association, which are as follows:

1. To promote and deliver the conservation, protection, improvement and expansion of the physical and natural environment, for the benefit of wildlife and the public of the United Kingdom; particularly in the Vice County 58 (the traditional County Palatine of Chester) and adjacent areas.
2. To advance the education and engagement of the public in the principles and practice of:
 - a. Biodiversity conservation and enhancement;
 - b. Sustainable living and development;
 - c. Nature-based health and wellbeing initiatives; and
 - d. Natural capital, and its protection, restoration and value to society.
3. To promote research in all branches of relevant scientific study and to publish the useful results thereof.

In 2020 we launched our 2030 Strategy: Wilder Cheshire. The full strategy is available on our website <https://www.cheshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/2030strategy> with a summary below:

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Our vision is for a Wilder Cheshire

Our mission is to bring wildlife back – for everyone, everywhere – and we urgently need your help.

We have reached a tipping point. By 2030, we must see nature recovering, wildlife returning and ecosystems restored. We can't defer; we can't wait for more data or better reasons to act. The evidence is already there and we know what to do. If we delay, the damage will be irreversible. If we wait until the impacts of environmental breakdown are upon us – that is until we witness the rising sea levels, personally suffer the effects of pollution or notice the lack of birdsong – it will be too late.

Putting nature into recovery must be what we turn all our efforts to now; it has to be the priority.

It won't be easy. This is a complex challenge and the next 10 years will be just the start, but we can do it.

Our strategy is focused on tackling three crises:

Wildlife is in crisis – Let's fight for wildlife's recovery.

Outcome: At least 30% of the land and sea in the UK needs to be managed for nature so that missing wildlife will return. We want to see more and better connected wild spaces and the pressures on the environment reduced.

Why? Nature today is not normal. Since the 1930s, species-rich wildflower meadows have become virtually extinct; since the 1950s, we have lost over half the abundance of all species across the UK; since the 1970s, there's been a 60% fall in vertebrates globally. Elsewhere, recent reports tell us that insect populations have collapsed by 75% between 1990 and 2014. In the UK, we have lost half of our farmland birds in one generation.

Cheshire is not immune to these trends. Less than 10% of our region is protected for wildlife. The few places where a rich diversity of life can still be found are nature reserves and special wildlife sites. Without these havens, the picture would be even worse, but they are too small and are under siege from a host of external pressures. There are simply not enough of these precious places left to save biodiversity.

Climate is in crisis – Let's make nature part of the solution.

Outcome: Resilient nature will help combat climate change. We need more carbon to be locked up in our plants and soils and to restore broken ecosystems.

Why? We are facing a climate crisis and nature is a big part of the solution. Healthy ecosystems and restored habitats will help us play our part in delivering the UN's Paris Agreement to tackle the climate emergency.

Our vast peatlands should protect us. They offer the largest land-based carbon store in the world, but we have drained and burned and cut them – releasing their carbon into the atmosphere. They

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have become a carbon enemy – contributing 4% of the UK's annual greenhouse gas emissions.

Our woodlands should protect us. Trees are an effective weapon against the climate crisis, but we are not planting enough of them. Average woodland cover in the EU is over 40%. In the UK, it is 13% and in Cheshire it is less than 7%. Our insistence on prioritising other land use denies us the benefits of woodland which extend beyond carbon sequestration to biodiversity and spiritual gain.

Our soils should protect us. UK soils store 10 billion tonnes of carbon – equivalent to 80 years of our annual greenhouse gas emissions – but unless we change how we farm, we will lose this benefit. In the pursuit of ever-cheaper food, we have already stripped our soils of over half of their carbon.

Our wetlands should protect us. They are nature's flood defences and they hold twice as much carbon as our woodland; however, we have drained them and replaced them with farms, houses and roads. We have turned our rivers against us. We have filled them with chemicals, enclosed them underground and straightened, deepened and constrained them. As the climate crisis pours more water onto our land, it has nowhere to go. It rushes into our towns and cities, and overflows onto our streets.

We are in crisis – Let's have more people on nature's side.

Outcome: Our wellbeing and economy relies on a healthy, natural environment. We need everyone to be passionate about wildlife and at least 1 in 4 people to be taking action for nature's recovery.

Why? Our disconnect with nature is snowballing with each passing generation. The less parents know, the less they can teach their own children about their natural world. New generations grow up more and more distant from the natural world around them. They are starved of the opportunity to enjoy the wonder of wildlife and to understand their place amongst nature. They do not miss it when it disappears, and so it continues to slip away unnoticed. When we lose our connection with nature, mental health problems, obesity and isolation rise.

Meanwhile, businesses suffer when we don't take care of our natural environment and we pay the price. Our utility bills are higher because we need to clean our water. Our food bills are rising because farming is not sustainable. The costs of flood damage are devastating where nature's defences fail. The social and economic impact of our apathy towards dealing with these issues is huge and growing. Those living furthest from nature, often the poorest, suffer most. We are facing a nature deficiency pandemic.

We will deliver our strategy through a 10-point plan:

1. Protect places where wildlife lives
2. Bring wildlife back to our land and sea

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3. Create a society that cares about nature
4. Work with farmers so wildlife can thrive
5. Embrace wildlife as our neighbour in our towns and cities
6. Grow our stores of natural carbon
7. Build a network of people campaigning for nature
8. Make our rivers cleaner and healthier
9. Make planning and policies give more to nature than they take away
10. Collaborate with people who share our passion for wildlife

This 10-point plan is underpinned by a further strategic goal to ensure that Cheshire Wildlife Trust (CWT) is effective and resilient delivered through the following three programmes:

1. Financing the future
2. High-performing Team CWT
3. Well-run organisation

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

The Trust's public benefit is enshrined in its charitable objects as outlined above.

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Strategic Report

The information below, including the review of achievements and performance, financial review, risk management statement and summary of future plans, forms the Strategic Report for the purpose of the Companies Act 2006.

Achievements and performance

Our charitable objects are the drivers behind our 2030 strategic framework. Our achievements and performance are reported against each of the four strategic outcomes.

1. Wildlife is in crisis: Below is a summary of our nature recovery programme to bring about 30% of land in Cheshire protected and well managed for wildlife by 2030 and to see the abundance and diversity of wildlife increase.

Overall, we protected, restored and created 8,284 Ha of land for wildlife against a target of 8,105 Ha.

What we planned for FY21	Some of the things we did in FY21	What we have planned for FY22
Landscape Scale Delivery: Review our area-based working.	Covid19, a change in personnel and new opportunities informed a review of our delivery structure. The Cheshire Ecological Services Team were TUPE transferred into the Operations Team and area-based working focused on East, West and Wirral. Towards the end of the year, community engagement activities moved from the Operations Team into the Fundraising and Engagement Directorate in order to align more closely with our 2030 strategy.	Continue to develop and scale up the now renamed Nature Recovery Team to deliver greater impact.
Secure funding for the Dee Coastliners Project.	We continued to work with partners to develop and improve the project, including changing the name to 'Our Dee Estuary'. We worked on the preparation of over 50 supporting documents alongside videos of support for the second round application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund.	Submit the second round application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for a 3.5-year project and, if successful, begin delivery in Winter 2021.
Improve the management of over 7,000 Ha of non-designated land for wildlife in the Pennine Fringe by giving advice to at least 150 landowners.	We supported farmers with habitat management advice across 2,400 Ha in partnership with Natural England through the Facilitation Fund and carried out surveys, leading to the better management of species-rich grassland at 15 sites (169	We plan to raise £50,000 through member and major donor contributions to continue our work in the area. This will include producing 25 management

