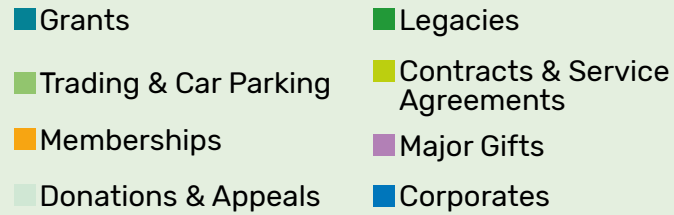


Income 22/23



Expenditure 22/23



Thank You

Shropshire Wildlife Trust depend on vital funds from a range of generous funders. We would therefore like to thank all our members, supporters and fundraisers for their continued support, including those who kindly donated to our 60th Anniversary Appeal, supported Feed the Birds, and the 167 people who sponsored a species.

Thank you to our Corporate Partners as well as Kanu Poke, Tanners, Beefy Boys, Clear Design, Caradoc, Vine House Farm and Ludlow Cycling Club.

Thanks also to Tudor Griffiths Group for the time and expertise offered as in-kind support.

We are also very grateful to the friends and family of those who chose to make in memoriam gifts, gave us funeral donations and those who left us legacies, including Rachel Martin, David Miller, Rose Sheldon, Paul Cousins and Dr Niall Kirk.

Finally, the below is not an exhaustive list, but we would also like to thank:

Beaver Bridges,
DEFRA,
Environment Agency,
European Regional Development Fund,
The Friends of Pontesford Hill,
National Highways,
Idris & Margaret Jones Charitable Trust,
Invest in Shropshire,
The Banister Charitable Trust,
The National Lottery Community Fund,
The National Lottery Heritage Fund,
John Swire 1989 Charitable Trust,
Millie's Watch Charitable Trust,
Mossy Earth,
Natural England,
NHS Charities Together,
Dr. P. Yuille,
P. Holbourn-Williams,
Potter Group Environmental Fund,
Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts,
Scottish Power Energy Networks,
Severn Rivers Trust,
Severn Trent Water,
Shrewsbury Town Council,
Shropshire Council,
Shropshire Chamber of Commerce,
Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership,
Sport England,
Telford and Wrekin Council,
Tudor Griffiths Group,
Veolia Environmental Fund.



ShropshireWildlifeTrust.org.uk

193 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury SY2 6AH

Registered Company no. 729746. Registered Charity no. 212744



**Shropshire
Wildlife Trust**

Summary Annual Review 2022 - 2023



Shropshire Wildlife Trust (SWT) has continued to stand up for nature and our vision for a thriving natural world.

This year, thanks to our generous supporters and effective partnerships, we have worked hard to get closer to our three new goals which direct our work, now and into the future.

Goal 1 – Shropshire's Nature is in Recovery

19.4% of Shropshire's land is managed for nature, against a target of 30% by 2023.



SWT land management

Our nature reserves continue to be examples of managing land for nature. The first phase of re-wetting Charles Sinker Fields was completed alongside a new, accessible bird hide. We increased the limestone grassland at Llynclyc Common and Quarry, securing a stepping-stone for butterflies in the Oswestry Hills, improved rocky scree for grayling at Earls Hill, and enhanced wet flush habitat for small-pearl bordered fritillaries at Cramer Gutter.

85% of SWT nature reserves in favourable or recovering condition.



Land management advice

Our farm advisers provided advice to 275 farmers and a further 35 landowners and managers used our paid for land management advice service.

Habitat and species projects

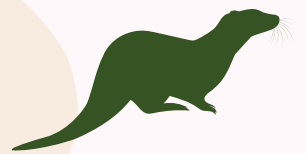
We restored or created 48 ponds for great crested newts and began work on major improvements in the Worfe and Strine catchments. Further projects took place in the Morda, Corve, Perry, Roden, Aqualate and Tern.

The Wilder Marches programme began, in partnership with Herefordshire, Montgomeryshire and Radnorshire Wildlife Trusts, thanks to John Swire 1989 Charitable Trust. The Carbon for Curlews project started mapping peatland in the Clun, using Farming in Protected Landscapes funding.

Biodiversity monitoring and analysis

Work is progressing to establish a Shropshire and Telford Nature Partnership, in response to statutory guidance to local authorities on Local Nature Recovery. The 180km² of habitat mapped by SWT volunteers will inform this partnership and future improvements for wildlife.

