Charity registration number SC048825 (Scotland)

SHRUB COOPERATIVE

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

SHRUB COOPERATIVE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	[redacted]
Charity number	SC048825
Registered office	13 Guthrie Street Edinburgh EH1 1JG
Independent examiner	[redacted]
Bankers	Co-operative Bank PO Box 101 1 Balloon Street Manchester M60 4EP
Accounts prepared by	[redacted]

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Charity Overview

Our Charitable Objectives

1. The advancement of environmental protection and improvement by contributing to a zero waste community in Edinburgh. In particular, providing year round re-use, up-cycling and redistribution of household items discarded by the transient populations
2. Advancement of education by providing training and skill-sharing in all functions of the enterprise.
3. The advancement of citizenship and community development through active participation in a manner which promotes equality and diversity, and is consistent with principles defined in the International Cooperative Alliance Statement of Cooperative Identity.

Our Purpose

- To provide a welcoming space for rethinking our relationship to waste, reducing consumption and developing effective use of resources
- To support community empowerment in Edinburgh, learning and sharing skills to make a practical difference to the world we share
- To deliver innovative waste prevention, creative reuse and repair practices in a living laboratory of Circular Economy.

Our Values

- We value inclusivity and work with others to provide a welcoming community for all
- We act with integrity and strive to be sustainable in everything we do
- We live by cooperative values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity, and solidarity.

The International Cooperative Principles

1. Voluntary and Open Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Member Economic Participation
4. Autonomy and Independence
5. Education, Training and Information
6. Cooperation among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community

SHRUB COOPERATIVE

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Open Membership

Anyone over 16 can join SHRUB Coop as a Supporting Member or a Volunteer Member. For Supporting Members, the annual contribution paid is based on their own estimate of income. Volunteer Members are formally inducted and log volunteer hours to keep their Membership.

Working Groups

To deliver our vision of ***A World Without Waste*** we operate a network of working groups of volunteers, usually led by a staff member, which all contribute in different ways to our activities and allow members and interested citizens to engage with SHRUB Coop in ways that suit their interests:

Zero Waste Hub

- **Swapshop:** aiding the community in reducing its household waste and engaging in the circular economy.
- **Food Sharing**: reduces waste and associated carbon emissions in our food supply chain and alleviates food poverty in a dignified way.
- **Cafe**: providing a welcoming space for all the community and community events

Wee Spoke Hub

Organising DIY workshops for you to learn how to fix your own bike with help from trained mechanics; and promoting sustainable active travel. Our key target groups are people who experience barriers to cycling.

Workshops & Events

Organising events and upcycling workshops to educate the community about sustainable living.

Core groups

- **Communications**: promoting the coop's activities and keeping members informed about what's happening through social media, newsletters and website content
- **Finance & Enterprise**: overseeing general administration, financial planning and enterprise development. The group includes Monitoring and Evaluation, Finance, and Funding subgroups
- **Welfare**: ensuring the wellbeing of members; if members are experiencing any problems within the community, they can get in touch with us
- **Human Resources**: ensuring the wellbeing of our staff with feedback, support and structure
- **Governance & Policy:** supporting SHRUB's decision making and its legal obligations.

SHRUB COOPERATIVE

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Annual Report

Trustee Summary

This year has been a relatively stable year with steady improvements made to the organisation, and a comparative sense of calm and recovery compared to the rollercoaster of the previous years from 2020 onward. Though we're not out of the woods we're more confident of the future of the organisation.

The key change has been securing funding. Both the Zero Waste Hub and Wee Spoke Hub received enough funding to run for the year, which meant having a stable staff team without the looming threat of running out of funding. Compared to last year where staffing dropped from 2.9 FTE to 1.8FTE and back 5FTE by the year end. Through this year staffing has increased from 5FTE to 6.5FTE. This stability has allowed us to begin repairing problems that developed during previous years and grow our projects and impact.

It's not been all smooth sailing, despite some high profile assertions that people aren't sicker than they were a decade ago, SHRUB is certainly experiencing increased sickness absence due to both short and long term ill health. This should surprise no one given the long term effects of covid and the increased pressure on many from the cost of living crisis. This does unfortunately have an impact on our operations, some staff have fully used their contractual sick pay which has meant needing to recruit freelancers to cover missed shifts. Over the next year we will look to find ways to adapt our work place and make roles more sustainable for staff that are struggling to manage their work and health.

Another unfortunate consequence of the difficult general social and economic circumstances we have experienced a significant increase in shoplifting and antisocial behaviour. While we have been successful in supporting many people who are struggling through our projects, it has highlighted that we were unprepared to deal with some of the challenges these service users can bring. This is something that we've had before, but the frequency and severity of events has increased. Throughout the year we trained staff on de-escalating conflicts and handling anti-social behaviour as well as installing CCTV, which allowed us to work with local police to identify known individuals. Bringing in CCTV and the police was a contentious issue for our highly activist community, but it was unfortunately a necessary step when we were unable to work to resolve the issue directly with the people involved and needed to exclude them from the space for the safety of staff and public in our spaces.

Our main funding from The National Lottery Community fund has a different focus from our previous major funding. Formally all our funding has been directly environmentally focused, whereas the community fund is focused on community. SHRUB has always had an engaged and active community working on a number of interconnected social issues, primarily the climate emergency, but also LGBTQ+ equity and access for the disabled community to give a few specific examples.

The new focus on us as a community space has been a great success. Some stand out new activities include engaging more with the Fringe Festival and Sapphic Sounds, a women and non-binary open mic event providing an alternative accessible space in a normally male dominated sphere. These new events have been a massive success, during the Fringe we trialled many events with Sapphic Sounds having such a strong support that it has a future as a regular fundraising event, benefiting the creative community and SHRUB together.

The stability this year has allowed us to spend some time innovating for the first time since covid. Through the year we have been consulting the membership on an idea to introduce institutional memberships. This would be partnering with local businesses to provide group memberships to their employees at a discount and would allow us to reach new customers and allow their employees to benefit from our membership benefits at a discount. We hope that this offer will both increase membership sales and bring more local people into our projects.

We have also been implementing a new project, Edinborrow. This is a library of things that local people in Edinburgh can hire for a short time, such as a sewing machine or a soup urn. For now this is just allowing local people to use things we have that we're not using right now, but if the project is successful then we could find space to increase the scale of the project and the stock we hold.

Main Funded Projects

Circular Communities Hub

We started this project in August 2023 to increase and diversify community engagement and activities within the Zero Waste Hub. The goals of the project are:

- Increase engagement with University and High School students
- Increase awareness about SHRUB's low carbon lifestyle projects in Edinburgh
- Provide additional volunteer opportunities and volunteer welfare events
- Develop a workshop and events programme
- Increase our partnership working with other organisations in the city working in the community and zero waste sectors.

Wee Spoke Hub Paths for All

This funding allowed us to re-open the Wee Spoke Hub and begin rebuilding the project after it closed due to lack of funding. The project received funding from Edinburgh Community Climate Fund, National Lottery Awards for All and Cycling UK's Smarter Choices Smarter Places fund. The goals of the project are:

- To increase the number of people choosing active travel by providing cycle skills training and bike maintenance training
- To design and run workshops and events that will bring under represented groups into the cycling community.

Our Community in Data

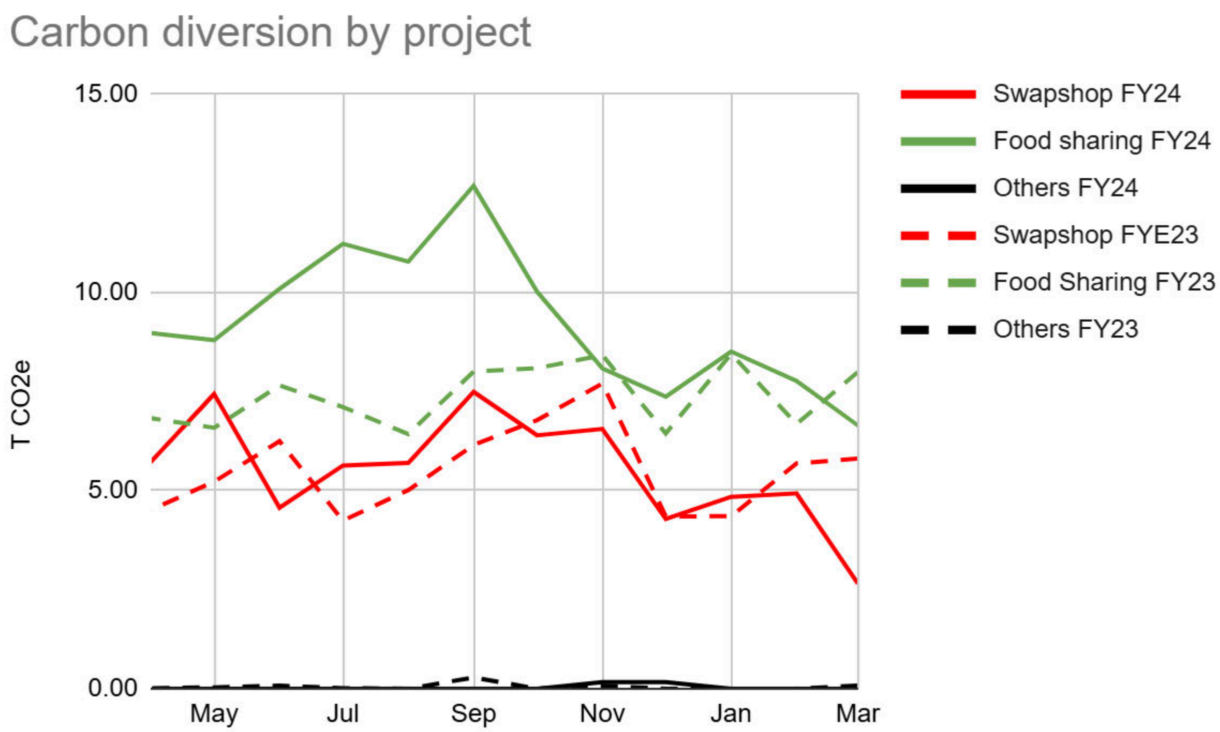
	Profit		Planet				People			
	UNR Surplus / (Deficit)		Stuff Saved (t)		Total Carbon Saved (tCO2e)		Volunteer hours		Education (attendees)	
	FY24	FY23	FY24	FY23	FY24	FY23	FY24	FY23	FY24	FY23
Zero Waste Hub										
Swapshop	**£22,761**	**£20,176**	**4.9**	**5.0**	**66.2**	**66.1**	**2,126**	**1,915**	**8,501**	**8,468**
Food sharing	**£12,843**	**£8,180**	**29.4**	**23.4**	**111.0**	**88.7**	**1,891**	**879**	**13,535**	**9,850**
Zero waste products	**£11**	**£312**	**0.0**	**0.1**	**0.3**	**0.4**	**0**	**0**	**211**	**236**
Cafe	**£8,412**	**£1,840**	**0.0**	**0.1**	**0.0**	**0.2**	**1,367**	**669**	**4,899**	**3,714**
22BS	**-£27,367**	**-£47,963**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**2,339**	**2,025**
Workshops and Events	**£2,629**	**£3,087**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**1,125**	**419**	**3,523**	**655**
ZWH Total	***£19,289***	***-£14,367***	***34.3***	***28.6***	***177.5***	***155.3***	***6,508***	***3,882***	***33,008***	***24,948***
Wee Spoke Hub										
Wee Spoke Hub	**£2,907**	**-£1,719**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**262**	**45**	**319**	**41**
13GS	**£2,034**	**-£9,701**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
WSH total	***£4,940***	***-£11,420***	***0.0***	***0.0***	***0.0***	***0.0***	***262***	***45***	***319***	***41***
Core										
Core/other	**-£13,227**	**-£6,460**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**1,199**	**278**	**27,520**	**9,750**
Grand Total	**£11,002**	**-£32,247**	**34**	**29**	**178**	**155**	**7,969**	**4,205**	**60,847**	**34,739**
UNR Cur assets	**£55,656**	**£27,321**								

