Charity Registration No. SC025837 (Scotland)

Company Registration No. SC172288 (Scotland)

SCOTTISH SEABIRD CENTRE

ANNUAL REPORT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2026

CONTENTS

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2026

The Trustees of the Charity are pleased to present their report on the activities of the Charity and Group for the year ending 31 January 2026.

Reference and administrative detail

Charity number:	SC025837
Company number:	172288 (Scotland)
Registered office:	The Harbour North Berwick EH39 4SS
Auditors:	Thomson Cooper 3 Castle Court Carnegie Campus Dunfermline EH41 3QB
Bankers:	Royal Bank of Scotland Cartsdyke Avenue Cartsburn East Greenock PA15 1EF
Solicitors & Company Secretaries:	Lindsays WS Caledonian Exchange 19A Canning Street Edinburgh EH3 8HE
Trustees:	The trustees who served during the period from 1 February 2025 to the date of approval of this report were as follows: S D Housden (Chair) C Arnold [resigned 14 August 2025] S Breslin [resigned 29 January 2026] K Kjaerside H McFarlane D Paterson N Stoddart P Taylor [resigned 20 May 2026] T Quinn R McCracken A Richardson [joined 14 August 2025] A Connelly [joined 13 November 2025] C Hancox [joined 20 May 2026]

Key Management:	Chief Executive Officer	H Huyton
	Chief Operating Officer	H McDonald
	Partnership Development Manager	F Gygax [resigned 6 August 2025]
	Head of Fundraising and Communications	J Thompson
	Conservation Manager	E Burton [appointed 1 November 2025]
	Project Manager	D Roden [resigned 3 April 2026]
Key Support Officers:	HR and Business Support Officer	F Unsworth [resigned 6 April 2026]
	Finance and Business Support Officer	F Hill
	Business Support Officer	C Bevan [appointed 20 April 2026]

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

2. Structure, governance and management

2.1 Governing document

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee and incorporated and registered as a charity. The company was set up under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

2.2 Appointment of trustees

The charity is governed by a Board of Trustees, as defined by the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, who are also Directors under the Companies Act 2006 and are collectively referred to as "The Trustees".

The Hamilton-Dalrymple family has the option to nominate one trustee in respect of their ownership of the Bass Rock and Craigleith Islands. This trustee option is not presently taken up. Regular communications occur around the separate management agreements for the islands and Anchor Green.

The trustees are chosen for their individual qualifications, experience, and skills to cover the gamut of those required for successful governance of the centre. Trustees may serve two consecutive periods of four years. After serving these periods they must stand down for a minimum of two years before offering themselves for election again. The centre advertises vacant trustee positions to the public. A register of trustees' interests is held and regularly updated by the charity and a co-option approach exists to bring in specific skills or to secure business continuity.

2.3 Trustee induction and management training

All new trustees are given a formal familiarisation to the charity's objects, the governance structure and trustee responsibilities. This is led by the Chair and CEO as part of an induction process. The team work to agreed role profiles, an annual activity plan and job plans and are subject to regular performance reviews, which also provide an opportunity to explore and support development needs and career progression. The Chair conducts an annual performance review with trustees.

2.4 Governance

The Board of Trustees, which administers the charity, meets regularly and on not less than four occasions each year.

The Scottish Seabird Centre Trading Ltd is the trading subsidiary of the charity. Its Board consists of directors who are trustees of the charity, the Charity CEO, and an independent director. A Finance, Audit & Risk Committee also meets at least four times a year to provide greater scrutiny for the Board on any strategic risks facing the organisation, fundraising performance and its financial position. This Committee is chaired by a trustee and membership includes the Chair of the Charity, one other trustee and an independent member.

To set the pay and remuneration of our employees, the Chairman and CEO make a recommendation for approval by the Board of the Charity. It is based on legal requirements, what the organisation can afford to pay and benchmarking with other similar businesses and charitable bodies. The Finance, Audit & Risk Committee will offer a view on overall affordability of the pay-award for the Board to take into consideration in its decision-making.

Volunteers are central to the successful operation of the charity. A core group of regular volunteers make an invaluable contribution to supporting activities and events and fundraising to support the charity. This Volunteer Group is formally constituted and holds its own bank account and regularly releases funds raised to the charity. Volunteers are a valued part of the team and help provide a link to and from the local community. There is a wider pool of engaged volunteers who support island conservation management activities, including SOS Puffin and biosecurity responses, beach cleaning, seagrass restoration activities around the Firth of Forth, guided wildlife tours and citizen science surveys across the year.

Task-based groups are formed as required to support the work of the charity. The CEO advises on the strategic issues that are of most relevance to the charity and leads and manages the running of the charity. The CEO acts as the primary link between the Board, the wider team and with outside stakeholders and partners. The CEO has delegated authority – within terms of delegation approved by the trustees – for operational matters. These include finance, fundraising, employment, marketing and communications, risk management and project delivery.

2.5 Strategic relationships

The Scottish Seabird Centre values its partnerships with a wide range of organisations, local and national, which allow the charity to grow its reach and impact. National partnerships include Scottish Environment Link, NatureScot, RSPB Scotland, Scottish Wildlife Trust, WWF UK, Restoration Forth partners, Keep Scotland Beautiful (KSB), Marine Conservation Society, the Association of Scottish Visitor Attractions (ASVA) and the UK Association of Science and Discovery Centres (ASDC). We are also grateful to the wide range of local partners we work with, including Changes East Lothian, North Berwick Youth Project, Fringe-by-the-Sea, the North Berwick Harbour Trust and North Berwick in Bloom. The charity also has important relationships with a wide range of academics and academic institutions that allow us to develop our understanding of seabird ecology and conservation, and support evidence-based conservation. Key partners in 2025-26 included the University of Edinburgh, Heriot-Watt University, SRUC, and the University of Glasgow.

