

Company number: 2712823  
Charity number England and Wales: 1012361  
Charity number Scotland: SC040116

**Bat Conservation Trust**



**Bat Conservation Trust**  
**Report and Financial Statements**  
**31 March 2016**

## Bat Conservation Trust

### Report of the trustees

#### For the year ended 31 March 2016

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<b>Status</b>	The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 7 May 1992 and registered as a charity on 29 June 1992.	
<b>Governing document</b>	The company was established under a memorandum of association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its articles of association.	
<b>Company number</b>	2712823	
<b>Charity number</b>	<b>England and Wales</b>	1012361
<b>Charity number</b>	<b>Scotland</b>	SC040116
<b>Registered office and operational address</b>	Quadrant House, 250 Kennington Lane London SE11 5RD	
<b>Trustees</b>	Professor Kate Jones Dr. David Gibbons Sarah Escott Tom Andrews,  Bob Cornes Dr. Abigail Entwistle Rupert Lancaster Steve Markham Tom McOwat Roger Mortlock Dr. Kirsty Park Steve Parker Professor Robert Upex	Chair (until September 2015) Vice Chair (Chair from September 2015) Hon Secretary (Vice Chair from September 2015) Treasurer  Partner Bat Group Nominated trustee (from September 2015)  (Hon Secretary from September 2015) Partner Bat Group Nominated trustee (from September 2015)  Partner Bat Group Nominated trustee
<b>President</b>	Chris Packham	
<b>Vice Presidents</b>	Professor Paul Racey John Burton Dr. Robert Stebbings	
<b>Patron</b>	David Gower OBE	
<b>Staff</b>	Joint Chief Executive <u>Science team</u> Head of Monitoring Monitoring & Science Manager NBMP Project Manager NBMP Survey Co-ordinator	Julia Hanmer and Kit Stoner  Dr. Kate Barlow (until May 2015) Dr. Katherine Boughey (from August 2015) Philip Briggs Rebecca Wilson

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<b>Staff</b>	<u>Conservation team</u>	
	Director of Conservation	Dr. Carol Williams
	Head of Biodiversity	Lisa Hundt and Jan Collins (job share), Daniel Stevens (maternity cover for Lisa from September 2015)
		Joanna Ferguson
	Built Environment Officer	Peter Charleston (part time)
	Investigations Officer	Dr. Katherine Boughey (until August 2015)
	Planning Project Officer	Catherine Wyatt (from October 2015)
	Planning Project Assistant	Alexandra Waechter (from June 2015)
	Partnerships Officer	Lisa Worledge
	Scottish Officer	Anne Youngman
	Wales Officer	Steve Lucas
	Training Manager/Woodland Officer	Helen Miller
	Volunteer Co-ordinator (Woodland)	Sonia Reveley (part time)
	Conference Organiser	Michelle Beckett (part time)
	Conference Admin Officer	Andreia Correia da Costa (Aug-Sept)
	Helpline Managers	Amanda Adebisi
		Peter Crome
	Helpline Technical Advisor	Jess Barker (part time) (until December 2015)
	Helpline Bat Advice Officers	Keiron Brown
		Katy Hillman (until October 2015)
		David Jackson
		Olivia Morton
		Jennifer Pope (part time)
	Helpline Officer	Laura Brown (from May 2015, previously SHLO)
		Hannah Van Hesteren (from November 2015, previously SHLO)
	Seasonal Helpline Officers (SHLO)	Lisa Campbell-Bannerman (May-Oct)
		Stephanie Garvin (May-Sept, then Interim Fundraising & Membership Officer, Sept-Nov)
		Laura Thomas (May-Oct)
	<u>Communications/Fundraising team</u>	
	Director of Communications & Fundraising	Dr. Joe Nunez-Mino
	Trusts & Grants Fundraiser	Rosalind Hutchinson
	Fundraising & Membership Officer	Dawn Mackie (until August 2015)
		Andreia Correia da Costa (from October 2015)
	<u>Finance/Operations team</u>	
	PA to CEO / Office Manager	Janet Baumkotter (part time)
	Finance Administrator	Jane Collett (part time)
	Administration Officer	Sian Moore
	Honorary Education Officer	Shirley Thompson MBE
	Honorary Science & Conservation Advisor	Professor Paul Racey
	Honorary Science Advisor	Professor Gareth Jones
		Professor Kate Jones (from September 2015)
	Honorary Legal Advisor	Michael Ford QC

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For the year ended 31 March 2016

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<b>Bankers</b>	The Co-operative Bank plc Kings Valley Yew Street Stockport SK4 2JU
<b>Health and Safety</b>	JEM Safety Management Ltd 190 Moor Lane Upminster Essex RM14 1HG
<b>Insurance brokers</b>	First Insurance Solutions Ltd Unit 6, The Oaks Business Village Revenge Road Lordswood Chatham Kent ME5 8LF
<b>Financial advisors</b>	Coloma Wealth Management LLP 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Mitre House 12-14 Mitre Street London EC3A 5BH
<b>Employment advisors</b>	Ellis Whittam Ltd Woodhouse Church Lane Aldford Chester CH3 6JD
<b>Solicitors</b>	Aaron & Partners LLP Grosvenor Court Foregate Street Chester CH1 1HG
<b>Auditors</b>	Sayer Vincent Chartered accountants and registered auditors Invicta House 108-114 Golden Lane London EC1Y 0LT
<b>Pension advisors</b>	Foster Denovo Ltd Ruxley House 2 Hamm Moore Lane Addlestone Surrey KT15 2SA

