

# ANNUAL REPORT

**2022-23**



**Sheffield &  
Rotherham**  
Wildlife Trust



*For nature, for everyone*



Welcome! This review is an opportunity to say thanks to all of you - our members, supporters, funders, volunteers, staff and trustee Board - who support the work of Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust. It's because of you we have been able to achieve the successes for wildlife, green spaces and people of Sheffield and Rotherham we highlight here.

This year we transitioned into our refreshed Strategy 2030, which sees us embrace three ambitious - but achievable - goals:

**30% land and water is great for nature by 2030** with an abundance of wildlife everywhere.

**1 in 4 people** taking action for nature.

**5 minutes to nature** for everyone.

Achieving these targets would mean even more people care for, experience and benefit from nature, and our natural world will be recovering, helping to solve the climate crisis.

With your help we know amazing things happen. Thank you so much for your continued support!

Liz Ballard, CEO



# 2022-23

# HIGHLIGHTS

Thank you to all our volunteers - so much of what we achieve would not be possible without your support!

## NATURE IN RECOVERY

The **large river restoration** project on the Rother with the Environment Agency continues.

**100+ nature based solution interventions** in Limb and Upper Loxley catchments include **60 leaky dams** and **20 ponds**, supporting many species while 'slowing the flow'.

Wildscapes train up an **Accredited Environmental Adviser**.

Monitoring shows **75% of our biodiversity objectives achieved**.

**Extensive work at Redmires supports water vole habitat**, including development of a Water Vole Species Recovery Plan and conservation for goshawk, osprey, and barn owl.

## UGHILL FARM

Our bid for the majority of the land at Ughill Farm is successful and it is now under our control. We are fundraising to repay Esmée Fairbairn Foundation **£940,000** so we can own the land outright in perpetuity. We plan to develop a **nature-friendly farming model to test and learn new approaches** alongside local farmers.



ANNA PETHEN

## MORE PEOPLE TAKING ACTION FOR NATURE

The **Nature Recovery Community Toolkit** launches - a fantastic resource for everyone [wildsheffield.com/nr-toolkit](https://wildsheffield.com/nr-toolkit)

**150 people** enhance their **local green space in Rotherham** through Natural Neighbours.

**90 people given advice and support** about wildlife issues.

**Take Action for Nature film** night sold out!

Micro-volunteering promotion **engages over 200 people**.

With support from EON, we help **8 schools** develop simple plans for nature friendly improvements. We work with **Rotherham College** and the **NHS** improving their estates for **biodiversity**.

An opportunity to buy **Dutch-elm disease resistant elms** to support the white-letter hairstreak butterfly sees all **50 saplings** distributed.

We coordinate a **Swift Summit** attended by **125 people** and promote a national petition for swift bricks.

**6 out of 7 Working for Nature trainees** gain a level 2 diploma in Work-based Environmental Conservation, with most going on to work in the environmental sector.

"I am extremely grateful for the opportunity I have been given and I am now looking forward to my future within conservation."

Trainee

## EVERYONE CAN EXPERIENCE & BENEFIT FROM NATURE

We comment on the **Sheffield Local plan**, champion the importance of **accessible green space** in urban areas, and **respond to 12 instances** of potential loss of greenspace raised by the public.

We engage **6,265 people** in a wide range of nature based activities. **2,197 children** experience outdoor learning activities, **2,062 enjoy family** Wild Play activities and community events. We support **271 adults** through Wild at Heart. Our Green Social Prescribing team supports, trains and engages over **40 providers** and **348 social prescribing link workers and healthcare professionals**.

"Wild at Heart is not just the highlight of my week but the highlight of my life. On the darkest of days it brings light." **Participant**

"Year 1 loved the school trip today and I can't thank your team enough for the time, effort and enthusiasm." **Teacher**

"I really enjoyed the session I went to. Great way to get a taste of what green social prescribing is so we can explain to our clients more easily."

Link worker

## VOLUNTEERS

**34 volunteer** rangers deliver **328 hours** across **4 flagship nature reserves**. Their cheerful engagement with visitors increases positive behaviour like putting dogs on leads by **17%**.

**56 people** take part in ecological monitoring.

Over **380 volunteers** provide **17,723 volunteer hours!**



# Financial Summary

## 2020/21

Income **£2,658,992**

Expenditure **£2,018,701**

## 2021/22

Income **£3,229,265**

Expenditure **£2,920,948**

## 2022/23

Income **£3,208,039**

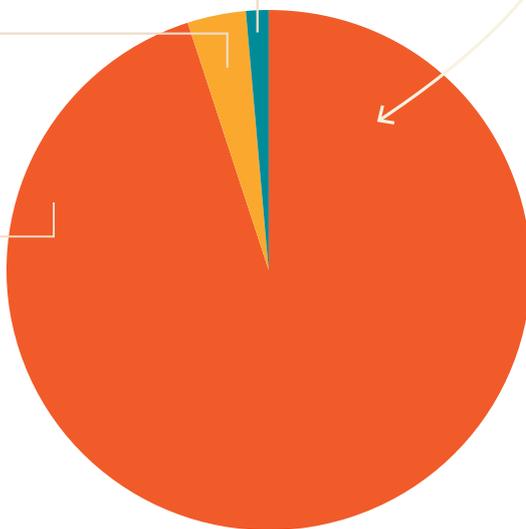
Expenditure **£2,989,669**

## How we spend our money

1.6% Governance

3.4%  
Generating  
voluntary  
income

95%  
Charitable  
activities



# Trustees

Mark Ridler (Chair)

Ben Stone (Vice Chair)

Tom Dodd (Treasurer) (to 29/9/22)

Akram Ahmed (Treasurer) (29/9/22 to 29/8/23)

Sarah Blandy

Dr Stephen Campbell

Helen Francis

James Hall

Siobhan Laird (from 29/9/22)

Suzanne Leckie (to 29/9/22)

Kris Mackay

Dr Scott McKenzie

Andrew Parker (to 29/9/22)

Andrew Perrins (to 29/9/22)

Holly Schofield

Christopher Tomson (from 29/9/22)

Mary Wilton (from 29/9/22)



**Sheffield &  
Rotherham  
Wildlife Trust**

WildSheffield

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Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust

mail@wildsheffield.com

wildsheffield.com

Registered in England Number 2287928.  
Registered charity number 700638.



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