3. Activities and performance in 2025-26

In May 2025 we marked the 25th anniversary of the Scottish Seabird Centre with founders, members, partners and supporters coming together to celebrate the journey our charity has been on, and the impact it has had on seabirds and the natural environment, the community, and the many millions of people who have engaged with us since we first opened our doors. This was an important milestone for our charity, and was followed by the publication of a new strategic plan for 2026-2031, *Saving seabirds, restoring seas, inspiring change*. Key activities delivered in 2025-26 are detailed below.

3.1 Conservation

Island management - In partnership with the landowners we continued to lead in the management of Craigleith, the Lamb, and Bass Rock, and supported the RSPB in the management of Fidra through our SOS Puffin project. We are grateful to the landowners for their collaboration and support in ensuring the good health of the seabird colonies on these islands, including Sir Hew Dalrymple, Uri Geller, and the RSPB.

Monitoring and conservation science – The Scottish Seabird Centre aims to be a hub for seabird conservation science, working with partners to better understand seabirds, the pressures they face and conservation responses. Key outputs included the Northern Gannet census on Bass Rock, which achieved 100% coverage for the first time and estimated a total population of 52,459 'Apparently Occupied Sites', approximately a third lower than the last census prior to avian flu; productivity monitoring of the same population also suggested that breeding success may have declined. The conservation team supported other research on the Bass, including a study of breeding success for birds known to have survived avian flu, and led research on habitat management on Craigleith in partnership with SRUC.

Marine restoration – As a community hub for the Restoration Forth partnership we delivered a range of seagrass planting and monitoring sessions at our trial sites in the Firth of Forth, and worked with project partners to develop a proposal for the next phase of this innovative partnership project, which we hope to take forward in 2026-27.

Beach cleaning and plastic pollution - We led 42 beach cleans on the East Lothian coast with 460 participants and removing over 600kg of rubbish. We also supported over 350 people to carry out self-led beach cleans, and with support from Safe Deposit Scotland we installed a new "community action station" in our visitor centre to enable more visitors to do a beach clean and take other actions for nature.

Policy and campaigns – The Scottish Seabird Centre led calls for the proposed Berwick Bank offshore windfarm to be cancelled, successfully mobilising over 14,000 people behind our campaign, supported calls for effective management measures to be introduced in Marine Protected Areas to protect seabirds, prey species and their habitats, and contributed to the public and parliamentary debate around living in harmony with urban gull populations.

Conservation communications – Communicating the importance of nature conservation and showcasing our own work in the national media is an important component of our wider work to inspire change. Over 2025 we secured over 100 pieces of media across the year, including on all the main broadcasters and covering a range of stories from our Berwick Bank campaign to the natural wonders of Bass Rock and Orca sightings in Scotland's seas. Our social media impressions and followers grew over the year, allowing us to reach new audiences across Scotland and the UK and to engage them with our campaign work.

3.2 Learning

Schools and outdoor education - Environmental education and inspiring children and young people to learn about and care for nature is at the core of our charity's objectives. Yet for the first half of 2025/26 our formal education programme operated on a limited basis following the loss of long-term funding for this vital work. However, thanks to a number of funders including the Hamish and Doris Crichton Charitable Trust, funding was secured later in the financial year and the programme and its impact is growing once again. In spite of these challenges, in 2025/26 the Scottish Seabird Centre team delivered 22 school workshops to over 800 children. We also provided outdoor education experiences to over 150 children from Brownies, Cubs or Rainbow clubs, including activities such as rockpooling and wildlife walks.

Inclusive and accessible nature - We delivered outdoor events and activities for a range of groups who otherwise struggle to access nature, including Young Carers, SCORE Scotland, Beach Wheelchairs, Chinese community link and LINKNET, and our outreach team participated in community events and festivals, including the Ocean Advocate Summit, Wee Green Festival, Dundee Science Festival; Fisherrow Harbour Festival, and Green Futures Festival.

Nature and wellbeing - Our partnership with mental health charity Changes continued to deepen, with the team running seven sessions including wellbeing walks, seaside mindfulness sessions, sea-themed art sessions and wildlife walks. These activities are all aimed to boost mental health and build deeper connections to the marine environment.

Nature science shows and storytelling – Over 1000 people attended our live shows in 2025/26, and a new live science show was developed on the theme of rewilding, for performance in 2026/27.

3.4 Experience

Over 2025/26 we welcomed 180,000 visitors to the Scottish Seabird Centre, where our visitor experience team showcased Scotland's marine environment and wildlife to members and visitors from local, UK and international destinations. 17,500 people took part in guided boat trips, learning about and experiencing the extraordinary seabird colonies in the Firth of Forth. This was our strongest ever performance, and we are grateful to Seafari, our boat partner, and our guides and skippers for helping make this happen. 13,000 people also visited our Discovery Experience, 89% of visitors rating their visit positively and 91% saying they were inspired to take action for the marine environment (1,200 respondents). To further enhance the experience on offer in the centre a new virtual reality exhibit and a series of talks and guided wildlife watching sessions were trialled for roll-out in 2026/27.

3.5 Assets and sustainability

We aim to reduce our emissions to net-zero by 2040 and to pioneer and demonstrate climate and nature positive solutions to our visitors and supporters. Thanks to support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and East Lothian Council we were able to deliver a suite of energy efficiency projects in 2025-26 that together reduced our Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions by over 8.5 tCO_2e to 57.5 tCO_2e/year, a ~13% reduction, and reduced running costs by over £5,000. Projects included recommissioning out of order solar PV and solar thermal systems, replacing lighting in the visitor centre, delivering a switch off campaign, and adjusting heating controls and set points. These projects were delivered as part of a first phase of a capital investment plan for the centre, which aims to modernise and improve the resilience of our assets, improve our sustainability, and enhance the experience we offer.