## **Bat Conservation Trust**

### **Report of the trustees**

#### **For the year ended 31 March 2016**

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The trustees present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2016.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 to 4 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

### **Structure, Governance & Management**

#### **History of the Bat Conservation Trust**

The Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) was formed in 1991, by far-seeing individuals who recognised that the combination of challenges to the conservation of bats was unique. BCT is proud to be the leading non-governmental organisation devoted solely to the conservation of bats and their habitats. In a very short time, BCT has grown to become an organisation with more than 5,000 members, with offices in England, Wales and Scotland and a team of around 30 staff including scientists, specialists in training, outreach and biodiversity, volunteer engagement, fundraising, media and membership. BCT's core activities include; biodiversity delivery (taking effective practical conservation actions and influencing policy to secure bat populations); the National Bat Monitoring Programme (coordinating more than 1000 volunteer surveyors each year); delivering advice about bats (through the National Bat Helpline and through long-term partnerships with the statutory nature conservation organisations and with statutory investigators and prosecutors); training professionals and volunteers; and engaging and educating wider audiences.

#### **An overview of who we are**

For 25 years, BCT has championed bats and the places they need to survive.

Our vital stats:    We spend just 12p on fundraising per £1 raised  
                          99:1 volunteer to paid worker ratio  
                          46,000 donated hours  
                          Over 130,000 online supporters  
                          5,943 members  
                          3000+ volunteers

### **Charitable Objectives**

#### **Our purpose:**

Vision:                A world rich in wildlife where bats and people thrive together.  
Mission:             To conserve bats for present and future generations. Through education, collaborative action and scientific research, we inspire individuals and organisations to value and speak out for bats.  
Values:                Inspiration, collaboration, science evidence-based.

#### **We work to:**

**Discover:** To ensure scientific evidence is in place to support bat conservation:

- Provide, either directly, through collaboration or by signposting to external organisations, the scientific evidence we need to understand and address threats to bat populations

## Bat Conservation Trust

### Report of the trustees

#### For the year ended 31 March 2016

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- Deliver a world-leading, cost-effective citizen science programme supported by motivated volunteers, providing high quality data able to inform evidence needs, policy-relevant questions and metrics of bat population status, change and distribution

**Act:** To secure and enhance bat populations and their resilience in a changing world

- Be the authoritative voice influencing positive outcomes (government, planning process, enforcement)
- Improved awareness, knowledge and action for bat conservation in key sectors (built environment, forestry, agriculture) and audiences (professional ecologists, volunteers, those that use places of worship)
- Advice provided is based on the most robust evidence available

**Inspire:** To win the levels of support required to secure and enhance bat populations.

- Increased engagement with and understanding of bats by the public and media
- Increased recruitment, retention and engagement of BCT members

**Strengthen:** Enable BCT to achieve financial stability and sustainable staff workloads. Ensure staff and volunteers are motivated and well led

The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The trustees report the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remained focused on its stated purposes.

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Any organisation or individual can join BCT as member on paying an annual fee, with concessionary membership available. Members are showing their support for bats and BCT. The aims, objectives and activities of BCT deliver benefits to the wider public including but not exclusively to its members.

## **The President's message**

I recently found myself writing a piece for World of Animals – Bats. I have been convinced by your persuasive Director of Communications to reproduce some of it here:

I like bats as much now as I did when I was six and used to paw over the pages of my Ladybird book dreaming nightly of glimpsing a pipistrelle flitting outside my window. And now these remarkable mammals do swoop and pirouette around my garden and I stand entranced, trying to imagine what it is like to be them, what it is really like to fly that fast, to 'see' with sound, to find tiny insects in the air and snatch enough of them for a meal. But I also worry, because in the fifty years of being fascinated by bats they have become much rarer and, although we have made progress, we haven't learned enough about their lifestyles to guarantee their conservation. But of course of all the species to study bats are amongst the hardest, they are nocturnal, fragile, sensitive and some are so endangered they have become precious. And of course historically they have often had negative press, the ingredients of witches brews, vampires . . . and all the 'old wives tales'.

I then went on to urge everyone to get into bats and especially to join Bat Conservation Trust. Now, many of you reading this are already members and some for many years but I know there are still a lot of people who have not discovered what we have – the wonder and importance of bats. I hope I can urge them to share and be part of securing the future for bats.

It's great to have started 2016 celebrating the 20th anniversary of the National Bat Monitoring Programme. As the longest running purpose-built, multi-species monitoring programme for mammals in the UK, we have a lot to be proud of. It is because of the NBMP and the data collected by thousands of dedicated volunteers that bats are included in the government's UK Biodiversity Indicators which measure the overall health of our environment.

A first for BCT this year has been supporting its work by using a crowdfunding appeal. The funds raised were to publish and distribute a new edition of the Bat Care Guidelines. This is a vital resource for those caring for bats. It is freely available for all volunteer rehabilitators listed with the Bat Care Network and also UK veterinary practices. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this fundraising effort.

Wildlife crime continues to be an important focus for BCT. In March 2016, for the first time, to our knowledge, a wildlife crime case has been held on appeal in the Crown Court and has not only been successful but also had a Proceeds of Crime penalty applied. This sends a strong message to those who destroy wildlife that they will be held to account and will not profit from their criminal behaviour. Well done to the investigations project – great work.

And Hoorah for the noctule bat which has been selected by BatLife Europe as Bat Species of the Year for 2016. What a great choice, it's our biggest bat, but no longer than the width of your palm; This is one of the few bats whose calls can be heard by the human ear—but, except for the lucky few, this is something only children can hear. I hope you will join us in celebrating the noctule and all bat species throughout the coming year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Packham', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Chris Packham  
President, Bat Conservation Trust

## **Review by the Chair and Joint Chief Executives**

This year, with your help, we have continued to speak up for bats and their needs.

