

Annual Impact Report & Accounts

2025–2026



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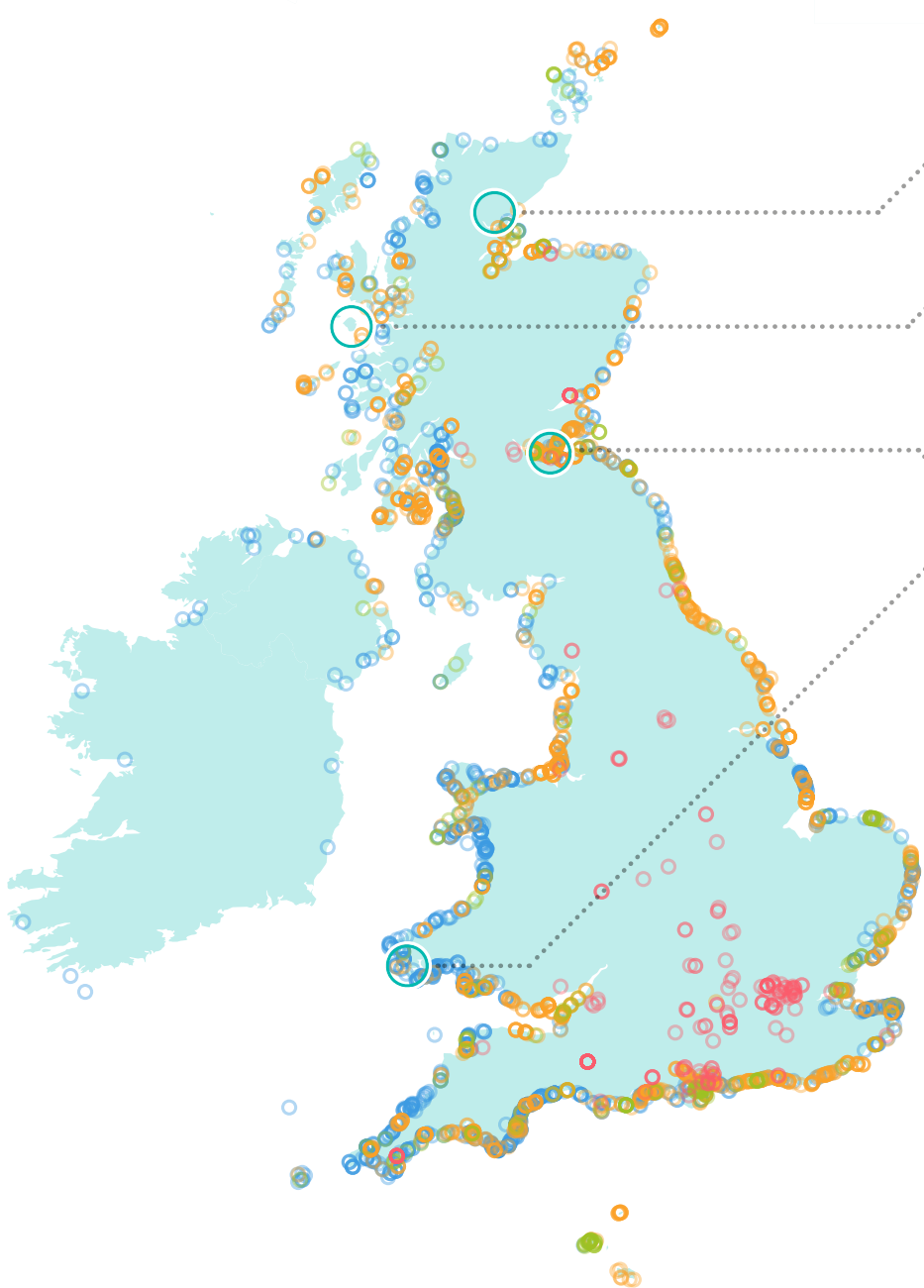
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Our impact across the UK

We work with communities across the four nations, and in the UK's Overseas Territories, to protect and conserve our ocean for the future



Ocean regeneration and conservation

We returned over 11,800 native oysters to the Dornoch Firth, Scotland through The Dornoch Environmental Enhancement Project (DEEP)

We surveyed 37 hectares of seagrass, with developments underway for up to ten Advanced Mooring Systems to be installed in 2026 to alleviate pressure on seabed habitats

As part of our work with Restoration Forth, volunteers hand prepared and helped deploy 30,000 native oysters

70,000 native oysters were deployed as part of Natur am Byth! Môr, with a further 60,000 juvenile oysters being nurtured for deployment in 2027

22,794 people participated in our workshops, community engagement activities and learning sessions across the four nations

We engaged with more than 3,000 people from underrepresented and inland communities through the One Ocean Roadshow in the north of England

Wildlife sightings

1,341 jellyfish and 11 marine turtles were spotted around UK and Irish coasts, helping us understand how these species use our waters

Beach cleans and surveys

14,380 people took part in our beach cleaning, submitting 1,123 litter surveys

Source to sea surveys

Our volunteers submitted 212 inland litter surveys, the data collated helps inform campaigns and policies to reduce ocean pollution

UK Overseas Territories

We trained seven Turks and Caicos Islands government staff in the Community Voice method, a holistic and inclusive way of engaging communities, and interviewed 22 community members on their vision for the future of their Marine Protected Area network

Big Seaweed Search

Insights from 203 Big Seaweed Search surveys, delivered in partnership with the Natural History Museum, are guiding conservation efforts to protect essential marine species and ocean health



A message from our Chair

This year marks a step change for us. Despite challenging times, we're aligned to have a bigger impact for our ocean. From pioneering regeneration and focused campaigning, to our strong presence in parliaments and exciting new ways for people to connect and take action, we're making important and much-needed wins.

Regenerating vital habitats is at the heart of what we do. This year, we have worked alongside partners to deliver large-scale native oyster regeneration projects in the Firth of Forth, Dornoch Firth and Pembrokeshire. We empowered communities to actively contribute and together, we deployed more than 110,000 oysters, with many more currently growing for future release.

After a decade of work, we can celebrate a hard-won victory as Scotland announced protections from damaging bottom-towed fishing gear for approximately 177,000 square kilometres of Scotland's offshore Marine Protected Areas.

Over the past year we have consistently pushed for action on 'forever chemicals' and built the case for regulation. The UK Government has now adopted a clearer recognition of the scale of the problem and announced a PFAS Plan to tackle the issue.

A unique part of our work is our ability to gather our own primary evidence of pollution and litter to prove the need for changes to legislation. We have been campaigning for a ban on plastic in single-use wet wipes and now after years of dedicated effort, this ban is in place across the UK.

We have used our evidence to press for stronger regulation and increased scrutiny of water companies, and to promote an approach to water management that stops pollution at source, so it never reaches the sea. This has been adopted by the Independent Water Commission in its recommendations for reforming the water sector in England and Wales.

These wins were made possible by the wonderful 14,380 people who took part in our beach cleaning programme, collecting the vital evidence needed through 1,123 litter surveys. Players of the Postcode Lottery ensured we could deliver training, equipment and support to our dedicated volunteers.

At a time when so many feel powerless in the face of world events, we are committed to giving people agency. Acting together, with science on our side, we can make a difference for our ocean.

Amanda Nobbs
Chair of the Board of Trustees

A message from our Chief Executive



There is no doubt that the coming year will continue to be challenging for charities, with rising costs and an ever-increasing strain on fundraising across the sector. We have made sure that our plans are as focused as possible to counteract these pressures. Now we are looking forward to making some real progress:

As the UK Government's PFAS Plan progresses, we will continue our advocacy to ensure that it delivers a universal restriction on PFAS, and that the UK meets standards that are at least as good as the European Union's. We will also be working in partnership with charities across the sector to ensure that the UK Government's Water Reform Bill is effective to clean up the water sector and our seas.

We will continue to build our Atlantic Coast Programme to deliver regeneration across the West coasts of England, Wales and Scotland. This will include installing eco-friendly moorings (Advanced Mooring Systems) in the waters of the Isle of Eigg, as well as other community-led initiatives in Scotland and Wales, like oyster ponds and reefs, seagrass planting, 'no anchor' zones and regenerative blue mussel farming.

We are grateful for the support of FatFace and the FatFace Foundation, whose exciting new clothing range this year celebrates the biodiversity of our Atlantic coastline and will raise awareness and vital funds for this programme.

We will develop our new youth advisory panel, to help embed youth voices in everything we do and offer young people the opportunity to meaningfully influence our work, contributing fresh thinking, new ideas, and lived experience to advance our ocean goals.

We will be transforming our website, introducing new features to engage our audiences, such as an A-Z fact file on the fascinating marine life in our seas, making it easier to navigate and doing everything we can to ensure accessibility for all users.

These are just a few exciting examples of the impact we want to achieve next year. We look forward to doing this with the help of all our incredible members, supporters, partners and friends.

Sandy Luk
Chief Executive Officer

Our year in numbers

Here are some of the great numbers we've achieved in another busy year...

10,721 kg of litter was removed from UK beaches by volunteers – that's the weight of 156 washing machines!



Volunteers spent...
27,605 hours completing
18,337 activities to positively impact our seas – from collecting important data to raising awareness in their communities



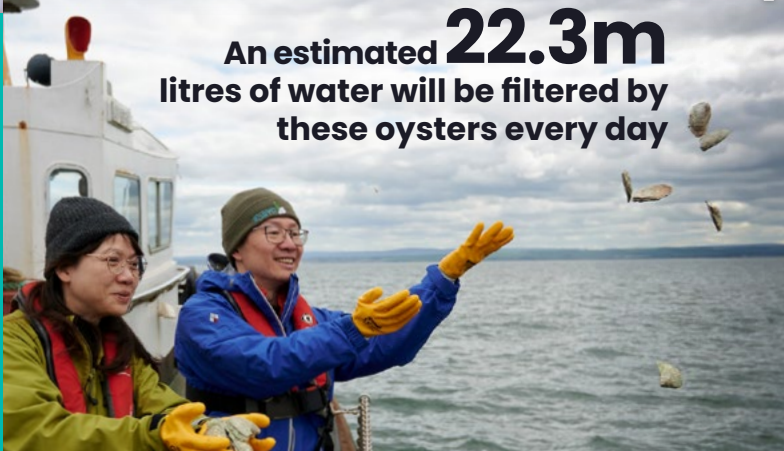
12,547 young people attended our in-person or online events to build their understanding of how to protect marine environments

We had almost **4,000** new volunteers join our amazing community this year



1,544 species monitoring surveys and **1,335** litter surveys were submitted by our citizen scientists, helping to improve our understanding on the state of our marine environment

111,833 native oysters were deployed through regeneration projects



An estimated **22.3m** litres of water will be filtered by these oysters every day

Through **827** learning and community engagement sessions, across 269 schools and community groups, we directly engaged with **22,794** people



690,000 people visited our website, meaning we reached 17% more people than last year.

With **4,112** mentions in print, broadcast and online media, we raised the profile of the ocean and the importance of protecting it



Parliamentary engagement work led to... **56** mentions of the Marine Conservation Society across debates, ministerial statements, parliamentary questions and motions – a 180% increase on last year

£900,000 was raised by 154 companies through strategic partnerships, sponsorships, donations and campaigns
1,443 corporate volunteers took part in beach cleans and litter surveys, and as a result, 85% felt a stronger connection to the ocean



£4,669,506 was raised by our generous donors, members and fundraisers to support our ocean

For every **£1** spent on fundraising, we raised **£4.41**

79p of every £1 we received was spent on charitable activities, from educating future generations to regenerating native species



Ocean goals

For a better protected ocean

We'll ensure our seas are better-protected and their value for biodiversity and climate change mitigation is recognised. We will improve marine management and secure well-managed protected areas to regenerate, nurture, and protect species and habitats. And we will track the progress of ocean regeneration.

