

Charity Registration No. SC043266 (Scotland)

Company Registration No. SC422457 (Scotland)

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr I Bray Dr D Beaumont Prof K Park Ms C Colquhoun Mr F Bedwell Prof CJ Spray Mr A McMullen Mrs A Roy Mr B Whyte Mrs A Connelly Mr H Leusink	Appointed on 14 April 2025 Resigned on 25 August 2025
Charity number (Scotland)	SC043266	
Company number	SC422457	
Registered office & Principal Address	c/o Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority National Park Headquarters Carrochan Road Balloch United Kingdom G83 8EG	
Accountants	Millfield Accountancy Ltd 23 Millfield Gardens Erskine PA8 6JD	
Independent examiner	Andrew McCaw McLay, McAlister & McGibbon 145 St Vincent Street Glasgow G2 5JF	
Bankers	Virgin Money 47 High Street Dumbarton G82 1LS	
Health and safety advisor	John Morris Safety Ltd Craignavie Farmhouse Craignavie Road Killin FK21 8SJ	

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

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LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

The Trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of company law, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with accounting policies and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, 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 (FRS 102)" (second edition - October 2019) (effective 1 January 2019).

Loch Lomond and the Trossachs Countryside Trust

Loch Lomond and the Trossachs Countryside Trust is an environmental and health and wellbeing charity, which aims to support and enhance wellbeing and resilience in landscapes, communities and people. Established in 2012 as a charity and a company limited by guarantee, we are a small team of experienced staff supported by volunteers, delivering benefits to natural landscapes and people. Our work focuses on improving nature and community connections within the national park. To achieve this, we collaborate on landscape-scale nature restoration initiatives, working directly with individuals through regular activities to encourage engagement with nature, health and well-being as well as supporting more sustainable and active communities.

Vision for the Loch Lomond and The Trossachs Countryside Trust

The Loch Lomond and The Trossachs Countryside Trust's vision is for our landscapes and communities to be connected and thriving.

Our Purpose

Loch Lomond and the Trossachs Countryside Trust's purpose is to create connections in nature, with nature and each other.

Summary for the Year 2025/6

The 2025/6 year was extremely positive for the Trust, with significant growth in our activities.

Despite a challenging fundraising environment, income was secured to support delivery against all major programmes. The most significant of these enabled an increased level of delivery within Wild Strathfillan, the Trust's flagship landscape-scale restoration programme. This included major capital works, as well as positive people engagement within the communities throughout the area.

Our Movement Together delivery programme (comprising Walk in the Park and Strength & Balance) continues to be our most important community-led health and wellbeing initiative, allowing the organisation to engage with and support communities from across the park, with their health and wellbeing, on an ongoing basis throughout the year. Reflecting its importance and impact, fundraising targets were exceeded for the programme, allowing a sustained higher level of support to be offered to participants.

We are currently evaluating longer term lessons from our Active Travel work programme to feed into our other work. Activities to support the legacy of the programme, and to develop and deliver new activity to support active travel, will be supported through our ongoing Movement Together programme and through engagement with the National Park Authority's Mobility Partnership.

As the Trust continues to deliver more complex programmes of work, with increased levels of funding, time has been taken over the last year to ensure that policies, procedures and processes are robust and enable efficient and reliable delivery, as part of our ambitions to maintain good standards of organisational governance.

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

2025/6 has also been a year of change, with changes at board level and across the staff team. The Trust's Director left in January 2026, leaving a legacy of strong and stable leadership, and was replaced by our new Chief Executive. The Trust's Treasurer stood down in late 2025, leaving a strong culture of financial governance and stability, and recruitment is underway for a successor.

Reflecting increased external costs and uncertainties, coupled with careful financial management, Trustees agreed to increase the Trust's financial reserves at the end of the year. This is in line with the Trust's reserves policy, and reflects best practice.