We have ensured the continuing need for the Habitats Directive and its better implementation is made crystal clear within the EU Habitats and Birds Directives Review (REFIT) in two ways. Firstly, we have contributed to a strong joined up response from 100 UK NGOs via UK Joint Wildlife Links. Secondly we helped catalyse a strong message of support for the Directives from the public, resulting in the biggest ever response to an EU consultation. We have also worked closely with wildlife NGOs in Wales to ensure the Environment (Wales) Bill is strong and effective.

Increasingly we are working in partnership to have a stronger voice and greater overall impact for bats and all wildlife. BCT has led the first year of our Partnership for Biodiversity in Planning. This is a collaboration of 19 organisations from the conservation and planning sectors which aims to simplify and improve consideration of biodiversity in planning decisions. The partnership have developed a set of screen mock-ups for the interactive web-based planning tool and consulted on this with Local Planning Authorities, with overall positive feedback.

We have continued to lead on guidance, best practice and advice for bat conservation. After a widespread consultation we published the 3rd edition of the Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines in February. Our National Bat Helpline responded to over 15,000 calls in 2015 and feedback about the service from callers remains overwhelmingly positive.

Discovering more about bats and their conservation needs continues to be a key priority for BCT.

This year we published the trends of three bat species in Scotland for the first time. In addition, Paul Lintott, the winner of our 2015 Vincent Weir Science Award, uncovered fascinating differences between common and soprano pipistrelles using data from BCT's National Bat Monitoring Programme. His work has added to our understanding of how two of our commonest bat species are negatively influenced by urbanisation and will inform management of urban landscapes and the remaining pockets of 'bat friendly' habitat within them.

During the year we have developed our new strategy which outlines how we will work to conserve bats over the next 5 years, through education, collaborative action and scientific research. The progress in this report is shown against our new Strategy for 2015-2020, which we launched at the National Bat Conference in September. Over the coming year we will be continuing to consult with key stakeholders on our new strategy.

Looking forward, we have big aspirations. We are part of a ground breaking Back from the Brink collaboration, planning the biggest every project to tackle the well-evidenced decline in species directly. With this partnership of 7 like-minded NGOs and Natural England, we aim to launch action across England to improve the status of 130 species under threat, including grey long-eared bats and greater horseshoe bats.

It is crucial that future mitigation advice is based on lessons learned from current mitigation measures. Early in 2017 we will hold an event to share mitigation case studies, nurture best practice and strengthen partnership working. In memory of our dear friend and colleague Kate Barlow, we will be setting up a new award scheme providing grants to encourage scientists carrying out Masters and PhD studies on bat conservation.



## Bat Conservation Trust

### Report of the trustees

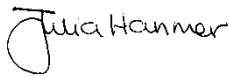
#### For the year ended 31 March 2016

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To tackle issues with bats and churches, we have established a cross sector partnership to identify and implement innovative solutions. Over the year to come we will continue to work closely to develop joined up solutions with Natural England, the Church of England Church Buildings Council, Historic England and the Churches Conservation Trust.

Huge thanks to all our staff, volunteers, partners and supporters. Your passion and dedication has allowed us to make a real difference to the future of bats. A big thank you as well to Professor Kate Jones, who stepped down as Chair at the AGM in September after 9 years on the Board of Trustees. Kate led us through some tricky times, but always did so with great good humour.

Dr David Gibbons, Chair, Kit Stoner & Julia Hanmer Joint Chief Executives



Julia Hanmer, Joint Chief Executive



Kit Stoner, Joint Chief Executive



Dr David Gibbons, Chair

In this part of the report we review BCT's activities against our strategic objectives (see page 5), and outline our plans for the future.

## **Discover –to ensure scientific evidence is in place to support bat conservation**

### **National Bat Monitoring Programme (NBMP)**

The NBMP is run by the Bat Conservation Trust, in partnership with the Joint Nature Conservation Committee, and supported and steered by Natural England, Natural Resources Wales, Northern Ireland Environment Agency, and Scottish Natural Heritage.

It is the longest running purpose-built, multi-species monitoring programme for mammals in the UK and relies on a nationwide network of citizen scientists. In 2015 a total of 2,137 sites were surveyed by 1002 volunteers, which is more than double the 1997 figure. We also ran 23 bat detector workshops which provided training for over 350 volunteer surveyors. Fifty nine percent of volunteers are now using our online recording portal to return their survey data, following its introduction across all our core surveys last year. In 2016, as we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the NBMP we aim to engage even more volunteers in helping us to collect data on how bats are faring.

The NBMP data collected have enabled us to produce statistically robust population trends for 11 of the UK's 17 breeding bat species. The data were once again used as part of UK Biodiversity Indicators report published on 19th January 2016. In addition to this there were some important peer-reviewed publications. Notable amongst these is the paper in Ecology and Evolution (February 2016) "Differential responses of cryptic bat species to the urban landscape. Ecology and Evolution". This research has important implications for conservation as it showed that even widespread and adaptable UK bat species can be negatively affected by increasing urbanised areas. In March 2016 another collaborative paper ("Agricultural Management and Climatic Change Are the Major Drivers of Biodiversity Change in the UK" published in PLoS ) included NBMP data in its analysis.