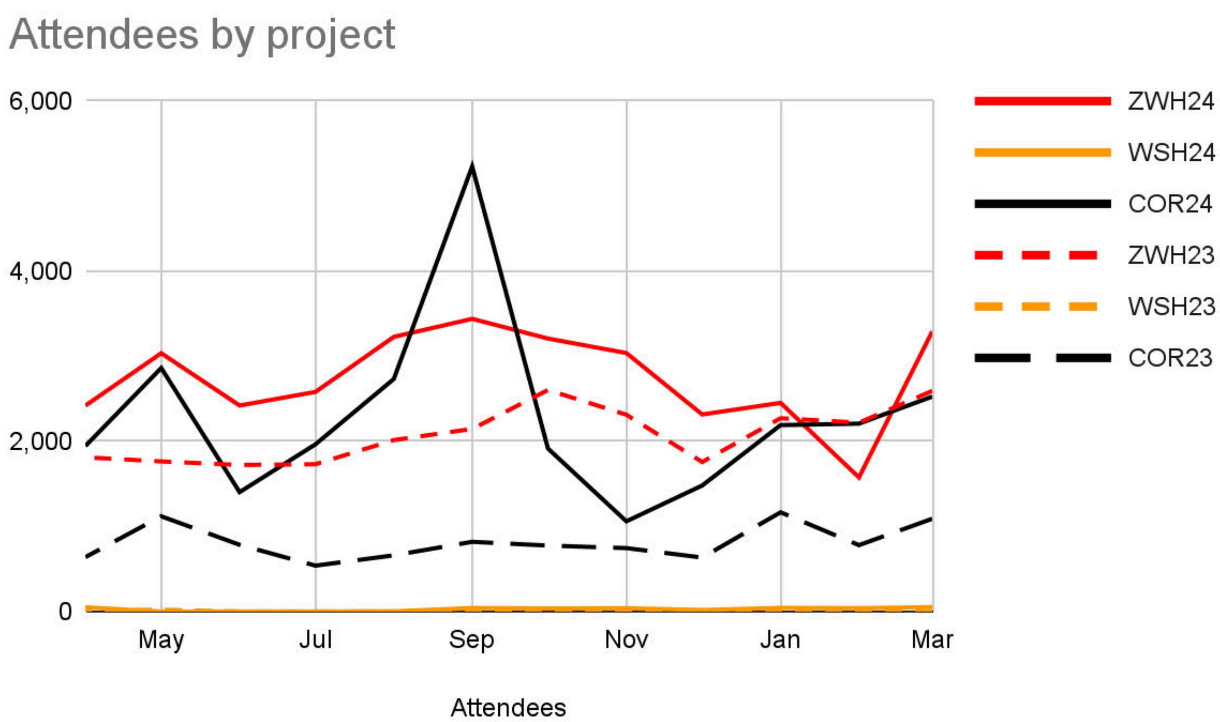
Our data collection practices are continuing to improve, however, there are clearly some gaps in our reporting. The Cafe, Workshops and Events, Zero Waste Products and the Wee Spoke Hub all have a carbon impact, however we are yet to establish clear metrics to measure and report on these.

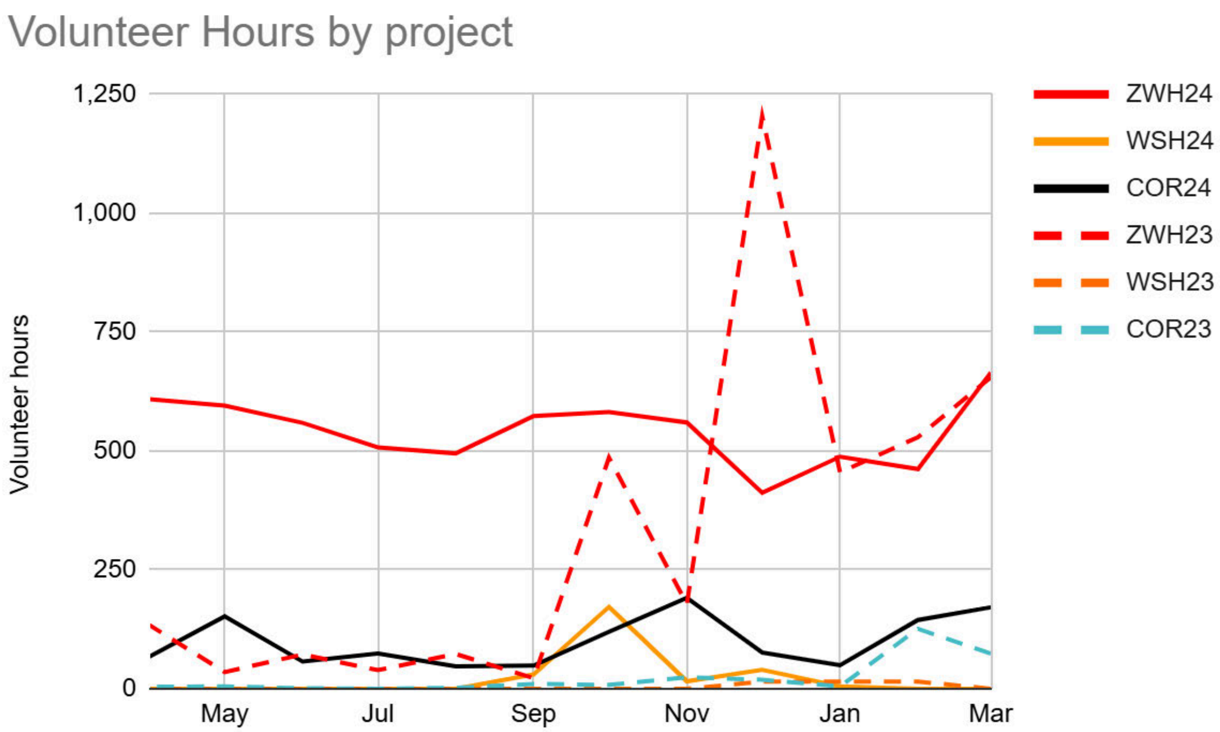
The most interesting result of our activities this year is the growth in the impact of the Food Sharing Hub. This activity only received minor funding from One City Trust, enough to contribute to keeping the project running, but not enough to invest in developing the project. Despite this the project has improved in all areas, notably donations by users increased from £8k to £12k and an additional 3.7 thousand users benefited from the service. This demonstrates the need from the community and the natural spread of information to in need groups about the service without our active investment in this project. We believe the major driving force of this increase is the continuing cost of living crisis. The combined impact of Covid, Brexit and the geopolitical instability in the world at large are having a direct and tangible impact on food security of people in Edinburgh.

The impact of the National Lottery Communities project and the relaunch of the Wee Spoke Hub can clearly be seen in the overall increased impact of the organisation. Total carbon diversion increased by 23 tonnes, volunteer hours and total people engaged almost doubled. From a top level perspective, you can only conclude that these projects were a massive success. We are grateful to our funders, who without their support we would not be able to run the projects we're passionate about.

It's also essential to have rebuilt our reserves over this year, during FYE22 and FYE23 we invested a significant amount of our reserves into sustaining projects that had not received funding. Had this trend continued this year, we would have had to close our projects. Ending this year with 65k in unrestricted current assets is an improvement, but by no means a solid secure position. Running an organisation with an annual cost of 277k, this represents around 42k in free reserve, slightly less than 2 months running costs.




Attendees by project
6,000
4,000
2,000
0
May
Jul
Sep
Nov
Jan
Mar
Attendees
ZWH24
WSH24
COR24
ZWH23
WSH23
COR23



Our month on month results show a strong trend for sustained recovery of our projects against the previous year. The main interesting result of our data is that our key month for engagement is September, coinciding with the return of students to the city. We have taken steps over the last few years to build better connections outside the student community from which we were founded, however we still retain strong connections to the student community and they still contribute to the development of the projects either as service users or volunteers.

Working Group Highlights

Zero Waste Hub Projects

This year the Zero Waste Hub with support from The National Lottery funding has managed to come back to something close to its intended operating capacity. Though during the year ending 2024 we're still building up to opening every day and we still lack resources to realise the potential of projects like the Food Sharing hub.