The Trust therefore goes into 2026/7 in a strong and stable position, supported by a team of committed volunteers, staff and trustees.

Project Delivery during 2025/6

The Trust's delivery work is focussed into two main themes:

1. Nature Connections
2. Connected Lives

1. Nature Connections

- Our collaborations on landscape scale conservation projects deliver a net positive impact on the local environment, its ecology and biodiversity, and the biodiversity and climate emergency.
- Our work with landowners, land managers, NGO's and communities increase the strategic connectivity of habitats, green active travel routes and communities.
- Nature friendly landscapes are created due to our activities.
- Due to our work communities and visitors appreciate and are more connected to a nature friendly environment.

a. Wild Strathfillan Initiative

Wild Strathfillan is an initiative in the north of the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park which is working to deliver nature restoration in a mixed land use setting which will ultimately provide benefits for flora and fauna but also sustain rural employment and deliver community benefit.

The initiative is led by Loch Lomond and The Trossachs Countryside Trust and is underpinned by a diverse and committed partnership, bringing together land managers, communities, statutory bodies, educational institutions and businesses who share an interest in restoring nature across the landscape and supporting rural communities. Throughout 2025/6, the initiative delivered two funded projects grounded in the landscape's rich natural and cultural heritage as well as longer-term planning for Wild Strathfillan through the building and supporting of a vibrant partnership network.

From Lochside to Mountain Top (Partnership project primarily funded by Nature Scot's Nature Restoration Fund).

2025/6 saw the final year of delivery of the Nature Restoration Fund-supported project, From Lochside to Mountain-top. This funded project enabled the delivery of habitat restoration at scale, enhancing wetlands, woodlands and montane habitats across the programme delivery area. Supported by baseline surveys and ongoing monitoring to measure ecological impact, the project delivered transformative work on the ground, including wetland creation and riverbank restoration, invasive non-native species removal, non-native conifer plantation removal, montane woodland planting, and conservation grazing.

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A significant legacy of the project has been the establishment of two tree nurseries, including the Lomond nursery which will be run by the Trust as a long-term means of supporting nature recovery within the national park. Establishing the nursery, and beginning trials to assess the feasibility of growing a range of native trees and plants, was a major step forward for the nature restoration work of the organisation. We now look forward to taking the next steps with the nursery as we begin growing plants and trees, and start to create a community of volunteers to help us scale activities across the national park.

b. The Great Trossachs Forest National Nature Reserve

Over the past 20 years, the three landowning partners within the National Nature Reserve (RSPB Scotland, Woodland Trust, and Forestry & Land Scotland), supported by the National Park Authority, have successfully delivered a series of landscape scale programmes projects to create a connective native woodland in the heart of the national park. Loch Lomond and the Trossachs Countryside Trust is supporting the partners to plan and deliver the next phase of delivery of The Great Trossachs Forest National Nature Reserve.

This year, delivery across The Great Trossachs Forest (TGTF) National Nature Reserve (NNR) focused on strengthening momentum for long-term, landscape-scale nature restoration – bringing partners, communities and decision-makers together, improving the evidence base and putting clear plans in place for the next phase of work.

A key highlight was delivering a stakeholder event that celebrated progress to date and created space for constructive discussion about future opportunities. Importantly, follow-up from this event has already moved into action, with a consultancy contract now in place to develop a 10-year delivery plan.

We also grew the foundations for long-term monitoring and learning, working with partner organisations and experts to increase our understanding of the biodiversity of the National Nature Reserve and how habitat restoration is enabling its recovery.

2. Connected Lives

- Our nature focussed activities encourage and empower individuals to be more physically active, to appreciate the nature on their doorstep and to help foster greater physical, mental and social wellbeing via enjoying nature.
- Our work creates deeper and beneficial connections between individuals within communities and between communities.
- Our collaborations develop volunteering, learning and skills development opportunities and accreditation.
- Our activities have expanded across a broader reach of LLTNP enabling us to work with a greater number of people.

a. Wild Strathfillan Initiative- The People and Nature of Strathfillan.