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<p>Nature Reserve Management: Secure an extension to Hatchmere Nature Reserve.</p> <p>Increase the area of land under our management at Crown Farm Quarry.</p> <p>Improve the condition of 120 Ha of floodplain at Gowy Meadows.</p> <p>Species Recovery: Continue to create and restore ponds in Cheshire East as required by Natural England as part of the great crested newt District Licensing Scheme.</p> <p>Create 10 Ha of wildflower meadow through Pollinating Cheshire.</p> <p>Launch our live cameras at Trentabank Nature Reserve.</p>	<p>Ha). We've created 6.5 Ha of new woodland on farms and restored 600m of hedgerow. We restored 26km of river by reinstating natural features such as large woody debris to provide habitat for aquatic invertebrates and attenuate flood waters.</p> <p>We made some progress with this acquisition but delays at Land Registry caused by Covid19 have slowed the process.</p> <p>We now manage an additional 2.7 Ha of land at Crown Farm and are exploring the best way to make this land better for wildlife.</p> <p>We put the finishing touches to the Highways England wetland creation project during FY21 and were able to see the fruits of our labour as the ditches and scrapes filled up with water, creating ideal conditions for the population of an extremely rare pond mud snail.</p> <p>We created 94 new ponds for great crested newts in Cheshire East, on our own nature reserves and by working with farmers and other landowners.</p> <p>We collected enough seed to re-seed 13 Ha of species-rich grassland across Cheshire.</p> <p>We installed cameras at the Trentabank Heronry and were able to capture footage of barn owls, tawny owls, blue tits, pied flycatchers, badgers, red deer and robins which have been shared widely on social media.</p>	<p>plans for farms in the Bollin catchment and improve water quality and restore habitats in the headwaters of the River Dane.</p> <p>We will finalise the transfer of this land into our ownership.</p> <p>We will continue to manage the nature reserve in line with the restoration plan.</p> <p>We will create a further 2.6 Ha of flower-rich grassland at Gowy Meadows using seed collected from our donor meadows across Cheshire.</p> <p>Create and restore a further 100 ponds for great crested newts, on our own land and in partnership with farmers and other landowners.</p> <p>Restore a further 10 Ha of grassland to species-rich meadow using green hay and seed harvested from donor sites.</p> <p>Adjust several of the cameras and boxes to provide better footage going forward. Pursue funding to enable us to livestream the footage as well as have a greater presence in the rest of Macclesfield Forest through interpretation panels and marked wildlife trails.</p>
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Reintroduce beavers under licence to Hatchmere.	We reintroduced a pair of beavers to Hatchmere in November 2020. The pair have settled in well and have begun building their lodge.	Monitor the impact of the beavers on the wet woodland habitat and explore licensing options for a second reintroduction scheme in another part of Cheshire.
Continue to monitor the reintroduced population of white-faced darter.	Monitoring throughout the 2020 survey season showed that white-faced darters have continued to breed successfully within Doolittle Moss. Positive sightings of species at the CWT nature reserve, Black Lake, confirms that they have spread across Delamere Forest, which is great news.	Continue to look for sources of funding and work towards an expanding population of white-faced darter dragonflies throughout Delamere Forest and the surrounding area.
Start a county-wide monitoring plan with volunteers to map the current distribution of reptiles.	This was not possible due to Covid restrictions. Only a small number of sites were surveyed.	Reptiles work is on hold temporarily due to additional unexpected workstreams. We will recruit additional capacity and review projects for FY22.
Deliver species recovery plans for water vole, reptiles and curlew.	No progress was made on the species plan due to lack of funding. Applications were submitted for water voles and curlews, but these were unsuccessful.	Money raised from our Cheshire Peak District appeal means we can begin planning delivery of our curlew recovery plan ready for the 2022 breeding season. We will also join the English Curlew Partnership.
Raise awareness of swifts, hedgehogs and pollinators in Stockport.	Funding was secured to run an urban wildlife project focusing on swifts, hedgehogs and pollinators. Other species recovery work included: Natterjack toad populations were monitored at Red Rocks. Sea holly was planted at Red Rocks to increase habitat for grayling butterflies.	Deliver the Wild Stockport Project and create space for pollinators in Stockport, install swift boxes and create hedgehog streets. Continue to monitor natterjack toad populations and work with Amphibian and Reptile Conservation to explore expanding populations in the Dee Estuary. Continue to monitor grayling butterflies to understand more about their distribution and habitat needs.

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<p>Planning & Advocacy: Work with communities through Neighbourhood Planning to map and embed nature recovery networks into local planning policies.</p> <p>Continue to hold HS2 to account by representing The Wildlife Trusts, as well as CWT, on HS2 Ltd's national Ecology Review Group.</p> <p>Work with local authorities to strengthen biodiversity strategies and support them in integrating biodiversity net gain into working practice.</p> <p>We will work with the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) to train consultant ecologists in biodiversity net gain. We will help design and deliver a training programme for The Wildlife Trusts and their consultancies.</p>	<p>7,360 Ha of land is better protected through local planning policy because of our advice.</p> <p>CWT appeared on Sunday Politics Show live to talk about the environmental impacts of HS2. We produced a consultation overview of Phase 2b and sent our HS2 Phase 2a consultation response to all MPs whose constituencies are impacted by that part of the line. We have had follow-up conversations and meetings with four MPs.</p> <p>We have been working with Cheshire East and Cheshire West & Chester Councils to support the creation of biodiversity net gain strategies, including helping Cheshire East Council produce a Supplementary Planning Policy. We have also responded to consultations on the Mersey Tidal Power Project, the Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy, and Wirral Council's Local Plan and Green Blue Infrastructure Strategy.</p> <p>We delivered training to 523 people in biodiversity net gain and other topics.</p>	<p>Provide advice on 4,000 Ha of land through our responses to planning applications and protect core sites and wildlife corridors through Neighbourhood Plan policy adoption.</p> <p>We will review the HS2 biodiversity metrics on behalf of The Wildlife Trusts; continue to campaign for the government to Stop and Rethink HS2; respond to consultations and hold HS2 to account with regards to biodiversity net gain.</p> <p>We will deliver bespoke training packages to LAs. We will continue to respond to planning policy consultations and support Natural England and the local authorities on the development of Nature Recovery Strategies.</p> <p>We will develop a suite of training courses to deliver across the Wildlife Trust movement and through CIEEM to consultant ecologists nationally. We will work with developers and local authorities to ensure high-quality schemes are delivered. We will also provide exemplar offsetting and complete the purchase of degraded agricultural land to deliver biodiversity net gain.</p>
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Continue to respond to planning applications, which significantly threaten nature and protected sites.	Our advice reduced the impacts from planning on 412 Ha of land (165% of our target). Our input secured or helped secure around £500,000 for biodiversity offsetting in the region. Applications responded to included Bredbury Gateway, Rossfield Park, Jack's Wood, A57, Lache Lane, Verdin Winsford, Cheshire College and Middlewich bypass.	We will continue to secure positive outcomes for wildlife. We will focus on biodiversity net gain as the main mechanism to achieve this.
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2. Climate is in crisis: Below is a summary of our climate adaptation and resilience programme which aims to see nature play its full part in addressing the climate crisis and CWT achieve at least net zero by 2030.

What we planned for FY21	Some of the things we did in FY21	What we have planned for FY22
<p>Net Zero CWT: Calculate CWT's carbon footprint.</p> <p>Wetland & Watercourse Restoration: Deliver advice to farmers to improve water quality and land management for biodiversity across 400 Ha of designated priority habitat.</p> <p>Woodland Creation & Restoration: Create 30 Ha of new woodland in the Pennine Fringe.</p>	<p>CWT completed its analysis of its carbon footprint using scope 1 and 2 methodology during the year. We also began calculating the amount of carbon stored within our nature reserves and the additional carbon that is sequestered each year by our activities.</p> <p>We restored 10km of river (106% of our target). We worked with landowners across Cheshire to improve water quality on a number of waterbodies and completed 25 farm water management plans to help farmers address water quality issues on their farm.</p> <p>Created a total of 36 Ha of new woodland across Cheshire and planted 6,000 trees on public greenspaces in partnership with Cheshire East Council.</p>	<p>Create a carbon reduction plan to achieve at least net zero by 2030.</p> <p>Complete an analysis of the peatland within Cheshire East. Develop a project to restore agricultural peat soils.</p> <p>Complete a further 50 farm water management plans and implement £150,000 of improvement projects to improve the quality of Cheshire's watercourses.</p> <p>Begin delivery of a Trees for Cheshire project to create 200 Ha of woodland over four years.</p>

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3. We are in crisis: Below is a summary of our communications, engagement and mobilisation programme aimed at creating a society that cares about wildlife and where 1 in 4 people are taking action for nature by 2030.