Swapshop

FYE2024 activities

In 23-24 we were looking to save 10% more carbon than we had saved in the previous year. We saved 68.2tonnes in 23-24 which was 3% more than the 66.07 tonnes saved the year previous. We were also aiming to double the partner organisations that we pass items on to locally, and increase the amount that is passed on by 25%.
In 2022-23 we passed on 0.39tonnes of items to 3 different partner organisations. In 2023-24 we passed on 0.46tonnes of items to 3 organisations, of which 2 were the same as the previous year and one was new. While the number of organisations we were partnered with stayed the same, the amount of items we passed on increased by 17%.
We engaged 2126 volunteer hours in 2023-24, fewer than half of what would have been needed to have volunteers in for every shift, but still a significant contribution to keeping the venue open.
For the year ending 2024, after staff and project costs the Swapshop was able to contribute £27,800 to building and core costs. The biggest contributor towards bringing the ZWH to financial sustainability.

YTD2025 activities

In the last six months we have been working on improving the flow of items in the Swapshop while improving the quality of goods that we stock. By focusing on quality items we are reducing the build up of items in storage downstairs, making it easier to restock the rails and keep up with turnover. Hosting regular clearance events for lower quality items allows us to increase the chance of us making money on the lower quality items while not cluttering up our main stocks. It also lets us see what excess clothing we are getting in, that we can then try to find the right charities to pass on to.
We have also been working on improving the perceived quality of our stock by improving our labeling and aesthetic.
We have started opening 7 days a week which will better cover the general overheads of the building.

Planning ahead

In the coming year we plan to increase revenue to cover not only direct staff costs, but also a fair share of the building and core costs. We plan on doing this by re-starting online sales and increasing the perceived value of our non-clothing items.

Food Sharing Hub

FYE2024 activities

In the year ending 2024 Food sharing saved 29.4 tonnes of food, equivalent to 114.21 tonnes of carbon - a 28% increase on the previous year.
There were 8779 transactions in that period, or 168 users per week - a 23% increase on the previous year. Meaning our average user takes 3.3kg of food per visit, roughly equivalent to 8 meals.
We regularly pass food on to 5 different organisations in the city - including hostels and community kitchens.
Donations to Foodsharing provided £12,800 towards building and core costs.
This project continues to have a large direct positive impact on the local community providing food security for many people who are affected by the cost of living crisis.

YTD2025 activities

Without dedicated funding the role of looking after Food Sharing had fallen to the Community Hub coordinator to cover basic functions. However that role came to an end in September so there has been a hand over of responsibility, but we still lack dedicated support for the Food Sharing Hub.

Planning ahead

Try to get funding for the project, and try to show the value of the project to the community.
We need to spend some more time on checking in with our food sharing partners.

Cafe

FYE2024 activities

The cafe started selling food again in August ‘23, with our official re-launch of food service in September 2023. We created a freelance cook role to allow the cafe to provide regular food without drawing on existing staff capacity. Over the year we sold 1,367 pots of tea, 507 portions of soup and 743 slices of cake!
Over the year the Cafe created a surplus of £8,400 to go towards building costs and core costs.

YTD2025 activities

The Cafe team has been focusing on creating a skilled team of volunteers, creating and serving high quality food and drinks. A difficult task with a volunteer team where the expected time commitment relative to a paid cafe role is low and the length of time a volunteer is engaged is usually much shorter than a staff member.

Planning ahead

We have been planning on developing a sandwich or toastie menu for sometime, along with a smoothie menu to increase the number of options available to customers and make use of items that often arrive in bulk in the Food Sharing Hub.
Clearer KPIs need to be set with indications as to how we measure each indicator now that the cafe is established and regularly sells food. These will be re-evaluated in January 2025

Workshops and Events

FYE2024 activities

This year we ran 271 events with 3525 attendees, a massive increase from last year with nearly 5 times the number of attendees in FYE2023, only 757.
With our funding this year specifically for developing the workshop programme this shows what we can do when we have the appropriate support.

YTD2025 activities

This year sees the end of funding for the workshops and events through The National Lottery. Though we have continued to run high numbers of events, particularly this year running a full Fringe programme, we will be unable to continue to do this after the end of the funding.

Planning ahead

For the rest of the current year we will be adapting our staffing and workshops and events programme to see which events are the most profitable to continue after the end of funding. A necessity as future events will need to focus on being self funding rather than focusing on social impact.

Wee Spoke Hub

FYE2024 activities

Wee Spoke Hub reopened in September 2023, as a funded operation. Funding targets included Bike-DIY workshops, training workshops, and group rides.
In March 2024, we took on an additional challenge, to provide 20 free bikes to our community; this project was funded by Cycling UK.

YTD2025 activities

As of June 2024, WSH is no longer funded externally, and the funding for active travel has been cut in the Scottish budget. Wee Spoke Hub now relies entirely on the commercial workshop operations for its income, and managed to break even for the first time ever in September 2024.

We have managed to retain Bike-DIY sessions on Thursday evenings, aimed specifically at neglected demographics, such as women, LGBTQ+, and people with autism. Wee Spoke Hub is not the only such operation, with complementary offerings from the trusty Bike Station, and the intrepid Edinburgh Tool Library.

We also continue our training workshops on selected Saturdays; the workshops themselves don't yet break even, but the demand is such that we are choosing to continue them.

Planning ahead

In the coming year we will continue to apply for further funding to take our next steps to sustain and grow the project. Though the current non profit activities of the hub are continuing, they are heavily reliant on volunteer support and they do take up space that could otherwise be used for profit making activities. It would not be sustainable to run these indefinitely without grant support, especially if there is a drop off in volunteer activity.

Core Groups

Communications

FYE2024 activities

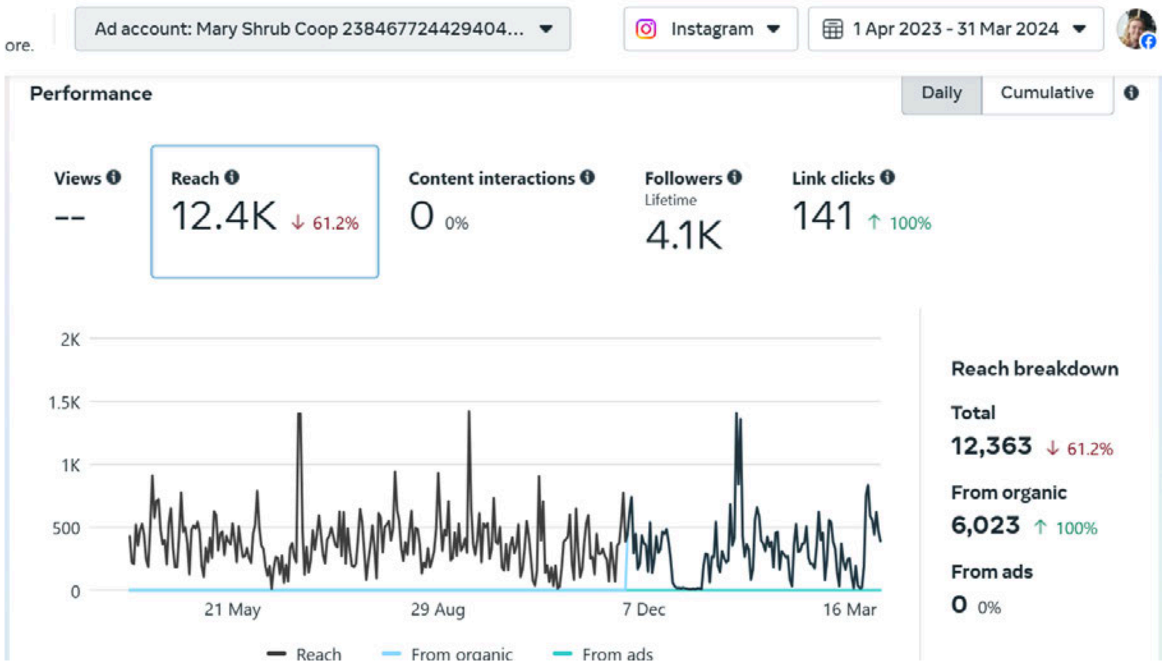
During this year, there was no designated Communications Coordinator. Heloisa was coordinating the Comms Working Group under her Community Hub Coordinator position and Mary was doing Wee Spoke Hub Comms alongside WSH admin and volunteer coordination. Considering the lack of direct support, SHRUB did exceptionally well to maintain communications across a multitude of platforms, and keep communications volunteers engaged.

The aim of this working group is to raise awareness about SHRUB's projects and events, educate people about the circular economy and how environmentalism can be accessible.

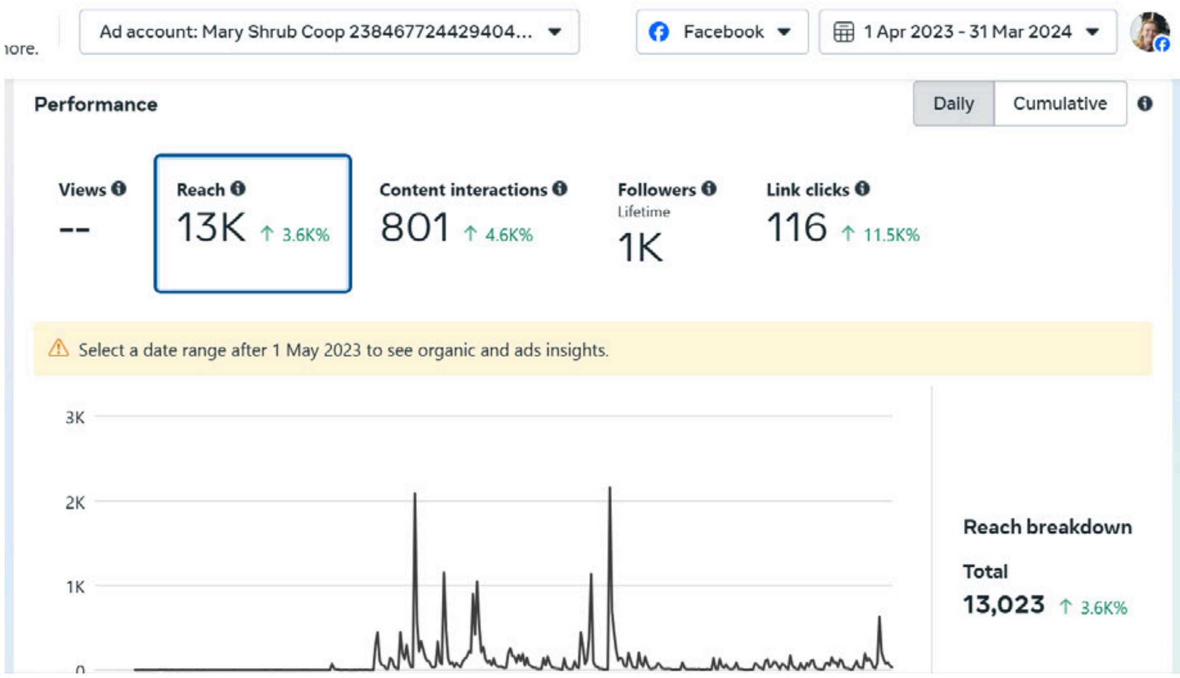
Achievements and activities of this group in FYE24:

- Held regular communication working group meetings.
- Recruited new volunteers to help with social media, photography, illustration and design
- Updated our online presence through google, our website blog and the website itself
- Continued monthly newsletter
- Updating signage in the shop
- Created list of places to signpost people to
- More informative content on social media on Instagram, Facebook, and started posting on our TikTok and LinkedIn accounts
- Created new website
- SHRUB Fundraising Week Promotion
- Price increase and institutional membership comms
- Continuing promotion of our events such as sewing sessions
- Helo's community outreach and connecting
- Our average Newsletter open rate for FYE24 was 46.1%
- Reached 54.5K Facebook accounts (up by 447.1% compared to the previous year FYE23)
- 411 new followers (down by 12.2% compared to the previous year FYE23)
- Reached 12.4K Instagram accounts (down 61.2% compared to the previous year FYE23)
- 154 new followers (no stats to compare with previous year).

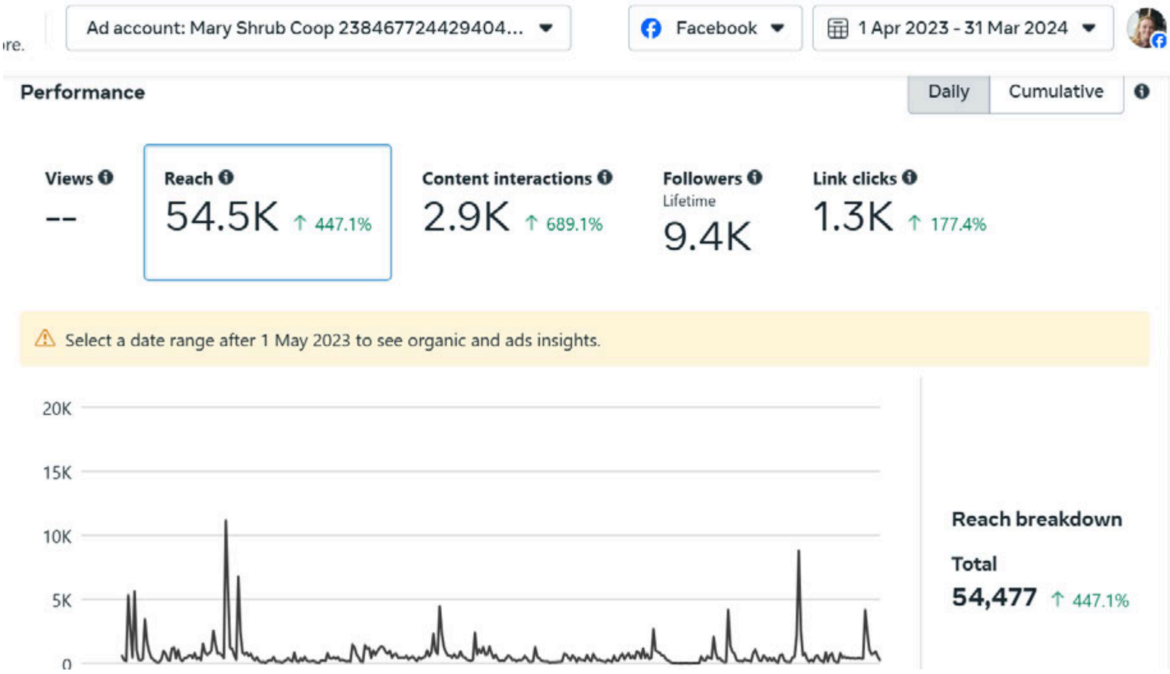
Instagram Reach SHRUB 01/04/2023-31/03/2024:



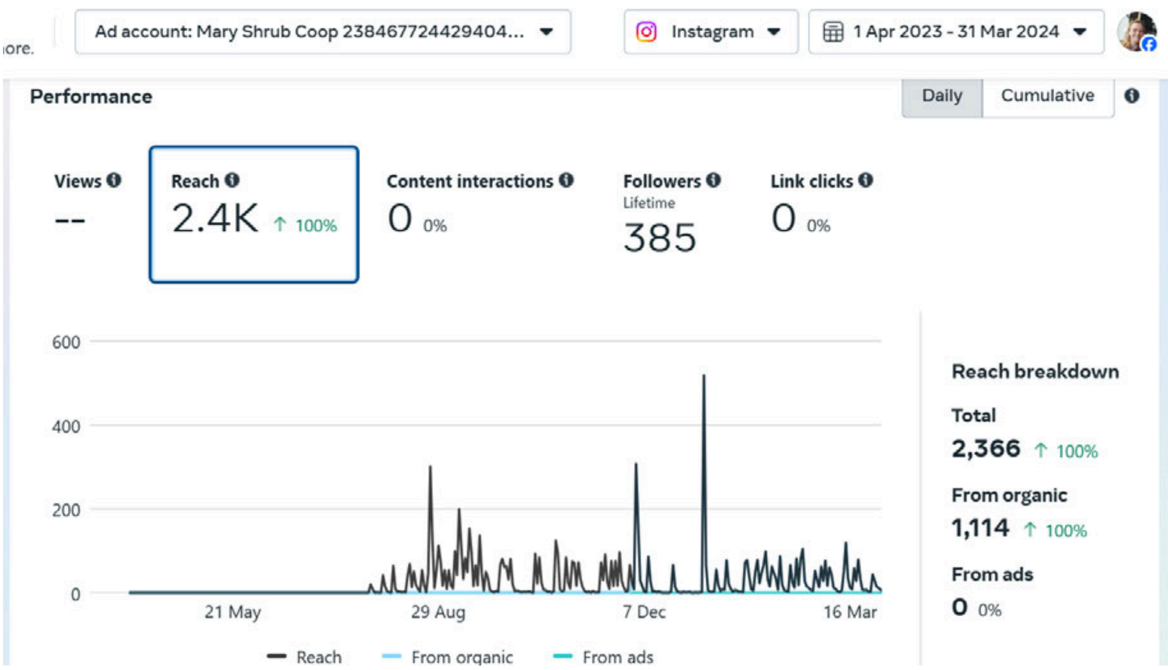
Facebook Reach SHRUB 01/04/2023-31/03/2024:



Facebook reach WSH 01/04/2023-31/03/2024:



Instagram reach WSH 01/04/2023-31/03/2024:

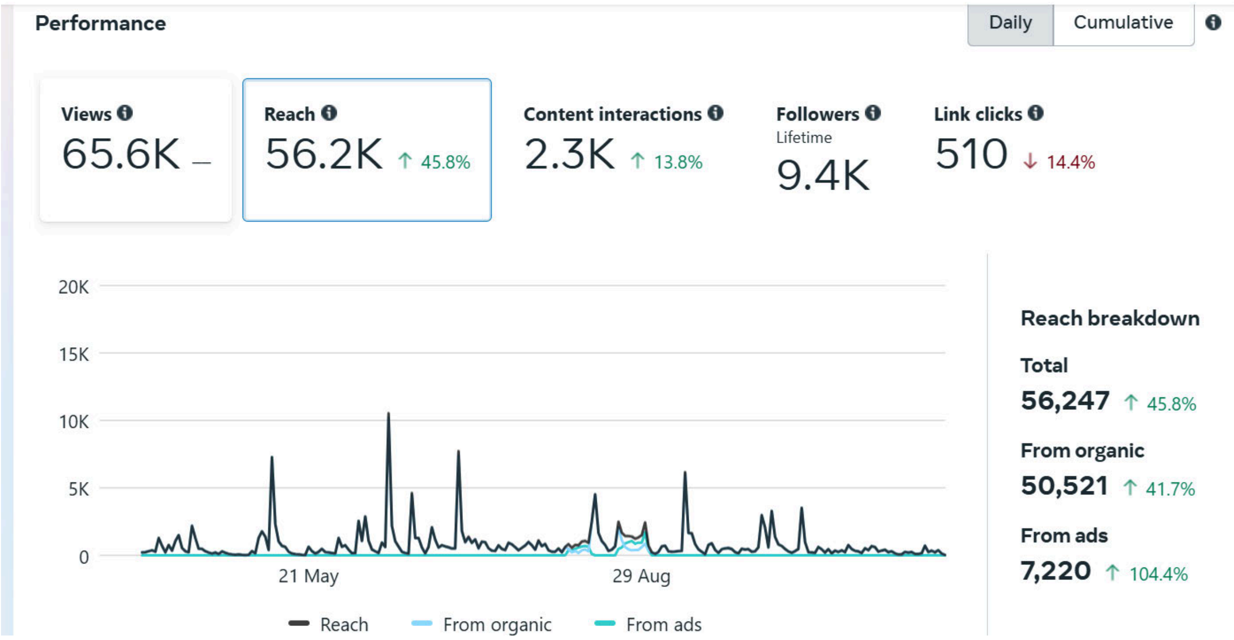


YTD2025 activities

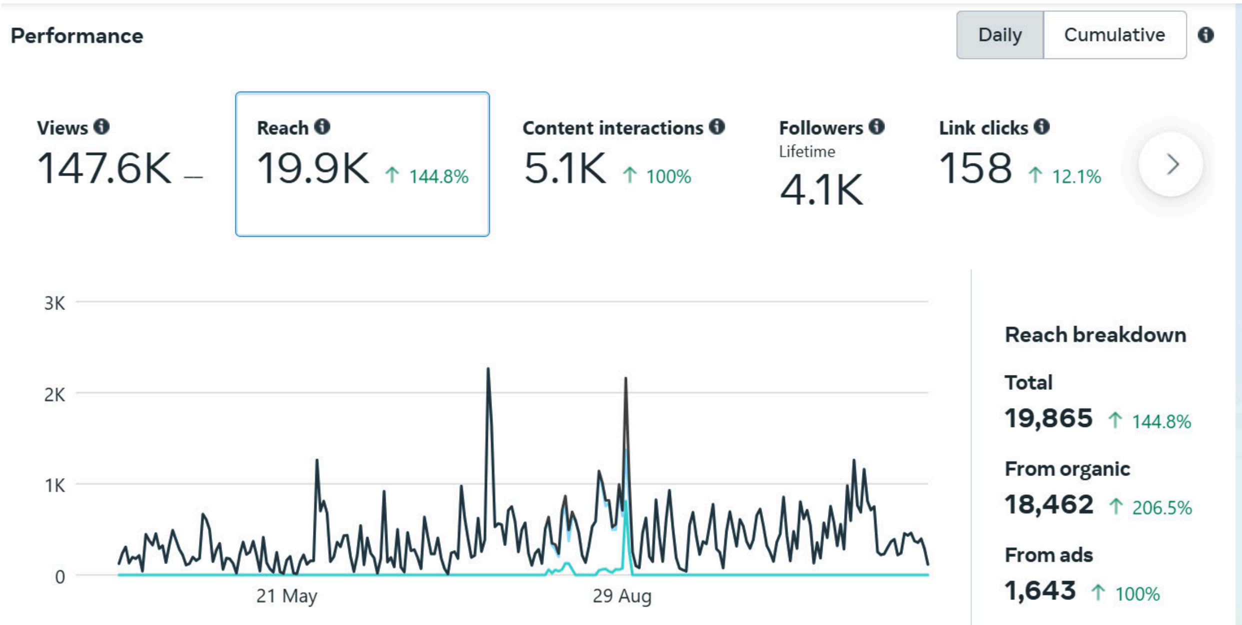
Our social media engagement and following has improved significantly in YTD25 since FYE24. Our Newsletter engagement has marginally increased. We have a strong group of consistent communication volunteers, along with recent additions to the team which means we will hopefully be able to continue this upward trend whilst also expanding the ways in which we connect with our community for example with physical marketing, tiktok, linkedin, X, partnership-building.

- Fringe event promo
- Summer and festival event promo
- AVIVA Crowdfunder
- Improving website accessibility and layout
- Conducted a social media report
- Developing the website to make it clearer how to support SHRUB - support SHRUB page
- Consistent monthly newsletter
- Relaunched Humans of SHRUB to assist with storytelling around climate action
- Producing social media content that showcases what services we offer
- Adding to Tiktok more frequently to promote Sapphic sounds and halloween events etc.
- Maintaining current comms activity as our funding draws down
- Onboarded new comms volunteers with specialisms we need.
- Newsletter: Average newsletter open rate for this YTD25 is 49% which is above mailchimp's published average open rate for non-profits (40.04% avg. open rate). Our average open rate for FYE24 was 46.1% so our newsletter engagement rate has gone up this year marginally.
- Most popular posts in the last 90 days have been: Sapphic Sounds, £1 Clearance sale, Humans of SHRUB
- 888 new Instagram followers (up 476.6% compared to previous 6 months)
- Reached 19.9K Instagram accounts (up 144.8% compared to previous 6 months)
- 242 new Facebook followers (down by 9.4% compared to previous 6 months)
- Reached 56.2K Facebook accounts (up 45.8% compared to previous 6 months).

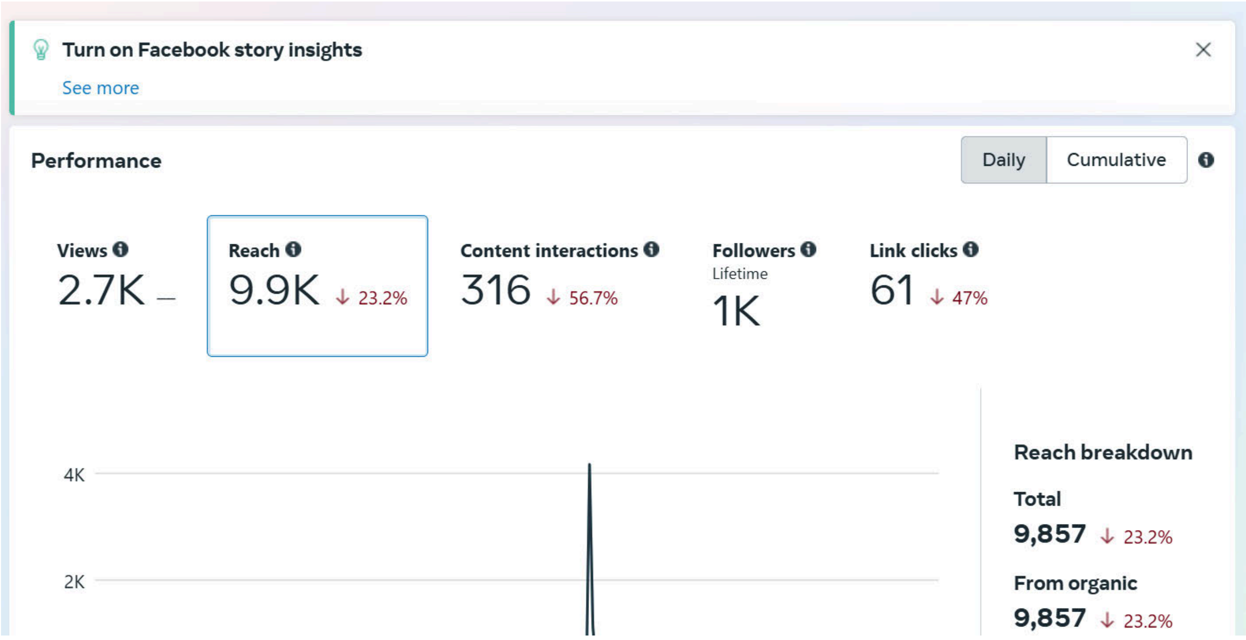
YTD25 SHRUB Facebook engagement:



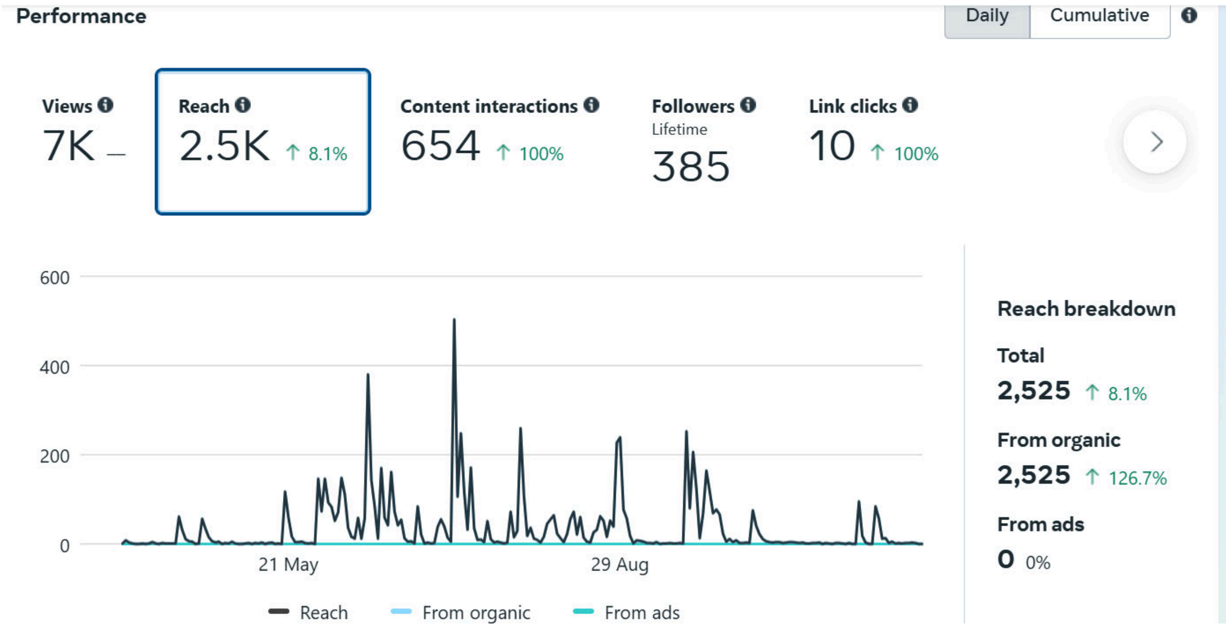
YTD25 SHRUB Instagram engagement:



YTD25 WSH Facebook reach



YTD25 WSH Instagram reach



Planning ahead

Our plans for the coming year are to:

- Conduct a review of our branding, create new templates and develop a more recognisable brand identity
- Push the Support SHRUB campaign
- Slogan rebrand - overtime our audience and goals have adjusted and we have not updated our moto to match
- Improve website design and accessibility
- Promote the organisational identity more clearly - we are learning more about what we want to emphasise with the Governance and Policy Working Group meetings and Trustee meetings
- Continue newsletter, events promo, promo of our services, cohesion between Zero Waste Hub and Wee Spoke Hub, website maintenance
- Continue to onboard new volunteers with specialisms in areas we currently have gaps in such as Tiktok content, blog writing etc
- Develop more of a presence on Linkedin.

Welfare

FYE2024 activities

During the year we continue to develop our Warm Welcome sessions to create a consistent introduction to SHRUB for every volunteer. We have also run a number of welfare events, such as starting free yoga for volunteers and one off events like fencing and nature walks. These have contributed to the sustained volunteer engagement through the year and the significant improvement against the previous year.

YTD2025 activities

We have been clarifying our Safer Spaces policy so that it is clear and can be used quickly to address behavioural issues if they develop.

At the end of our national lottery funding, staff roles have adjusted and a new coordinator took over as Welfare Coordinator to maintain the current welfare activities.

Warm Welcome sessions are now a regular event on every other Friday and we have had a solid 6-9 attendees every time. One of the main feedbacks that we have taken on board was that the welcome felt a little too formal. To solve this we have done an overhaul of the language used within the explanations, and made a few other adjustments to make it feel more like a chat, rather than a lecture. Sitting down with the attendees rather than standing and having an existing volunteer join and explain their own experience.