By 2030, we're calling for a third of our ocean to be truly protected, so nature can regenerate

Regenerating superhero oysters

As partners of Wales's flagship species regeneration programme Natur am Byth!, and large-scale oyster regeneration projects Dornoch Environmental Enhancement Project (DEEP) and Restoration Forth, we have continued to regenerate historically lost reef habitats and lay the foundations for long-term regeneration. Together with local communities, we regenerated more than 111,000 native oysters, and, following these successful deployments, we have also taken the first, crucial steps to prepare for future releases as part of our Atlantic Coast Programme. Thanks to support from FatFace and

the FatFace Foundation, a further 60,000 juvenile oysters are overwintering in purpose-built tanks ready for deployment in 2027.

Monitoring data revealed survival rates of 88% and growth among native oysters regenerated through Restoration Forth, providing early evidence that the methods we're using are successful. The integration of monitoring and biosecurity strengthens the long-term viability of regenerated populations, whilst the projects' scalable delivery models support future expansion of native oyster regeneration across additional sites.

The community-led approaches of these projects in Scotland and Wales fostered stewardship so that local communities are inspired, and equipped, to protect habitats in their area. We engaged with 9,543 people, providing pathways to action that support the long-term health of regenerated habitats, with 74% of those surveyed pledged to take action to better protect the ocean.

DEEP is a partnership between The Glenmorangie Company, Heriot-Watt University and Marine Conservation Society, funded by The Glenmorangie Company.

Restoration Forth is a WWF-led partnership with Edinburgh Shoreline, The Ecology Centre, Fife Coast and Countryside Trust, Heriot-Watt University, Marine Conservation Society, Scottish Seabird Centre and Balanced Horizon.

Natur am Byth! Môr is funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund and Welsh Government.

Improving ocean governance

We are driving real ocean protection by changing how the ocean is used and how planning and funding work to ensure the delivery of regeneration not just designation. As a result of our efforts, UK waters now have strengthened marine planning and protection, including measures that reduce damage to seabed habitats in 177,000km² of vital offshore Scottish Marine Protected Areas.

We are working to improve governance frameworks for ocean protection in the UK. The Welsh Government has acted on some of the recommendations in our marine planning report for Wales and in England, we are engaging with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) to shape the scope of its Marine Spatial Prioritisation Programme and push for a more holistic approach to managing marine pressures.

Our expertise in marine spatial planning has also supported the development of the Crown Estate's whole of the seabed work, ensuring nature is considered for both biodiversity, and the role it plays in supporting the UK economy.

We have been working with partners, governments and communities in the Caribbean UK Overseas Territories (UKOTs) to support the conservation and management of these nations' precious marine ecosystems, in a way that works for people and planet. We embarked on a three-year project to increase community awareness and compliance with the Turks and Caicos Islands' Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and engaged with over 150 people on their vision for East Caicos to inform a Vision Management Plan that will guide the future conservation and management of one of the largest uninhabited islands in the Caribbean. Supported by evidence from this work and as part of the Great Blue Ocean Coalition, we successfully lobbied for critical funding increases for the UK Government's Blue Belt Programme in the UKOTs – the world's largest MPA programme.

Making MPAs Matter in the TCI is funded by the John Ellerman Foundation.

“

Cleaning oysters and being lucky enough to be out on the boat for one of the release days were genuinely some of the top highlights of recent years for me. Nothing like nature regeneration in action to fuel the soul! Huge well done to the team – I know it's been a big effort to make it such a success!”

Restoration Forth Volunteer

Ocean goals

For a cleaner ocean

We'll campaign to stop pollution entering our ocean. Using science, we track the health of our seas, identify and prevent the main sources of pollution, and work with businesses and governments towards a cleaner ocean.

By 2030, we're calling for ocean pollution levels to show a clear downward trend

Tackling chemical pollution

Over the past year, we have continued to build the case for regulation of PFAS 'forever chemicals', presenting a strong scientific and policy case for the universal restriction of these toxic substances. Our national media coverage increased public visibility and political attention on the issue. This, alongside our engagement with policymakers and parliamentarians to raise awareness of the long-term risks of PFAS to people, wildlife and marine environments, intensified the pressure on the UK's Governments to take action.

We were pleased to see our efforts recognised, when on 3 February the UK Government announced its plan to tackle 'forever chemicals', with a coordinated framework for action across government, regulators and businesses. Although there are some gaps and limitations, the plan provides a starting point that we can – and will – use to leverage further action on PFAS pollution.

We consistently challenged the industry-led framing of PFAS regulation, pushing for clearer and more precautionary government language. This included the adoption of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's definition of PFAS, which, following our work with Defra, UK Government bodies have now adopted. This closes off routes for harmful chemical substitution and strengthens the basis for future regulation. Similarly, government language about PFAS has shifted towards a clearer recognition of the scale and persistence of the problem.

These developments, coupled with the Health and Safety Executive's recent consultation proposing a restriction on all PFAS in firefighting foam – something we have long been calling for – have reinforced the importance, and value, of our work to tackle PFAS pollution, once and for all.

This work has been supported by The Orp Foundation, The Schroder Foundation and the Big Give, with funds being received from Sonardyne, Haddenham Healthcare and The Reed Foundation.

Securing improved water quality and sewage reform

Our evidence, advocacy and engagement with the Independent Water Commission promoted an approach to water management that stops pollutants entering the water system, and we were glad to see this reflected in its recommendations to reform the water sector in England and Wales.

The UK Government's response, A New Vision for Water, will take some of these forward, including strengthened regulation, improved sewage infrastructure and solutions to prevent and tackle pollution at source – matters we have long been campaigning for. The Welsh Government is also developing reforms following the recommendations, with its Green Paper setting out potential changes, including a new Water Regulator. This renewed political focus on reforming water governance will see approaches and regulation aimed at improving river and marine water quality, and we will keep on working to ensure this becomes a reality.

Meanwhile, UK-wide bans on plastic in single-use wet wipes – secured through our long-term, evidence-based campaigning – will see a recognised source of plastic pollution removed from the water environment, taking us one step closer to cleaner seas.



“

This year has shown fantastic impact of our beach clean data in litter policy across the UK. Combined with progress on water reform, there have been real steps forward to reducing plastic and sewage in our seas”

Calum Duncan | Head of Policy and Advocacy

Ocean goals

For a healthier ocean

We'll aim for more fish in healthier seas, improve the way wild fisheries and seafood farming practices are managed, and help businesses and consumers to be more responsible in their buying choices.

By 2030, we're calling for our fish stocks to be at sustainable levels

Supporting the transition to lower impact fishing methods

Following industry feedback and our wider organisational ambitions to support the fishing sector to transition from damaging types of fishing to low impact methods, we updated our sustainability seafood strategy and are reviewing our Good Fish Guide scoring to favour lower impact seafood.

Stakeholders highlighted how integral our ratings are to seafood sourcing businesses, underscoring the value of our recommendations and how they can encourage suppliers to adopt sustainable fishing methods.

We have already begun implementing recommendations, including proactive outreach, clearer communications and more forward planning of ratings updates. These steps, coupled with new partnerships we have proactively forged with

seafood businesses, are strengthening industry engagement and ensuring we deliver a Good Fish Guide that reflects users', and our ocean's, needs.

We would like to thank The Sustainability Plaiice consultancy and the industry stakeholders who contributed feedback to inform our work to improve our seafood ratings.

Promoting sustainable seafood choices

National media coverage of our ratings updates strengthened public awareness of sustainable seafood choices and helped build trust in the Good Fish Guide, whilst engagement with academic, fisheries and aquaculture stakeholders ensured the ratings reflected the most up-to-date scientific advice. By maintaining and growing the credibility of our ratings, we can better influence businesses and the public to make seafood purchasing decisions that support healthier ocean outcomes, and position ourselves as the leading experts in sustainable seafood.

Our downgrading of North-east Atlantic mackerel and associated press activity highlighted collapsing mackerel stocks and the need to switch to sustainable alternatives until populations recover, with prominent media coverage increasing public and industry awareness of overfishing concerns. Waitrose announced it will suspend its mackerel sales and promote sustainable substitutions, citing the importance of sustainable seafood sourcing to protecting the ocean.



Shoal of mackerel

Valda Butterworth | Shutterstock



Global, billion-dollar companies rely on the Good Fish Guide (GFG). It's seen as a "trusted third party", with a "good, broad spectrum of species and sourcing options". One large company in the foodservice sector has a policy to only source seafood rated one to three, whilst another business integrates the GFG ratings into its product price brochures for customers. This, it says, is "a really fundamental tool for us, but it's also fundamental in enabling our customer base to follow the Good Fish Guide"

Findings from interviews with Good Fish Guide business users

Ocean goals

An engaged community of support

We'll build an engaged community of support, committed to protecting and regenerating the ocean. We will promote involvement through giving, campaigning, and volunteering, as well as pursue wider, pro-ocean societal change.

By 2030, we want everyone to be able to enjoy the ocean and what it has to offer, while fulfilling their responsibility to protect it

Empowering volunteers to take action

Our volunteers have continued to demonstrate their commitment and passion for our seas, taking positive action in a range of ways. 16,447 volunteers cleaned up beaches and inland areas, removing more than 11,000kg of rubbish and submitting 1,335 litter records to evidence the amount, sources, and types of litter polluting our coastline.

This citizen science evidence was cited 11 times in parliaments of England, Scotland and Wales, informing debate and contributing to policy change in marine issues, such as bans on

plastic wet wipes and disposable vapes, and the progression of the urgently needed, nationwide Deposit Return Schemes.

Our training sessions and resources equipped 2,879 volunteers with the skills and confidence to collate robust data – on litter, seaweed distribution and wildlife populations – painting a picture of the state of our seas and informing our campaigns to protect marine habitats and species.

Through our Ocean Voice programme, more than 30 volunteers were empowered to represent the Marine Conservation Society at events or deliver talks about our work to educate and inspire others to support our cause.

We would like to thank players of the Postcode Lottery, The Access Group, PwC and Sky for supporting our volunteering work and making these initiatives possible.

Connecting communities to the ocean

The One Ocean Roadshow is a series of activities and events delivered in an inland area of the UK, in this case the North of England to help communities and schools discover the ocean, its fascinating marine inhabitants, and the important role we all need to play in protecting the ocean's health.

To support inclusion and engagement with global majority audiences in the programme, we developed an ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) offering which combines the ESOL syllabus topic with our learning resources to help people build confidence in both English and marine matters.

In the One Ocean Roadshow's first year, we delivered over 70 sessions including interactive workshops, citizen science, and creative and wellbeing activities engaging more than 3,000 people and fostering their connection with the sea. This had positive outcomes for both people and the planet: 87% of surveyed participants said the sessions improved their knowledge and understanding of the pressures facing our ocean, and 79% pledged to make pro-ocean behaviour changes in the next 12 months to better protect the ocean.

The One Ocean Roadshow is funded by: The National Lottery Heritage Fund, The Access Foundation, Buffini Chao Foundation and The David Brooke Charity.

“

The project has inspired and given the children the knowledge of how they can protect the environment. Today the eco-champions are meeting and feeding back to the group on the trip. The first thing we are looking to implement is to recycle all crisp packets eaten at school and then implement a whole other range of reducing our plastic consumption.”

Leeds School Teacher, following children's first ever trip to the beach.

Operational goals

Powerful partnerships

Supporting long-term ocean regeneration

In a challenging economic climate, we are especially grateful to our partners and funders whose multi-year commitments enable us to drive long-term, meaningful change for our ocean. Regenerating marine environments takes time, innovation, and sustained investment. From pioneering regeneration programmes to campaigning for vital policy reform, lasting impact is only possible through consistent, continued support.

For example, we are delighted that The Access Foundation chose to fund our work for a second consecutive year, demonstrating its commitment to our cause. Its donation has been split between our longstanding Beachwatch programme and funding Advanced Mooring Systems, which alleviate pressure from the seabed and its habitats, as part of our innovative ocean regeneration programme on the UK's Atlantic Coast.

We would also like to thank FatFace and the FatFace Foundation, The Glenmorangie Company, holidaycottages.co.uk, Sky, and the St Austell Brewery Company for their continued dedication to the Marine Conservation Society.