(Partnership project primarily funded National Lottery Heritage Fund).

The second funded project being led by Loch Lomond and the Trossachs Countryside Trust on behalf of the Wild Strathfillan Initiative is The People and Nature of Wild Strathfillan. With a focus on communities, heritage, skills, learning and engagement, this three year funded project commenced in January 2024, and will be completed in December 2026.

Alongside our key partners at Strathfillan Community Development Trust (SCDT) and Killin and Ardeonaig Trust (KAT), Wild Strathfillan has delivered projects this year to support community connections in and with nature, and between each other. The project continued to develop a range of life-long learning and skills development opportunities, engaging 143 school pupils and partnering with further and higher education providers. Community learning has been supported through a wide range of opportunities, and initiatives to increase people's engagement with nature have seen the installation of interpretation, boards, progress towards establishing a new outdoor classroom, and a new sensory and community garden.

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b. Walk in the Park

Led principally by trained local volunteer leaders and supported by an in-house team, Walk in the Park encompasses a programme of weekly health and well-being walks supporting physical, mental and social wellbeing. The Trust delivers supported group weekly walks in 6 local communities: Aberfoyle, Arrochar, Balloch, Callander, Drymen, and Killin, a summer evening walks programme in Callander & Killin, and an annual all group walks. The team work closely with health and social care professionals to enable referrals from patients living locally.

This year, our volunteer leaders, supported by our staff team, have delivered weekly walks in six locations along with a summer evening programme in two areas. Over the year we've welcomed more than 310 participants, with 90% of attendees reporting improved social wellbeing and community connection as a result of participating, and 80% reporting improved physical wellbeing. Our health walks continue to deepen our participants connection with nature, whether through exploring beautiful gardens or taking part in engaging bird identification sessions.

Walk in the Park continues to create meaningful, positive change across communities in Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park strengthening social wellbeing and helps people feel more connected to those around them. This impact is reflected in the feedback we receive, with every participant saying they would recommend our walks to others – highlighting the lasting value and sense of belonging our programme brings to the community.

c. Strength and Balance

Strength and balance sessions to build confidence and mobility. They are delivered by the Trust's trained volunteer Strength and Balance demonstrators within local communities within the National Park. Sessions are delivered indoors and comprise of a series of exercises and movements aimed at retaining mobility, flexibility and balance.

Our volunteer-led sessions are now delivered across seven communities within the National Park, helping to fill a vital gap in services for people - particularly older adults - living in rural and remote areas. These Strength and Balance classes are making a meaningful difference, with our recent participation survey highlighting a range of positive impacts experienced by those who attend, with 71% of participants reporting improved social wellbeing, and 91% reporting improved physical wellbeing.

d. Active in the Park

The Trust's Active in the Park work focused on supporting communities and individuals to build capacity and capability for active travel and to increase accessibility and inclusion of active travel opportunities. To date, work has focussed on identifying and working to address barriers, the provision of activities and e-bikes to encourage individual behaviour change and working businesses to further support active travel provision.

Following successful completion of final funded projects, we took the opportunity during 2025/6 to reflect and review our work and achievements to date. While challenges remain, particularly around infrastructure and sustainable transport integration, 'Active in the Park' has demonstrated that long-term, collaborative, place-based and community-led approaches can support meaningful change. We continue to support and promote walking and wheeling in the National Park including through Movement Together and engaging with the National Park's Mobility Partnership on active travel.

e. In Step with Nature

We have continued our In Step with Nature initiative where participants are invited to learn more about a focus topic each month and take part in a small challenge that encourages nature connectedness.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

3. Trust-wide Projects

As the Trust continues to grow in terms of income and programme delivery, it is important to take the time to review supporting policies, procedures and processes, in a fast-changing external environment, to ensure compliance and impactful delivery. Throughout the year we have continued this process, implementing changes where needed and maintaining strong governance and support structures.