Planning ahead

We are continuing with free Yoga Sessions places on Wednesday nights for volunteers, with an extra push to remind our volunteers that it is available after a drop in attendance. However, after the end of our funding, this offer is under review as we don't currently make any money from it, so we are looking for feedback regarding how valuable this feels to the community.

Currently we are working on setting up the HR and Welfare working group. We want to put a specific focus on creating a comprehensive collection of Welfare resources for our community, that they can easily access or that we can easily access for them.

Finance and Enterprise

FYE2024 activities

Having created some great tools for monitoring SHRUB's activities, the challenge this year was to try to keep them running by solidifying procedures to volunteer knowledge. This was hugely sped along by a placement volunteer, who turned the vision of a data monitoring system into a functional reality and created the process documents to keep it running after they completed the placement.
We have maintained a steady volunteer team through the year, though we experienced our usual summer drop in attendance, having a placement student in the team was a great help to keep operations running as well as providing strong continuity between the Spring team and the Autumn team.

This year has been more stable than previous years with the 2 year funding from The National Lottery allowing us to focus on development rather than worrying about continuity funding.

YTD2025 activities

With our placements ended, we're now working on training regular volunteers to keep the monitoring and evaluation processes running. With funding ending this year, we're working with the other working groups to predict the impact of this change and how we're going to adjust our staff roles and activities to be as sustainable as possible while we work with fundraising to find further funding.

We registered for VAT at the very end of FYE2024 and we will be working throughout this year to update our processes and training to meet the new needs for submitting accurate VAT returns.

We have a strong team of 20 volunteers, having added a software and programming role to the team to begin the long overdue process of updating our till, carbon and membership monitoring system, Murakami. We're also recruiting more frequently, from twice a year to four times a year to improve continuity of knowledge in the team, allowing experienced volunteers to train and check the work of new volunteers before they leave their roles. We are also seeing some progression from long term volunteers taking on co-ordinator work as well.

Planning ahead

After the success of our volunteer placement this year, we'll aim to run this again next year. Our goal will be to keep the volunteer team knowledge stable, recruiting in time to ensure knowledge is passed smoothly to new members. We also have the continuing challenge of advising working groups and trustees about the financial status of the organisation and ensuring all team members are aware of the difficulties we're facing while unfunded.

Fundraising

FYE2024 activities

April 23 - March 24:

Total Programmes Applied For:	29
Total Expressions of Interest & Applications Submitted:	34
Total Successful Funding Programmes:	9
Total Unsuccessful Funding Programmes:	20
Total Value of Successful Funding Programmes:	£78,614.50
Total Value of Unsuccessful Funding Programmes:	£399,821

Were there any key lessons learnt?

With a success rate of approximately 31% (9 out of 29 applications) and only £78,614.50 of the total annual budget secured, there was clear room for improvement in crafting stronger and more targeted funding applications. The success rate also highlighted the need to critically evaluate project strategies and the organisation as a whole - how it functions, how to effectively communicate the work it is doing, and how to focus on activities that align with funders' priorities. While SHRUB is doing many things well, some initiatives may not meet specific funding criteria and strain already limited resources.

To address these challenges, significant efforts were made to survey community members, experiment with new ways of presenting impact data, and develop project extensions to better suit the needs of our community members and the often very specific funding priorities. These insights were used to showcase strategic direction, enhance the appeal of funding applications, and explore new opportunities for income generation, such as the introduction of Institutional Memberships.

Fundraising Week '23 - what did we do, and how much did we raise?

On 15 - 21 May 2023, we organised 15 events, engaged more than 200 attendees and raised £3,000 to support our operational costs.

Were there any key lessons learnt?

Considering the amount of time it took to plan and deliver the Fundraising Week Programme, it did not yield the expected results, raising only £3,000 to support SHRUB's projects. Attendance varied widely, ranging from 1 to 33 participants per event, indicating inconsistent engagement and possibly suboptimal event selection. Targeting a different demographic might result in a better return on investment. Feedback also suggested improvements for future Fundraising events, such as scheduling more activities over weekends when people are more likely to attend, increasing involvement from various working groups (particularly Zero Waste Hub), hosting events earlier in the year before students leave, or tying the events to SHRUB's anniversary in March.

What have we been up to in the last 6 months (September 2023 - March 2024)? What are the plans for the coming year?

Over the last six months (September 2023 - March 2024), we concentrated on submitting applications to support projects with no confirmed funding, particularly the Food Sharing Hub and the Sustainable Textiles Working Group, while also searching for funding opportunities to cover core and training costs.

The resignation of a staff member in September 2023 had a significant knock-on effect on the delivery of the Wee Spoke Hub project. This highlighted the critical role staff play in maintaining project timelines and momentum, emphasising the need for contingency plans to minimise disruptions and unforeseen changes in project targets. In November, our funding working group initiated the development of Food Sharing Hub user surveys. These surveys aimed to gather valuable insights and data to strengthen future funding applications and demonstrate SHRUB's community impact more effectively. From December to March we continued submitting funding applications for non-funded projects and continuation funding for the Wee Spoke Hub; started preparing the Fundraising Strategy, laying the groundwork for a more cohesive and strategic approach to securing income and ensuring SHRUB's long-term financial sustainability; and began planning the Zero Waste Fashion Show & Ceilidh Fundraiser, scheduled for the International Day of Zero Waste on March 30th.

Despite considerable effort, the fundraiser did not achieve the expected results, raising £2,788 and engaging 150 people. We attempted to address previous feedback from the smaller events held in May 2023, by scheduling one weekend event instead of multiple smaller events over a week. However, inconsistent support from staff and volunteers proved a significant challenge, ultimately undermining the success of an event of this scale. The key takeaway from this experience is that similar events should only be undertaken if there is sufficient participation and support across the entire organisation, with all staff members involved in both the planning and delivery processes, as well as providing effective support to volunteers.

YTD2025 activities

April 24 - November 24:

Total Programmes Applied For:	15
Total Expressions of Interest & Applications Submitted:	15
Total Successful Funding Programmes:	3
Total Unsuccessful Funding Programmes:	8
Total Value of Successful Funding Programmes:	£54,513
Total Value of Unsuccessful Funding Programmes:	£296,603

We were unsuccessful in securing continuation funding for the Wee Spoke Hub project, and to this day we remain far from reaching our full annual budget of £260,000. Beyond continued funding applications, we launched a crowdfunding campaign in partnership with the Aviva Community Fund from July 15th to August 31st, 2024, raising £14,541 to support the Food Sharing Hub project and our operational costs. We also received an extension for the National Lottery "Creating a Community-Led Circular Economy in Edinburgh" project, which gave us the much-need breathing room whilst we search for more funding and improve our strategies.

While some projects are better positioned to become self-sustaining, we recognise that not all projects can or will achieve this. Consequently, a significant portion of our time and energy has been dedicated to:

Developing a Fundraising Strategy: This strategy addresses all project targets, costs, and income streams, helping us identify where costs can be reduced and income increased to move closer to financial stability.
Creating a Community Consultation: We initiated a community consultation to better understand the priorities, needs, and expectations of our stakeholders. This process was designed to engage community members in shaping SHRUB's future direction while identifying areas where our services can have the most impact. The insights gathered play a critical role in showcasing our impact, and refining our projects and funding applications to align more closely with community needs and funding priorities.
Creating a Timeline of SHRUB: By mapping the organisation's history, we aim to highlight the impact the organisation has made since its inception and better understand past and present financial challenges to use these insights to inform future planning and decision-making.
Launching an Urgent Call for Support Campaign: This campaign includes an Urgent Support Letter and Information Pack, designed to appeal to corporate partners - an area previously unexplored. It also seeks to rally support from community networks and organisations to secure the additional resources SHRUB urgently needs.
Engaging with Student Consultancy Groups: Two student-led consultancy projects have been set up: one focusing on financial analysis and the other on monitoring and evaluation. However, these initiatives have faced challenges due to the level of support required from other staff and working groups.

Planning ahead

As we look ahead, our primary focus is on securing SHRUB's long-term financial sustainability while continuing to deliver impactful projects that align with our mission. Recognising the challenges posed by inconsistent funding, we are prioritising strategic planning and diversification of income streams. Key areas of focus include: testing new pricing models, extending our opening hours to promote the recently re-costed space hire opportunities, seeking corporate sponsorship and engagement, as well as developing mutually-beneficial, long-term partnership funding through grants and foundations.

Governance and Policy & HR

FYE2024 Activities

SHRUB Coop is no longer non-hierarchical as of July 2023 and now runs a very narrow hierarchy where necessary to ensure clarity of roles and responsibilities and adequately compensate people for higher levels of responsibility and accountability in the organisation. We still hold the principles of operating from working groups out to trustees rather than from the top down. The Steering Group stopped functioning due to low engagement from members and the reduced size of the organisation due to lack of funding. The focus of staff and trustees moved towards the sustainability of current projects.

We joined BrightHR in June 2023 to fill the long term gap we have in our HR knowledge and staff capacity. This has simplified some of the staff management processes and brought several spreadsheets and policies together under one programme to give us a single source of truth.

YTD2025 Activities

We have continued to improve our use of BrightHR and bring policies together. The platform has also been very useful in providing timely advice on HR questions that has been a hole in our knowledge for the whole history of SHRUB, allowing us to handle quickly and confidently questions and issues from staff and trustees.

As projects began to revive during the previous year, we looked to re-engage the membership at a higher than operational level. We set up a new round of member meetings that ran throughout the first portion of the year until the EGM. These meetings were helpful as a contact point for members but ultimately fell short as a forum for focused governance and change in accordance with limited member and staff capacity.

We are now approaching yet another juncture where the organisation is underfunded and projects may need to reduce their activities. In response to this situation, the trustees, staff, and a select group of members came together to revive the Governance & Policy working group. As of November, the Governance & Policy Working Group is meeting weekly and has concrete plans to thoroughly review our current governance practices and assess where they can be made more resilient and engaging to the membership.

In addition, the organisation held both an AGM and EGM this year in line with the Constitution.