Driving community engagement

The sustained support of trusts and grants for our learning and community engagement work has continued to drive higher levels of impact, with match funding enabling us to scale up and accelerate our projects to achieve more, sooner.

This funding has driven the delivery of the One ocean Roadshow ocean literacy project in the North of England and our Youth Engagement programme in Scotland, including a residential trip for young people to experience nature, learn about our ocean and take action to protect it. It also enabled us to provide one young person with opportunities, skills and experience to support career development through a paid internship.

A further multi-year grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund towards our Scottish Seas Roadshow will support deeper engagement with communities across Scotland's central belt and Highlands and Islands, enabling us to grow ocean literacy and foster connections to our marine environment so people feel inspired to protect it.

Our learning and community engagement is generously supported by multi-year commitments from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, The National Lottery Community Fund – Young Start programme, Buffini Chao Foundation, William Grant Foundation, and many other funders.



By working with the Marine Conservation Society, we're able to support essential ocean protection and create lasting impact for our coasts and communities, whilst bringing colleagues together through beach cleans."

Beckie Braham | The Access Foundation

FatFace, founding Partners of the Atlantic Coast Programme, joined us in Pembrokeshire to see some baby oysters

FatFace Foundation

Sustainable organisation

We'll be a high-performing, values-driven organisation whose organisational culture is underpinned by sound systems and processes that allow us to understand our impact in all areas, environmentally, socially and regulatory.

Turning staff insight into organisational strength

This year we established our Employee Voice staff forum, providing a structured, full circle communications loop between colleagues and leadership.

The forum complements our inclusion work by ensuring employees have a reliable way to share their ideas, concerns and lived experiences. This allows us to identify and address risks early ensuring that workload pressures, process obstacles or conduct concerns don't become bigger problems.

Improving inclusion and accessibility

We're committed to improving equity, diversity and inclusion throughout the organisation, and over the past year have focused on improving the accessibility of our communications to better cater to the needs of our supporters.

Working with partners and taking on board feedback we have made our presentations more readable for people with dyslexia, and ensured digital resources are bi-lingual in Wales to better connect communities. In the Turks and Caicos Islands, we co-designed consent content with local partners to reduce language and literacy barriers.

Building on our work to better engage with and support global majority communities through the One Ocean Roadshow, such as the ESOL offering, we delivered two online webinars to upskill our wider team with the tools and knowledge to better engage with global majority audiences across our projects.

Protecting people, partners and investment

As our regeneration work grows in scale and complexity, we've strengthened the systems that underpin safe and accountable delivery. This includes updated health and safety guidance for contractors and overseas work, a clearer organisational risk framework, and a more structured procurement process.

Together, these changes ensure consistent standards across programmes, stronger oversight of delivery partners, and clearer accountability for risk. They protect staff and communities, reduce financial and reputational exposure, and safeguard the effective use of grant funding, smoothing the pathway for ocean conservation.

Strengthening and improving IT assets and support systems

We have transformed the way we manage our growing IT estate through a centralised Asset Management Platform. This new, scalable system provides clearer visibility of ownership, precise depreciation tracking, audit-ready records and increased accuracy of tracking and managing our devices.

As a result, we have seen improved financial planning, strengthened governance and compliance, and greater accountability and confidence in the management of our organisational assets.



I'm excited about the launch of our employee forum and it bringing more collaboration between our leadership and our teams. The focus is on improved communication helping our remote teams work together more effectively."

Louisa Sweatman | HR & Systems Officer

Challenges and opportunities

In 2025, the number of people giving to charity dropped to its lowest level in ten years, as revealed in the Charities Aid Foundation UK Giving Report 2026, and for the first time since 2021, the average donation value also declined. Current economic uncertainty has also impacted the level of support that corporates are able to give, with many organisations cutting their funding.

In this context, we continue to be impacted by rising operational costs because of the cost-of-living crisis, high inflation rates and the increase in national insurance payments for organisations. Added to this, the loss of support from both the private and public sector means that more charities are competing for fewer resources. To meet this challenge, we are developing new fundraising routes and fresh strategic approaches, as well as refining our internal processes so we can work, and respond to changes, more efficiently.

National approach

The UK Government has prioritised economic growth and energy security above ocean recovery. Housing, planning and building, nuclear industry and offshore windfarms are often seen as the solution while environmental regulations are positioned as holding back development and as a blocker to growth. This has led to a deregulatory agenda in relation to environmental legislation, risking existing protections for the ocean.

Ocean recovery is integral to delivering economic prosperity ambitions for the UK. We know investing in it will help deliver economic and national security through climate mitigation, adaptation and food security. It will also reduce the financial exposure of UK public and business sectors to risks from nature's decline. We are working with the private and public sector to ensure they invest in regeneration products and nature-based solutions, which will accelerate ocean recovery and avoid a continued degraded state.

We have the opportunity and the influence to prove to governments that protecting the environment especially our ocean, will provide climate resilience and coastal security for our nation, supporting sustainable economic growth and food security.

It is more important than ever that we work with communities, industry, regulators and legislators to make this clear.

Sharing our knowledge

We are experts in the protection, regeneration and sustainable management of the ocean – with the science and credibility to engage with stakeholders and influence legislation and industry practice. By gathering our own primary data, through research and monitoring and the support of our ever-dedicated volunteers and citizen scientists, we can witness and share with media and decision-makers first-hand what is happening to our species and seas.

Key to this is the development and improvement of our website, which will allow us to better, and more clearly, communicate with and inspire new and wider audiences. Through future features, such as our 'Marine life A-Z', we aim to raise awareness of the wonderful species in our seas, and the steps we can all take to protect them. Making our site more user-friendly will enable supporters, of all backgrounds, to learn more about marine environments and easily discover how they can get involved in our work, such as gathering vital data we can use to drive change.

The start of a new era

In 2025, a review of our responsibilities in relation to Seasearch identified changes needed to contractor working practices to ensure the Marine Conservation Society continued to meet its compliance obligations. Following discussion, it was agreed that the best way forward was to support Seasearch to become a self-led entity.

We provided practical support to help with the transition, including set-up funding, work to address a backlog of data entry, and the donation of existing books. We are pleased to see the Seasearch CIC (England and Wales) and Seasearch SCIO (Scotland) now established, and we hope there will be future opportunities for collaboration in support of our seas.



Financial review

“Financial performance in 2025/26 reflected a challenging fundraising year alongside sustained investment in delivering our ocean goals. Total income was £4.95m, 7% lower than the previous year’s £5.34m. This reduction primarily reflected lower income from trusts, companies and grants, including £300k of unrestricted grant income expected during the year but not received and therefore not recognised until April 2026. This was partly offset by strong growth in legacies and individual donations, which increased by 76% and 23% respectively. Unrestricted donations and legacies contributed £3.1m, representing 90% of total unrestricted income.

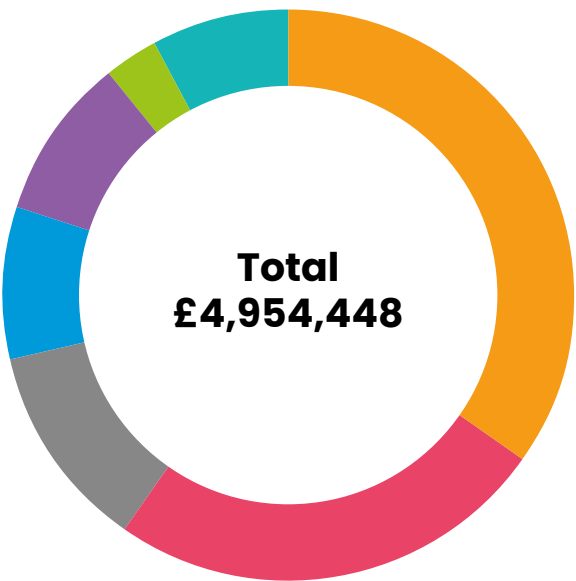
Total expenditure was £5.3m, broadly consistent with £5.25m in 2024/25, resulting in net deficit of £349k. Spending across our four strategic conservation outcomes remained stable at £4.18m. This comprised £1.48m for a better protected ocean, £0.90m for a cleaner ocean, £0.88m for a healthier ocean and £0.92m for our engaged community of support.

The cost of raising funds, administering membership and generating trading income totalled £1.12m, equivalent to 22.7% of income. Although fundraising income was affected by the timing of expected receipts, plans to deliver sustainable growth remain in place.

Total funds at year-end were £1.48m, comprising £912k of unrestricted funds and £570k of restricted funds. Unrestricted reserves represented approximately three months of actual unrestricted expenditure, within the Board’s policy range of three to four months. The 2026/27 budget will support the effective deployment of restricted reserves while maintaining close oversight of income, expenditure and cash flow. This provides a sound financial base from which to deliver our strategic priorities and maximise our impact for the ocean.”

Karen Hooley
Director of Finance and Operations

Income 2025–2026



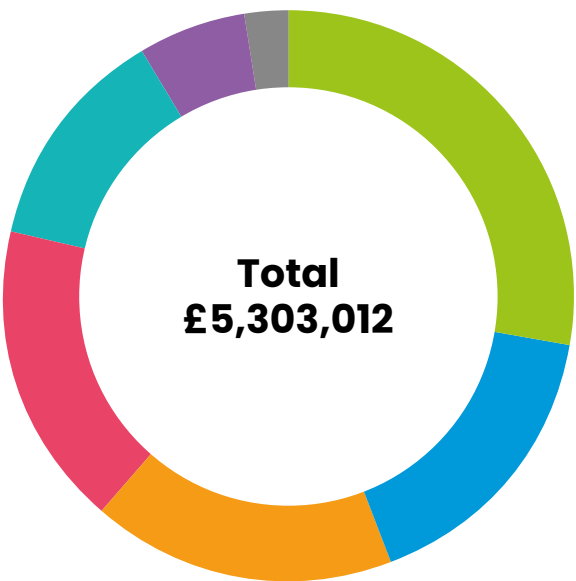
At £3.1m, unrestricted donations and legacies contributed 90% of the total unrestricted income for the year

35%	Donations from trusts and companies	£1,732,540
25%	Grants	£1,234,734
13%	Memberships	£574,078
9%	Royalties, sponsorship, sales and other income	£426,269
9%	Individual donations	£462,366
3%	Beach cleans and education	£141,153
8%	Legacies	£383,308

Supporting our income growth

- ▷ In total, the cost of raising funds was £1.12m, which equated to 22.7% of the total income raised.
- ▷ We spent less than £0.32m administering our membership scheme and producing our magazine.
- ▷ Our fundraising income is lower than previous year, largely as a result of delays in expected income. Ambitious plans to deliver growth remain in place. Spend on administering our group of individual donors and fundraisers, companies and other supporters is slightly higher than the previous year at £0.7m, while the cost of raising trading income remains steady at £0.1m.
- ▶ Our successful partnership with Postcode Lottery continues to be vital in supporting our core conservation work.
- ▶ Membership subscriptions contributed £0.6m in line with 2024–2025.
- ▶ Donations from individuals were up a significant 23% year on year at £0.5m.

Expenditure 2025–2026



Our expenditure on charitable activities at £4.2m represents 79% of total expenditure

28%	Better protected ocean	£1,480,439
17%	Healthier ocean	£875,958
17%	Cleaner ocean	£902,197
17%	Engaged community of support	£921,004
13%	Fundraising	£680,401
6%	Memberships	£312,189
2%	Trading	£130,824

Supporting our conservation work

- ▷ £1.5m spent on working towards a better protected ocean.
- ▷ £0.9m on our healthier ocean goal.
- ▷ £0.9m towards creating a cleaner ocean.
- ▷ £0.9m on our engaged community of support work promoting access to enjoying the ocean.

At the end of the year, we had unrestricted funds of £0.9m

It is our policy to hold between three and four months’ unrestricted operating costs in a designated contingency fund to be able to maintain our conservation programmes in the event of a shortfall in income, until further funding can be secured. We review the level of this fund regularly. As at 31st March 2026 this fund held £0.9m, representing three months’ worth of anticipated unrestricted expenditure.