The National Bat Monitoring Programme continues to reveal important information about trends in bat populations – proving to be a real triumph for 'citizen science'. The late Kate Barlow, when she was head of monitoring at BCT, said: "The continuing pattern of increasing or stable trends we are seeing from bat monitoring is encouraging and suggests that positive conservation action and legal protection is helping our bat populations."

We need to undertake this work to ensure we understand the health and stability of bat populations. It is a priority to expand our monitoring programme to encompass more UK bat species and to improve our understanding of the causes of population and distribution change. Such information is crucial to target effective conservation action for bats.

We also want to assess how bat populations are faring across different habitats and landscapes (particularly woodlands). We now report on species trends at country level where data is sufficient and have carried out work to identify targets and actions needed to enable trends for more species to be produced for Scotland and Wales. We have enlisted and trained new NBMP workshop leaders in order to help recruit new volunteers in under-represented parts of the UK.

### **Research collaborations – generating the evidence base**

Evidence based conservation lies at the heart of all BCT's work. But the evidence does not always currently exist for important areas that inform bat conservation. In these cases this lack of evidence becomes a barrier to implementing or facilitating the delivery of the bat conservation. To remedy this an approach relying on targeted research and effective collaborations is needed. We have identified 19 priority research areas where further evidence is needed to help inform

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### Report of the trustees

#### For the year ended 31 March 2016

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and direct bat conservation. These will be made available publicly over the next few months in order to encourage researchers to address these priority questions and encourage opportunities to collaborate.

BCT has continued to nurture existing collaborations, as well as developing new partnerships, in order to address these deficits in knowledge and stay on the cutting edge of bat research. We work with a range of partners which include groups of dedicated citizen scientists, other environmental/conservation NGOs, government departments, the private sector and academic institutions.

There have been a number of important collaborations over the last year that are worth noting (this list is not exhaustive):

- Work led by Dr. Paul Lintott (University of Stirling) used NBMP data to look at the different responses of common and soprano pipistrelle in urban landscapes. The results of this study were published in *Ecology and Evolution* in February 2016.
- A collaborative study with a number of partners led by the British Trust for Ornithology examined the impacts of climate change on cross-taxa biodiversity including bats (using NBMP data). The results of this study have been submitted for publication.
- We are collaborating with the University of Bristol to investigate the relative effects of climate change and agri-environment schemes on greater and lesser horseshoe bats, using data from the NBMP Roost Count survey.
- A collaboration with the University of Exeter examined the migratory origins of *Nathusius'* pipistrelles in Great Britain using stable isotope analysis of fur samples collected as part of the NBMP National *Nathusius'* Pipistrelle Project.
- BCT continues to liaise with Stacey Waring who completed her research into the impacts of Breathable Roofing Membranes (BRMs) on bats and which has been used to consolidate the advice provided on this subject. Further scientific publications based on Stacey's research are expected.
- Alison Fairbrass (UCL) has continued to work closely with us on a project looking at Integration and understanding of the presence of biodiversity in the built environment. This has concentrated on a new classifier for the acoustic data. The work is due for completion in September 2016.
- Madeleine Ryan (University of Bristol) completed her PhD on Bats, Churches and the landscape, which has improved understanding of how soprano pipistrelle bats use churches and the surrounding habitat throughout the year.
- Further collaborative work which is expected to be published in 2016 includes the results of monitoring the impact on bats of the Agri-Environment Scheme in Wales.
- A broad collaboration of conservation NGOs examined drivers of biodiversity change in the UK. The results were published in *PLoS ONE* in March.
- We have continued to liaise with Dr Orly Razgour who now has a NERC Research Fellowship. Her work will now focus on the impacts of climate change <http://globalchange genetics.org/>

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### **Report of the trustees**

#### **For the year ended 31 March 2016**

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Over the coming year we are looking forward to seeing a number of scientific publications published based on our ongoing collaborations as well as proactively exploring new opportunities focused on evidence priorities for BCT.

#### **Vincent Weir Scientific Award**

The Vincent Weir award is now in its 6th year. It encourages and rewards research on the conservation biology of bats by new researchers and recognises The Hon. Vincent Weir's major contribution to bat conservation over many years.

The annual award is made to a UK-based PhD or MSc student who has made a significant contribution to the conservation biology of bats. In 2015, the winner was Dr. Paul Lintott from University of Stirling. He was presented with the award at the National Bat Conference in September 2015.

Paul's research has improved our understanding of how bats respond to urbanisation. Paul's research uncovered striking and consistently different responses in habitat use between two urban bat species, common and soprano pipistrelle bats. Specifically, these species differed in their response to habitat structure and the built-environment; strongly suggesting that soprano pipistrelle is the more sensitive to urbanisation. He also found differences in the response of male and female soprano pipistrelle bats to woodland structure and landscape configuration. This has important implications for woodland management, as well as for the interpretation of acoustic surveys, which are unable to distinguish between the sexes.

This work has been published in the open access journal so everyone is able to read it - <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ece3.1996/pdf>

The judges were particularly impressed by the productivity of Paul's PhD thesis; it contains seven data chapters of which five chapters have already been published in the scientific literature.

## **ACT – taking action on the ground in partnership with volunteers, professionals and government**

### **Investigations**

Although full analysis of the 2015 crime figures has yet to be completed BCT is aware of over 130 referrals of bat crime having been made to police forces across the UK.

In 2015 there were four convictions for bat crime in Lincolnshire, London, Burton upon Trent and Worcester. All resulted in convictions with the lowest fine imposed being £500 and the highest £4,500.