Overall, we engaged 52,972 people against a target of 54,719.

What we planned for FY21	Some of the things we did in FY21	What we have planned for FY22
<p>Education & Public Engagement:</p> <p>Our planned face-to-face engagement and events programme could not go ahead due to Covid19. We moved some elements of our programme online.</p>	<p>The Wellbeing with Nature Team developed a virtual version of their existing programme to enable continued delivery throughout the lockdown period. Ninety-four participants took part and, following positive feedback from participants and their referrers, this online programme has now been included as a permanent activity in the Wellbeing Team's Portfolio.</p> <p>We also ran a programme of webinars on topics such as grass identification with Josh Styles and wildlife-friendly gardening, watched by 1,119 people.</p>	<p>Gradually resume events and community engagement activities as restrictions ease.</p> <p>Launch a new approach to engagement focused much more on mobilising large numbers of people to take action for nature.</p>
<p>We will work in partnership with the Jobcentre and Sport England to deliver and scale up our Go Wild, Get Fit programme.</p>	<p>Eighteen months of funding was secured from Sport England to pilot new approaches and scale up the impact of the Wellbeing with Nature programme (an adaptation of the Go Wild, Get Fit Programme) across the whole of Cheshire. The project strategy, implementation plan and timeline were agreed, and the health and employment sectors were identified as key partners and potential commissioners of the programme. Funding opportunities under the banner of Green Social Prescribing were identified and bid for, and community and sector networks were developed.</p>	<p>Celebrate our 60th anniversary.</p> <p>Support at least 12,000 people to take action for wildlife, including developing a network of champions.</p>
<p>Improve visitor facilities at our nature reserves.</p>	<p>We upgraded access infrastructure at a number of our nature reserves, including Danes Moss, Swettenham Valley, Owley Wood and Goway Meadows.</p>	<p>Complete our Sport England-funded Wellbeing with Nature project and create a sustainable scaling model to increase our reach.</p>
<p>Volunteering:</p>		

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<p>Volunteering was extremely limited during the year due to Covid19.</p> <p>Partnership Working: We will continue to work with a wide range of stakeholders to deliver land management projects.</p> <p>We will further grow our land management advice activities and community engagement programme.</p> <p>Communications & Campaigns: We will continue to grow our social media presence and provide regular communications to our supporters.</p> <p>We will invest in digital marketing to modernise our fundraising and enable voluntary income generation to continue despite Covid19.</p> <p>We will work closely with other Wildlife Trusts to deliver national campaigns</p>	<p>All volunteering was suspended during the first two quarters due to government restrictions. During the second half of the year, limited volunteering, outdoors in socially distanced bubbles, resumed. CWT continued to hold a position on the Cheshire region Local Nature Partnership Board. During the year, we worked closely with Natural England, the Environment Agency, Forestry England and United Utilities across a range of projects.</p> <p>We continued to host Local Wildlife Site Partnerships to ensure the protection of priority habitat and species populations. We continued to serve on the South West Peak Landscape Partnership Steering Group, to host the Tidal Dee Catchment Partnership and work closely with other catchment partnerships.</p> <p>We worked with 101 landowners and farmers including several large estates. Our community engagement work was very limited this year due to the pandemic restrictions.</p> <p>Through the year, we reached an audience of 25,896 through our social media. Our team delivered 12 radio interviews and our work featured on BBC North West Tonight, ITV Granada and Blue Peter. We had 115 mentions in the local press and magazines, and more than 60,000 people visited our website. We produced two magazines and kept supporters up to date through a weekly e-newsletter.</p> <p>We recruited 3,381 new members during the year, achieving a total of 15,890 financial supporters.</p> <p>7,509 people took part in our campaigns (167% against target) with 3,736 signatures to our 'ban neonics' petition – our highest ever campaign sign-up total – and a further 620 supporters</p>	<p>We will seek to renew our Investors in Volunteers quality badge and resume volunteering activity as and when restrictions ease.</p> <p>We will continue to develop our partnership approach and ensure that stakeholders are fully engaged with project development and delivery.</p> <p>We plan to work with 50 landowners and farmers across Cheshire to help them manage their land better for wildlife.</p> <p>Engage at least 150,000 people during the year, including 35,000 through social media.</p> <p>Recruit at least 2,000 new memberships and achieve a 90% retention rate. Stay connected with over 5,000 people every week through the Wild Cheshire e-newsletter.</p> <p>Engage 5,000 people in our campaigns: Grow Don't Mow, Wasted Space, Great</p>
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such as Wilder Futures, Action for Insects and 30 Days Wild locally.	backed our campaign for Highly Protected Marine Areas (the third highest of any Wildlife Trust). 4,423 Cheshire residents took part in 30 Days Wild during June 2020 and 789 people adopted a species. Our appeal to help reintroduce beavers raised £73,140.	Big Green Week and Peat-free. We will continue to engage with MPs.
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4. We are effective and resilient: Below is a summary of our programme to ensure that CWT has the financial resources it needs, is well run and has a high-performing and valued staff and volunteer team.

What we planned for FY21	Some of the things we did in FY21	What we have planned for FY22
<p>Financial Sustainability: We will carefully manage the financial impacts of Covid19 to ensure that CWT remains a going concern. We will do this by utilising government support schemes, limiting non-essential expenditure and reviewing our operations and staff structures. We will manage the Trust to achieve as close to breakeven as possible, only using financial reserves when necessary.</p> <p>We will launch our new Nature Based Solutions Service to help deliver greater environmental impact and generate income through commercial contracts.</p>	<p>Our total income fell slightly from just over £2.3 m in FY20 to £2,290,447 and we returned an overall surplus of £50,986. This is the fifth successive year in which the Trust has managed its expenditure within budgetary limits and demonstrated that although the impacts of Covid19 limited growth, the Trust's finances remained stable. Income from trading activity grew by 5% to £544,751 and our subsidiary company Cheshire Ecological Services exceed its net profit target, returning £89,036 to CWT.</p> <p>Income from membership remained stable despite concerns that the economic impacts of the pandemic might result in a loss of some members. The total number of members increased to 15,890; however, we did see a reduction in the level of donations and legacies from almost £200,000 in 2020 to £110,817. We were very grateful for gifts in Wills totalling £66,902 which included gifts from the estates of Audrey Rose Locksley, Phyllis Mary Wilson, Eileen Patricia Dale, Barbara Dorothy Collinge, Sheila Fern Bronstorm and Andrew Henry Lennie Hamilton.</p>	<p>We will continue to carefully manage the ongoing effects of the pandemic.</p> <p>We will further grow our income from services and contracts.</p> <p>We will continue to make best use of grant funding to pump prime new projects.</p> <p>We will grow our membership.</p> <p>We will aim to at least maintain and ideally grow our financial reserves.</p>
<p>Good Governance: We will launch our 2030 strategy at the 2020 AGM.</p>	<p>We launched our Wilder Cheshire strategy in November 2020, setting out our 2030 goals for 30% of land good for nature, 1 in 4 people taking</p>	<p>We will begin delivering against our new strategy. We will align staffing and resources to our three</p>