Approach to fundraising

Our approach to fundraising is to connect with our supporters and encourage motivated individuals and companies to raise voluntary funds to support our aims and activities. We ensure that our fundraising is not overly intrusive or persistent, and doesn’t put members of the public under undue pressure to donate. We recognise that everyone has the right to support their favourite causes and charities and that we have an obligation to protect those who may be in vulnerable circumstances. We do this in a way which seeks to protect each person and their dignity while also being respectful of any desire they express to support us.

- ▶ We comply with UK data protection laws and are registered with the Fundraising Regulator.
- ▶ We comply with the Fundraising Regulator’s Code of Fundraising Practice.
- ▶ Complaints are monitored by the Executive Team and are reported to Trustees and we encourage any supporters with questions or enquiries about our fundraising to contact us at any time. There were no complaints received during the year.

Investments

The charity continues to prioritise the security and liquidity of its reserves rather than investing in a longer-term portfolio. Funds are held across a range of banking institutions, with only limited use of short-term deposits to enhance returns. Trustees review this approach annually in light of reserve levels, cashflow requirements and economic conditions. At the year end, cash holdings totalled £0.9 million.

Risk management

The Trustees recognise their legal responsibility to provide this annual risk management statement to show that they have given due and proper consideration to the charity’s major risks and that they have satisfied themselves of the adequacy of the systems which are in place to manage those risks.

Detailed review authority is delegated to the Finance, Resources & Risk Committee, which meets on a quarterly basis.

The Trustees consider risk to be the opportunities/uncertainties which may impact the charity’s ability to deliver its vision/mission/strategy, or which may jeopardise the organisation’s compliance with legal and regulatory requirements. In applying a particular approach, the Board aims to assess and agree its own appetite to the risks identified, which enables the Executive Team to manage them accordingly.

In identifying and assessing risk the organisation looks at both internal and external factors which may impact its strategic objectives, as well as its financial position. In addition, there are key leading and lagging indicators, which may influence its ability to over or under achieve what it has set out to do.

Risk areas have been aligned to the organisation’s strategic objectives and have been categorised into the following:

- ▶ Financial (e.g. loss of income, cashflow, reserves)
- ▶ Operational (e.g. staff skills, welfare, resources, business continuity)
- ▶ Reputational (e.g. communications, campaigning, partner agreements)
- ▶ Strategic (e.g. economic climate, government policy)

The organisation is also mindful of other potential significant risks, which underpin and run across all of the above:

- ▶ Legal (e.g. health & safety breach, legal/regulatory responsibilities, breach of trust)
- ▶ Governance (e.g. organisational controls, trustee skills, conflicts of interest)

The Board recognises that risks ebb and flow, depending upon both external and internal factors. Therefore, the management of risk is a dynamic process, which requires regular review.

The organisation’s approach to risk is multi-faceted, depending on the type of risk and includes:

- ▶ stopping the activity to avoid the risk completely
- ▶ mitigating the risk through the use of the best possible control measures
- ▶ transferring the financial consequences to insurers or other third parties
- ▶ accepting the risk as unavoidable

Governing document

The charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales on 23 October 1990, having previously been registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales as an unincorporated charity on 1 February 1984. It also registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator on 18 September 2006. It is governed by its Articles of Association, having been amended following approval by the members on 6 November 2018 and on 2 December 2021. In the event of the company being wound up, each member is required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Subsidiary companies

Marine Conservation Society has two wholly owned subsidiary companies, Ocean Finance Alliance Limited, which is dormant, and M C S Sales Limited. The purpose of M C S Sales is to raise funds for the charity through fundraising activities such as sponsorship and an online shop. All the profits of M C S Sales are donated to the charity each year under the Gift Aid scheme.

For more detailed information about either of the subsidiary companies, the individual company accounts are filed annually with Companies House, or they can be requested from the Company Secretary at the charity’s registered office (details at the back of this report).

In this report, the accounts include the income, expenditure, assets and liabilities of the charity and both subsidiaries whenever the statements are referred to as ‘consolidated’ or ‘group’.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4, Charities Act 2011, to have due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission concerning public benefit. The objects of the charitable company are to conserve, protect and improve the marine environment for public benefit. We promote the protection of marine wildlife, sustainable fisheries and aquaculture and clean seas and beaches, through projects, scientific research, education and publication of scientific and educational works. Each of our programmes is aimed at improving the condition of the marine environment. A healthy marine environment will supply benefits to the public.

During the year the charity continued to promote ocean literacy and our impact on the marine environment through its learning outreach (both online and face to face) and inspired action at the local level through its volunteer and community engagement programme and online campaign opportunities.

Our Good Fish Guide website and app have reached many hundreds of thousands of customers interested in sustainable seafood, and our proactive engagement with retailers and food service organisations has had a significant financial impact on purchasing decisions. This year, 14,380 volunteers took part in our beach cleaning programme. They submitted 1,123 litter surveys, enabling us to collect vital data on the type of litter found on our coastline, and removed 10,721kg of litter from UK and Channel Island beaches.

Pay and remuneration of key management and personnel

We operate a salaries and benefits policy that applies equally to all employees of the charity. Tests are conducted for bias, fairness and equality and a moderation process is undertaken to ensure a consistent approach to performance ratings. Each year, remuneration awards are recommended by the Finance, Resources and Risk Committee to the Board for approval.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

Whilst the day-to-day management of the charity is delegated to the Executive Team, the Trustees are responsible for setting the charity’s strategic policies and objectives and for ensuring they are fulfilled. Trustees are volunteers, give freely of their time and have no beneficial interest in the charity. As set out in our Articles of Association, Trustees step down by rotation every three years. They may offer themselves for re-election at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting, but the total duration of each Trustee’s tenure is limited in order to ensure there are opportunities for new Trustees to join the Board.

The Articles of Association state that, subject to the provisions of Companies Act 2006, every Trustee, secretary or other official of the charitable company shall be indemnified out of the assets of the charitable company against all losses or liabilities incurred by them in or about the execution and discharge of the duties of their office.

The Board of Trustees undertakes an annual review of its effectiveness. To ensure the Board is sufficiently skilled to carry out its responsibilities we carry out skills analysis of existing members before seeking new Trustees with the appropriate skills by open advertisement or approaching individuals to suggest they might apply. Business and conservation skills are well represented amongst the Trustees.

The majority of Trustees in post at 1 April 2025 served throughout the year ended 31 March 2026. Three Trustees resigned at the AGM in 2025. A recruitment process took place in the Summer of 2025 to find Trustees to replace those standing down.

Trustee induction and training

Prior to appointment, new Trustees receive an induction to introduce them to the work of the charity and, if possible, attend a Board meeting as an observer. Each Trustee is given a Trustee Handbook, which provides current good practice guidance on how they can contribute most effectively to the charity. All Trustees are required to sign up to a Trustees’ Code of Conduct.

Committees and subsidiary Boards

To assist the Board with detailed scrutiny of topics and to make recommendations on those topics to the Board, we operate a number of Trustee committees as below. The committee terms of reference and membership are reviewed on a regular basis to ensure relevancy:

- ▶ Conservation Committee;
- ▶ Stakeholder Experience Committee;
- ▶ Fundraising and Development Committee;
- ▶ Governance Committee; and
- ▶ Finance, Resources and Risk Committee;

Each subsidiary company has its own Board of Directors consisting of at least one of the charity’s Trustees (who act as chair) and members of the Executive Team.

Trustees’ responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Trustees (who are also directors of Marine Conservation Society for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees’ Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- ▶ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ▶ observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2026 (FRS 102);
- ▶ make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- ▶ state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- ▶ assess the charitable company’s ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern, and use the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

In so far as the Trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company’s auditor is unaware and the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company’s website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This Trustees’ Report and Strategic Impact Report have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

By order of the Board of Trustees.

 David Wilkin <i>Treasurer</i>	 Amanda Nobbs <i>Chair</i>
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30 September 2026

Opinion

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

- ▶ give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the group and the parent charitable company as at 31 March 2026 and of the group’s incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- ▶ have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- ▶ have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast

significant doubt on the group or the parent charitable company’s ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor’s report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information; we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- ▶ the information given in the Trustees’ Annual Report which includes the Directors’ Report and the Annual Impact Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- ▶ the Trustees’ Annual Report which includes the Directors’ Report and the Annual Impact Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report and the Annual Impact Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 33, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the parent charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under the Companies Act 2006 and under the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and report in accordance with regulations made under those Acts.

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are detailed below.

Identifying and assessing risks related to irregularities:

- ▶ We assessed the susceptibility of the group and parent charitable company's financial statements to material misstatement and how fraud might occur, including through discussions with the Trustees, discussions within our audit team planning meeting, updating our record of internal controls and ensuring these controls operated as intended.
- ▶ We evaluated possible incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements.
- ▶ We identified laws and regulations that are of significance in the context of the group and parent charitable company by discussions with Trustees and updating our understanding of the sector in which the group and parent charitable company operate.

Laws and regulations of direct significance in the context of the group and parent charitable company include The Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and guidance issued by the Charity Commission for England and Wales and the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator.

Audit response to risks identified:

- ▶ We considered the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items including a review of financial statement disclosures.
- ▶ We reviewed the parent charitable company's records of breaches of laws and regulations, minutes of meetings and correspondence with relevant authorities to identify potential material misstatements arising.

- ▶ We discussed the parent charitable company's policies and procedures for compliance with laws and regulations with members of management responsible for compliance.

During the planning meeting with the audit team, the engagement partner drew attention to the key areas which might involve non-compliance with laws and regulations or fraud.

- ▶ We enquired of management whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations or knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud.
- ▶ We addressed the risk of fraud through management override of controls by testing the appropriateness of journal entries and identifying any significant transactions that were unusual or outside the normal course of business.
- ▶ We assessed whether judgements made in making accounting estimates gave rise to a possible indication of management bias.
- ▶ At the completion stage of the audit, the engagement partner's review included ensuring that the team had approached their work with appropriate professional scepticism and thus the capacity to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud.

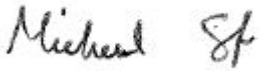
There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

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

auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the parent charitable company, the parent charitable company's members and Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Michael Strong Senior Statutory Auditor
for and on behalf of Saffery Audit (UK) LLP

St Catherine's Court, Berkeley Place, Clifton, Bristol BS8 1BQ

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors

23/10/2026

Saffery Audit (UK) LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Marine Conservation Society

Consolidated statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2026
(incorporating consolidated income and expenditure account)

Income and expenditure	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2026 (£)	Restricted Funds 2026 (£)	Total Funds 2026 (£)	Total Funds 2025 (£)
Income from					
Donations and legacies	1	3,125,382	168,237	3,293,619	3,308,191
Charitable activities	2	136,178	1,239,709	1,375,887	1,670,221
Other trading activities	3	91,023	-	91,023	145,194
Investments	4	16,623	-	16,623	14,611
Other	5	108,236	69,060	177,296	201,619
Total income		3,477,442	1,477,006	4,954,448	5,339,836
Expenditure on					
Raising funds	6	1,123,414	-	1,123,414	1,070,037
Charitable activities:					
Better protected ocean	7	828,451	651,988	1,480,439	1,499,362
Cleaner ocean	7	620,121	282,076	902,197	917,571
Healthier ocean	7	503,285	372,673	875,958	883,682
Engaged community of support	7	574,018	346,986	921,004	880,259
Total expenditure		3,649,289	1,653,723	5,303,012	5,250,911
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year before transfers		(171,847)	(176,717)	(348,564)	88,925
Net gains on investment assets		-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		(171,847)	(176,717)	(348,564)	88,925
Transfers between funds	23	(5,935)	5,935	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year		(177,782)	(170,782)	(348,564)	88,925
Funds at the start of the year	23	1,089,690	740,658	1,830,348	1,741,423
Funds at the end of the year	23	911,908	569,876	1,481,784	1,830,348

