



THE ROYAL HIGHLAND EDUCATION TRUST

RHET DUMBARTON, LOMOND & RENFREW COUNTRYSIDE INITIATIVE

Trustees' Annual Report for RHET Dumbarton, Lomond & Renfrew, SC349696

For the Period: 01 November 2024 to 31 October 2025

1. Reference and Administration Details

- **Charity Name:** The Royal Highland Education Trust Dumbarton, Lomond & Renfrew Countryside Initiative (RHET DLR).
- **Registered Charity Number:** SC349696
- **Principal Address:** Portnellan Farm, Gartocharn, Alexandria G83 8LN

Current Charity Trustees

Trustee Name Office (if any) Dates acted if not for full year

David Scott-Park Chair

Catriona
Gemmell Treasurer

David Scott-Park Secretary

William Harper Trustee

Robert Lennox Trustee

Kay Wilson Trustee

Iain Gibb Trustee

Allan Steel Trustee

Elaine Steel Trustee

2. Structure, Governance and Management

- **Governing Document:** RHET DLR is governed by its Memorandum & Articles, originally adopted on 9th October 2008.
- **Charity Trustee Selection:** Trustees are recruited from local agricultural, educational, and business sectors across the region. They are appointed or reappointed annually at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in accordance with the governing document.



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- **Structure and Management:** The charity operates as an autonomous regional committee affiliated with the central [Royal Highland Education Trust \(RHET\)](#) network. Strategic choices, risk assessment, and financial overviews are handled by the board of trustees, while local coordination and delivery of educational initiatives are managed by the Project Coordinator.

3. Objectives and Activities

The primary objective of RHET DLR is to advance the education of school children and consumers within East Dunbartonshire, West Dunbartonshire, Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, and the Lomond catchment area regarding:

1. The environmental, economic, and social realities of rural Scotland.
2. The processes behind food production, land management, and farming systems.

Main Activities to Achieve Public Benefit

To deliver these purposes, the charity carries out the following free programs for local schools:

- **Experiential Farm Visits:** Free, fully risk-assessed educational trips to local working farms.
- **Classroom Volunteer Talks:** In-school educational presentations delivered by local farmers and agricultural specialists.
- **Regional Learning Events:** Coordinated multi-school food, farming, and estate education days.
- **Teacher Resource Kits:** Curriculum-aligned materials, classroom projects, and seed/growing competitions.

4. Achievements and Performance

Summary of Main Outputs

During this reporting period, RHET DLR successfully expanded its educational outreach to schools across the region:

- **Farm Visits Hosted:** Delivered 15 farm visits (Including 12 groups at 2 x Food & Farming Events) down slightly due to the timing of our food & farming events as one was held before the start of our year (Oct 24) and another in Nov 25. 981 pupils with and 67 teachers engaged with directly.



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- **Classroom Engagements:** 1 class visits (issue in some Local Authorities with new PVG rules being interpreted differently).
- **Regional Event Impact:** Attended 5 Agricultural shows with Educational Resources (Neilston, Drymen, Campsie, Houston & Kilbarchan). 1 Online interactive Talk to a Farmer session (Nationally available sessions, recorded and available to watch after as well)
- **Volunteer Contribution:** Supported by a dedicated network of numerous local farming and non farming volunteers who donated their time, expertise, and properties.

Educational Outcomes and Public Benefit

Our programs successfully brought the curriculum to life by bridging the gap between urban classrooms and rural spaces. Feedback from local teachers indicates that pupils gained a clearer understanding of food miles, seasonal production, and the biodiversity roles of Scottish farms. The trustees confirm they have complied with their duty regarding OSCR public benefit guidance by ensuring all activities, resources, and transportation subsidies remain free to participating schools.

5. Financial Review

- **Overview:** The charity's total income for the period was £1295, primarily sourced from donations from attending agricultural shows and community donations. Total expenditure for the year was £504, directly funding school transport subsidies, coordinator costs, and educational materials.
- **Deficit/Surplus Status:** The year concluded with a surplus of £790, which has been allocated to our unrestricted reserve funds to support the upcoming academic year's program. Along with recruiting a self-employed assistant co-ordinator.

6. Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Annual Report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature:

Full Name: Catriona Gemmell

Office Held: Treasurer

Date: 6th July 2026