4. Membership and volunteering

Our members are vital to the charity's success, providing regular and unrestricted income for our charitable work and strengthening our ability to act for seabirds and the natural environment. A new campaign was launched in 2025 to encourage more people to join the charity, and over the year our membership grew to 1,808, up from 1,563 in January 2025 (16%).

Volunteers are at the heart of the charity and are integral to our successes. Volunteers participate in a wide range of activities, including our conservation projects, beach cleaning, education, and visitor and community engagement. Our core volunteer group also ran several events across the year to raise funds for our charitable activities and these were well attended by members of the local community, and made a generous donation to support the development of our new VR exhibit in the Discovery Experience.

Alex Hutchinson was the Chair of the Volunteer Group at the AGM in 2025/26.

5. Financial review

2025/26 saw strong trading performance, which, combined with support from a range of trusts, the National Lottery Heritage Fund and individual donors, meant we finished the year in a relatively strong position, with a surplus of £100,937. This was particularly welcome given the challenges the charity has faced in recent years, particularly as a result of the Covid pandemic.

5.1 Reserves policy

The charity's unrestricted reserves policy is set by the Board and, prior to Covid, it was based on approximately three months of normal operating costs to allow the charity to withstand disruptions to its income. Unrestricted reserves were run down due to this disruption, and the charity is now rebuilding its reserves to ensure future resilience. It is the Board's intention to revert to a policy based on maintaining an unrestricted current asset position equivalent to 2-3 months normal operating costs when conditions allow. Our unrestricted net current assets position at January 2026, which includes our designated current assets, was £432,980.

As of 31 January 2026, the Group had total reserves of £1,932,467 (2025: £1,831,530). However, within this balance are restricted funds of £1,345,134 relating to the future write-down costs of our restricted assets. This is principally the value of our buildings and exhibits. We also hold restricted funds dedicated to various projects. At the year end the value of these was £73,576. Of the total figure, unrestricted reserves are £513,757 (2025: £405,508), of which £80,777 relate to the written down value of our unrestricted fixed assets [see note 19]. Through regular review of financial performance, open and transparent dialogue with key stakeholders and seeking to identify additional funding, the trustees aim to continue to build on this position.

5.2 Risk management

A risk register is maintained by the Senior Management Team (SMT) which captures the strategic risks for the organisation. This is reviewed by the SMT during its monthly cycle of meetings and used to manage risks and apply any lessons learnt to tighten controls, policy, or practice. The risk register, and recommendations from the senior team on any changes or new risks emerging is scrutinised by the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee on a quarterly basis with any significant changes in risks and/or new risks emerging being highlighted to the Charity Board. The priority risks are around our people, our financial position and maintenance of our assets.

6. Plans for the future

Scotland's seabird populations are globally important, yet most species are in decline. Indeed, the UK is one of the most nature depleted countries in the world. Urgent action is required to address the triple threat of climate change, nature loss and pollution - and prevent extinctions. At the Scottish Seabird Centre we know that that means business as usual is inadequate. We need to do more to save nature and connect more people to nature. This principle forms the basis for our new strategic plan for 2026-2031, *Saving Seabirds, Restoring Seas, Inspiring Change*.

7. Going concern

2025/26 saw a strong financial performance for the charity, but there is still significant work ahead to build a financially resilient organisation while growing our impact on people and nature. A business plan is therefore being developed to support the delivery of the 2026-2031 strategic plan that is focused on growing income for the charity from admissions, membership and individual giving, and raising the funds required to deliver our capital investment plan.

8. Acknowledgements

The trustees would again like to thank all our volunteers, members and supporters – individuals, charitable trusts and foundations, public bodies and corporate organisations who have supported our work.

This includes:

AEB Charitable Trust, Awards for All, Boutique Capital Partners, Cirrus Logic International UK, Cruden Foundation, CWP Energy, DWF Foundation, Enterprise Holdings Foundation, GC Gibson Charitable Trust, Go Fibre, Hamish and Doris Crichton Charitable Trust, Horace and Helen Gillman Trusts, Hugh Fraser Foundation, Inch Cape Construction Fund, James T Howat Charitable Trust, John Ellerman Foundation, KPE4 Charitable Trust, Marjorie Coote Animal Charity Trust, Mrs JB Woods Charitable Trust, New Park Educational Trust, North Berwick Trust, Opticron, Ramble Worldwide Outdoor Trust, Restoration Forth, Robert Barr's Charitable Trust, Safe Deposits Scotland Community Fund, Sea-Changers, Sea-Changers Scottish Learning Fund, Siemens Energy, Scottish Marine Environmental Enhancement Fund, Swire Charitable Trust, TD Paton Charitable Trust, The Britford Bridge Trust, The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust, The Hamamelis Trust, The J & JR Wilson Trust, The National Lottery Heritage Fund, The Nineveh Charitable Trust, The Orcome Trust, The Slater Foundation, Treasure Charitable Trust, UKSPF Shared Prosperity Fund, SSC Volunteers, SSC Crafters, and the William Grant Foundation.

We are also extremely grateful to the many individuals who support us through our online appeals through Justgiving, the Big Give Green Match Fund and our Winter Appeal.

Many more individuals and groups have supported us financially, as well as through their time, expertise and gifts in kind for which we are extremely grateful.

We are very mindful of the broader support that exists towards the Scottish Seabird Centre and the importance of its role both within North Berwick, East Lothian and in the wider conservation practice and science community in Scotland and further afield. Collaborative working and partnerships (informal and formal) will enable us to confidently face the challenges ahead with our loyal and dedicated team (employees and volunteers).

9. Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors for the purpose 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).

The law applicable to charities in Scotland 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

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

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), the Companies Act 2006 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

10. Auditors

Thomson Cooper were appointed as auditor to the charity and in accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006, a resolution proposing that they be re-appointed will be put at a General Meeting.

11. Disclosure of information to auditor

At the time of approving this report, the trustees are aware of no relevant audit information of which the group and charitable company's auditors are unaware and have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the group and charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

12. Approval of the Trustees' report

The report was approved by the Board on 13 August 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

Stuart D Housden OBE
Chair

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2026

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Scottish Seabird Centre (the ‘parent charitable company’) and its subsidiary (the ‘group’) for the year ended 31 January 2026 which comprise the consolidated and charity Statement of Financial Activities, the consolidated and charity Balance Sheet, the consolidated Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 January 2026, and of the group’s and parent charitable company’s incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Basis for Opinion

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

Conclusions Relating to Going Concern

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

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

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

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on Other Matters Prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' annual report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on Which we are Required to Report by Exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

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

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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 considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the group for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in the following areas: existence and timing of recognition of income, posting of unusual journals along with complex transactions and manipulating the group's key performance indicators to meet targets. We discussed these risks with management, designed audit procedures to test the timing and existence of revenue, tested a sample of journals to confirm they were appropriate and inspected minutes from meetings held by management and trustees for any reference to breaches of laws and regulations. In addition, we reviewed areas of judgement for indicators of management bias to address these risks.

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our sector experience through discussion with the officers and other management (as required by the auditing standards).

We reviewed the laws and regulations in areas that directly affect the financial statements including applicable charity and company law and considered the extent of compliance with those laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2026

With the exception of any known or possible non-compliance with relevant and significant laws and regulations, and as required by the auditing standards, our work in respect of these was limited to enquiry of the officers and management of the charity.

We communicated identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance or fraud throughout the audit. However the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with the Trustees.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

These inherent limitations are particularly significant in the case of misstatement resulting from fraud as this may involve sophisticated schemes designed to avoid detection, including deliberate failure to record transactions, collusion or the provision of intentional misrepresentations.

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

Use of Our Report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and to the charitable company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken to that we might state to the charitable company's members and Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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, its members as a body and its Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Fiona Haro (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Thomson Cooper, Statutory Auditors
Edinburgh

Date: 19-08-26 ....

Thomson Cooper is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2026

Current Financial Year

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2026 £	Restricted Funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Income from					
Donations and legacies	**2**	220,937	473,968	694,905	422,176
Charitable activities	**3**	808,834	-	808,834	526,618
Other trading activities	**4**	974,616	-	974,616	861,591
Investment income		6,059	-	6,059	5,382
Insurance claim	**5**	-	-	-	496,419
		2,010,446	473,968	2,484,414	2,312,186
Expenditure on					
Raising funds	**6**	26,345	40,964	67,309	65,502
Trading activities	**7**	652,663	-	652,663	597,233
Charitable activities	**8**	1,213,316	450,189	1,663,505	1,787,514
		1,892,324	491,153	2,383,477	2,450,249
Net income/(expenditure)		118,122	(17,185)	100,937	(138,064)
Transfers between funds		(9,873)	9,873	-	-
Net movement in funds	**9**	108,249	(7,312)	100,937	(138,064)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Fund balances at 1 February 2025		405,508	1,426,022	1,831,530	1,969,593
Fund balances at 31 January 2026	**17,18**	**513,757**	**1,418,710**	**1,932,467**	**1,831,530**

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The accompanying notes form part of these accounts.

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2026**

Prior Financial Year

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Income from				
Donations and legacies	**2**	182,396	239,780	422,176
Charitable activities	**3**	526,618	-	526,618
Investments		5,382	-	5,382
Other trading activities	**4**	861,591	-	861,591
Insurance claim	**5**	496,419	-	496,419
		2,072,406	239,780	2,312,186
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	**6**	36,485	29,017	65,502
Other trading activities	**7**	597,233	-	597,233
Charitable activities	**8**	1,363,819	423,695	1,787,514
		1,997,537	452,712	2,450,249
Net income/(expenditure)		74,869	(212,932)	(138,064)
Transfers between funds		(25,539)	25,539	-
Net movement in funds	**9**	49,330	(187,393)	(138,064)
Fund balances at 1 February 2024		356,178	1,613,415	1,969,593
Fund balances at 31 January 2025	**18,19**	**405,508**	**1,426,022**	**1,831,530**

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The accompanying notes form part of these accounts.

CHARITY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2026

Current Financial Year	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2026 £	Restricted Funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Income from					
Donations and legacies	2	318,632	473,968	792,600	473,660
Charitable activities	3	808,834	-	808,834	526,618
Investment income		3,030	-	3,030	2,691
Other trading activities	4	195,558	-	195,558	196,195
Insurance claim	5	-	-	-	496,419
		1,326,054	473,968	1,800,022	1,695,583
Expenditure on					
Fundraising costs	6	26,345	40,964	67,309	65,502
Charitable activities	8	1,189,974	450,189	1,640,163	1,766,381
		1,216,319	491,153	1,707,472	1,831,883
Net income/(expenditure)		109,735	(17,185)	92,550	(136,300)
Transfers between funds		(9,873)	9,873	-	-
Net movement in funds	9	99,862	(7,312)	92,550	(136,300)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Fund balances at 1 February 2025		362,926	1,426,022	1,788,948	1,925,248
Fund balances at 31 January 2026	17,18	**462,788**	**1,418,710**	**1,881,498**	**1,788,948**

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The accompanying notes form part of these accounts.