We continue to review our external communications and branding, having significantly increased our external communications reach to a wide range of audiences.

Financial review

Review of Financial Period

The deficit for the year to 31 March 2026 was £14,864 (2025: £57,528 surplus)

Reserves policy

The charity's general unrestricted reserves amounted to £30,217 (2025: £10,552). The Board agreed to increase reserves allocated in a separate designated fund called the Reserve Fund to £100,000 (previous year: £75,000), to reflect the need to create increased organisational resilience.

Going concern

After exercising due diligence, the trustees are satisfied that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Risk Assessment

The board of trustees oversees risk management, maintaining an up-to-date risk register for the organisation. Significant projects receive additional scrutiny through the Major Projects Scrutiny Group, currently made up of three board members and key members of staff. Discussions continue with the Board regarding ongoing management of organisational risk, in order to maintain good practice.

Insurance

The board of trustees has fully considered the various risks associated with the continuing activities of the company and arranged appropriate insurance cover. The level of cover provided by the insurance policies will be assessed at regular intervals to ensure that it remains adequate to cover the various activities undertaken by the company. The board of trustees maintains an active risk register, and considers the key risks to be around health & safety, safeguarding, and cyber security. In addition to insurance, an independent health & safety adviser is contracted to provide ongoing health and safety advice to the organisation, and a board member with safeguarding experience has been identified as the Trust's safeguarding lead, while cyber security risk is limited through clear policies and regular training for staff and board members.

Principal funding sources

During 2025/6, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs Countryside Trust received funding from a range of sources, including:

NatureScot (Nature Restoration Fund), Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority, National Lottery Heritage Fund, Scottish Forestry, Walking Scotland, People's Postcode Lottery, Acrux Gold, Awards for All, Age Scotland, Co-op, Stirlingshire Voluntary Enterprise, and the partners of The Great Trossachs Forest (Scottish Water, Woodland Trust Scotland, Forestry and Land Scotland, RSPB Scotland and Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority).

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Looking forward to 2026/7

Building on a strong 2025/6 performance, 2026/7 will be another year of impactful delivery for the organisation. We look forward to delivering the next stage of Wild Strathfillan, as we work with partners towards the delivery of our collective long-term vision for the landscape.

Our partnership project with the Loch Lomond & The Trossachs Countryside Trust and RSPB Scotland successfully secured development phase funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund for an ambitious programme of woodland restoration with a strong community element. We start 2026/7 by embarking on this 18-month development phase of the programme, bringing in several new members of staff to support the programme.

2026/7 will see our specialist plant nursery in its first full year of operation, and we look forward to working to develop its potential to function as a key part of a network of nurseries supporting nature restoration across the national park.

Our Connected Lives Programme starts the year in a strong position, with staff in place to continue to support vital delivery in communities across the national park. With plans in place to continue to diversify income streams for this work, and to demonstrate its impact and delivery against multiple societal priorities, we look forward to continuing to deliver real and meaningful change through this work.

In a challenging fundraising environment, we must continue to be targeted and strategic in our delivery, focusing on where we can deliver maximum impact, and increasing our external visibility and appeal to a broad range of funders and sponsors. This will be a key focus for the year ahead as we continue to sustainably grow the organisation.

Structure, governance and management

The Loch Lomond and The Trossachs Countryside Trust is a company limited by guarantee and is recognised as a Scottish Charity. The company was incorporated on 23rd April 2012 and formally commenced activities during May 2012. The Loch Lomond and The Trossachs Countryside Trust was initially set up by the Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority, Scottish Natural Heritage (now NatureScot) and Scottish Forestry.

Constitution

Its Memorandum and Articles of Association, which are held at the registered office, govern the company's activities..