Planning Ahead

The Governance & Policy Working Group is currently in early stages of the reassessment of organisation's governance procedures. The group is working towards establishing their remit and terms of reference as well as defining intra-group decision-making processes in line with the Constitution. The key areas of focus for the rest of FY2025 are assessing and defining the decision-making structures of the organisation and working groups, streamlining the dissemination of governance information to membership, and establishing reliable and accessible communication between the different working groups.

Our Governance and Management

Organisational Structure

From the formal incorporation as a company limited by guarantee in 2013, the membership elected a Board of Directors at each AGM who nominally had responsibility for the company. These Directors were frequently drawn from the most active and committed members of SHRUB who had helped establish the Coop; and over time also drew in volunteer members from across Edinburgh.

In moving to a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation in 2018 we modified a model constitution developed for the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations. This "two tier" model provides for members to have a say in running SHRUB Coop through at least one General Meeting in addition to the Annual General Meeting.

Trustees are elected annually or co-opted and are responsible for oversight of the Coop and supporting staff - subject to recall by members.

Since our inception we have used consensus decision making as a creative and dynamic way of reaching agreement between all members of a group. Instead of simply voting on an issue and having the majority of the group getting their way while some may be left very unhappy, we are committed to finding solutions that everyone can support because they are "Good enough for now, Safe enough to try".

Working Groups of volunteers and sometimes a trustee – usually coordinated by a member of staff, work together on project delivery and planning. Decisions within the remit of working groups defined areas of responsibility are made by each working group, with actions falling outside existing terms of reference or with potential high risk brough to a broader forum, either community steering group or trustees.

SHRUB COOPERATIVE

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Management Structure

We would like to express our gratitude to staff and trustees who have served our community this year.

Register of Trustees

Trustee (Role)	Appointed	Resigned
[redacted]	November 2021	April 2023
	November 2021	June 2023
	November 2022	November 2023
	December 2022	November 2023
	November 2022	**Current**
	May 2023	**Current**
	November 2023	**Current**
	February 2024	**Current**
	September 2024	**Current**
	November 2024	**Current**

Register of staff

Staff (Role)	Appointed	Resigned
[redacted]	November 2018	**Current**
	February 2019	**Current**
	October 2019	October 2024
	September 2022	August 2024
	January 2023	**Current**
	January 2023	**Current**
	January 2023	**Current**
	January 2023	**Current**
	June 2023	August 2023
	July 2023	**Current**
	August 2023	**Current**
	November 2024	**Current**

Risk and Compliance

SHRUB Coop has established a Board of Trustees as required by our Constitution. We have adopted the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisation Good Governance Code and have regularly reviewed our responsibilities set out there. All trustees have completed the Trustee Declaration Form required by the Scottish Charity Regulator, OSCR.

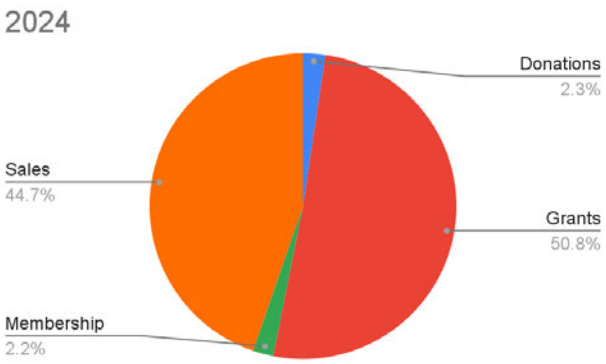
SHRUB Cooperative policies on Health & Safety, Privacy, Safeguarding, Data Protection, and Food Hygiene are in place. An assessment has been made of the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and systems are in place to mitigate its exposure to major risks. This process is ongoing and we are committed to continual improvement through appropriate risk management.

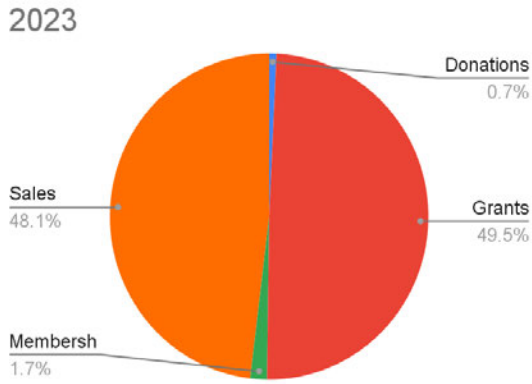
Reserves Policy

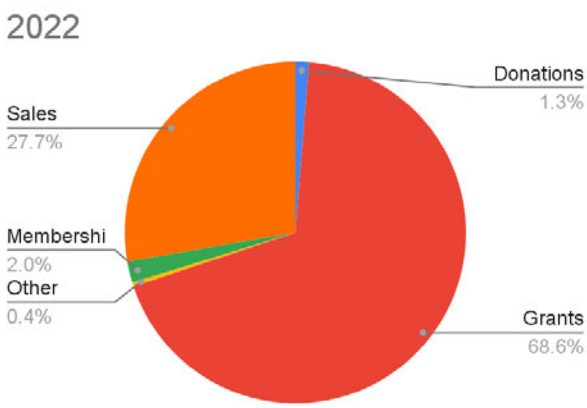
The reserves policy takes a dynamic approach to managing free reserves, setting low to high risk levels on our current reserves level relative to projected annual turnover, which is regularly updated in our quarterly reviews. High risk levels are set between 0-1 months of costs, low risk as 4-6 months. This approach allows us to regularly assess our current level of risk, how long our current practice can maintain a low risk position and what impact new project activities will have on our financial risk in the future.

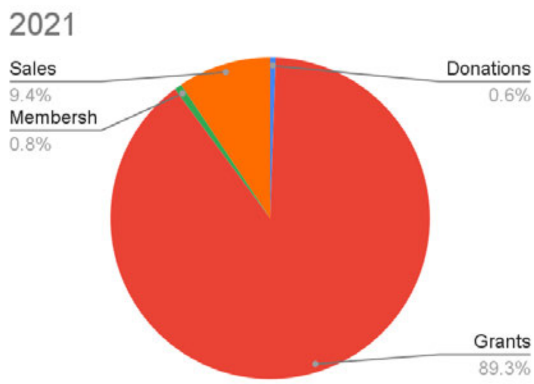
Financial Review

Summary of income









This financial year we have remained on target for being 50% self funded, 50% grant funded. However, this only tells part of the story as during the previous year we were very under funded and total turnover was about half of this year's. This year's funding has brought the organisation back to financial sustainability and with that we've managed to grow our project again both in output and in unrestricted income.

	FYE2024		FYE2023		FYE2022		FYE2021	
	£	%	£	%	£	%	£	%
Staff	£158,725	57%	£84,353	50%	£208,069	73%	£168,592	72%
Premises	£82,063	30%	£68,499	41%	£55,128	19%	£47,211	20%
General costs	£36,555	13%	£16,091	10%	£22,500	8%	£19,598	8%

Our guideline for sustainable budgeting costs is 75% staff, 20% premises and 5% other costs. This year has seen significant increases in premises costs, with the costs of energy increasing substantially. This has pulled us away from our target. As society and the economy adapts to the shock in the energy market and returns relative energy costs to levels similar to previous years, this imbalance should correct itself. We will also work to further rebuild and adapt our staff team in the coming year. We will adjust our budget balancing to match the current unusual inflation levels and energy costs until things have returned to a more stable situation.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF SHRUB COOPERATIVE

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 30 to 51.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investments (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity's 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 financial statements 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 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, 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 financial statements.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:
(a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
(i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; and
(ii) to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations;
have not been met or
(b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

[redacted]

Dated: 31 December 2024.

SHRUB COOPERATIVE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Income from:							
Donation and legacies	**3**	5,853	-	5,853	1,171	-	1,171
Charitable activities	**4**	-	126,877	126,877	3,900	72,979	76,879
Other trading activities	**5**	117,198	-	117,198	77,355	-	77,355
Total income		123,051	126,877	249,928	82,425	72,979	155,404
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	**6**	45,532	231,675	277,207	52,700	116,272	168,972
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers & other adjustments		77,519	(104,798)	(27,279)	29,725	(43,293)	(13,567)
Gross transfers between funds & other adjustments		26,139	-	26,139	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds		103,658	(104,798)	(1,140)	29,725	(43,293)	(13,567)
Opening balances		85,209	(15,461)	69,748	55,484	27,832	83,316
Closing balances		188,868	(120,259)	68,609	85,209	(15,461)	69,748

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

SHRUB COOPERATIVE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		5,377		8,643
Current assets					
Debtors	11	(7,288)		7,604	
Cash at bank and in hand		79,828		81,552	
		72,540		89,156	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(9,308)		(25,782)	
Net current assets			63,232		63,374
Total assets less current liabilities			68,609		72,017
Available funds					
Restricted funds	14		7,576		36,929
Unrestricted funds			55,656		24,176
			63,232		61,105

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 31 December 2024

[redacted]

1 Accounting Policies

Charity information

Shrub Cooperative is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation, incorporated in the United Kingdom and registered in Scotland. It is registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) under charity number SC048825.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's constitution, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), FRS 102 “The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland” (“FRS 102”) and the Charities SORP "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). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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

1.2 Going concern

The trustees have considered a period of at least twelve months from the date on which these financial statements have been signed and having considered all information available to them, believe it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

This assessment of going concern includes the existing impact of COVID-19 on the entity, together with the current inflationary pressures impacting on costs. The trustees are satisfied that it has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives. Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

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

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Income raised from contractual payments from government or public authorities and other parties which fund the provision of particular goods or services. Also income raised from performance-related grants where income is conditional on delivering certain levels or volumes of a service or supply of goods.

Income raised from fundraising activities and commissioned activities are credited in full in the period in which the event takes place. Other income is recognised as income in the period in which the amounts are received.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

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	20% straight line method
Fixtures and fittings	20% straight line method

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 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

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

1.9 Financial instruments

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

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

1.10 Employee benefits

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

1.11 Retirement benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme in respect of its employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity. The pension cost charge represents the amount of the contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the period.