Prior Financial Year

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Income from				
Donations and legacies	**2**	233,880	239,780	473,660
Charitable activities	**3**	526,618	-	526,618
Other trading activities	**4**	196,195		196,195
Investments		2,691	-	2,691
Insurance claim		496,419	-	496,419
Total income		1,455,803	239,780	1,695,583
Expenditure on				
Cost of raising funds	**6**	36,485	29,017	65,502
Charitable activities	**8**	1,342,686	423,695	1,766,381
Total expenditure		1,379,171	452,712	1,831,883
Net income/(expenditure)		76,632	(212,932)	(136,300)
Transfers between funds		(25,539)	25,539	-
Net movement in funds	**9**	51,093	(187,393)	(136,300)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Fund balances at 1 February 2024		311,833	1,613,415	1,925,248
Fund balances at 31 January 2025	**18,19**	**362,926**	**1,426,022**	**1,788,948**

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The accompanying notes form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 JANUARY 2026

	Notes	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	11	4,760	10,458	4,760	10,458
Tangible assets	12	1,421,151	1,493,534	1,413,230	1,493,534
Investments	13	-	-	1	1
		1,425,911	1,503,992	1,417,991	1,503,993
Current assets					
Stock		61,945	59,217	-	-
Debtors	14	111,481	93,121	105,807	87,864
Cash at bank and in hand		625,607	442,395	623,345	440,167
		799,033	594,733	729,152	528,031
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(292,477)	(267,195)	(265,645)	(243,076)
Net current assets		506,556	327,538	463,507	284,955
Total assets less current liabilities		1,932,467	1,831,530	1,881,498	1,788,948
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16	-	-	-	-
Net assets		1,932,467	1,831,530	1,881,498	1,788,948
Funds					
Restricted funds	17	1,418,710	1,426,022	1,418,710	1,426,022
Unrestricted funds	18	513,757	405,508	462,788	362,926
		1,932,467	1,831,530	1,881,498	1,788,948

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 13 August 2026

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S D Housden
Trustee

N J Stoddart
Trustee

Company Registration No. SC172288

The accompanying notes form part of these accounts.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2026

		2026 £	2025 £
Cash used in operating activities	**24**	251,978	51,009
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest income		(6,059)	5,382
Purchase of fixed assets		(58,332)	(8,566)
Net cash (used in) investing activities		(64,391)	(3,184)
Financing activities			
Repayment of bank loans		(4,375)	(17,500)
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		183,212	30,325
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		442,395	412,070
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		625,607	442,395

The accompanying notes form part of these accounts.

1 Accounting Policies

Charity information

Scottish Seabird Centre is a charitable company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. It is incorporated in the UK and registered in Scotland (Company No. SC172288) It is also a registered Scottish Charity (Charity No. SC025837). The registered office is The Harbour, North Berwick EH39 4SS.

In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Scottish Seabird Centre meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

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

1.2 Going Concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue operations for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements. The trustees have considered a period of 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements.

1.3 Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements present the results of the Scottish Seabird Centre and its subsidiary Scottish Seabird Centre Trading Limited ("the Group") as if they form a single entity. Intercompany transactions and balances between group companies are therefore eliminated in full.

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the results of business combinations using the purchase method. In the Balance sheet, the acquiree's identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities are initially recognised at their fair values at the acquisition date. The results of acquired operations are included in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income from the date on which control is obtained. Disposals are deconsolidated from the date control ceases.

1.4 Incoming resources

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Charity and the revenue can be reliably measured. Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts, rebates, value added tax and other sales taxes. Income is deferred only when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

1 Accounting Policies (Continued)

1.5 Resources expensed

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure on charitable activities and raising funds comprise those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. estimated usage, staff costs by the time spent.

1.6 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal. Transfers from unrestricted funds are made to clear net expenditure on restricted funds activities.

1.7 Taxation

Scottish Seabird Centre has been recognised by HM Revenue and Customs as a charity for the purposes of Section 505, Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1998. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains to the extent that such income or gains are applied to charitable purposes. Scottish Seabird Centre's subsidiary company is subject to Corporation Tax in the same way as any other commercial organisation. Surpluses, where they arise, are paid to Scottish Seabird Centre under gift aid after taking account any applicable reserves policy.

1.8 Intangible fixed assets

Intangible assets over £2,000 are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Amortisation is recognised so as to write off the cost of valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives

Digital Upgrade	20% Straight Line

1.9 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets over £2,000 are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Visitor Centre	2% - 10% Straight Line
Discovery Experience	20% Straight Line
Marine Refurbishment Programme	10% Straight Line
Fixtures and Fittings	20% Straight Line
Computer Equipment	20% Straight Line
Conservation Research Equipment	10% Straight Line

The assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted prospectively appropriate, or of there is an indication of a significant change since the last reporting date.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

1 Accounting Policies (Continued)

1.10 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, including interests in subsidiaries, are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs and are subsequently stated at cost less provision for impairment.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the charity. Control is the power to govern the financial and operating policies of the entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

1.11 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

1.12 Pensions

The charity operates a group defined contribution company pension scheme. The pension charge recorded in these accounts is the amount of contributions payable in respect of the accounting year.

1.13 Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment. Loans receivable are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment.