Trustees

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr I Bray

Dr D Beaumont

Prof K Park

Ms C Colquhoun

Mr F Bedwell

Prof CJ Spray

Mr A McMullen

Mrs A Roy

Mr B Whyte

Mrs A Connelly (Appointed on 14 April 2025)

Mr H Leusink (Resigned on 16 August 2025)

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026 which are set out on pages 1 to 19.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(a) to (c) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1)(c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1)(a) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Regulation 4 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended); and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Andrew McCaw CA (ICAS)
McLay McAlister & McGibbon LLP
Chartered Accountants
145 St Vincent Street
Glasgow
G2 5JF

Date 21 September 2026

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

		Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Income and endowments							
Donations and legacies	2	218,095	538,023	756,118	129,373	541,696	671,069
Investments	3	724	-	724	529	-	529
Total income		<u>218,819</u>	<u>538,023</u>	<u>756,842</u>	<u>129,902</u>	<u>541,696</u>	<u>671,598</u>
Expenditure							
Charitable activities	4	<u>178,043</u>	<u>593,663</u>	<u>771,706</u>	<u>82,995</u>	<u>531,075</u>	<u>614,070</u>
Net (expenditure)/income for the year / Net movement in funds		40,776	(55,640)	(14,864)	46,907	10,621	57,528
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
Fund balances at 1 April		<u>171,277</u>	<u>52,053</u>	<u>223,330</u>	<u>124,370</u>	<u>41,432</u>	<u>165,802</u>
Fund balances at 31 March		<u>212,053</u>	<u>(3,587)</u>	<u>208,466</u>	<u>171,277</u>	<u>52,053</u>	<u>223,330</u>

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

		2026 £	2026 £	2025 £	2025 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible Assets	8		8,894		14,262
Current assets					
Debtors	9	161,341		126,783	
Cash at bank and in hand		196,329		283,536	
		<u>357,670</u>		<u>410,319</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(158,098)</u>		<u>(201,251)</u>	
Net current assets			199,572		209,068
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>208,466</u>		<u>223,330</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	12	(3,587)			52,053
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	13	181,836		160,725	
General unrestricted funds	14	<u>30,217</u>		<u>10,552</u>	
			212,053		171,277
			<u>208,466</u>		<u>223,330</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2026.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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 Trustees on 18th September 2026



Dr D Beaumont
Chair

Company Registration No. SC422457

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

1 Accounting policies

Company information

Loch Lomond & The Trossachs Countryside Trust is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Scotland. The registered office is c/o Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National, Park Authority, National Park Headquarters, Carrochan Road, Balloch, G83 8EG, United Kingdom.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the company's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, 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 (FRS 102)" (second edition - October 2019) (effective 1 January 2019). The company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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 £.

The accounts have been prepared on the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the directors have reviewed the future funding and activities of the charity. The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and grants

Donations and grants are included in the year in which they are receivable, which is when the charity becomes entitled to the resource and receipt is probable.

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

(Continued)

1 Accounting policies

Capital Grants

Grants received to fund the purchase or construction of a fixed asset are retained in a restricted fund until the asset is purchased or completed. Thereafter the grant is transferred to unrestricted funds and released in line with the depreciation of the relevant asset.

Investment income, rental income and similar income

Income from investments and from rental income and similar sources is included in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which it is receivable.

1.5 Resources expended

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for expenditure. All costs have been directly attributed to one of the functional categories of resources expended in the Statement of Financial Activities, the charity is not registered for VAT and accordingly expenditure is shown gross.

Costs of raising funds are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in activities that raise funds.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the Charity. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the Charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Plant and equipment	10% and 25% straight line
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The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Taxation

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

1.8 Employee benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

1.9 Volunteers

Volunteers help the charity by becoming Walk Leaders to help the charity deliver health and wellbeing outcomes across the National Park. Volunteers feel they are making a difference to people's lives while enhancing their own personal development.