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<p>We will continue to recruit new Trustees to replace those at the end of their tenure.</p> <p>We will seek to adopt our new Articles of Association.</p> <p>Working in the Federation: We will work closely with The Wildlife Trusts (TWT) to develop a new national strategy and contribute to working groups and committees.</p> <p>We will continue to work collaboratively with neighbouring Wildlife Trusts to deliver projects and feed into national lobbying for stronger environmental legislation.</p> <p>We will continue to build a relationship with our new Patron.</p>	<p>action for wildlife and for nature to be playing its full role in tackling the climate crisis.</p> <p>Two new Trustees were elected during the year, replacing two standing down at the end of their tenure.</p> <p>New Articles of Association were adopted at the AGM in November 2020. These are shorter and more modern than the previous version and include updated charitable objects that more accurately reflect the current and future work of the charity. The new articles have been accepted by the Charity Commission.</p> <p>The CEO and Chair continued to attend TWT events and serve on national committees. Staff from across CWT worked with other Trusts to deliver projects including the Carbon Landscape with the Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside; the South West Peak Landscape Partnership with Staffordshire Wildlife Trust; and the Dee Coastliners Project with North Wales Wildlife Trust.</p> <p>We worked closely with other Trusts to lobby for a strong Environment Act, Agriculture Act and Fisheries Act and contributed to national working groups.</p> <p>Our Patron engaged with the work of CWT throughout the year – taking part in the AGM, filming for campaigns and media releases and meeting with senior officers.</p>	<p>strategic pillars and map out our approach for achieving the targets over the next decade.</p> <p>Recruit at least two further Trustees.</p> <p>We will continue to ensure that the charity is governed in line with Charity Commission best practice guidance.</p> <p>We will continue to work closely with our partners in the federation of Wildlife Trusts in order to collaborate at scale and share best practice.</p>
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THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Financial review

Review of the year

Cheshire Wildlife Trust's financial position remained stable during the year and the consolidated unrestricted income was £1,657,616 (2020: £1,647,582) at the year end. Consolidated restricted income decreased slightly from £721,655 to £632,831.

Expenditure for the period totalled £2,239,461 (2020: £2,304,742).

Principal funding sources

Membership subscriptions continued to provide the major part of the Trust's ongoing unrestricted funding. There was a gift-aided donation from Cheshire Ecological Services Limited of £89,036 during the year (year ended 31 March 2020: £92,098). The main sources of funding for the Company were:

Grants	34.6 %
Contracts and other revenues	28.4 %
Membership subscriptions (including gift aid)	22.3 %
CES	5.4 %
Donations and legacies	4.3 %
Rental and investment income	2.6 %
Appeals and sponsorships	1.9 %
Fundraising	0.4 %
Training activities	0.1 %

Generating funds

We receive approximately 28.8% of our financial support from individuals through a range of activities. Trust membership is the foundation of everything we do and we endeavour to grow this each year. The overall number of members continued to grow in 2020 despite the Covid19 pandemic. This is attributable to an increased public interest in environmental concerns combined with an increased CWT profile and use of alternative recruitment methods such as digital conversion and direct mail. Members not only provide vital funding which enables the positive work for wildlife but also represent the collective voice of people who care about wildlife. This is critically important in helping the Trust to stand up for wildlife and get our message across to key decision-makers.

We also aim to build lasting support from institutional bodies, including our corporate members, statutory grant funders and charitable trusts. Some of our charitable activities also generate income, especially from land management, ecological advice and education services.

In our activities, we receive extensive assistance from our volunteers, who are at the heart of what the Trust does and achieves; without their help, our work would be greatly diminished. Volunteers founded the Trust in 1962 and they are still fundamental to our work. They carry out a variety of roles, from practical conservation and field surveys, to support for office and education activities. All the volunteers are doing vital jobs that allow us to maintain our core business.

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Financial reserves	Company	Group
Total Funds	£1,275,427	£1,281,034
Less restricted	£ 500,451	£ 535,699
Less designated	£ 12,447	£ 12,447
Unrestricted Funds	<u>£ 762,529</u>	<u>£ 732,888</u>
Unrestricted cash and investments	<u>£ 228,879</u>	<u>£ 360,688</u>

The Council has examined the Trust's requirements (excluding CES) for financial reserves in the light of the main risks to the organisation in order to:

- provide sufficient cash liquidity for operational effectiveness of the Trust, and
- protect the continuity of the work undertaken by the Trust.

The Trust has targeted a level of unrestricted cash and investments of four months' expenditure by the Trust (excluding that on grant-funded projects). At March 2021, the Trust had cash reserves which are sufficient to cover 2.0 months on a company basis (and 3.1 months on a group basis) of unrestricted expenditure and restricted funds committed in 2021–22. The Trust will now look to maintain at least this level of reserve to safeguard both the operational and financial sustainability of the Trust as the organisation grows.

Investment policy

The Board of Trustees approved a proposal to wind down its subsidiary company during 2020-21 with a view to making the company dormant by the end of March 2022. All staff, assets and contracts were transferred to CWT. The £50,000 of the £100,000 working capital loan invested in the company was returned to CWT at year end with a further £50,000 transferred in April 2021. The repaid loan has been added to CWT's cash reserves.

Any other surplus cash, over and above the amount required to support one month's working capital requirement, is held in secure instant access accounts at competitive rates.

Risk management

The Chief Executive maintains an operational risk register for each strategic outcome and a strategic risk register, the latter of which is regularly reviewed by Council. The Council, in conjunction with the Chief Executive, works to both minimise and mitigate strategic and operational risks.

The current main strategic risks are:

- the medium-term direct and indirect impacts of Covid19 on security of income streams and availability of grants. We have been unable to carry out face-to-face community engagement and fundraising since April 2020;
- the health & wellbeing of the Trust's staff, volunteers and supporters as a result of Covid19;

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

- financial reserves which fall below the four-month target and associated cash flow sensitivities;
- continued decline of the UK's natural environment combined with insufficient societal and political support for our cause;
- uncertainties around the UK's decision to leave the EU and the impact this could have on wildlife protection and land management in the medium and longer term.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The Cheshire Wildlife Trust Limited (CWT) is a charitable company limited by guarantee and as such has no share capital. It was incorporated on 24 October 1962 and registered as a charity on 20 February 1963. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. The Articles of Association were reviewed during 2019-20 with the support of Brabners LLP. The new governing document was approved by the Charity Commission in April 2020 and adopted at the AGM in November 2020.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

The Trustees are members of CWT who, having been nominated and seconded by other members, have been duly elected by members at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Under the CWT Articles, such elected members are known as Council Members.

Council Members are registered as Directors of the company under company law and are also registered as Charity Trustees with the Charity Commission.

In compliance with the Articles of Association adopted on 14 November 2020, Directors are appointed to the Board for terms of three years. On expiry of such three-year term the Director shall resign unless re-elected by an ordinary resolution of the charity. A Director may not serve on the Board for more than three consecutive terms of three years.

Additional Council Members may be co-opted during the period. They must retire at the next AGM, though may stand for re-election.

The Council aims to have a representative mix of skills from various sectors of the community. The current mix of men and women, living across the area served by the Trust, includes expertise from backgrounds in the public, private and voluntary sectors. In addition to their knowledge and interest in wildlife, Council Members bring to the Trust managerial and organisational skills in policy, strategy, financial and legal matters.

The Articles of Association specifically preclude any payment to Council Members, other than reimbursement of properly incurred travel and incidental expenses. During the period Council Members claimed £1,442.70 in expenses (2019-20: £1,630.60).

There are no other financial transactions with any Trustees (or any persons connected with them).

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Council Members induction and training

All Council Members have undergone an induction programme which included an induction pack, an explanation of our governance arrangements and the opportunity to visit Trust reserves and offices and to have discussions with Trust management, employees and volunteers.

As part of this induction, all Council Members have a Council Members' Handbook containing the reference material to guide the governance of the Trust, including copies of the Trust's Articles of Association, the Charity Commission booklet CC3 'The Essential Trustee', the Companies House 'Incorporation and Names' booklet (GP1), the Companies House 'Hallmarks of an Effective Charity' booklet (CC10) and the Health and Safety Executive booklet 'Leading Health & Safety at Work'. A copy of 'Good Governance: a practical guide for trustees, chairs and CEOs' by Dorothy Dalton on behalf of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations is held by the Chair of Council.

Organisational structure

The Council is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity, and for appointing the Chief Executive, Charlotte Harris (from 1 April 2013), who attends Council meetings but does not have a voting entitlement. The Council holds at least four regular meetings a year, with occasional additional workshops to focus on special topics.

The Council utilises a number of committee and working groups to scrutinise and support specific areas of the Trust's operations in more detail. From January 2020, the following committees support the work of Council: Finance, Audit, Risk & Resources, Governance & Nominations; CES Board; Health & Safety Committee; Premises & Acquisitions and a Management Support Group. The latter is advisory only and exists to support the Senior Management Team in between formal meetings.