1.14 Financial instruments

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

1.15 Creditors and provisions

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other financial liabilities, including bank loans, are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

1.16 Operating leases

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

2 Donations and legacies

	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Donations received	199,563	134,740	297,258	186,224
Legacies	500	-	500	-
Grants	455,686	257,789	455,686	257,789
Gift Aid	39,156	29,647	39,156	29,647
	694,905	422,176	792,600	473,660
Analysed by fund:				
Unrestricted funds	220,937	182,396	318,632	233,880
Restricted funds	473,968	239,780	473,968	239,780
	694,905	422,176	792,600	473,660

3 Income from charitable activities

	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Education income	7,315	15,132	7,315	15,132
Admissions income	120,172	17,812	120,172	17,812
Memberships income	42,038	37,280	42,038	37,280
Boat trips income	633,965	449,885	633,965	449,885
Events income	4,233	5,496	4,233	5,496
Other Discovery Experience	1,111	1,013	1,111	1,013
	808,834	526,618	808,834	526,618
Analysed by fund:				
Unrestricted funds	808,834	526,618	808,834	526,618
Restricted funds	-	-	-	-
	808,834	526,618	808,834	526,618

4 Income from trading activities

	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Catering	571,941	506,437	-	-
Retail	317,991	283,173	-	-
Parking	78,514	66,516	78,514	66,516
Fairground and other fundraising income	6,170	5,465	6,170	5,465
Management charge	-	-	110,874	124,214
	974,616	861,591	195,558	196,195
Analysed by fund:				
Unrestricted funds	974,616	861,591	195,558	196,195
Restricted funds	-	-	-	-
	974,616	861,591	195,558	196,195

5 Insurance claim

	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Insurance claim	-	496,419	-	496,419

The insurance claim received covers the loss of earnings and repairs costs after a significant internal flood in February 2024 resulted in a closure of the Discovery Experience and Wildlife Theatre.

6 Expenditure on raising funds

	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Fundraising salary	60,317	54,392	60,317	54,392
Fundraising costs	6,992	11,110	6,992	11,110
	67,309	65,502	67,309	65,502
Analysed by fund:				
Unrestricted funds	26,345	36,485	26,345	65,502
Restricted funds	40,964	29,017	40,964	-
	67,309	65,502	67,309	65,502

7 Trading activities expenditure

	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Retail & catering purchases	321,671	288,354	-	-
Retail & catering expenses	14,328	16,482	-	-
Salaries and wages	316,664	292,397		
	652,663	597,233	-	-
Analysed by fund:				
Unrestricted funds	652,663	597,233	-	-
Restricted funds	-	-	-	-
	652,663	597,233	-	-

8 Charitable activities

	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Staff costs	603,278	537,255	603,278	537,255
Depreciation and impairment	136,413	135,810	135,999	135,784
Membership expenses	1,014	231	1,014	231
Centre expenses	80,123	73,804	80,123	73,804
Discovery Experience maintenance	15,405	14,232	15,405	14,232
Boat trips expenditure	478,363	360,098	478,363	360,098
Education	691	2,820	691	2,820
Marketing	32,944	36,860	32,944	36,860
Travel and subsistence	1,292	3,709	1,292	3,709
Training	5,493	5,766	5,493	5,766
Car park expenditure	1,768	1,345	1,768	1,345
Finance costs	25,848	19,303	12,923	9,679
Extraordinary flood costs	-	304,012	-	304,012
	1,382,631	1,495,245	1,369,293	1,485,595
Support and governance costs	280,874	292,269	270,870	280,786
	1,663,505	1,787,514	1,640,163	1,766,381
Analysed by fund:				
Unrestricted funds	1,213,316	1,363,819	1,189,974	1,342,686
Restricted funds	450,189	423,695	450,189	423,695
	1,663,505	1,787,514	1,640,163	1,766,381

Support and governance costs

	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Support costs				
Office costs	12,201	7,228	12,201	7,227
IT costs	40,237	20,517	40,237	20,517
Recruitment costs	1,512	1,322	1,512	1,322
Insurance costs	59,765	56,974	59,765	56,974
Cleaning costs	68,133	61,854	68,133	61,854
Professional fees	1,143	5,746	1,143	5,746
Accountancy fees	11,466	10,565	6,902	4,783
Subscriptions	4,461	4,661	4,461	4,661
Utilities	63,309	105,626	63,309	105,626
Non-recoverable VAT	6,553	5,317	6,553	5,317
	268,780	279,810	264,216	274,027
Governance costs				
Audit and accounts fees	11,740	12,400	6,300	6,700
Legal and professional fees	354	59	354	59
	12,094	12,459	6,654	6,759
	280,874	292,269	270,870	280,786

9 Net movement in funds

	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting)				
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	5,698	6,789	5,698	6,789
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	130,715	129,021	130,301	128,995
Auditor's remuneration	11,740	11,760	6,300	7,980
Auditor's remuneration for non-audit services	11,466	5,950	6,902	3,500
	159,619	153,520	149,200	147,264

10 Employees

Employment costs	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Wages and salaries	879,806	806,281	590,766	544,147
Social security costs	83,592	61,261	60,978	49,629
Pension costs	16,878	14,969	11,851	12,024
Subcontract and staff expenses	-	6,533	-	5,886
	980,277	889,044	663,595	611,686

The average number of full-time equivalent staff employed by the charity and its subsidiary during the year was 45 (2025 - 45)

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity was £264,852 (2025: £211,772).

There is one employee whose emoluments are in the range of £60,000 to £70,000 (2025 : one in the same range).

No Trustees received remuneration in the year (2025: £nil) nor travel expenses (2025: £nil).