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

(Continued)

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Donations and gifts	2,258	5,528	7,786	-	1,452	1,452
Grants	215,837	532,495	748,332	129,373	540,244	669,617
	<u>218,095</u>	<u>538,023</u>	<u>756,118</u>	<u>129,373</u>	<u>541,696</u>	<u>671,069</u>
Grants receivable for core activities						
NatureScot	25,250	368,849	394,099	-	339,172	339,172
Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority	131,826	24,000	155,826	55,248	25,000	80,248
Smarter Choices Smarter Places	-	-	-	-	-	-
Heritage Lottery Fund	1,164	67,873	69,037	-	46,699	46,699
The Great Trossachs Forest*	1,162	27,180	28,342	-	16,455	16,455
Paths For All	-	5,015	5,015	-	68,210	68,210
Impact Funding Partners	-	-	-	-	11,250	11,250
Scottish Forestry	-	10,000	10,000	8,000	2,000	10,000
People Postcode Lottery	26,368	23,632	50,000	15,000	5,000	20,000
Scotgold Ltd	25,000	-	25,000	50,000	-	50,000
Age Scotland	-	-	-	-	15,000	15,000
University of Stirling	4,500	-	4,500	-	-	-
Stirlingshire Voluntary Enterprise	-	2,000	2,000	-	7,490	7,490
Other	567	3,946	4,513	1,125	3,968	5,093
	<u>215,837</u>	<u>532,495</u>	<u>748,332</u>	<u>129,373</u>	<u>540,244</u>	<u>669,617</u>

*The Great Trossachs Forest is funded by Scottish Water, National Park Authority, Woodland Trust, RSPB, and Forestry & Land Scotland

3 Investments

	2026 £	2025 £
Interest receivable	<u>724</u>	<u>529</u>

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

(Continued)

4 Charitable activities

	2026 £	2025 £
Staff costs	354,773	300,281
Contractors and Coordinators fees	193,797	58,056
Third party costs	135,055	100,892
Equipment, PPE & Consumables	17,946	86,528
Staff expenses	14,223	14,532
General administration expenses	22,066	14,205
Training	4,888	11,313
Depreciation and impairment	5,368	5,951
Consulting	6,759	5,435
Insurance	3,335	3,316
Promotion	173	1,513
	758,383	602,022
Share of support costs (see note 5)	650	650
Share of governance costs (see note 5)	12,673	11,398
	771,706	614,070
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	178,043	82,995
Restricted funds	593,663	531,075
	771,706	614,070

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

(Continued)

5 Support costs

	Support costs 2026 £	Governance costs 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Support costs 2025 £	Governance costs 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Health & safety expenses	650	-	650	650	-	650
Independent examiner's fees	-	2,300	2,300	-	1,500	1,500
Legal and professional fees	-	10,373	10,373	-	9,898	9,898
	<u>650</u>	<u>12,673</u>	<u>13,323</u>	<u>650</u>	<u>11,398</u>	<u>12,048</u>

Analysed between

Charitable activities	<u>650</u>	<u>12,673</u>	<u>13,323</u>	<u>650</u>	<u>11,398</u>	<u>12,048</u>
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6 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during and none of them were reimbursed project expenses (2025 - none).

7 Employees

	2026 £	2025 £
The average monthly number of employees during the year was:	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>
Employment costs		
Wages and salaries	312,178	267,399
Social security costs	26,213	18,688
Pension costs	<u>16,382</u>	<u>14,194</u>
	<u>354,773</u>	<u>300,281</u>

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise of the trustees. The employment benefits of the key management personnel were £NIL (2025: £NIL). No employees received remuneration in excess of £60,000 (2025: £60,000).

The average employee numbers include paid employees only.