Each committee and working group is chaired by a Council member. Membership of the group includes up to five Trustees and senior staff responsible for each work area. Meetings take place as required and report to Council.

The strategic direction, annual work plans and budget are agreed by Council with operational day-to-day decision making delegated to the Chief Executive and Senior Management Team.

Pay and remuneration of the Chief Executive is dealt with by the Chair of Council in consultation with the Board of Trustees. The Finance, Audit, Risk & Resources Committee considers recommendations from the Chief Executive regarding salaries for the Senior Management Team, who in turn set pay levels for more junior staff in line with the approved budget and CWT salary scales. Benchmarking data from the Wildlife Trust movement and wider charity sector are used to inform decision making.

Relationship with the charity and related parties including its subsidiaries

The Cheshire Wildlife Trust Limited is the sole shareholder in a trading company, Cheshire Ecological Services Limited (CES) (Company No: 2623356), which is a private limited company incorporated on 24 June 1991. CES has gift aided its entire taxable annual profit to CWT. On 1 October 2020, staff from CES were TUPE'd across to CWT and the work of the company was integrated with that of the

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Operations Team. Trading ceased within CES during 2020-21 and the company will be made dormant during 2021-22.

CWT is a member of the Wildlife Trusts Partnership (registered as the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts, registered charity number 207238), which acts as an umbrella body carrying out lobbying and public relations on behalf of all Wildlife Trusts. Partners have the use of the Wildlife Trusts logo and benefit from the resources, best practice and specialist experience of other member Trusts. Membership gives the charity a national voice and profile, as well as respectability by association for those unfamiliar with its particular work. However, each member of the partnership remains entirely independent in terms of governance.

Statement of the Board's responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also Directors of Cheshire Wildlife Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the 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.

Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

The members of the Board who were in office on the date of approval of these financial statements have confirmed, as far as they are aware, that there is no relevant audit information of which the auditors are unaware. Each of the members of the Board have confirmed that they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as members of the Board in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that it has been communicated to the auditor.

The Trustees have reviewed the future financial forecasts of the charity. During March 2020, a global pandemic was declared arising from the outbreak of Covid19. The Trustees delivered plans agreed in April 2020 to mitigate the impact to the charity. These included making appropriate use of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, controlling non-essential expenditure and carrying out a

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

restructure which resulted in 11 redundancies with total payments of £25,095. The Trustees are satisfied that these mitigations have ensured the charity remains a going concern. Accordingly, the financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis.

Auditors

Mitchell Charlesworth LLP was re-appointed as auditor at the 2020 Annual General Meeting.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective 1 January 2015).

The Report of the Members of the Board, which includes the Strategic Report on pages 9 to 17, was approved by the Board on 21 October 2021 and signed on their behalf:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Stothart', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Bill Stothart
Chair of Council

Date: 21 October 2021

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members and Trustees of The Cheshire Wildlife Trust Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Cheshire Wildlife Trust Limited and its subsidiary for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Group Statement of Financial Activities, the Group Summary Income and Expenditure Account, the Group and the Parent Charitable Company Balance Sheet and the 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 group's and parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021, and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and

have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent 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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the group's or parent charitable company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members and Trustees of The Cheshire Wildlife Trust Limited

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' 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.

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 Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of Cheshire Wildlife Trust and its subsidiary, and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' report.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the Trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members and Trustees of The Cheshire Wildlife Trust Limited

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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.

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

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Identifying and assessing potential risks related to irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

- the nature of the sector, control environment and Trust performance;
- the Trust's own assessment of the risks that irregularities may occur either as a result of fraud or error;
- the results of our enquiries of management and members of the Board of Trustees of their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members and Trustees of The Cheshire Wildlife Trust Limited

- any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the Trust's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
- identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
- detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- the matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the company for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in the following areas:

(i) The recognition of revenue, (ii) the allocation of income and expenditure between restricted and unrestricted funds. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the Trust operates in, 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 key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, and Health and Safety legislation.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the Trust's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. These included Data Protection Regulations.

Audit response to risks identified

As a result of performing the above, we identified the recognition of revenue, and the allocation of income and expenditure between restricted and unrestricted funds as the key audit matters related to the potential risk of fraud.

In addition to the above, our procedures to respond to risks identified included the following:

- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations described above as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- enquiring of management and members of the Board of Trustees concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and reviewing correspondence with relevant authorities where matters identified were significant; and

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members and Trustees of The Cheshire Wildlife Trust Limited

- in addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's 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 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 and the charitable company's members, Trustees 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.



21/10/2021

Jamielee Johnston (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Mitchell Charlesworth LLP

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

3rd Floor
44 Peter Street
Manchester
M2 5GP

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

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 March 2021

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2021	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2020
	Notes	£	£	£	£		
Income							
Donations and legacies	2	559,351	61,067	620,418	563,602	123,410	687,012
Charitable activities	3	599,571	521,639	1,121,210	584,038	578,426	1,162,464
Other trading activities	4	494,626	50,125	544,751	497,113	19,819	516,932
Investments Income	5	4,068	-	4,068	2,829	-	2,829
TOTAL		1,657,616	632,831	2,290,447	1,647,582	721,655	2,369,237
Expenditure							
Raising funds	6	365,156	-	365,156	386,928	-	386,928
Charitable activities	7	976,820	490,180	1,467,000	675,561	750,227	1,425,788
Other – Generating funds	8	380,857	26,448	407,305	467,731	24,295	492,026
TOTAL		1,722,833	516,628	2,239,461	1,530,220	774,522	2,304,742
Net income/(expenditure)		(65,217)	116,203	50,986	117,362	(52,867)	64,495
Transfers between funds		(35,249)	35,249	-	(3,832)	3,832	-
Net movement in funds		(100,466)	151,452	50,986	113,530	(49,035)	64,495
Reconciliation of funds							
Total Funds brought forward		845,800	384,247	1,230,047	732,270	433,282	1,165,552
Total Funds carried forward		745,334	535,699	1,281,033	845,800	384,247	1,230,047

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Consolidated Balance Sheet Year ended 31 March 2021

		Year ended 31 March 2021		Year ended 31 March 2020	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		117,522		138,671
Heritage assets	14		316,046		316,046
Total fixed assets			<u>433,568</u>		<u>454,717</u>
Current assets					
Stock and work in progress	17	7,956		6,183	
Debtors	18	328,592		327,495	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,114,881		870,979	
Total current assets		<u>1,451,429</u>		<u>1,204,657</u>	
Liabilities					
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due within one year	20	603,964		429,327	
Net current asset or liabilities			<u>847,465</u>		<u>775,330</u>
Total net assets or liabilities			<u><u>1,281,033</u></u>		<u><u>1,230,047</u></u>
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds	22		745,334		845,800
Restricted income funds	22		535,699		384,247
Total funds			<u><u>1,281,033</u></u>		<u><u>1,230,047</u></u>

The notes on pages 33 to 53 form part of these financial statements.

Bill Stothart

Signed:
Bill Stothart
Date: 21 October 2021

Peter Rushton

Signed:
Peter Rushton
Date: 21 October 2021

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Company Balance Sheet Year ended 31 March 2021

		Year ended 31 March 2021		Year ended 31 March 2020	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	15		117,522		128,739
Heritage assets	15		316,046		316,046
Investments	16		100		100
Total fixed assets			<u>433,668</u>		<u>444,885</u>
Current assets					
Stocks	17	7,956		2,226	
Debtors	18	454,694		374,085	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>983,072</u>		<u>794,703</u>	
Total current assets		<u>1,445,722</u>		<u>1,171,014</u>	
Liabilities					
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due within one year	20	603,963		393,338	
Net current assets or liabilities			<u>841,759</u>		<u>777,676</u>
Total net assets or liabilities			<u>1,275,427</u>		<u>1,222,561</u>
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds			739,728		838,314
Restricted income funds	22		<u>535,669</u>		<u>384,247</u>
Total funds			<u>1,275,427</u>		<u>1,222,561</u>

The notes on pages 33 to 53 form part of these financial statements.