11 Intangible fixed assets

Group and Charity	Digital Upgrade £
Cost	
At 1 February 2025	33,944
Additions	-
At 31 January 2026	33,944
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 February 2025	23,486
Charge for the period	5,698
At 31 January 2026	29,184
Carrying amount	
At 31 January 2026	4,760
At 31 January 2025	10,458

12 Tangible fixed assets

Group	Visitor Centre	Discovery Experience	Marine Refurbishment Programme	Fixtures & Fittings	Computer Equipment	Conservation Research Equipment	Catering & Retail Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost								
At 1 February 2025	2,549,476	1,314,759	620,411	102,328	44,954	16,637	34,583	4,683,148
Additions	-	-	22,988	27,008		-	8,336	58,332
Disposals	-	-	-		-	-	-	-
At 31 January 2026	2,549,476	1,314,759	643,399	129,336	44,954	16,637	42,919	4,741,480
Depreciation and impairment								
At 1 February 2025	1,265,963	1,300,585	450,387	94,683	38,560	4,853	34,583	3,189,614
Charge for the period	52,280	7,395	63,124	2,349	3,486	1,664	417	130,715
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 January 2026	1,318,243	1,307,980	513,511	97,032	42,046	6,517	35,000	3,320,329
Carrying amount								
At 31 January 2026	1,231,233	6,779	129,888	32,304	2,908	10,120	7,919	1,421,151
At 31 January 2025	1,283,513	14,174	170,024	7,645	6,394	11,784	-	1,493,534

The site on which the Scottish Seabird Centre is built is owned by East Lothian Council and is leased to the company for a period of 99 years from 1 January 1999. The annual rent is £1. All interest in land and buildings are leasehold.

Charity	Visitor Centre	Discovery Experience	Marine Refurbishment Programme	Fixtures & Fittings	Computer Equipment	Conservation Research Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost							
At 1 February 2025	2,549,476	1,314,759	620,411	102,328	44,954	16,637	4,648,565
Additions			22,988	27,008	-	-	49,996
Disposals	-	-	-		-	-	-
At 31 January 2026	2,549,476	1,314,759	643,399	129,336	44,954	16,637	4,698,561
Depreciation and impairment							
At 1 February 2025	1,265,963	1,300,585	450,387	94,683	38,560	4,853	3,155,031
Charge for the period	52,280	7,447	63,072	2,350	3,489	1,663	130,301
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	-		-		-
At 31 January 2026	1,318,243	1,308,032	513,459	97,033	42,049	6,516	3,285,331
Carrying amount							
At 31 January 2026	1,231,233	6,727	129,941	32,303	2,905	10,121	1,413,230
At 31 January 2025	1,283,513	14,174	170,024	7,645	6,394	11,784	1,493,534

13 Fixed asset investments

Charity	2026 £ Investments	2025 £ Investments
Cost or valuation		
At 1 February 2025	1	1
Additions	-	-
At 31 January 2026	1	1
Carrying amount		
At 31 January 2026	1	1
At 31 January 2025	1	1

The charity holds 1 share in Scottish Seabird Centre Trading Limited, a company registered in Scotland (SC183214) at the same address as Scottish Seabird Centre. This investment represents a 100% shareholding. The principal activity of the subsidiary is the operation, management and administration of the retail, catering and hospitality facilities of the Scottish Seabird Centre visitor attraction and education facility. At the year end the subsidiary held reserves of £50,966 and made a profit of £106,083 before donations of £97,695 were made to Scottish Seabird Centre.

14 Debtors

	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Amounts falling due within one year:				
Trade debtors	1,210	1,400	1,210	1,400
Other debtors	26,244	26,351	26,244	26,351
Prepayments and accrued income	84,027	65,370	78,353	60,113
	111,481	93,121	105,807	87,864

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

		Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Other loans		-	4,375	-	4,375
Trade creditors		67,321	66,632	50,156	53,982
Other taxation and social security		18,991	17,128	18,991	17,128
Accruals		32,602	30,903	19,895	19,367
Deferred income	16	111,357	84,890	111,357	84,890
Other creditors		62,206	63,267	62,206	63,267
Amounts due to subsidiary undertaking		-	-	3,040	67
		292,477	267,195	265,645	243,076

16 Deferred Income

	Group 2026 £	Group 2025 £	Charity 2026 £	Charity 2025 £
Balance at 1 February 2024	84,890	51,144	84,890	51,144
Amount released to income	(84,890)	(51,144)	(84,890)	(51,144)
Amount deferred in year	111,357	84,890	111,357	84,890
	111,357	84,890	111,357	84,890

Group statement of Funds

17 Restricted funds

	Balance at 1 February 2025	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 January 2026
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Asset Fund	1,428,713		(127,998)	44,419	1,345,134
Learning Fund	-	64,733	(60,802)	6,437	10,368
Marine Exhibits	6,209	28,501	(19,711)	-	14,999
Conservation Projects	11,272	135,767	(100,337)	(9,816)	36,886
Carbon reduction	900	17,500	-	-	18,400
Restoration Forth	9,589	43,120	(41,317)	(5,515)	5,877
National Lottery Heritage Fund	(33,079)	157,207	(121,704)	(25,378)	(22,954)
Interpretive signage	2,418		(3,195)	777	-
Events and community	-	27,140	(16,089)	(1,051)	10,000
	1,426,022	473,968	(491,153)	9,873	1,418,710

Prior year	Balance at 1 February 2024	Incoming Resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 January 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Asset Fund	1,552,387		(129,513)	5,839	1,428,713
Learning Fund	21,880	29,406	(70,986)	19,700	-
Marine Exhibits	4,184	2,425	(400)	-	6,209
Conservation Projects	24,180	63,311	(76,219)	-	11,272
Carbon reduction	900	-	-	-	900
Restoration Forth	20,594	62,310	(73,315)	-	9,589
National Lottery Heritage Fund	-	45,295	(78,374)	-	(33,079)
Interpretive signage	2,418	-	-		2,418
Events and community	(13,100)	25,000	(11,900)		-
Communications	(28)	12,033	(12,005)		-
	1,613,415	239,780	(452,712)	25,539	1,426,022

Purpose of restricted funds

A review was undertaken of the classifications of the restricted funds which resulted in the creation of a Fixed Asset fund which had previously been shown as the visitor centre fund and marine refurbishment fund.