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

(Continued)

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and equipment £
Costs	
At 1 April	35,535
Additions	-
At 31 March 2026	<u>35,535</u>
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April	21,273
Depreciation charged in the year	5,368
At 31 March 2026	<u>26,641</u>
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2026	<u>8,894</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>14,262</u>

9 Debtors

	2026 £	2025 £
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade debtors	129,432	125
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>31,909</u>	<u>126,658</u>
	<u>161,341</u>	<u>126,783</u>

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2026 £	2025 £
Trade creditors	78,246	51,912
Deferred income	59,366	117,215
Accruals	14,104	25,164
Other taxation and social security	<u>6,382</u>	<u>6,960</u>
	<u>158,098</u>	<u>201,251</u>

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

(Continued)

11 Deferred income

	2026 £	2025 £
Arising from grant income	<u>59,366</u>	<u>117,215</u>
Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:		
Opening balance	117,215	110,816
Income recognised in the period	(91,622)	(62,913)
Amount deferred during the period	<u>33,773</u>	<u>69,312</u>
Closing balance	<u>59,366</u>	<u>117,215</u>

The deferred income relates to income invoiced in advance for services to be provided during 2026-27.

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

(Continued)

12 Restricted funds

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

	Balance at 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2025	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Active Travel	24,568	51,921	(62,188)	-	14,301	(1,025)	(11,881)	-	1,395
Walk in the Park	4,885	62,452	(63,446)	-	3,891	64,797	(69,355)	-	(667)
The Great Trossachs Forest	-	16,455	(16,455)	-	-	32,151	(32,151)	-	-
NRF2	4,777	358,171	(337,537)	-	25,411	370,557	(395,968)	-	-
HLF	383	48,729	(47,481)	-	1,631	67,575	(73,869)	-	(4,663)
Access Improvement	6,819	-	-	-	6,819	-	(6,471)	-	348
NRF Wild Strathfillan	-	3,968	(3,968)	-	-	3,968	(3,968)	-	-
	<u>41,432</u>	<u>541,696</u>	<u>(531,075)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,053</u>	<u>538,023</u>	<u>(593,663)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,587)</u>

Active Travel - supporting communities across the National Park to travel by walking, cycling or wheeling to improve health, wellbeing and reduce the number of car journeys.

Walk in the Park - Health walks, strength and balance, and group activities taking place across the National Park, led by volunteers, supporting participants to improve their health and wellbeing.

NRF Wild Strathfillan & NRF2 - a landscape scale nature restoration project aiming to restore the ecological function of a large area between Tyndrum, Killin, and the Northern shores of Loch Lomond.

The Great Trossachs Forest - a landscape scale native woodland restoration project in the heart of the National Park

HLF - supporting the people of Wild Strathfillan through skills development, activities, heritage and community based improvements.

Access Improvement - Projects that support opportunities for recreation, access and active or sustainable travel.

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

(Continued)

13 Designated funds

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

	Balance at 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2025	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Strathfillan Project	58,437	51,148	(23,860)	-	85,725	107,350	(111,239)	-	81,836
Reserve Fund	37,500	-	-	37,500	75,000	-	-	25,000	100,000
	<u>95,937</u>	<u>51,148</u>	<u>(23,860)</u>	<u>37,500</u>	<u>160,725</u>	<u>107,350</u>	<u>(111,239)</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>181,836</u>

Reserve fund - This has been set aside to cover a minimum of three months running costs.

Strathfillan Project - This fund will be used to support new environmental objectives in the area, which includes small scale tree planting objectives.

14 Unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2025	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
General	28,433	78,754	(59,135)	(37,500)	10,552	111,469	(66,804)	(25,000)	30,217

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

(Continued)

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Funds balances at 31 March are represented by:						
Tangible assets	566	8,328	8,894	1,345	12,917	14,262
Current assets/(liabilities)	211,487	(11,915)	199,572	169,932	39,136	209,068
	<u>212,053</u>	<u>(3,587)</u>	<u>208,466</u>	<u>171,277</u>	<u>52,053</u>	<u>223,330</u>

16 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year (2025 - none).