1.12 Leases

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

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

The trustees are of the opinion that there are no significant estimates or judgements that would have a material impact on the financial statements.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds
	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations and Gifts	5,853	1,171

4 Charitable activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Grants receivable for charitable activities	126,877	76,879
Other income	-	-
	126,877	76,879
Grant analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	-	3,900
Restricted funds	126,877	72,979
	126,877	76,879

5 Other trading activities

	2024	2023
		£
Cafe income	15,331	9,310
Wee Spoke Hub income	22,932	1,588
Membership subscriptions	5,397	2,627
Zero Waste products income	949	868
Fundraising events	6,005	3,498
Sale of donated goods	66,584	59,464
	117,198	77,355

6 Charitable activities

	Core	Wee Spoke Hub	Foodsharing	Swapshop	Cafe	WS&E	Total
	2024	**2024**	**2024**	**2024**	**2024**	**2024**	**2024**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Materials	1,248	17,952	1,204	1,414	6,577	313	28,707
Property costs	60,391	11,913	-	-	50	-	72,355
Insurance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prof. fees & marketing	5,361	302	53	-	23	175	5,913
Subscriptions	2,658	201	26	-	-	-	2,886
Travel & Subsistence	157	135	29	9	5	68	403
Staff costs	22,232	18,006	18,894	75,123	538	23,932	158,725
Administration	1,359	109	15	-	-	213	1,696
Depreciation	6,207	-	-	-	-	-	6,207
	99,614	48,618	20,221	76,546	7,192	24,700	276,891
Share of governance costs	316	-	-	-	-	-	316
	99,930	48,618	20,221	76,546	7,192	24,700	277,207
Analysis by fund							
Unrestricted funds	1,243	3,208	406	30,113	6,919	3,643	45,532
Restricted funds	98,687	45,410	19,814	46,433	274	21,058	231,675
	99,930	48,618	20,221	76,546	7,192	24,700	277,207

	Core	Wee Spoke Hub	Foodsharing	Swapshop	Cafe	WS&E	Total
	2023	**2023**	**2023**	**2023**	**2023**	**2023**	**2023**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Materials	880	65	308	481	4,463	341	6,538
Property costs	57,972	9,597	382	0	0	548	68,499
Insurance	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Prof. fees & marketing	1,397	0	26	460	0	0	1,884
Subscriptions	179	0	0	0	0	0	179
Travel & Subsistence	418	12	1,086	49	29	20	1,614
Staff costs	9,798	5,473	6,269	47,547	3,004	12,262	84,353
Administration	920	92	0	115	0	149	1,276
Depreciation	4,628	0	0	0	0	0	4,628
	76,192	15,239	8,072	48,653	7,496	13,320	168,972
Share of governance costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	76,192	15,239	8,072	48,653	7,496	13,320	168,972
Analysis by fund							
Unrestricted funds	556	13,008	3,052	28,055	7,470	558	52,700
Restricted funds	75,636	2,231	5,020	20,597	26	12,762	116,272
	76,192	15,239	8,072	48,653	7,496	13,320	168,972

7 Support costs

Please note - no support costs were incurred for Financial Year 2023.

	Support Costs	Governance Costs	Total 2024	Support Costs	Governance Costs	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Accountancy and independent examination	-	316	316	-	-	-
	-	316	316	-	-	-
Analysed between Charitable activities	-	316	316	-	-	-

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration, benefits or expenses from the charity during the year.

9 Employees

	2024	2023
Average monthly number of employees	6.2	3.3

Employment costs	**2024**	**2023**
	£	£
Wages and salaries	835	719
Social security costs	3,912	-
Other pension costs	59	7
Freelance staff and other costs	1,556	1,896
Total	6,362	2,622

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000. Average monthly number of employees calculated on the basis of Full-Time Equivalent ("FTE") rather than headcount.

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2023	5,935	17,391	23,326
At 31 March 2024	5,935	20,331	26,266
Accumulated depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2023	2,436	12,247	14,683
Depreciation charged in the year	1,224	4,983	6,207
At 31 March 2024	3,660	17,230	20,890
Carrying amount			
At 1 April 2023	3,499	5,144	8,643
At 31 March 2024	2,275	3,102	5,377

11 Debtors

	2024	2023
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Other debtors	2,966	104
Prepayments and accrued income	8,669	7,500
	11,636	7,604

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
Other taxation and social security		5,517	(847)
Deferred income	**13**	18,924	33
Trade creditors		2,663	1,475
Other creditors		-	23,709
Accruals		1,128	3,679
		28,231	28,050

13 Deferred income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other deferred income	18,924	33

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2024	2023
Deferred income is included within:	£	£
Current liabilities	18,924	33

Movements in the year:		
Opening deferred income	33	3,933
Amounts released from previous year	(33)	(3,900)
Deferred in the year	-	-
Closing deferred income	-	33

14 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 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers & other adjustments	Balance at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted					
AABIE	-	2,940	(2,940)	-	-
Access Bikes FYE2024	-	15,225	(12,792)	-	2,433
CCF-6639 FYE2021	4,476	-	(4,476)	-	-
CCF-6639 FYE2022	332	-	(332)	-	-
Climate Challenge fund 5850	526	-	(1,718)	1,192	-
Coorie In for Winter	-	500	(500)	-	-
Cycle Friendly Campus	718	-	(718)	-	-
Inchrye Trust		1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Lidl Foodsharing grant FYE2024		500	(500)	-	-
National Emergencies Trust - NET	569	-	(569)	-	-
National Lottery Fund 092022 - 082024	17,885	60,340	(76,977)	-	1,248
NLF Awards for All 2020	666	-	(666)	-	-
NLF FYE2023 crowdfunder	9,035	-	(9,035)	-	-
Ocado Foundation for good	140	-	(140)	-	-
One City Trust - OCT	-	7,500	(7,344)	-	157
Pockets and Prospects	820	(190)	-	-	630
Sainsbury's FSH	-	1,500	(451)	-	1,049
Supporting Communities Fund	74	-	(74)	-	-
TNL Awards For All FYE2023	-	5,000	(2,940)	-	2,060
WSH - ECCAN Seed Grant FYE2024	-	6,250	(6,250)	-	-
WSH - Edinburgh Community Climate Fund - ECCF	-	20,000	(20,000)	-	(0)
WSH - Paths for all FYE2024 - P4A24	-	20,647	(20,647)	-	-
Zero Waste Towns	1,683	-	(4,710)	3,027	0

ZWS Covid Adaption	5	-	(5)	-	-
	36,929	141,212	(174,784)	4,219	7,576
Unrestricted					
General funds*	24,176	108,716	(99,156)	21,920	55,656
	61,105	249,928	(273,940)	26,139	63,232

**Includes minor balances of concluded grants where balances were reconciled and adjusted to zero during the year ended 31 March 2024*

	Balance at 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted					
CCF-6639 FYE2021	4,476	-	-	-	4,476
CCF-6639 FYE2022	332	-	-	-	332
Climate Challenge fund 5850	526	-	-	-	526
Cycle Friendly Campus	718	-	-	-	718
Cycle Repair Grant	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
Inchrye Trust	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
National Emergencies Trust - NET	-	1,000	(431)	-	569
National Lottery Fund 092022 - 082024	-	61,933	(44,048)	-	17,885
NLF Awards for All 2020	896	-	(230)	-	666
NLF FYE2023 crowdfunder	-	9,046	(11)	-	9,035
Ocado Foundation for good	1,000	-	(860)	-	140
Paths For All FYE2023 - P4A22	1,278	-	(1,278)	-	-
People's Postcode Trust	4,781	-	(4,781)	-	-
Pockets and Prospects	1,000	(90)	(90)	-	820
Schroder Trust	82	-	(82)	-	-
Supporting Communities Fund	74	-	-	-	74
Tesco Community Grant	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
Zero Waste Towns	1,683	-	-	-	1,683
ZWS Covid Adaption	5	-	-	-	5
	18,852	72,889	(54,812)	-	36,929
Unrestricted					
General funds*	51,742	82,515	(110,082)	-	24,176
	70,594	155,404	(164,894)	-	61,105

**Includes minor balances of concluded grants where balances were reconciled and adjusted to zero during the year ended 31 March 2024*

14.1 Description of funds

Zero Waste Hub	
Coorie In for Winter	support for running warm wednesdays, providing a safe warm space for people experiencing hardship.
National Emergencies Trust	A group of funds awarded or raised to run our community led circular communities project. Running grassroots waste prevention projects by the local community, for the local community, teaching skills and saving folks money.
National Lottery Fund	
NLF crowdfunder	
Ocado Foundation for good	Awarded to support our regular sewing sessions with sewing machine maintenance and essential equipment and materials.
NLF Awards for All	Awarded to improve our volunteer community and experience.

Foodsharing	
AABIE	A small fund specifically for the purchase of new fridges/freezers for the Foodsharing Hub
Inchrye Trust	Awarded as part of our Food Sharing Edinburgh project to support premises costs for hosting the Edinburgh Food Sharing Hub between FYE2021 and FYE2023.
Lidl Foodsharing	Funds raised to support the general running of the Foodsharing Hub. Though these were intended to be part of a broader project to increase the reach and output of the Foodsharing Hub, insufficient funders engaged with the project.
One City Trust	
Sainsbury's FSH	

Wee Spoke Hub	
Access Bikes	Funding to support the general running of the Wee Spoke Hub and subsidise repairs for local's bikes to get them using active travel again.
Paths for all	This group of funds were raised to promote cycling in Edinburgh through accessible bike repair workshops and led cycling events targeting under-represented groups in the cycling community including women, LGBTQ+ and people in SIMD areas.
ECCAN Seed Grant	
Edinburgh Community Climate Fund	
TNL Awards For All	

Legacy funds	
Climate Challenge Fund	These funds only appear on our accounts as part of a clearing process for old grants with minor balances remaining, generally to an unresolved overspend that was reallocated to unrestricted funds
Cycle Friendly Campus	
Pocket and Prospects	

Supporting Communities Fund	
Zero Waste Towns	
ZWS Covid Adaption	

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	358	5,019	5,377	2,793	5,850	8,643
Current assets/(liabilities)	65,239	37,882	103,120	24,176	36,929	61,105
	65,596	42,901	108,497	26,969	42,780	69,748

Note: Fund balances includes funds spent on tangible assets. Available funds equal balance of current assets/(liabilities)

16 Operating lease commitments

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	56,870	40,000
Between two and five years	244,683	112,500
	301,553	152,500

17 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year.