Fixed Asset Fund (Previously) Visitor Centre Fund and part of the Marine Refurbishment Fund - the balance represents the restricted assets to be depreciated.

Learning Fund - for education, outreach and science communications programme.

Marine Exhibits - to support the maintenance and development of the Discovery Experience.

Conservation Projects Fund - for conservation programme.

Carbon Reduction - to improve the energy efficiency of the organisation and support the reduction in our carbon footprint.

Restoration Forth Fund - funds for the community restoration of Seagrass meadows in the Firth of Forth.

National Lottery Heritage Fund - funds to help build a resilient future for people, nature and our charity. The deficit balance is due to grant funding being paid in arrears.

Interpretive Signage - to improve our interpretive signage in the centre and the surrounding area.

Events and Community - To support the development of our Centre as a valued community asset, providing year-round events and activities.

Communications - Funding through the New to Nature programme to support the placement of a Communications Assistant.

18 Unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 February 2025 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 January 2026 £
General funds	278,258	2,010,446	(1,887,199)	(9,998)	391,507
Designated fund - Bryan Nelson	1,074	-	-	-	1,074
Designated fund - Alexander Gordon legacy	121,176	-	-	-	121,176
Designated fund - 25 Year Campaign	5,000	-	(5,125)	125	-
	405,508	2,010,446	(1,892,324)	(9,873)	513,757

Prior year

	Balance at 1 February 2024 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 January 2025 £
General funds	233,928	2,072,406	(1,997,537)	(30,539)	278,258
Designated fund - Bryan Nelson	1,074	-			1,074
Designated fund - Alexander Gordon legacy	121,176	-			121,176
Designated fund - 25 Year Campaign	-			5,000	5,000
	356,178	2,072,406	(1,997,537)	(25,539)	405,508

Unrestricted funds
Unrestricted funds is income granted, donated or earned by the charity to be used at the discretion of the Trustees to fund any activity, which is in furtherance of the charity's objective.

Designated fund
Funds were set aside for the following purposes:

Bryan Nelson Memorial Lecture - towards running costs.

Alexander Gordon Legacy - held as designated until board consider how this should be best allocated.

25 Year Campaign - funds to support the Charity's 25th anniversary campaign.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Group Unrestricted 2026	Group Designated 2026	Group Restricted 2026	Group Total 2026	Group Total 2025
Fund balances at 31 January 2026 are represented by:					
Intangible fixed assets	4,760			4,760	10,458
Tangible fixed assets	76,017	-	1,345,134	1,421,151	1,493,534
Current assets/(liabilities)	310,730	122,250	73,576	506,556	327,538
	391,507	122,250	1,418,710	1,932,467	1,831,530

	Charity Unrestricted 2026	Charity Designated 2026	Charity Restricted 2026	Charity Total 2026	Charity Total 2025
Fund balances at 31 January 2026 are represented by:					
Intangible fixed assets	4,760	-	-	4,760	10,458
Tangible fixed assets	68,096	-	1,345,134	1,413,230	1,493,534
Investments	1	-	-	1	1
Current assets/(liabilities)	267,681	122,250	73,576	463,507	284,955
	340,538	122,250	1,418,710	1,881,498	1,788,948

Prior year	Group Unrestricted 2025	Group Designated 2025	Group Restricted 2025	Group Total 2025
Fund balances at 31 January 2025 are represented by:				
Intangible fixed assets	5,069	-	5,389	10,458
Tangible fixed assets	70,210	-	1,423,324	1,493,534
Current assets/(liabilities)	202,979	127,250	(2,691)	327,538
	278,258	127,250	1,426,022	1,831,530

	Charity Unrestricted 2025	Charity Designated 2025	Charity Restricted 2025	Charity Total 2025
Fund balances at 31 January 2025 are represented by:				
Intangible fixed assets	5,069	-	5,389	10,458
Tangible fixed assets	70,210	-	1,423,324	1,493,534
Investments	1	-	-	1
Current assets/(liabilities)	160,396	127,250	(2,691)	284,955
Long term creditors	-	-	-	0
	235,676	127,250	1,426,022	1,788,948

21 Operating lease commitments

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

	2026	2025
	£	£
Within one year	7,838	6,508
Between two and five years	7,151	24,616
Over five years	798	402,201
	15,787	433,325

22 Ultimate controlling party

The charitable company is constituted by its Memorandum and Articles of Association and is controlled by the elected Trustees.

23 Related party transactions

The Visitor Centre is situated on land owned by East Lothian Council. On 1 January 1999 East Lothian Council granted a 99 year lease of the land in favour of the charity at £1per annum. No rent has been paid in the year.

During the year, management fees of £110,874 (2025: £124,214) were charged to Scottish Seabird Centre Trading Limited, the wholly owned subsidiary of Scottish Seabird Centre. A gift aid distribution of £97,695 (2025: £51,484) was made from Scottish Seabird Centre Trading Limited to Scottish Seabird Centre.

24 Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	Group 2026	Charity 2026	Group 2025	Charity 2025
	£	£	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	100,937	92,550	(138,064)	(136,300)
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation charges	136,413	135,999	135,810	135,784
Investment income	6,059	3,030	(5,382)	(2,691)
(Increase)/decrease in stock	(2,730)	-	(387)	-
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(18,360)	(17,943)	(44,306)	(43,055)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	3,191	476	69,592	66,262
Increase/(decrease) in deferred income	26,468	26,467	33,746	33,746
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	251,978	240,579	51,009	53,746

25 Capital Commitments

	Group 2026	Charity 2026	Group 2025	Charity 2025
Amounts contracted but not provided for in the financial statements:	£	£	£	£
Property, plant and equipment	25,117	-	-	-