In 2015 the first ever case of bat crime was heard in a crown court before a judge. This was an appeal against convictions secured in a case heard at Chesterfield in 2014. At appeal the conviction against a development company was upheld but a conviction against the director of the company was quashed. The case was also significant because it resulted in the company being ordered to forfeit the £5,730, considered to have been the profit gained by acting unlawfully, in addition to a £3,000 fine and £2,000 costs.

The number of cases being dealt with outside the court system showed a considerable increase in 2015. Often such disposals resulted in gains for bat conservation that may not have occurred if the case had proceeded to court.

2015 has seen a message being delivered by the courts to the effect that crime does not pay. In the few instances where prosecution is deemed to be in the public interest BCT will do future work to reinforce that message.

### **Biodiversity**

#### *Professional Standards – Bat Survey Guidelines*

‘Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines 3<sup>rd</sup> edition’ was published as a PDF on BCT’s website on the 29th of January 2016 and made available as a hard copy from NHBS on the 12<sup>th</sup> of February 2016. A range of experts contributed to the production of the document and it was endorsed by the Chartered Institute for Ecology and Environmental Management. At the time of writing the web document has been downloaded by over 2,000 ecology professionals and nearly 600 printed copies have been sold.

#### *The Partnership for Biodiversity in Planning (PBP)*

BCT is leading the Partnership for Biodiversity in Planning (PBP), a partnership of 19 organisations from the conservation and planning sectors, which aims to simplify and improve the consideration of biodiversity in planning decisions. This four year partnership project is funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and started in December 2014. The project website is: [www.biodiversityinplanning.org](http://www.biodiversityinplanning.org)

The Partnership is developing an interactive web-based planning tool to benefit all participants in the planning process. A series of screen mock-ups presenting the ideas for the planning tool have been developed and Local Planning Authorities were asked to evaluate these as part of a formal consultation exercise. The consultation has just recently been completed and feedback was gathered through a questionnaire survey and from two consultation workshops. A total of 34 questionnaire responses were received from 26 Local Authorities across the UK.

Alongside the planning tool, the project will also be producing guidance on the use and interpretation of data searches to help inform planning decisions. As a first step and in association with ALERC (Association of Local Environmental Record Centres) the project consulted Local Environmental Records Centres to gather feedback on how data searches are currently used. A total of 11 consultation responses were received and the findings were used to inform the structure and content of the project Steering Group workshop held in June. The consultation findings and workshop discussions have helped shaped some ideas of what is to be included in the guidance document.

To help strengthen the GIS capacity of the Partner Organisations and to enable them to produce their outputs for the project, a GIS training event was delivered in October. 17 participants from seven of the nine Partner Organisations attended and the event received very positive feedback.

We have acted on the Steering Group’s recommendation to recruit additional representatives from the planning sector and house building industry to the project Steering Group. Both North Devon Council and the Home Builders Federation accepted our invitation to participate in the project which will give significant value to the process of ensuring the planning tool meets the needs of its intended users.

The detailed feedback from the Local Planning Authority consultation is being analysed but the overall feedback has been very positive. The key findings will be reviewed and discussed by the project Steering Group when they meet in early May 2016. Following this the Partner Organisations will begin production of their outputs that will be required for the planning tool and will start drafting the position paper on data searches.

## **Bat Conservation Trust**

### **Report of the trustees**

#### **For the year ended 31 March 2016**

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##### **Policy and consultations**

This year has been particularly busy on the policy and consultation fronts. BCT has responded to a number of consultations throughout the year; these have included

- Proposed changes to licensing policy for European Protected Species
- House of Lords Select Committee inquiry into a National Policy for the Built Environment
- Online consultation about the progress of Smarter Guidance

We have rallied our supporters to contribute to public consultations and as always we are very grateful for the support we have received. Thanks to a broad coalition of organisations, the public consultation phase of the EU Habitats and Birds Directive review (REFIT) attracted the highest number of responses ever for an EU consultation, with over half a million people responding.

BCT has also been involved in discussions on the Wildlife Bill proposed by the Law Commission, the Housing and Planning Bill, Birds and Habitats Directive REFIT and the government's 25 year plan for the environment. BCT also continues to press for the need to clarify the requirement to consider European Protected Species in permitted development cases. BCT has worked very effectively with Joint Wildlife LINKS throughout the year, including work on the 25 year plan for the environment and the REFIT.

Looking ahead, we will continue to work collaboratively with partners in order to maximise our voice and impact.

##### **Built environment**

The Built Environment Officer role was reinstated in April 2015 when Jo Ferguson took up the post. Throughout this first year, Jo has been identifying which areas need to be prioritised by engaging with bat group members, environmental consultants and industry contacts. There has also been a significant effort to carry out targeted outreach which included delivery of talks to industry (e.g. lighting professionals, planners and construction managers and designers) and even consultants of the future, through Masters lectures. There have been a series of articles published in industry publications including UK Green Building Council. Looking ahead, we will continue to reach out to relevant industry sectors through our work with Build UK and the Construction Industry Research and Information Association. We'll be promoting built environment training courses for building professionals, and there are already several articles awaiting publication in 2016. One promising avenue that will be explored in the new year will be to gather information about bat mitigation in order to share case studies, nurture best practice and strengthen partnership working.

##### **Habitat partnership scheme**

We're working to secure the future of bats in our built environment through the Habibat partnership scheme. This is a unique partnership between the Bat Conservation Trust and bat box manufacturers, including Ecosurv, our initial partner company, who we work closely with to manage the scheme. The partnership scheme was extended for the first time in 2015 to encompass four new companies. A proportion of the profits from bat box sales from these partnership companies will be reinvested into the Habibat scheme, with the long-term aim of improving bat roosting habitat using feedback from monitoring. In the year ahead we plan to build on this success by signing up further partner companies, linking up the Habibat partners with further trial sites and by promoting the Habibat scheme through outreach opportunities.

