

Annual Impact Report
2025–2026



Contents

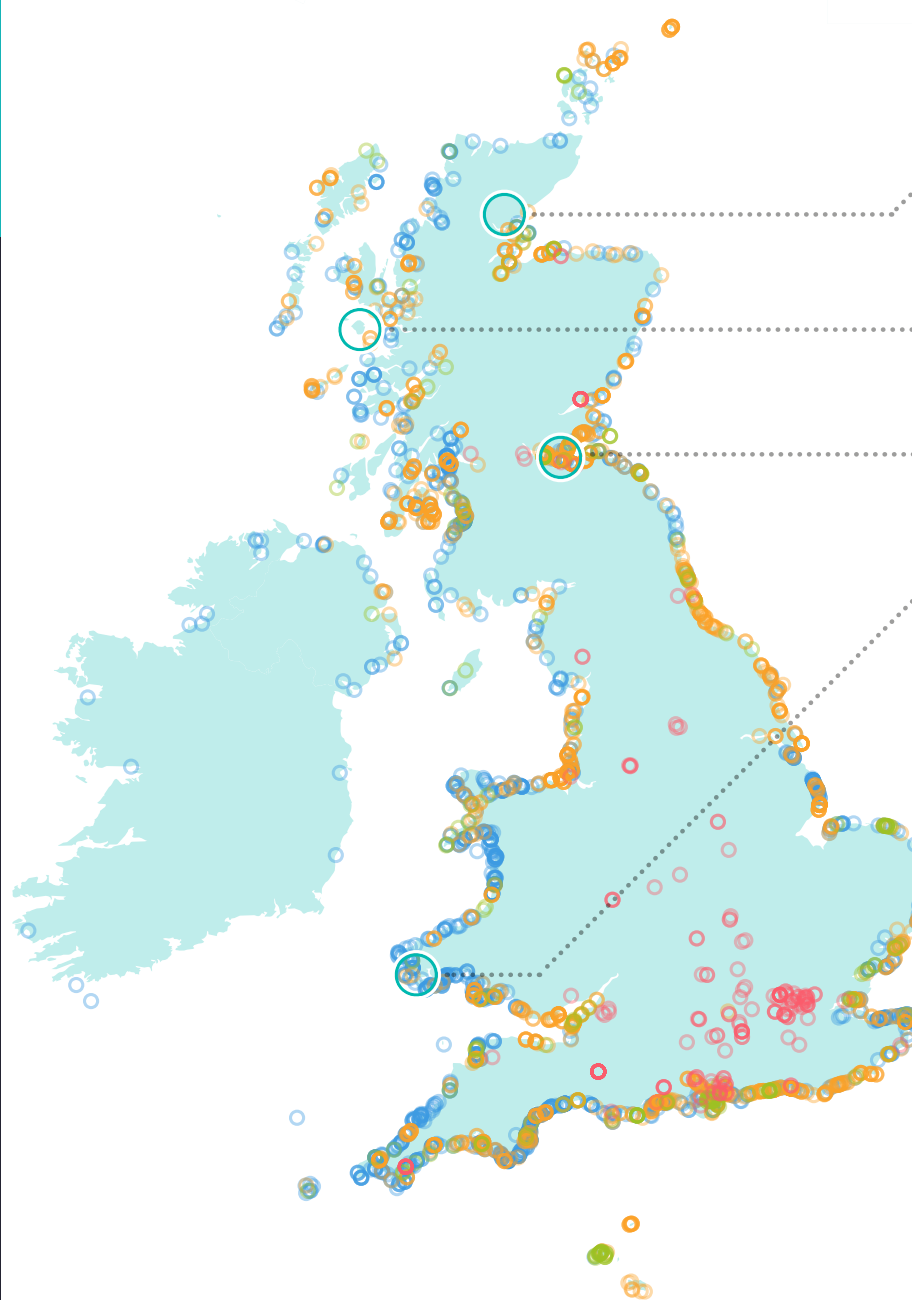
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Our impact across the UK

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



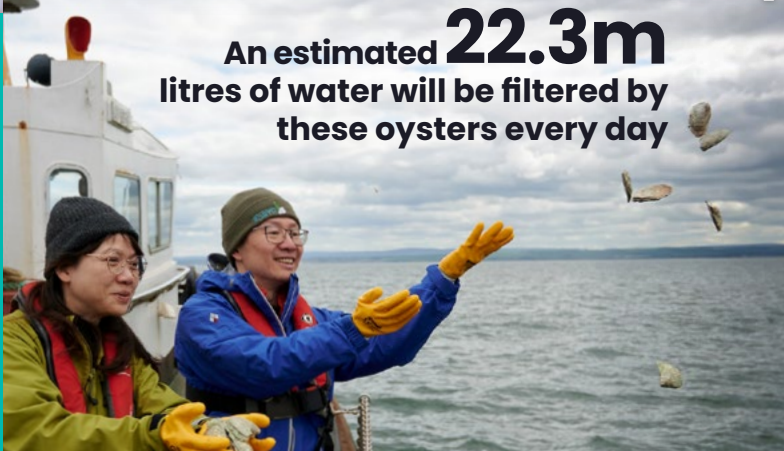
12,547 young people attended our in-person or online events to build their understanding of how to protect marine environments

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.



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.



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
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East Coast Community Fund	Nancie Massey Charitable Trust	Valentine Charitable Trust, The
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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

Overross House,
 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 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:

Amanda Nobbs [Chair](#)

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

Polly Burns

Mark Eckstein
from 13 November 2025

Martin Koehring

Joyce Lorigan
until 13 November 2025

Deborah Mahon
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](#)

MARINE CONSERVATION SOCIETY

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