Bill Stothart

Signed:
Bill Stothart
Date: 21 October 2021

Peter Rushton

Signed:
Peter Rushton
Date: 21 October 2021

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Statement of Cash flow
Year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities:					
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	27	269,879		166,443	
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		-		-	
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment		4,917		17,250	
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(30,894)		(135,301)	
Proceeds from the sale of investments		-		-	
Purchase of investments		-		-	
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		<u>(25,977)</u>		<u>(118,051)</u>	
Cash flows from financing activities					
Repayments of borrowing		-		-	
Net cash inflows from new borrowing		-		-	
Receipt of endowment		-		-	
Net cash used in financing activities		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			<u>243,902</u>		<u>48,392</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period			870,979		822,587
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period			<u>1,114,881</u>		<u>870,979</u>

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Accounting Policies

Year ended 31 March 2021

1 Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

- 1.1** The Cheshire Wildlife Trust Limited is a charity incorporated as a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales. The registered office is Bickley Hall Farm, Bickley, Malpas, Cheshire, SY14 8EF.

The financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) - Accounting and reporting by provisions of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (effective 1 January 2019). The figures in the accounts are rounded to the nearest £ and the presentational currency is sterling.

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

None of the group's activities were acquired or discontinued during the financial year.

1.2 Group Accounts

The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) and Balance Sheet consolidate the financial statements of the Charity and its subsidiary undertakings. The results of the subsidiary are consolidated on a line by line basis.

The charity has availed itself of Paragraph 4(1) of Schedule 1 of the Large and Medium-sized Companies and Group (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and adapted the Companies Act formats to reflect the special nature of the Charity's activities. No separate SOFA has been presented for the charity alone as permitted by Section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and paragraph 397 of the SORP.

As most of the income from the subsidiary company is transferred to the Trust the view taken is that there is no significant difference between the Group and Company figures. The subsidiary is accounted for separately for management control purposes.

1.3 Fund Accounting

1.3.1 Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

1.3.2 Restricted Income Funds

These funds are given to the Trust for a particular purpose to be used in accordance with the wishes of the donor.

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Accounting Policies

Year ended 31 March 2021

1.3.3 Designated Funds - Projects

Designated funds are funds set aside by the Trustees for specific projects. These projects may only be partly funded with the unfunded element set aside from general funds.

1.4 Incoming Resources

Voluntary income is received by way of donations, gifts, subscriptions and fundraising activities. The income is credited to the SOFA on the earlier of receipt or when the receipt is probable, the value can be ascertained and the Trust gets the legal right to the income. Tax refunds on gift aid income are however accrued as earned.

Legacy income is included in the accounts when the amount due can be quantified with reasonable probability and the timing of the receipt is known.

Grants receivable which are not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant. These are recognised as 'Income from donations'.

Grants receivable that relate to the delivery of a specific performance by the charity are recognised when the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance. A number of these grants are retrospective and where these are outstanding at the year end for work completed, they are accrued. These are recognised as 'Income from Charitable Activities'.

Capital grants received for plant and equipment are taken to the Capital Grants restricted funds and are released to the SOFA in instalments relating to the relevant asset lives to match the associated depreciation charge.

All grants receivable are charged to the SOFA in the period to which they relate.

The Trust was formed in 1962 by volunteers and continues to benefit from their support in both financial and non-financial ways. Examples of financial support include membership income, donations and legacies. These contributions are included in the accounts within voluntary income.

1.5 Resources Expended

All expenditure, other than that which is capitalised, is included in the SOFA, recognised on an accruals basis as a liability when incurred.

Charitable activities consist of the costs incurred in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity.

Costs of Raising Funds consists of expenditure associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of fundraising and maintaining memberships.

Administration and Support of charitable activities consists of those costs incurred in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity. These include the provision of premises, personnel, Information Technology, insurances and audit fees and have been allocated on the basis of direct staff wage costs.

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Accounting Policies

Year ended 31 March 2021

Many of our volunteers provide non-financial support covering a wide range of activities from acting as Trustees; assisting in conservation activities including surveying; and providing administrative support. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

Capital purchases are included in the accounts at cost. Capital purchases of less than £250 are expensed.

1.6 Irrecoverable VAT

The charity is partially exempt. Irrecoverable VAT is allocated to the appropriate cost categories.

1.7 Going Concern

At the time of approving the financial statements and having due regard to the impact of Covid19 as referred to in note 1.18, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Therefore, the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.8 Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset, except for land, over its estimated useful life:

- Plant and machinery - 25% per annum reducing balance
- Fixtures and fittings - 25% per annum reducing balance
- Motor vehicles - 25% per annum reducing balance
- Computer equipment - 25-33.33% per annum straight line basis

No depreciation is provided on freehold land.

Capitalised expenditure on buildings is depreciated over the remainder of the lease period.

1.9 Heritage Assets

Heritage assets are nature reserves, capitalised at the date of addition. Any assets donated, where the cost is unknown, are capitalised at the date of addition. Further details are disclosed within Note 15 to the accounts.

1.10 Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The SOFA includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the period.

1.11 Stocks and Work in Progress

General stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, where cost comprises purchase price.

Work in progress is valued at cost.

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Accounting Policies

Year ended 31 March 2021

1.12 Deferred Income

Restricted funds received for projects which are substantially incomplete or not commenced at year end are recognised in the year in which they are received and carried forward in the balance of restricted funds. The restricted funds are reduced each year by an amount equal to any expenditure on such projects which have been incurred in the year.

1.13 Pension Costs

The charitable group operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. Contributions payable are included in the SOFA in the year they are payable.

1.14 Finance and Operating Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the SOFA over the period in which the cost is incurred. The Trust has no finance leases.

1.15 Provisions

A provision is recognised when the Trust has a legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events and it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation.

1.16 Taxation

The Trust is a registered charity and is not liable to United Kingdom income tax or corporation tax on charitable activities.

1.17 Material Uncertainties/Judgements

There were no material uncertainties or judgements contained within the presented figures.

1.18 Going Concern

The results and financial position reflect the impact of the Covid19 pandemic on the business for the reporting period. The Trustees have taken appropriate steps to mitigate this impact, including the furloughing of staff from April to September 2020; and a redundancy programme reflecting reduced staffing requirements in relation to specific income streams adversely impacted by the pandemic.

1.19 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.20 Financial Instruments

The Charity 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 Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Accounting Policies

Year ended 31 March 2021

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic Financial Assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price, including transaction costs, and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic Financial Liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

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. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of Financial Liabilities

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

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2021

2 Donations & legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted		Unrestricted	Restricted	
			2021			2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations & legacies	100,415	10,402	110,817	88,797	108,160	196,957
Grants	1,000	12,000	13,000	4,615	15,250	19,865
Subscriptions	457,936	-	457,936	461,408		461,408
Appeal income	-	38,665	38,665	8,782		8,782
	<u>559,351</u>	<u>61,067</u>	<u>620,418</u>	<u>563,602</u>	<u>123,410</u>	<u>687,012</u>

3 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted		Unrestricted	Restricted	
			2021			2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fundraising	6,883	442	7,325	13,298	767	14,065
Grants	180,025	519,821	699,846	44,601	576,069	620,670
Commercial trading operations (CES)	321,286	-	321,286	354,115	-	354,115
Other sales	38,965	363	39,328	130,282	90	130,372
Rental income	52,412	1,013	53,425	41,742	1,500	43,242
	<u>599,571</u>	<u>521,639</u>	<u>1,121,210</u>	<u>584,038</u>	<u>578,426</u>	<u>1,162,464</u>

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

**Notes to the Accounts
Year ended 31 March 2021**

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021	Unrestricted	Restricted	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Training days	2,700	-	2,700	20,006	50	20,056
Contract income	491,926	50,125	542,051	477,107	19,769	496,876
	494,626	50,125	544,751	497,113	19,819	516,932