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Marine Conservation Society

Statements of financial position at 31 March 2026

	Note	The group		The charity	
		Total funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)	Total funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	14	15,154	11,562	15,154	11,562
Intangible assets	15	82,328	-	82,328	-
Investments	16	-	-	200	200
		97,482	11,562	97,682	11,762
Current assets					
Stock	18	1,561	11,820	1,561	11,820
Debtors	19	830,471	528,106	917,798	561,037
Cash at bank and in hand		891,121	1,776,691	791,959	1,726,846
		1,723,153	2,316,617	1,711,318	2,299,703
Creditors falling due within one year	20	(331,532)	(491,376)	(319,797)	(474,562)
Net current assets		1,391,621	1,825,241	1,391,521	1,825,141
Total assets less current liabilities		1,489,103	1,836,803	1,489,203	1,836,903
Provisions for liabilities	22	(7,319)	(6,455)	(7,319)	(6,455)
Net assets		1,481,784	1,830,348	1,481,884	1,830,448
Funds					
Restricted funds	23	569,876	740,658	569,876	740,658
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds (contingency fund)	23	911,908	1,089,690	911,908	1,089,690
General funds	23	-	-	100	100
Total funds		1,481,784	1,830,348	1,481,884	1,830,448

Company Number: 02550966

The Trustees have prepared accounts in accordance with section 398 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 44 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 30 September 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

David Wilkin
Treasurer

Amanda Nobbs
Chair

Marine Conservation Society

Consolidated statement of cash flows for the year ended 31 March 2026

	Note	Total funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
Cash flows from operating activities Net cash (used in) operations		(792,571)	61,658
Investing activities Purchase of tangible fixed assets Purchase of intangible fixed assets	14	(10,671) (82,328)	(11,366) -
		(92,999)	(11,366)
Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		(885,570) 1,776,692	50,292 1,726,400
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year		891,122	1,776,692
Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities		2026 (£)	2025 (£)
Net income per statement of financial activities		(348,564)	88,926
Adjustments for: Depreciation of tangible fixed assets Decrease in stock (Increase) in debtors Increase in creditors Increase / (reduction) in provision for liabilities		7,079 10,259 (302,365) (159,844) 864	4,681 (2,356) 104,916 (135,235) 726
Net cash (used in) / provided by operations		(792,571)	61,658
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents Cash at bank and cash in hand		891,122	1,776,692
Total cash and cash equivalents		891,122	1,776,692
Analysis of changes in net debt	As at 1 April 2025 (£)	Cash flows in year (£)	As at 31 March 2026 (£)
Cash at bank and cash in hand	1,776,692	(885,570)	891,122

Principal accounting policies

Basis of preparation

Marine Conservation Society meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard FRS 102, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). The Trustees have assessed the charity's ability to continue as a going concern and are satisfied that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees have not identified any material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The financial statements have therefore been prepared on a going concern basis.

Basis of consolidation

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charitable company and its wholly owned subsidiaries on a line-by-line basis. The financial performance of the charity is shown in note 25. The turnover and expenditure of the subsidiaries are included within the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities. The assets and liabilities of each subsidiary is included on a line-by-line basis in the Consolidated Balance Sheet in accordance with FRS 102. Further details of the subsidiaries are given in notes 16 and 17. Accounting policies detailed in this note apply throughout the group and any surplus or deficit arising on intercompany transactions are eliminated in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised in the period in which the charitable company is entitled to receipt, receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably. Income is deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to use such income or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

- **Membership subscriptions**
Annual memberships are recognised across the year of the membership. Life membership subscriptions are accounted for in the year in which they are received.
- **Donations and grants**
Donations from individuals and income from lotteries is recognised upon receipt. Income from donations and

grants, including grants from the UK Government and capital grants, is included in incoming resources when it is receivable, except as follows:

- When donors specify that donations and grants given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods.
- When donors impose conditions which have to be qualified before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the pre-conditions for use have been met.
- When donors specify that donations and grants, including capital grants, are for particular restricted purposes, which do not amount to pre-conditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in incoming resources of restricted funds when receivable.

- **Legacies**
Legacies are included when the charity is advised by the personal representative of an estate that payment will be made or property transferred and the amount involved can be quantified with reasonable certainty.

- **Donated facilities and professional services**
Donated facilities and donated professional services are recognised in income at their fair value when their economic benefit is probable, it can be measured reliably and the charity has control over the item. Fair value is determined on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity, for example the amount the charity would be willing to pay in the open market for such facilities and services. A corresponding amount is recognised in expenditure.

No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with the Charities SORP (FRS 102). Further detail is given in the Trustees' Annual Report.

- **Commercial trading activities**
Income from commercial activities is included in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt.

Resources expended

Expenditure is included when incurred on an accruals basis. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of resources.

- **Costs of generating and servicing membership subscriptions**
These represent costs incurred in encouraging individuals to subscribe to the charity and the servicing of those individuals including provision of the members' magazine.

► **Costs of raising donations and legacies**

Fundraising expenditure comprises costs incurred in encouraging people and organisations to contribute financially to the charity's work through donations and grants. This includes a proportion of salaries and overhead costs of the staff who promote fundraising.

► **Commercial trading costs**

These represent costs incurred in raising funds through the online shop.

► **Expenditure on charitable activities**

These represent costs incurred in activities aimed at achieving the charity's four strategic outcomes of a better protected ocean, a cleaner ocean, a healthier ocean and engaged community of support. The costs include the salary costs of those working directly on these activities, other direct costs such as equipment and travel costs and a share of support costs. Where an activity is aimed at achieving more than one outcome, the costs are allocated out between the relevant outcomes.

► **Staff costs**

The allocation of staff costs between individual unrestricted funds is based on the estimated split of staff time for each individual employee of the charity. The allocation of staff costs to restricted funds is based on the estimated split of staff time, up to the maximum amount that the funder will allow. Some funders do not cover all the staff costs of a project and so full staff costs cannot be allocated to those funds.

► **Support costs (including governance)**

Support costs are those costs that, whilst necessary to deliver an activity, do not themselves constitute the output of the charitable activity. These include office costs, the cost of administration and governance such as the audit fee and insurance. These are allocated to all activities (charitable and raising funds) on the basis of the number of full-time equivalent staff employed within each activity.

The allocation of general support costs to restricted funds is based on the full-time equivalent staff working on each project, up to the maximum amount that the funder will allow. Some funders do not allow overhead costs and so full costs cannot be allocated to those funds.

Tangible fixed assets

All assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised. Depreciation is provided at the following rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

- Fixtures and fittings: 15% to 20% on cost
- Computers and equipment: 25% to 33.3% on cost

Intangible fixed assets

Intangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. Amortisation is provided at the following rate in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

- Website development costs: 33.3% on cost

Investments

In the charitable company's individual financial statements, investments in the charitable company's subsidiaries are included at cost less any provisions for impairment.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing stock to its present location and condition. Cost is calculated using the first-in, first-out formula. Provision is made for damaged, obsolete and slow-moving stock where appropriate.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments such as trade debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year, which are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in the income statement in other operating expenses.

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into pounds sterling (£) at the exchange rate at the date of the transaction. Any assets and liabilities in a foreign currency are translated into pounds sterling (£) at the exchange rate on the date of reporting.

Debtors and cash

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due. Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and demand deposits and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk to changes in value.

Creditors

Trade and other creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can

be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the charity has a present obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits to a third party will be required to settle the obligation and the amount can be measured reliably. By their nature, provisions are often based on estimates, but they are recognised only when they can be estimated reasonably reliably.

Operating leases

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

Pensions

Contributions in respect of the charity's defined contribution pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities for the year in which they are payable to the scheme.

Tax

Where applicable, income is recognised net of any output Value Added Tax and the cost of irrecoverable input Value Added Tax is accounted for in the same period as the expenditure on which it was incurred.

In terms of corporation tax, the charity is usually an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

Any corporation tax payable by the charity or one of its subsidiaries would be recognised in the period in which the taxable profit is generated. However, usually no corporation tax is payable because trading income is received by the subsidiary trading companies (not the charity) and the subsidiary companies distribute all the taxable profits to the charity as a Gift Aid donation.

Funds accounting

Funds held by the charity are:

► **Unrestricted general funds**

These are funds that can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

► **Designated funds**

These are funds set aside by the Trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific purposes or projects.

► **Restricted funds**

These are funds that 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 (note 23).

Foreign currencies

The consolidated financial statements are presented in pounds sterling (£), which is the charitable company's functional and presentational currency.

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the exchange rate at the date of the transaction. Any assets and liabilities in a foreign currency are translated into sterling at the exchange rate on the date of reporting. Foreign exchange gains and losses incurred in respect of monetary assets are shown within expenditure. Foreign exchange gains and losses in respect of non-monetary assets are shown between net income/ (expenditure) and net movement in funds before other recognised gains and transfers and net movement in funds.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make some judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the balance sheet date and the amounts reported for income and expenditure. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates.

Significant judgement is applied when assessing whether grant funding received should be accounted for either as a donation grant or as a performance-related services grant. Whether a contract is accounted for either as a donation grant or as a performance-related grant has a material impact on the timing of when such income is recognised.

Grant income includes grants for single projects accounted for as performance related grants, using the percentage of completion method. Percentage of completion has been estimated based on the ratio of costs to date at the balance sheet date compared to total expected project costs (including future project costs). The use of the percentage of completion method is considered a critical judgement and the value for future project costs included in total project costs used in the calculation is considered a key estimation.

Notes to the financial statements

1 Income from donations and legacies	Unrestricted funds 2026 (£)	Restricted funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
Membership subscriptions and adoptions	574,078	–	574,078	580,522
Legacies	383,308	–	383,308	217,860
Donations – trusts and companies	1,635,332	97,208	1,732,540	2,038,841
Donations – individuals	392,597	69,769	462,366	375,853
Other fundraising income	140,067	1,260	141,327	95,115
	3,125,382	168,237	3,293,619	3,308,191
For the year ended 31 March 2025	3,194,065	114,126	–	3,308,191

Donations from trusts and companies include £96,882 (2025: £52,278) of donated services or goods. We are very grateful for all this support, enabling us to benefit from advice and services that the charity might otherwise not be able to afford.