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**For the year ended 31 March 2016**

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#### **Bats and woodland**

Woodland is one of the most important habitats for bats. BCT has continued to work in partnership with woodland owners and managers in order to increase awareness and understanding of bats in woodland both in the UK and across Europe.

We have continued to deliver woodland bat training. Recipients have included RSPB staff, volunteers working with the Woodland Trust/Natural England Bovey Valley Barbastelle Project, bat groups and woodland managers.

In December BCT launched its new woodland project “Discovering the connection between natural heritage and cultural influence in Swanton Novers woodland”. This is a HLF funded, joint project between BCT and Natural England that will involve volunteers in answering key questions about bats and woodland management.

In early 2016 BCT set up a Woodland Bat Technical Advisory Group which is made up of experts in woodland bat species and woodland survey techniques. BCT will consult the group on bats and woodland matters where expert advice is required.

BCT has also joined a group of more than 50 organisations led by the Woodland Trust calling for a tree charter to increase protection of woodland. This campaign is expected to gather pace throughout 2016. Looking ahead, we will continue to work in partnership with the forestry sector and key organisations such as the Forestry Commission, Tree Council and Natural England.

#### **Bats in churches**

Throughout this year we have continued to work very closely with a number of partners including Natural England, the Church of England, Historic England, and Churches Conservation Trust. Our aim continues to be to develop effective ways to address the issues encountered by people using places of worship where there are also bat roosts. We are in the process of seeking funding for a project to find and share ways of helping bats and congregations live happily side by side in the buildings they love: England’s historic churches. The research that BCT has been involved with continues to be disseminated (“Mitigating the Impact of Bats in Historic Churches: The Response of Natterer’s Bats (*Myotis nattereri*) to Artificial Roosts and Deterrence” was published in January 2016 and is available to download from: <http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.014678>)

The private members bill referred to as the “Bat Habitats Regulation Bill” reappeared in both the [House of Commons](#) and the [House of Lords](#). This bill sought to reduce the protection of bats in places of worship, but was impractical and would have been highly detrimental for bat populations. The bill had its second reading in the House of Commons on Friday 5th of February 2016 and at the end of the debate the proponent, Mr Christopher Chope MP, withdrew the bill. However, the bill is still awaiting its second reading in the House of Lords.

## **INSPIRE people to appreciate and support bats and their environment**

### **Helpline**

The National Bat Helpline provides a national service available to anyone who is interested in or concerned about bats. You can reach us on 0345 1300 228 between 9.00am and 5.30pm on weekdays all year round, with an 'out of hours' service provided during the summer by trained volunteers.

The National Bat Helpline fielded a total of 15,497 enquiries (calls, emails and letters) in 2015;

- 12,152 were dealt with by Helpline staff (increase of 1% from 2014)
- 2,824 came through the Out Of Hours volunteer service (increase of 29% from 2014)
- 521 were switchboard enquiries that were forwarded on to other BCT staff.

In 2015, BCT organised 1,450 visits to householders and churches with bat roosts (11.7% of all enquiries) in England by licensed Natural England Volunteer Bat Roost Visitors. We also answered a further 3,739 Natural England enquiries (30.1%) which did not require a visit, such as planning enquiries or information about an enquirer's roost. The Natural England casework is an extremely important part of our work, which would not be possible without the dedication of volunteer bat roost visitors. The help and advice given by those who take part in this service is extremely valuable and we at BCT believe the system is vital to the conservation of bats in Britain.

The National Bat Helpline also provides immediate welfare advice about grounded and injured bats and puts callers into contact with around 400 local volunteer bat care experts and regional helplines who comprise the National Bat Care Network.

In 2015, the National Bat Helpline received over 530 calls from churches about injured bats, requests for information on how to safely undertake maintenance work where bat roosts are present and assistance with bat walks and involving parishioners in encouraging bats to the church and grounds.

As ever we received some calls that led to bats being rescued from unusual places – such as a bat hibernating in a jug on a kitchen shelf and a bat found inside an engine test stand at a car factory – and interesting calls including one about a bat interrupting a rehearsal for Handel's Messiah in Bristol, another about an apparently healthy bat flying well despite missing a large part of its wing membrane, and one which led to a volunteer heading out to investigate a call about a bat in trouble only to find a plastic toy fruit bat in a tree.

The helpline has undergone a number of changes this year. This includes a change in phone number. Due to new regulations, callers now dial 0345 1300 228 instead of 0845 1300 228. We also lost three experienced team members. It is a great testament to all the dedicated National Bat Helpline team, including the out of hours volunteers, the volunteer bat roost visitors and Bat Care Network volunteers, that despite these changes and having had one of our busiest years ever, the feedback from service users is overwhelmingly positive. It gives us great confidence that in the year ahead we will be able to continue providing front line advice to people contacting the helpline.

### **Training**

A total of 18 professional courses were delivered in 2015/16; 12 courses were openly advertised, two in-house training courses were provided to companies and four in-house training events on "Bats and Woodland" were delivered for RSPB staff (one in England, one in Wales and two in Scotland). The BCT arborist courses ("Arboriculture and bats" & "How to use an endoscope") have been updated to bring them in line with the new British Standard 8596 – "Surveying for bats in trees and woodland". The "Surveying Trees" course was also re-written to bring it in line with the 3rd Edition



## **Bat Conservation Trust**

### **Report of the trustees**

#### **For the year ended 31 March 2016**

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“Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines”. Two volunteer courses were also delivered, namely “Improving grasslands for bats” as part of the “Save our Magnificent Meadows project” and “How to lead a bat walk” delivered for City of London park volunteers.