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021	Unrestricted	Restricted	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Interest received	4,068	-	4,068	2,829	-	2,829
	4,068	-	4,068	2,829	-	2,829

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts Year ended 31 March 2021

6 Expenditure on raising funds

	Donations & legacies	Subscriptions	Total 2021	Donations & legacies	Subscriptions	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	-	208,783	208,783	-	215,080	215,080
Membership costs	99	47,753	47,852	-	63,039	63,039
Other direct costs	429	20,893	21,322	4,134	13,949	18,083
Support costs (Note 9)	-	87,199	87,199	-	90,726	90,726
	528	364,628	365,156	4,134	382,794	386,928

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Conservation & Reserves management	Community Engagement	Total 2021	Conservation & Reserves management	Community Engagement	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	500,663	108,187	608,850	567,587	65,497	633,084
Reserves costs	436,218	32,100	468,318	341,387	36,951	378,338
Motor & travel	23,934	6,228	30,162	32,251	4,209	36,460
Professional fees	14,757	-	14,757	15,390	-	15,390
Sundries	47,238	3,731	50,969	55,472	1,413	56,885
Depreciation	36,632	3,023	39,655	42,769	120	42,889
Support costs (Note 9)	209,104	45,185	254,289	218,335	44,407	262,742
	1,268,546	198,454	1,467,000	1,273,191	152,597	1,425,788

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts Year ended 31 March 2021

8 Expenditure on generating funds

	Fundraising	Other sales	Total	Fundraising	Other sales	Total
			2021			2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	42,404	66,475	108,879	15,860	81,466	97,326
Purchases for sale	4,580	15,007	19,587	1,129	5,399	6,528
Motor & travel	-	1,224	1,224	345	73,973	74,318
Sundries	44,864	40,939	85,803	1,685	13,793	15,478
Support costs (Note 9)	17,710	27,763	45,473	5,898	36,445	42,343
	<u>109,558</u>	<u>151,408</u>	<u>260,966</u>	<u>24,917</u>	<u>211,076</u>	<u>235,993</u>
Commercial trading operations (CES Note 23)			146,339			256,033
			<u>407,305</u>			<u>492,026</u>

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts Year ended 31 March 2021

9 Support costs

	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£
Training	270	11,624
Insurance	24,990	19,856
Light & heat	1,566	2,046
Repairs & maintenance	7,339	1,816
Legal & professional	9,985	5,004
Staff & volunteer expenses	8,718	2,415
Motor expenses	153	-
Telecoms	5,759	10,067
Post & stationery	2,635	2,563
Sundry expenses	6,110	7,237
RSWT contribution	29,447	31,398
Bank charges	1,960	1,181
Depreciation	4,470	4,893
Admin salaries	185,886	166,220
Office costs	4,325	4,063
Comms & PR	36	10,139
Audit fees	7,720	7,150
Computer expenses	27,735	22,115
Premises costs	46,023	56,365
Recruitment	299	-
Irrecoverable VAT	1,161	8,191
Doubtful debts	10,374	21,469
	<u>386,961</u>	<u>395,812</u>

Support costs include an amount for irrecoverable VAT in respect of charitable and non-business activities.

Allocation of support costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Direct support costs	-	44,200
General support costs	<u>386,961</u>	<u>351,612</u>
	<u>386,961</u>	<u>395,812</u>

	2021	2020
	£	£
Voluntary income activities	87,199	90,726
Generating funds activities	45,473	42,343
Charitable activities	<u>254,289</u>	<u>262,742</u>
	<u>386,961</u>	<u>395,812</u>

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2021

10 Movement in total funds for the period

	Note	2021		2020	
		Group	Company	Group	Company
		£	£	£	£
Auditors remuneration	9	11,520	7,720	10,950	7,150
Operating lease payments - Plant & equipment		5,992	5,992	6,364	6,364
Depreciation	14	48,807	46,429	52,377	49,834

11 Staff costs

	2021		2020	
	Group	Company	Group	Company
	£	£	£	£
Wages & salaries	1,030,875	967,282	1,128,609	971,896
Social security costs	87,536	81,791	94,619	80,035
Pension costs	67,953	63,326	71,373	58,830
	<u>1,186,364</u>	<u>1,112,399</u>	<u>1,294,601</u>	<u>1,110,761</u>

The average number of employees, analysed by function was:

	2021		2020	
	Group	Company	Group	Company
Charitable activities	21	21	21	21
Generating funds	17	14	16	11
Management & Administration	5	5	5	5
	<u>43</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>37</u>

No employees had earnings over £60,000 during the year.

12 Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension costs charge represents contributions payable by the group to the fund and amounted to £63,326 (2020 - £58,830).

13 Related party transactions

Cheshire Ecological Services Limited (CES) is a subsidiary company to whom the Trust (CWT) has made a loan of £100,000. £50,000 was repaid on 31 March 2021 and the £50,000 balance repaid in April 2021.

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2021

	CES/CWT	CWT/CES
Amounts owed by/to	136,560	

No Trustee or any person connected with them received any remuneration from CWT or CES during the year (2020 - £NIL).

During the year, Trustees were reimbursed travel expenses of £1,443 (2020 - £1,630).

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts Year ended 31 March 2021 14 Tangible assets

Group	Heritage Assets £	Land & Buildings £	Plant & Machinery £	Fixtures & Fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	SFP entitlement £	Total £
Cost or donated value								
01 April 2020	316,046	113,385	123,355	29,373	84,167	47,803	10,258	724,387
Additions	-	-	7,036	2,644	10,372	10,842	-	30,894
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(17,890)	-	-	(17,890)
At 31 March 2021	316,046	113,385	130,391	32,017	76,649	58,645	10,258	737,391
Depreciation								
01 April 2020	-	99,861	48,253	24,866	50,881	35,551	10,258	269,670
Charge for the year	-	13,164	18,581	1,118	9,817	6,127	-	48,807
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(14,654)	-	-	(14,654)
At 31 March 2021	-	113,025	66,834	25,984	46,044	41,678	10,258	303,823
Net book value								
At 31 March 2021	316,046	360	63,557	6,033	30,605	16,967	-	433,568
At 31 March 2020	316,046	13,524	75,102	4,507	33,286	12,252	-	454,717

The conversion costs are being written down over the remaining term of the lease, which is due to expire in 2021.

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

**Notes to the Accounts
Year ended 31 March 2021**

15 Tangible assets

Company	Heritage Assets £	Land & Buildings £	Plant & Machinery £	Fixtures & Fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	SFP entitlement £	Total £
Cost or donated value								
01 April 2020	316,046	113,385	115,467	26,353	70,875	43,585	10,258	695,969
Additions	-	-	7,036	2,923	15,395	13,094		38,448
Disposals					(17,890)			(17,890)
At 31 March 2021	316,046	113,385	122,503	29,276	68,380	56,679	10,258	716,527
Depreciation								
01 April 2020	-	99,861	41,651	23,148	40,715	35,551	10,258	251,184
Charge for the year	-	13,164	18,581	1,025	8,148	5,511		46,429
Disposals					(14,654)			(14,654)
At 31 March 2021	-	113,025	60,232	24,173	34,209	41,062	10,258	282,959
Net book value								
At 31 March 2021	316,046	360	62,271	5,103	34,171	15,617	-	433,568
At 31 March 2020	316,046	13,524	73,816	3,205	30,160	8,034	-	444,785

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2021

Heritage Assets

The focus of the Trust is the protection and enhancement of wildlife habitats and biodiversity within Cheshire. As such, the Trust owns and maintains a number of nature reserves that fall within the definition of heritage assets in accordance with FRS 102.

The Trustees consider that, owing to the intrinsic nature of the Trust's 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 the users of the accounts. As a result, these assets have been capitalised at cost, and being land, have not been depreciated.

Nature reserves acquired by gift are not capitalised unless a reliable enough reference value of the deemed cost of the asset is available without undue expense to the Trust.

The costs of maintaining heritage assets are expensed through the Statement of Financial Activities when incurred as part of the Trust's charitable activities.