2 Income from charitable activities	Unrestricted funds 2026 (£)	Restricted funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
Grants	–	1,234,734	1,234,734	1,462,281
Beach cleans	123,672	4,975	128,647	153,325
Education and sales	12,506	–	12,506	54,615
	136,178	1,239,709	1,375,887	1,670,221
For the year ended 31 March 2025	217,504	1,452,717	–	1,670,221

3 Income from other trading activities	Total funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
Sales	76,023	61,444
Sponsorship	15,000	83,750
All income from other trading activities is unrestricted.	91,023	145,194

4 Income from investments	Total funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
Bank interest received	16,623	14,611
All income from investments is unrestricted.	16,623	14,611

5 Other Income	Unrestricted funds 2026 (£)	Restricted funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
Royalties and licences	108,236	69,060	177,296	201,619
	108,236	69,060	177,296	201,619
For the year ended 31 March 2025	178,509	23,110	–	201,619

6 Expenditure on raising funds	Direct staff costs 2026 (£)	Other direct costs 2026 (£)	Support costs 2026 (£)	Total 2026 (£)	Total 2025 (£)
Costs of generating and servicing memberships	108,486	185,084	18,619	312,189	290,587
Costs of raising other donations and legacies	487,518	67,056	125,827	680,401	645,405
Commercial trading costs	128,377	–	2,447	130,824	134,045
	724,381	252,140	146,893	1,123,414	1,070,037
For the year ended 31 March 2025	691,723	199,520	178,794	–	1,070,037

7 Expenditure on charitable activities	Direct staff costs 2026 (£)	Other direct costs 2026 (£)	Support costs 2026 (£)	Total 2026 (£)	Total 2025 (£)
Better protected ocean	915,756	315,521	249,162	1,480,439	1,499,362
Cleaner ocean	584,766	138,592	178,839	902,197	917,571
Healthier ocean	584,279	140,549	151,130	875,958	883,682
Engaged community of support	584,543	174,922	161,539	921,004	880,259
	2,669,344	769,584	740,670	4,179,598	4,180,874
For the year ended 31 March 2025	2,530,235	924,435	726,204	-	4,180,874

8 Support costs	Property costs 2026 (£)	Admin staff costs 2026 (£)	Admin other costs 2026 (£)	Govern- ance costs 2026 (£)	Total 2026 (£)	Total 2025 (£)
Costs of generating and servicing membership subscriptions	1,578	9,142	3,562	4,337	18,619	34,737
Costs of raising other donations and legacies	10,667	61,781	24,074	29,305	125,827	141,980
Commercial trading costs	-	-	-	2,447	2,447	2,077
Better protected ocean	21,123	122,339	47,672	58,028	249,162	233,889
Cleaner ocean	15,161	87,811	34,217	41,650	178,839	185,663
Healthier ocean	12,812	74,205	28,915	35,198	151,130	142,604
Engaged community of support	13,695	79,316	30,907	37,621	161,539	164,048
	75,036	434,594	169,347	208,586	887,563	904,998
Analysed between:						
Raising funds	12,245	70,923	27,636	36,089	146,893	178,794
Charitable activities	62,791	363,671	141,711	172,497	740,670	726,204
	75,036	434,594	169,347	208,586	887,563	904,998

Support costs are allocated to activities based on the FTE staff numbers working on those activities. Property costs include rent, rates, and utility costs for all our offices. Admin staff costs are the staff costs of the Finance, Human Resources, and IT teams. Other admin costs include postage, stationery, equipment, and depreciation of fixed assets (note 14). Governance costs include insurance, audit and legal fees, the cost of trustee meetings and the proportion of management and finance staff costs spent on the governance of the charity.

9 Net incoming resources for the year	Total 2026 (£)	Total 2025 (£)
<i>This is stated after charging:</i>		
Depreciation	7,079	4,681
Auditor's remuneration:		
audit fees	15,880	15,124
other services	-	3,000
Equipment rental	1,618	1,618
Trustees' liability insurance	2,342	2,218
Property rental	56,881	55,744
Foreign exchange rate (gains) / loss	257	236

The property rental cost above relates to the lease of the head office at Ross-on-Wye as well as licences to occupy small offices in London and Edinburgh.

10 Staff costs and Trustees' remuneration	Total 2026 (£)	Total 2025 (£)
Salaries and wages	3,207,286	3,199,076
Employer's national insurance contributions	402,683	312,724
Pension costs	236,532	181,902
Redundancy payments	-	7,500
	3,846,501	3,701,202

One employee received emoluments in the band £80,000 to £90,000 (2025 – one). This employee had benefits accruing under an auto-enrolment scheme and contributions paid during the year totalled £6,761 (2025 – £6,703). Three employees received emoluments in the band £60,000 to £70,000 (2025 – three). These employees had benefits accruing under an auto-enrolment scheme and contributions paid during the year totalled £14,516.

During the year key management received a combined total remuneration including the cost of employer pension and national insurance of £413,868 (2025 – £408,039). Marine Conservation Society is committed to paying all employees at least the real Living Wage as set by the Living Wage Foundation.

No trustees received any remuneration in the year (2025: nil) and three trustees claimed expenses during the year for travel and subsistence (2025: four), amounting to £353 (2025: £1,689).

11 Staff numbers	2026 (average headcount)	2025 (average headcount)	2026 (full time equivalent)	2025 (full time equivalent)
Conservation and engagement programmes	69	64	62	58
Fundraising and servicing membership subscriptions	14	21	13	18
Administration and support	16	18	14	16
	99	103	89	92

12 Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme for members of staff. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity, being invested with insurance companies. Pension costs charged in the Statement of Financial Activities represent the contributions payable by the charity in the year. There was £23,604 (2025 – £20,320) accrued at the end of the year representing pension costs payable. Where restricted income funds staff costs, the relevant proportion of pension costs is allocated to those funds.

13 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes. The group’s tax liability is minimised by ensuring that any non-charitable income is received by the subsidiary company M C S Sales Limited, and the subsidiary donates the taxable profits from that income to the charity under the Gift Aid Scheme. Further details on M C S Sales Limited are provided in notes 16 and 17.

14 Tangible Fixed Assets (Group and charity)	Fixtures & fittings (£)	Computers & equipment (£)	Total (£)
Cost			
At 1 April 2025	10,352	74,958	85,310
Additions at cost	–	10,671	10,671
Disposals	–	(16,248)	(16,248)
At 31 March 2026	10,352	69,381	79,733
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2025	9,198	64,550	73,748
Charge for the year	408	6,671	7,079
Disposals	–	(16,248)	(16,248)
At 31 March 2026	9,606	54,973	64,579
Net book value			
At 31 March 2026	746	14,408	15,154
At 31 March 2025	1,154	10,408	11,562

15 Intangible Fixed Assets	Website Development (£)
Cost	
At 1 April 2025	–
Additions at cost	82,328
Disposals	–
At 31 March 2026	82,328
Amortisation and Impairment	
At 1 April 2025	–
Amortisation charged in the year	–
Amortisation eliminated on disposals	–
At 31 March 2026	–
Net book value	
At 31 March 2026	82,328
At 31 March 2025	–

16 Investments in subsidiaries (Charity only)	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
M C S Sales Limited (company number 1766795)	100	100
Ocean Finance Alliance Limited (company number 1777391)	100	100
	200	200

Investments in subsidiaries held by the charity represent the whole of the issued share capital of each of the companies above. Both companies are registered in England and Wales, with the registered office of Overross House, Ross Park, Ross-On-Wye, Herefordshire, United Kingdom, HR9 7US. The companies were established to carry out trades which were not in themselves charitable (and which could not, therefore, be conducted by the charity) but where all the profits were gifted to the charity, providing an additional income source to fund marine conservation.

Ocean Finance Alliance Limited is not trading and is dormant.

M C S Sales Limited conducts corporate fundraising including sponsorship to raise money for the Marine Conservation Society. A summary of the results of M C S Sales Limited is shown in note 17 and full accounts are filed with Companies House each year.

17 Performance of M C S Sales Limited

	Year ended 31 March 2026 (£)	Year ended 31 March 2025 (£)
Statement of comprehensive income		
Turnover	268,250	339,458
Cost of sales	(141,008)	(145,453)
Gross profit	127,242	194,005
Administrative costs	(1,493)	(2,077)
Operating profit	125,749	191,928
Tax on operating profit	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	125,749	191,928
Gift Aid donation to parent charity relating to profits from previous year	-	-
Gift Aid donation to parent charity from profits in current year	125,749	191,928
The assets and liabilities of the company were		
Current assets	149,124	88,029
Current liabilities	(149,024)	(87,929)
Total net assets	100	100
Share capital	100	100
Retained profit	-	-

The above subsidiary accounts are before consolidation adjustments. Because all the profits are donated to the charity within the Gift Aid Scheme, no tax is owing.

18 Stocks	The group		The charity	
	2026 (£)	2025 (£)	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
Stocks held for volunteers and for resale in online shop	1,561	11,820	1,561	11,820
	1,561	11,820	1,561	11,820

2025 figures included stocks of Seasearch books for sale online and tablecloths purchased as part of a pack for volunteers. The clothes sold online are sold through our partner Teemill, who holds the stock. 2026 figures are purely tablecloths – all books have now been gifted to Seasearch CIC

19 Debtors	The group		The charity	
	2026 (£)	2025 (£)	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
Trade debtors	102,062	66,769	57,094	30,640
Amounts owed by subsidiary	-	-	136,999	70,825
Prepayments and accrued income	728,409	461,337	723,705	459,572
Other debtors	-	-	-	-
	830,471	528,106	917,798	561,037

20 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	The group		The charity	
	2026 (£)	2025 (£)	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
Trade creditors	58,036	194,875	57,920	195,165
Tax and social security	96,014	97,352	84,395	85,292
Accruals	65,866	81,365	65,866	76,321
Deferred income	88,012	97,464	88,012	97,464
Other creditors	23,604	20,320	23,604	20,320
	331,532	491,376	319,797	474,562
Deferred income <i>Income received that relates to a future period</i>				
Membership subscriptions	40,404	42,245	40,404	42,245
Corporate memberships and logo licensing	15,708	24,225	15,708	24,225
Grant income received for service delivery	-	1,467	-	1,467
Income received for events and training	31,900	29,527	31,900	29,527
	88,012	97,464	88,012	97,464

All of the deferred income as at 31 March 2025 was released into the SOFA in the 2025–26 financial year.

21 Operating lease commitments

	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
As at 31 March 2026 the charity had total commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as below:		
Land and buildings		
Leases expiring within one year	15,362	19,747
Leases expiring within two to five years	15,464	23,528
	30,826	43,275

22 Provision for liabilities (Group and charity)

	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
At the beginning of the year	6,455	5,729
Addition / (reduction) for dilapidations	864	726
At the end of the year	7,319	6,455

The provision relates to the lease of the office at Ross-on-Wye.

23 Statement of group funds

	At 1 April 2025 (£)	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Transfers (£)	At 31 March 2026 (£)
Unrestricted funds					
General reserves	-	-	-	-	-
Designated funds (contingency fund)	1,089,690	3,477,442	(3,649,289)	(5,935)	911,908
	1,089,690	3,477,442	(3,649,289)	(5,935)	911,908
Restricted funds					
Ocean Regeneration and Sustainable Seafood					
Atlantic Coast	83,495	294,961	(253,000)	-	125,456
Good Fish Guide and Sustainable Seafood	70,887	12,000	(80,312)	(2,575)	-
Sustainable Seafood and traceability	15,000	15,000	(30,000)	-	-
Aquaculture projects	68,749	-	(64,827)	-	3,922
Restoration Projects UK					
Restoration Forth	756	98,362	(99,118)	-	-
DEEP	3,616	35,000	(29,166)	-	9,450
Seagrass projects	34,246	(33,247)	(999)	-	-
Marine Protected Areas	1,977	-	(360)	-	1,617
Policy and Advocacy					
Marine Spatial Planning	22,973	66,438	(39,340)	-	50,071
Persistence of Chemicals and Storm Outflows	58,096	131,781	(156,488)	-	33,389
Water Reform	-	6,509	(6,509)	-	-
Deposit Return Scheme	30,935	30,000	(29,025)	-	31,910
Parliamentary Affairs					
Parliamentary Affairs (Senedd)	22,974	37,974	(60,948)	-	-
Learning and Community Engagement					
Learning and Community Engagement General	88,203	(19,411)	(35,972)	-	32,820
Scottish Education Roadshow	19,155	133,759	(19,712)	-	133,202
One Ocean Roadshow	168,559	30,000	(108,712)	-	89,847
Natur am Byth!	-	242,580	(242,580)	-	-
Youth Engagement	18,492	38,665	(33,873)	-	23,284
Other engagement funds	-	-	-	-	-
Volunteering and Citizen Science					
Beachwatch	16,416	150,961	(153,891)	-	13,486
National Seasearch	194	119,741	(125,770)	5,935	100
UK & Overseas Territories					
British Virgin Islands Turtle Conservation	-	-	-	-	-
Anguilla Shark Conservation	-	10	(4,454)	4,444	-
Other UK Overseas Territories	15,935	85,923	(78,667)	(1,869)	21,322
	740,658	1,477,006	(1,653,723)	5,935	569,876
Total funds	1,830,348	4,954,448	(5,303,012)	-	1,481,784