Many of our courses are now approved by the Royal Society of Biology for purposes of Continuing Professional Development (CPD), adding to their value as part of lifelong professional learning. Looking ahead we will be exploring new ways to deliver effective training to both professionals and non-professionals throughout the year ahead.

#### **The National Bat Conference**

The 2015 National Bat Conference took place at the University of Warwick on 11-13 September and was attended by 316 delegates from across the UK and further afield. This year, delegates included Micaela Jemison from Bat Conservation International. The plenary talk was given by Professor Kate Jones who stepped down as chair of BCT at the AGM after serving as a trustee for 9 years (the maximum allowed under our articles of association) and as chair for 5 years. The range and breadth of talks and workshops covered topics ranging from the impacts of urbanisation on bats through to genetic approaches to studying bats. Two awards were presented during the conference: The Vincent Weir Award (page 11) and The Pete Guest award (page 19).

The 2016 conference will be taking place at the University of York from the 2nd to the 4th of September.

#### **Championing bats**

BCT has continued to speak up for bats across all departments. Bat groups across the UK do an amazing variety of public engagement work and BCT supports and complements this at the national level. Many bat groups asked us to bring back the “What bat is that?” leaflet, which had fallen out of print and we were happy to do this.

Our social media reach continues to grow year on year:

- Over 96,000 likes on Facebook representing an increase of 20,000 from the previous year
- Over 31,000 followers on twitter. An increase of over 6,000 this year
- Just under 3,300 followers on LinkedIn

Apart from supporting news stories with different media outlets (print, TV and radio) we have also posted 47 news stories directly onto the BCT website and six blogs from a range of bat enthusiasts. The corporate e-bulletin which was launched in 2015 has continued to gain in popularity and is received by over 3,000 professionals. The Bat e-bulletin, which is targeted at a much broader audience, reaches over 11,000 subscribers.

We organised BatFest 2015 in collaboration with the Natural History Museum but ensured it coincided with International Bat Night (last weekend in August) to increase its reach and relevance. This year we have also worked with the British Science Association and the Grant Museum of Zoology (UCL). This included the first ever “Bat Week” at the Grant Museum which happened during British Science week – the week included a public talk, a comedy night and a family day (BCT contributed to all three of these).

We worked with BatLife Europe to promote the first “Bat Species of the Year” and are looking forward to doing so once again for 2016. The year ahead is also looking very promising as we are working with the Royal Horticultural Society and The Wildlife Trusts on “Wild About Gardens Week” which will be bat themed this year.

**Report of the trustees**

**For the year ended 31 March 2016**

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**Education**

A very important challenge for us as a conservation charity is to address the fact that bats are often undervalued and greatly misunderstood. It is of vital importance to continue reaching all sectors of society in order to make sure more people understand why bats are an important part of our environment. Since 2010, BCT have distributed nearly 300 "Explore the World of Bats" pack to teachers, youth leaders and other people working in the education sector. We currently have 83 active youth leaders/teachers that receive The Young Batworker magazine three times a year. This year we will be focusing on updating the contents of the "Explore the World of Bats" pack and making a lot of it available digitally. The pack will be made available in Welsh and trialled in a selected number of secondary schools before rolling to even wider audiences. The ultimate aim is to have more educational resources and to make more people aware that they are available.

**BCT's work for bats around the UK and internationally**

Our work across the UK is outlined throughout this review, but here we highlight some of our national and international projects.

**BCT in Wales**

This rich Welsh landscape provides a diverse range of habitats for 15 British bat species. With the support of Natural Resources Wales, BCT runs the Wales Bat Project. We work alongside 250 volunteers in 17 volunteer local bat groups across Wales.

In the last year we held a series of events in Wales:

- The Wales Bat Conference took place at the National Trust's Stackpole Centre, Pembrokeshire over the weekend of 7-8 June. The programme was organised by Tom McOwat (Dyfed Bat Group) with an informative range of presentations based around a coastal theme.
- A Wales Bat Group Forum meeting was held in November 2015 with 27 attendees from eight bat groups. The main focus of discussion was domestic roost visitor training for volunteers.
- BCT delivered three NBMP training (Using Your Ears) sessions for bat groups in Swansea, Gwynedd and Carmarthenshire.

We have continued to engage with a series of environmental initiatives and collaborations. These have included:

- At the beginning of the year we concluded work on the Well-being of Future Generations Bill which has since been passed by the Welsh Government and received Royal Assent to become the Well-being of Future Generations Act.
- BCT is one of five environmental NGOs who sit on the Wales Biodiversity Strategy Board.
- We worked very closely with the RSPB and other environmental NGOs to pool resources and expertise to get a strong and effective Environment (Wales) Bill.

We will build on the successes of the previous year and expand on our outreach work throughout 2016/17.

**BCT in Scotland**

Anne Youngman, Scottish Officer, has continued to build on previous years' successes in providing training to more bat enthusiasts and increasing outreach to raise awareness of bats in Scotland and to recruit more volunteers and surveyors. The Scottish Bat Conference 2015 was very well attended with 127 delegates with nine workshops to choose from. Further courses were delivered by Anne to Scottish bat group members, RSPB woodland managers and to "Paths for all" staff in addition to National Bat Monitoring Programme (NBMP) training to National Trust Scotland staff. NBMP has

## **Bat Conservation Trust**

### **Report of the trustees**

#### **For the year ended 31 March 2016**

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featured very prominently in the Scottish project this year, and a number of new roosts have been identified, including one new hibernation site.