Five Year Summary of Heritage Asset Transactions

	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
	£	£	£	£	£
Additions	-	66,230	-	-	-
Purchases	-	-	-	-	-
Donations	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

Capital commitments

At 31 March 2021, the Trust had a capital commitment of £NIL for the purchase of land (2020 - £NIL).

16 Investments

Cheshire Wildlife Trust Limited owns the entire share capital (1 ordinary share of £100) in its subsidiary, Cheshire Ecological Services Limited, which is incorporated in England.

Further details concerning the activities and assets of this company are given in Note 23.

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2021

17 Stock & work in progress

	2021		2020	
	Group	Company	Group	Company
	£	£	£	£
Stock	7,956	7,956	3,323	2,226
Work in progress	-	-	2,860	-
	<u>7,956</u>	<u>7,956</u>	<u>6,183</u>	<u>2,226</u>

There were no stock write offs in the year (2019/20- £NIL).

18 Debtors

	2021		2020	
	Group	Company	Group	Company
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	236,574	226,116	224,695	160,398
Prepayments and accrued income	7,218	7,218	8,397	7,901
Amounts due from subsidiary companies	-	136,561	-	111,383
Other debtors	84,800	84,799	94,403	94,403
	<u>328,592</u>	<u>454,694</u>	<u>327,495</u>	<u>374,085</u>

Trade debtors is stated net of a provision of £33,926 (£21,469 – 2019/20).

19 Taxation

The group is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

20 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021		2020	
	Group	Company	Group	Company
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	110,873	110,873	89,927	87,201
Deferred income	332,837	332,837	190,875	190,875
Taxation & social security	50,600	50,600	82,710	55,215
Accruals	34,656	34,656	22,259	17,356
Other creditors	74,998	74,997	43,556	42,691
	<u>603,964</u>	<u>603,963</u>	<u>429,327</u>	<u>393,338</u>

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts Year ended 31 March 2021

21 Commitments under operating leases

At 31 March 2021, the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2021		2020	
	Group £	Company £	Group £	Company £
Land & Buildings				
Within one year	46,556	46,556	68,140	68,140
Two to five years	-	-	51,105	51,105
Greater than five years	-	-	-	-
Total	<u>46,556</u>	<u>46,556</u>	<u>119,245</u>	<u>119,245</u>
Other				
Within one year	2,987	2,987	7,014	7,014
Two to five years	4,371	4,371	6,194	6,194
Greater than five years	585	585	-	-
Total	<u>7,943</u>	<u>7,943</u>	<u>13,208</u>	<u>13,208</u>

22 Specified projects

Restricted funds represent monies (including donations and grants) which have been received for specific purposes as outlined by the donor. The Trust has a number of such funds and, for the purposes of statutory reporting, these have been grouped together under the four headings below.

Transfers out of restricted funds are made where a project is completed and no funding is required to be returned to the funder. Transfers into funds are made when a project is completed and the shortfall in funding is made up from the Trust's general funds.

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts Year ended 31 March 2021

	As at 1 April 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer Between Funds £	As at 31 March 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer between funds £	As at 31 March 2021 £
Restricted income funds									
Reserves acquisition funds	157,947	30,000	26,754		161,193	-	-	-	161,193
Capital Grants	9,180	15,503	7,512	(490)	16,681	-	200	-	16,481
Community Engagement funds	163,854	177,628	281,400		60,082	119,651	77,455	35,249	137,527
Conservation & Reserves	102,301	498,524	458,856	4,322	146,291	492,329	418,122	-	220,498
	<u>433,282</u>	<u>721,655</u>	<u>774,522</u>	<u>3,832</u>	<u>384,247</u>	<u>611,980</u>	<u>495,777</u>	<u>35,249</u>	<u>535,699</u>

Reserves acquisition funds represent amounts held to fund future purchases of nature reserves.

Capital grants represents grants received to fund capital purchases. The annual depreciation charge is allocated against these grants until they are fully utilised.

Community engagement and conservation and reserves funds represent grants received to carry out the Trust's charitable activities. Funding has been granted by a variety of organisations.

These include: William Dean Trust, United Utilities, the Environment Agency, WREN, Defra, and Heritage Lottery Fund.

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2021

Major Projects	As at 1 April 2019 £	Income	Expenditure	Transfer between funds	As at 31 March 2020 £	Income	Expenditure	Transfer between funds	As at 31 March 2021 £
William Dean Trust - Watch	-	15,250	15,250	-	-	12,564	12,564	-	-
Other education projects	48,353	66,000	69,468	-	44,885	75,378	26,215	-	94,049
Other nature reserves	46,549	156,670	179,356	-	23,863	99,230	104,043	-	19,050
Water Environment	-	99,683	89,693	-	9,990	151,347	106,979	-	54,358
Business Transition	36,750	-	23,962	-	12,788	30,000	-	-	42,788
Living Seas/Dee Coastliners	20,427	76,094	73,450	-	23,071	51,378	50,712	-	23,737
Slowing the Flow	3,866	52,383	60,543	4,322	28	53,165	51,770	-	1,423
NFM	-	38,625	34,654	-	3,971	51,382	28,840	-	26,513
Pollution Fund	-	75,000	1,224	-	73,776	-	-	-	73,776
Natural Futures	55,694	79,683	135,377	-	-	-	-	-	-
Delamere works	393	-	393	-	-	-	-	-	-

Unrestricted Funds	As at 1 April 2019 £	Income	Expenditure	Transfer between funds	As at 31 March 2020 £	Income	Expenditure	Transfer between funds	As at 31 March 2021 £
General Fund	703,239	1,647,582	1,513,636	(3,832)	833,353	1,657,616	1,722,833	(35,249)	732,887
Designated Fund	29,031	-	16,584	-	12,447	-	-	-	12,447
	732,270	1,647,582	1,530,220	(3,832)	845,800	1,657,616	1,722,833	(35,249)	745,334

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2021

23 Trading company Cheshire Ecological Services Limited

Profit and Loss Account Year ended 31 March 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
Turnover	233,305	396,981
Cost of sales	(77,575)	(186,432)
Gross profit	155,730	210,549
Administrative expenses	(68,764)	(115,968)
Other Income	192	158
Trading profit	87,158	94,739
Charitable donation	(89,036)	(92,098)
Operating (loss)/profit on ordinary activities before taxation	(1,878)	2,641
Tax on profit on ordinary activities		-
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	-	-
Reserves brought forward	7,585	4,944
	5,707	7,585
	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets	-	9,932
Current assets	142,267	145,026
Creditors	(136,560)	(147,373)
Net current assets/(liabilities)	5,707	7,585

The charity owns 100% of the shares in Cheshire Ecological Services Limited, which is incorporated in the United Kingdom and registered in England (Company Registration No: 2623356). The subsidiary is used for non-primary trading activities, namely the provision of ecological and biological surveys. The employees and business was transferred to the charity during the year and Cheshire Ecological Services Limited will become dormant.

THE CHESHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2021

24 Analysis of net assets between funds (Company)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021 Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	101,727	15,795	117,522
Heritage assets	316,046	-	316,046
Stock and work in progress	7,956	-	7,956
Investments	100	-	100
Debtors	329,454	125,240	454,694
Cash at bank and in hand including short-term	228,879	754,193	983,072
Transfer between funds	(35,249)	35,249	-
Current liabilities	(209,185)	(394,778)	(603,963)
Total net assets	<u>739,728</u>	<u>535,699</u>	<u>1,275,427</u>

25 Share capital

The charity has no share capital being a company limited by guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £2 per member in the event of a winding up situation.

26 Control

The charity is controlled by the Trustees.

27 Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	50,986	64,495
Depreciation	48,807	52,377
(Gains)/losses on investments		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		
Loss/(profit) on the sale of fixed assets	(1,681)	(15,632)
(Increase)/decrease in stock	(1,773)	2,588
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(1,097)	(13,158)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	174,637	75,773
Net cash inflow from operating activity	<u>269,879</u>	<u>166,443</u>

	As at 31 March 2019	Movement in year	As at 31 March 2020	Movement in year	As at 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	822,587	48,392	870,979	243,902	1,114,881