36 hectares of habitat restored by SWT in 2022-23; 4km of hedgerows planted and 17km of rivers re-naturalised.



5% of Shropshire surveyed by SWT in the last five years.



10% of Shropshire's farmers have made changes for nature following SWT advice.

Goal 2 – People are taking action for nature and the climate

National and local campaigns

It has been an uncertain year for nature so inspiring and empowering 1 in 4 people to take meaningful action for nature has been crucial. Our #DefendNature campaign aimed to keep nature at the forefront of laws, regulations and targets and we thank you for contacting your MPs. We continued to stand up for nature, including a renewed objection to the Shrewsbury North West Relief Road after updated consultations were published.

27.9% of the people we contacted, engaged with campaigns for nature in 2022-23



Children and young people

An amazing 2,336 children and young people experienced nature through wildings, school visits, youth groups, uniformed groups, wildlife watch, birthday parties and holiday clubs. In addition, we influenced 1,016 pupils through our school partnerships.

Green Influencers supported 60, 11-20 year olds to run social action projects. Weekend work parties supported 30 young people to gain confidence and skills whilst assisting our nature reserve management and 15 young people attended our garden club. We also laid the foundation for a youth forum and two young trustees were appointed, though one later stood down.



121 more primary school teachers trained by SWT in 2022-23

Community mobilisation and urban nature

We began implementing the 'Team Wilder' approach of community mobilisation and started the two-year 'Nextdoor Nature' project:

We've been listening to groups from diverse ethnic communities in Telford and supporting their ideas to flourish. With our support, the Shropshire European Organisation and the African and Caribbean Community Initiative (ACCI) have been awarded 'Green Spaces are Go' funding to get their ideas started. Shropshire European Organisation plan to run nature walks and increase their experience and skills, to host campfires in Apley Woods, whilst ACCI plan to establish a wellbeing and nature based cycling group in partnership with Telford Bike Hub.

6,716 people attended SWT community events in 2022-23



Support from members, volunteers and branches

Our incredible volunteers contributed nearly 29,000 hours - equivalent to nearly 19 full-time staff members! Almost 40% of this was contributed by our branches and groups with other significant contributions from Feed the Birds, weekly work parties and the visitor centre. Our branches, groups and ambassadors engaged more than 2,500 people through walks, talks and events. Thank you all!



Goal 3 - Nature is playing a central and valued role in helping to address local and global problems

We started to see more nature based solutions considered or adopted in 22/23.

Health and wellbeing projects

50 Feed the Birds volunteers provided weekly visits to 60 vulnerable and isolated people, improving their wellbeing, and we delivered several workshops to increase understanding of Green Social Prescribing.

SWT, with funding from EnergizeSTW, held workshops for social prescribing link workers. These gave attendees the opportunity to experience the outdoors as well as see how their role could encourage more people to go outside for their health and wellbeing. They were invited to take an hour out for an activity in local green spaces. This included a nature, forest or heritage walk, gardening, and wood turning.

The workshops were a great success with participants saying it was the "best training ever" and that their general mood "was about 5 when I arrived, now I am 9.5". Further walks for the link workers are being planned.

Habitat and species projects

Funding was secured for the site work to enable a captive release of Beavers at the Old River Bed SSSI, in partnership with Shrewsbury Town Council. This will inform consultations about future wild releases as we showcase the value of nature's ecological engineers in land management.

Our carbon impact

We continued our commitment to reducing SWT's emissions to net-zero by 2030 through reduced energy use, adopting zero-emission vehicles, and keeping conservation grazing to a minimum. Where we cannot eliminate, reduce, or substitute emissions we will seek to offset the residual emissions, where possible, through increased sequestration on our own land.



270 tCO2e

SWT's carbon emissions in 2022-23 – down from 370 tCO2e in 2019



Telford Mind Wellbeing Walk

A strong business model

We started to modernise our operational systems to maximise flexibility and resilience. We are moving ICT to the cloud and are working towards integrating our Finance and Customer Relationship Management (CRM) systems, as well as the website with the CRM.

Income was better than planned and expenditure slightly less. There was a substantial surplus on restricted funds, but a deficit on unrestricted. We are working to ensure that more of our essential support costs are factored into project funding so that our unrestricted income is available to spend on new conservation and community mobilisation work.

We continue to grow and diversify unrestricted income with car parking charges introduced at the Wrekin (Forest Glen Car Park), generating significant income to help us manage our nature reserves.