23 Continued
Comparative statement of group funds
for the year ended 31 March 2025

	At 1 April 2024 (£)	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Transfers (£)	At 31 March 2025 (£)
Unrestricted funds					
General reserves	17,367	3,749,883	(3,797,138)	29,888	-
Designated funds (contingency fund)	1,124,404	-	-	(34,714)	1,089,690
	1,141,771	3,749,883	(3,797,138)	(4,826)	1,089,690
Restricted funds					
Ocean Regeneration & Sustainable Seafood					
Atlantic Coast	-	85,000	(1,505)	-	83,495
Good Fish Guide	147,551	15,848	(92,512)	-	70,887
Just Transition	15,000	-	-	-	15,000
Aquaculture projects	101,205	51,396	(83,852)	-	68,749
Restoration Projects UK					
Restoration Forth	-	106,257	(105,501)	-	756
DEEP	6,138	25,436	(27,958)	-	3,616
ReMEDIES	5,503	12,555	(23,836)	5,778	-
Seagrass projects	87,910	13,236	(61,122)	(5,778)	34,246
Marine Protected Areas	26,239	11,198	(35,460)	-	1,977
Policy and Advocacy					
Marine Spatial Planning	-	78,291	(55,318)	-	22,973
Persistence of Chemicals	18,934	109,000	(69,838)	-	58,096
Tyres & Road Run Off	20,267	-	(20,267)	-	-
Deposit Return Scheme	30,021	13,225	(12,311)	-	30,935
Parliamentary Affairs					
Parliamentary Affairs (Senedd)	-	22,974	-	-	22,974
Blue Carbon	1,164	46,807	(47,971)	-	-
Learning and Community Engagement					
Learning and Community Engagement General	32,722	350,669	(304,240)	9,052	88,203
Scottish Education Roadshow	682	40,000	(21,527)	-	19,155
One Ocean Roadshow	18,774	166,000	(16,215)	-	168,559
Natur am Byth!	-	212,932	(212,932)	-	-
Youth Engagement	-	20,000	(1,508)	-	18,492
Other engagement funds	5,553	(5,553)	-	-	-
Volunteering and Citizen Science					
Beachwatch	25,638	52,469	(61,691)	-	16,416
Volunteer & Community Engagement	-	-	-	-	-
National Seasearch	39,570	91,868	(127,018)	(4,226)	194
UK & Overseas Territories					
British Virgin Islands Turtle Conservation	-	934	(934)	-	-
Anguilla Shark Conservation	-	33,906	(33,906)	-	-
Other UK Overseas Territories	16,781	35,505	(36,351)	-	15,935
	599,652	1,589,953	(1,453,773)	4,826	740,658
Total funds	1,741,423	5,339,836	(5,250,911)	-	1,830,348

Unrestricted funds

General funds

The general reserve represents funds that are not designated for particular purposes and so can be used by the charity across different work areas.

Designated funds

The designated reserves are those funds set aside by Trustees as a contingency in the event of future income shortfalls. The Trustees aim to maintain this fund at a level that will support between three and four months' unrestricted expenditure. As at 31st March 2026, approximately three months' of unrestricted expenditure was held in the designated fund.

Restricted funds

All restricted funds are for specific conservation or educational projects in the UK and overseas. These funds are recorded and managed individually by project but, for ease, the smaller projects are broadly categorised in these accounts by type of activity.

Ocean Regeneration and Sustainable Seafood

Funds within this programme supported our work to create a healthier ocean by promoting the development of sustainable wild capture and farmed seafood production, and our work across the UK to address critical threats to our marine environment and wildlife.

- ▶ **Atlantic Coast** – Thanks to founding partners of the Atlantic Coast programme, FatFace and the FatFace Foundation, who have pledged multi-year support. Projects will focus on the UK's west coast, helping to regenerate key ocean species such as oysters and seagrass through innovative solutions, combined with complementary community restoration practices and an innovative mosaic approach to improving the health of the ocean. In 2025/26 funding from The Access Foundation and a multi-year pledge from John Swire 1989 Charitable Trust have boosted our efforts.
- ▶ **Good Fish Guide and Sustainable Seafood** – Funding from Fishmongers' Company's Charitable Trust and Moondance Foundation enabled us to critically assess our Good Fish Guide (GFG) ratings methodologies for wild caught and farmed fish. Recommended changes have been reviewed with

seafood supply chain users of the GFG and are being progressively updated. This ensures ratings remain current, proactive, robust, and continue to challenge seafood production and consumption in the UK to be more environmentally sustainable. Continued support from Delves Charitable Trust supports capacity within our Good Fish Guide team.

- ▶ **Sustainable seafood and traceability** – Multi-year funding from The Martin Charitable Trust enabled us to begin exploring the theory of a 'just transition' to leverage change in seafood supply chains towards climate-smart, low impact, sustainable fisheries. This year our work included reviewing UK seafood traceability activity; refreshing the GFG methodology to assess current and potential traceability; updating our sustainable seafood strategy to reaffirm the GFG's central role in influencing the seafood supply chain to support low impact fishing methods; and beginning to capitalise on emerging parliamentary advocacy opportunities.
- ▶ **Aquaculture projects** – Funds include the final year of a 2.5-year grant from Esmée Fairbairn Foundation to fund an Aquaculture Policy Officer. Our advocacy on aquaculture policy through this project identified opportunities across the devolved administrations to inform the development and implementation of responsible and sustainable aquaculture policies in the UK.

Restoration Projects UK

- ▶ **Restoration Forth** – In 2025/26 a further 30,000 native oysters were returned to the Firth of Forth taking the project total to 60,000, against an original project target of 30,000. We delivered 61 community engagement and citizen science activities for this project with our partners to over 1,400 people.

The Marine Conservation Society is partner in this WWF-led project, alongside Balanced Horizons, Edinburgh Shoreline Project, Fife Coast and Countryside Trust, Fife Ecology Centre, Heart of Newhaven, Heriot-Watt University, Project Seagrass and Scottish Seabird Centre.

The first phase of Restoration Forth (2022–24) was made possible by funding from Aviva, the ScottishPower Foundation and the Scottish Government's Nature Restoration Fund, facilitated by the Scottish Marine Environmental Enhancement Fund, and managed by NatureScot. The current phase (January 2025 onwards) is made possible by

funding from Sky and the Cinven Foundation; the project is supported by the Scottish Government's Nature Restoration Fund, managed by NatureScot.

- ▶ **DEEP** – Dornoch Environmental Enhancement Project (DEEP) is a partnership project since 2014 working with Heriot-Watt University and Glenmorangie to restore native oysters (*Ostrea edulis*) to the Dornoch Firth. In 2025, a further 11,833 oysters were deployed – with the ultimate goal of establishing four million oysters in the Dornoch Firth. We lead on local community engagement for the project, with funds provided by The Glenmorangie Company.
- ▶ **Seagrass projects** – Working with Princess Yachts and The Ocean Conservation Trust, 'Advanced Mooring Systems' (a type of low-impact mooring system) were installed at several sites to enable re-growth of seagrass at the base of the mooring chains, making beds denser and blades longer. Remaining funds have been reallocated to our Atlantic Coast programme, which is scoping projects to restore seagrass habitats in South West Scotland.
- ▶ **Marine Protected Areas** – Funds from Seas at Risk and others have enabled work to increase protection for marine protected areas.

Policy and Advocacy

- ▶ **Marine Spatial Planning** – Our work on marine spatial planning aims to ensure that there is effective and holistic marine spatial planning across the UK, and that activities that occur in the sea take place where they cause the least damage, with their cumulative effects considered. This is delivered through establishing the evidence base and political advocacy across Wales, Scotland and England. Funding to support this work, starting in Wales, was received from Marshall Wace and The Waterloo Foundation.
- ▶ **Persistence of Chemicals and Storm Outflows** – Our work on PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) or 'forever chemicals' aims to achieve a PFAS-free economy, starting by banning the use of all PFAS 'forever chemicals' in cases where there are alternatives, and asking businesses to remove forever chemicals from their products.

We work to achieve this goal by strengthening the evidence base on the prevalence and impacts of PFAS in the marine environment, and by engaging in political advocacy, public campaigning, and

collaboration with businesses to raise awareness and influence PFAS-related policies. Over the past year, public and political awareness of PFAS has grown, with more stakeholders beginning to take action to address the issue.

This work has been supported by The Orp Foundation, The Schroder Foundation and the Big Give, with funds being received from Sonardyne, Haddenham Healthcare and The Reed Foundation.

- ▶ **Deposit Return Scheme** – Funding from a private philanthropist has enabled us to strengthen our policy work and lobbying efforts, helping to secure political commitments toward the adoption of Deposit Return Schemes (DRS) across the UK. Following years of campaigning, legislation was passed in the Senedd in January 2026 to introduce DRS for cans and bottles in Wales which would include glass and pathways to reuse. Meanwhile, the Deposit Management Organisation for England, Scotland and Northern Ireland launched their public facing Exchange for Change brand as a key step forward toward nationwide implementation by October 2027.

Parliamentary Affairs

- ▶ **Parliamentary Affairs (Senedd)** – With multi-year funding from The Waterloo Foundation, the recruitment of our Senedd Parliamentary Affairs Officer in July 2024 has significantly boosted our parliamentary impact in Wales in relation to our key impact areas and goals. This year we secured multiple cross-party statements and fed into key debates. Moreover, we saw the Deputy First Minister attend and speak at two MCS events and utilise our data to frame the passing of the wet wipe ban legislation.'

Learning and Community Engagement

These funds supported a range of projects focusing on our Engaged Communities Goal.

Learning and Community Engagement general funds

These funds, including continued support from Bunzl, supported our learning and education programme to increase participation in marine conservation and improve ocean literacy through education workshops, live online lessons and over 100 online resources for young people and interested community members. This includes the following projects and work areas:

- ▷ **Scottish Education Roadshow** – The Protecting Scotland’s Seas roadshow is an education experience featuring a selection of options tailored for schools and youth groups to engage with the marine and outdoor environment. In 2025/26 the project received continued support from the William Grant Foundation. We were also delighted to receive confirmation of a multi-year commitment from The National Lottery Heritage Fund to develop this into our new Scottish Seas Roadshow, commencing 1st April 2026.
- ▷ **One Ocean Roadshow** – The One Ocean Roadshow delivers learning and community engagement with a strong focus on ocean literacy across a vast swathe of northern England. This project launched in January 2025 with recruitment of a dedicated Engagement Officer. The One Ocean Roadshow project is funded by a three-year grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, along with match funding provided by Buffini Chao Foundation and the David Brooke Charity.
- ▷ **Natur am Byth!** – Natur am Byth! (NaBI) Môr, a species recovery project funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund and Welsh Government, brings the powerful benefit of nature-connectedness to communities alongside Wales’s most biodiverse marine areas: Pembrokeshire, Pen Llyn and Ynys Môn. Working with partner organisations and projects, we have brought new audiences to citizen science and volunteering and worked with local schools to create resources and opportunities for action. We are reintroducing native oysters, co-producing plans for the restoration of vulnerable seagrass beds and monitoring pink sea fans and the pressures they face.
- ▷ **Youth Engagement** – Our youth engagement programme in Scotland inspires young people to take positive pro-ocean action through in-person and online events. A two-year grant from the William Grant Foundation towards our youth engagement programme in Scotland commenced in January 2025, matched by a three-year commitment from the Community Lottery Young Start Programme to deliver greater impact and opportunity for young people. This has included delivering our first youth internship and a residential for young people.

Other engagement funds

These funds contributed to other community engagement projects around the UK.

Volunteering and Citizen Science

- ▷ **Beachwatch** – Beachwatch is our flagship, citizen science activity. Volunteers across the UK and Channel Islands organise and participate in beach cleans and marine litter surveys in local communities to gather data, which is crucial for tracking litter back to its source, informing campaigns for change, and influencing policy decisions to reduce marine pollution and achieve a cleaner ocean. Beachwatch was supported by The Access Foundation, Buffini Chao Foundation, ScottishPower Foundation, Sky, and many other donors. The supporting sponsor of our annual ‘Great British Beach Clean’ event in September 2025 was holidaycottages.co.uk.
- ▷ **National Seasearch** – This is a partnership project with a number of agencies and organisations that involves volunteer recreational divers and snorkellers surveying marine species and habitats and collecting biodiversity records that form part of national and global biodiversity databases. The project was partially funded by Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs of Northern Ireland (DAERA), Natural England, NatureScot and Welsh Government’s Landfill Disposals Tax Communities Scheme, administered by Wales Council for Voluntary Action.

UK and Overseas Territories

- ▷ **Anguilla Shark Conservation** – The UK Government’s Darwin Plus scheme supported us in leading a multidisciplinary project that increased knowledge of Anguilla’s shark populations, their habitats and conservation need, whilst developing local ownership of conservation interventions through comprehensive community engagement. The Anguilla Shark Conservation project conducted Anguilla’s first ecological baseline assessment of sharks, integrated fisher knowledge, and took account of community perceptions. It then used these to inform a national shark Research Action Plan (SAP) that laid a pathway for future legislation and species action plans that consider community values, co-existence, and spatial protection of sharks and their habitats.

- ▷ **Other UK Overseas Territories** – A range of diverse work has been delivered under this programme in close collaboration with stakeholders in five Caribbean Territories. This included work with local researchers and communities to finalise a management plan for one of the largest uninhabited islands in East Caicos and work to explore the deep-sea habitats of the Turks and Caicos Islands to better understand oceanic processes vital for biodiversity and fisheries. We also carried out a one-year training programme with the TCI government to build their capacity in the Community Voice Method community engagement tool, with local staff taking a direct role in using the method to better understand community perspectives on improving marine protected area management. Our advocacy work with UK and UKOT Governments resulted in the Blue Belt Programme receiving extra funding.

Funding from a range of sources supported this work in 2025/26, including John Ellerman Foundation, Garfield Weston Foundation (via the University of Plymouth) and Fishmongers’ Company’s Charitable Trust.

Transfers between funds

- ▷ A transfer was made between UK and Overseas Territories Funds to ensure spend matched income
- ▷ Transfers were made from general funds to cover matched funding requirements on National Seasearch.

24 Analysis of net assets between funds	Restricted funds (£)	Designated funds (£)	General funds (£)	Total funds 2026 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
2026					
Tangible fixed assets	-	15,154	-	15,154	11,562
Intangible fixed assets	-	82,328	-	82,328	-
Net current assets	569,876	814,426	-	1,384,302	1,818,786
	569,876	911,908	-	1,481,784	1,830,348
2025					
Tangible fixed assets	-	11,562	-	-	11,562
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-	-
Net current assets	740,658	1,078,128	-	-	1,818,786
	740,658	1,089,690	-	-	1,830,348

25 Financial performance of the charity

The consolidated statement of financial activities includes the results of the sponsorship, other corporate fundraising and online retail sales conducted by M C S Sales Limited.

The summary financial performance of the charity alone is:

	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
Income	4,686,198	5,000,378
Gift Aid donation and other income from subsidiary company	137,425	205,415
	4,823,623	5,205,793
Expenditure	(5,172,187)	(5,116,868)
Net (expenditure)/income	(348,564)	88,925
Total funds brought forward	1,830,448	1,741,523
Total funds carried forward	1,481,884	1,830,448
Represented by:		
Restricted funds	569,876	740,658
Unrestricted funds	912,008	1,089,790

26 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.

27 Comparative consolidated statement of financial activities	Unrestricted funds 2025 (£)	Restricted funds 2025 (£)	Total funds 2025 (£)
Income and expenditure			
Income from			
Donations and legacies	3,194,065	114,126	3,308,191
Charitable activities	217,504	1,452,717	1,670,221
Other trading activities	145,194	-	145,194
Investments	14,611	-	14,611
Other	178,509	23,110	201,619
Total income	3,749,883	1,589,953	5,339,836
Expenditure on			
Raising funds	1,070,037	-	1,070,037
Charitable activities:			
Better protected ocean	817,806	681,556	1,499,362
Cleaner ocean	724,118	193,453	917,571
Healthier ocean	592,678	291,004	883,682
Engaged community of support	592,499	287,760	880,259
Total expenditure	3,797,138	1,453,773	5,250,911
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year before transfers	(47,255)	136,180	88,925
Net gains on investment assets	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)	(47,255)	136,180	88,925
Transfers between funds	(4,826)	4,826	-
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year	(52,081)	141,006	88,925
Funds at the start of the year	1,141,771	599,652	1,741,423
Funds at the end of the year	1,089,690	740,658	1,830,348

Acknowledgements of financial and other support

We would like to thank all the individuals and organisations who made our work this year possible.

Charitable trusts, foundations and grant funders giving £1,000 or more:

A & R Woolf Charitable Trust, The	Groundswell Charitable Foundation	P F Charitable Trust
Alfred and Frances Rubens Charitable Trust, The	Helvellyn Foundation, The	Peacock Charitable Trust
Amar Family Charitable Trust, The	Heritage Concern Foundation	Percy Hedley 1990 Charitable Trust, The
Anson Charitable Trust, The	Ian Mactaggart Trust, The	Pilkington General Charity Fund
Barker Charitable Trust Ltd, The	Inch Cape Foundation	Players of the Postcode Lottery
Bryan Guinness Charitable Trust, The	J & J R Wilson Trust	Pledgeling International Fund
Buffini Chao Foundation	John Ellerman Foundation	Reed Foundation, The
Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund	John Swire 1989 Charitable Trust	Ronald Miller Foundation, The
Cecil Pilkington Charitable Trust	King Charles III Charitable Fund	Royal Society for Protection of Birds
Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science	Lady Hind Trust, The	RS Macdonald Charitable Trust, The
Chalk Cliff Trust, The	Leslie Mary Carter Charitable Trust, The	Rubin Foundation Charitable Trust, The
Chapman Charitable Trust	Lighthouse Giving	Ruth Smart Foundation
Clive Garner Memorial, The	Llywodraeth Cymru – Welsh Government	Sandra Charitable Trust
Cobb Charity	Lyndal Tree Foundation, The	Schroder Foundation, The
Constance Travis Charitable Trust, The	Ma'at Environment Fund	ScottishPower Foundation
Craignish Trust	Mainhouse Charitable Trust, The	Simon Gibson Charitable Trust
David Brooke Charity, The	Marsh Charitable Trust	Sir Donald & Lady Edna Wilson Charitable Trust
Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs	Martin Charitable Trust, The	Thomas Lilley Memorial Trust
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs of Northern Ireland	Medlock Charitable Trust	University of Plymouth
East Coast Community Fund	Nancie Massey Charitable Trust	Valentine Charitable Trust, The
Edgar Lee Foundation, The	Nancy Bateman Charitable Trust, The	Wales Council for Voluntary Action
Finborough Foundation, The	Nancy Roberts Charitable Trust	Waterloo Foundation, The
Frazer Trust	National Lottery Community Fund, The	Wheeler Mill Foundation
Gess Charitable Trust	& The Young Start Programme	William Grant Foundation
Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust	National Lottery Heritage Fund, The	WWF–UK
Graham and Henrietta Somervell's Wildlife Trust	Natural England	
	NatureScot	
	Norman Family Trust, The	
	Orchard Family Charitable Trust, The	
	Orp Foundation, The	

Organisations and companies contributing £5,000 or more towards our income and charitable objectives through donations and corporate partnership agreements:

AB InBev UK	Green People	Sustainability Rocks
Access Foundation, The	Haddenham Healthcare	Teemill
Apogee	holidaycottages.co.uk	Tettix Games
Bunzl PLC	Marks & Spencer	The TJX Companies, Inc
Cargill	PwC UK	Triton Showers
Dorset Tea	Romo	Vacherin
Elemis	Salcombe Distilling Company	Wholefoods Market UK
FatFace	Sky UK	Xylem UK
FatFace Foundation	Sonardyne International	Zurich Insurance UK
Glenmorangie	St Austell Brewery Company	

Organisations and companies contributing £1,000 or more from company memberships:

Abel & Cole	Roast & Ground
Blueberry Financial	RX Architects
CH & Co	S2S Group
Clarity Environmental	Shibui Tea
i3Works	South Brent Coffee Roasters
Luke Jackson	St Hilda's Sea Adventures
Modern Coastal Living	Talomon Capital
Molesworth & Bird	Top Mops
Rapesco Office Products	V&D Interiors
Raw Potential	

Legacies and in memoriam donations:

Andrew Tacon	Mr Jacobs
Anne Gale	Robert Harvey
Bethany Anne Rebecca Smith	Robin Meakin
Christine Cecile Wilson	Roger Edwin Sykes
Gavin Stewart	Ronnie Duncan
Helen Mary Heger	Stephen Emerson
Jeffrey Arthur Bosworth	Susan King
Judith Mary Steedman	William George Carey
Mark Thompson	

Individuals giving gifts of £5,000 or more:

Maria Polycarpou
Will Gale
Xavier Menguy and Laura Bolohan

Supporters, members and groups

Our work would not be possible without our members, local groups, and Sea Champions who support us through vital conservation and fundraising efforts across the year.

Thank you to everyone who volunteers with us on our projects and gathers important data through Beach cleaning activities, Source to Sea surveys, Jelly watch, Turtle sightings and Big Seaweed Search. And to every individual, family, gang of friends, community group, dive club, sports club, youth and member organisation, school and college who run, swim, walk, dance, paddle, bake, make, sing, sail, jump and much more to raise money to support our work.

We would like to extend our thanks to our valued donors who wish to remain anonymous.

Patrons and ambassadors:

Patron
HM King Charles III
Ocean Ambassadors
Prof Ben Garrod
Cyrus Todiwala OBE DL
Deborah Meaden
Doug Allan
Fernando Montaña
Inka Cresswell
Iolo Williams
Lizzie Daly
Miranda Krestovnikoff
Sarah Jackson
Simon Reeve
Susie Rodgers MBE
Tom 'The Blowfish' Hird
Zoe Lyons

A special thank you to Doug Allan, who was one of our inaugural Ambassadors, for sharing his incredible passion, knowledge, skills and support for over 10 years. Our love and condolences to his family.

Pro bono support:

We would like to thank the following supporters for their pro bono support during the last year:

Alteryx
LSP Leadership
Mayer Brown LLP
Polyco Healthline

Reference and administrative information

Charity name

Marine Conservation Society

Charity registration number

1004005 (England & Wales)
SC037480 (Scotland)

Company registration number

02550966

Registered office and operational address

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Ross Park,
Ross-on-Wye HR9 7US

London operational address

Canopi, 82 Tanner Street SE1 3GN

Scottish operational address

CBC House, 24 Canning Street,
Edinburgh EH3 8EG

Principal professional advisors

Auditors

Saffery Audit (UK) LLP,
St Catherine's Court,
Berkeley Place, Clifton,
Bristol BS8 1BQ

Bankers

Barclays Bank,
Leicester LE87 2BB
Lloyds Bank,
8 High Town,
Hereford HR1 2AE

President

HM King Charles III

Trustees

The Trustees listed below were Trustees for the whole of the year ended 31 March 2026 and until the date of this report unless stated otherwise:

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Will Oulton [Vice Chair](#)
until 30 June 2026

Seth Richardson [Treasurer](#)
until 13 November 2025

David Wilkin [Treasurer](#)
from 13 November 2025

James Arnell
from 13 November 2025

Philip Bishop *Co-opted Trustee*
from 10 September 2025

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from 13 November 2025

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until 27 April 2026

Jessica Montgomery
until 13 November 2025

Rebecca Rodney

Rajah Roy

Natalie Shippen
from 13 November 2025

Helena Thernstrom

Stefano Tiratelli

Executive Team

The members of the Executive Team were in post for the whole of the year ended 31 March 2026 and until the date of this report unless stated otherwise:

Sandy Luk
[Chief Executive Officer](#)

Gareth Cunningham
[Director of Conservation & Policy](#)

Karen Hooley
[Director of Finance & Operations](#)

Kate Jacques
[Director of Fundraising & Development](#)

Georgina Parker
[Director of Communications and Engagement](#)

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