Anne also encouraged more Scottish bat groups to publicise their events more widely as well as engaging with a variety of media outlets (radio, newspapers, magazine articles and electronic media). A new postcard has also been designed and produced to encourage the public to add records to the Big Bat Map and get involved in NBMP surveys. Looking ahead, the Scottish Officer will continue to raise awareness of bats, promote bat conservation and encourage more people to get directly involved in bat recording and conservation.

#### **Bat Group Support: UK, Channel Islands and the Isle of Man**

Bat groups continue to be at the forefront of bat conservation in the UK and at the core of BCT. BCT has a formal relationship with 89 Bat Groups, of which 67 are Partner Groups and 22 Network Groups. BCT provides support to bat groups including talks, training and outreach material (e.g. leaflets) as well as some financial support through the Partner Group support fund (for projects and support to attend the National Conference). Updates and information is disseminated to Bat Groups through the production of the monthly bat group bulletin, the BCT website, as well as through direct regular contact, annual meetings with groups, regional conferences and the Bat Workers' Forum held as part of the National Bat Conference.

Looking ahead, we will continue to develop collaborative projects that engage with the bat group network as well as continuing to showcase the wonderful work being done locally.

#### *Pete Guest Award*

This award is given in memory of Pete Guest who was an inspirational figure in the bat conservation movement for more than 20 years. Each year, the bat world is invited to nominate individuals who have made an outstanding practical contribution to bat conservation.

Arthur Rivett was the 2015 winner of the award. Arthur has clocked more than 30 years of dedication to bat conservation – a massive achievement which continues to inspire newcomers to get involved. He helped set up Suffolk Bat Group back in 1984 and served as its first Chairman for the next 12 years. However the wider bat community may not know of his involvement in the discussions that led to the establishment of the Bat Conservation Trust when he was the Eastern Region Representative with Bat Groups of Britain. Thirty years later, Arthur is still on the Suffolk Bat Group committee, is active as a volunteer roost visitor as well as being the Group's trainer and supports anyone keen to train as a roost visitor or wanting experience for a survey licence.

He has embraced the technology of bat detectors and computer sound analysis, and after group surveys writes up all the reports so that landowners get the best advice for managing their trees and woodlands for bats. He also masterminds the hibernation checks across the county and his experience in dealing with lots of batty situations over the years is like a library for others to borrow from.

#### **BCT Regional Conferences**

Regional conferences enable bat enthusiasts and bat group members in England to exchange knowledge and experiences as well as find out about the latest developments and discuss priorities for bat conservation.

Details about these events are available on the BCT website at:

[http://www.bats.org.uk/pages/regional\\_conferences\\_in\\_england.html](http://www.bats.org.uk/pages/regional_conferences_in_england.html). Two were held this year:

## **Bat Conservation Trust**

### **Report of the trustees**

#### **For the year ended 31 March 2016**

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- The North of England Conference on 18th April 2015, University of Lancaster, Lancashire, attended by 151 people.
- The Midlands Bat Conference on 12th March 2016, Yarnfield Park Training & Conference Centre, Staffordshire, attended by 116 people.

We are, as ever, very grateful to all the speakers, workshop leaders and delegates that make these conferences such a success as well as our generous sponsors and stall holders who help to make the events affordable. We will continue to carry out our rolling programme of regional conferences, with events in the South East and South West planned for the coming year, as well as identifying sponsors that will work with us to make the conferences accessible to more people.

#### **BCT in Europe and internationally**

In an increasingly globalised world it is important to both stay abreast of developments in other countries as these can have direct impacts on bat populations everywhere. It is also critically important to share experiences, technical advances and best practices. The increasing importance of this approach means that BCT has been considering its international work as part of the 2015-20 strategy. Thanks to the Rufford Foundation, BCT will be holding a workshop later in 2016 to further develop an international strategy for the organisation.

BCT continued to engage with the Eurobats Agreement and this year contributed to the Intersessional Working Group on Skills/Qualifications of Experts. BCT's Joint Chief Executive, Kit Stoner, attended the Eurobats meetings in the Netherlands in April 2016. BCT staff inputted into a number of the intersessional working groups including Lighting, Wind Turbines, Sustainable Forest Management, Bats, Disease and Communication and Experience/Skills of Experts.

Micaela Jemison, Communications Manager at Bat Conservation International (BCI), visited BCT offices in August 2015 which enabled her to meet with key team members in order to explore how we could work more closely. Since then BCI have published an article about NBMP in their membership magazine and we will publish a BCI article in the year ahead. Our intention is to continue to work with other international organisations to further develop the international 'Network of Networks'.

#### **Bats and disease**

Through the National Bat Helpline, other key staff at BCT and specialist advisors we continue to provide advice and guidance to the public, volunteers and bat workers around issues relating to bats and disease. We proactively communicate about disease related matters through our web pages, articles in Bat News and other publications, as well as presentations at meetings and conferences.

#### **BatLife Europe**

As a founding partner of BatLife Europe (which now has 34 NGO partners), BCT has supported this initiative since its creation. We support the ongoing growth of the European wide collaboration in a number of ways, including Kit Stoner, Joint Chief Executive of BCT, acting as a trustee and Treasurer for BatLife Europe.

One important part of our collaboration this year has been to provide feedback to the European Commission's Fitness Check of whether the Birds and Habitats Directives are fit for purpose, and keep trustees up to date with activities via European Habitats Forum (a group of European environmental NGOs) and UK Joint Links.

## **Bat Conservation Trust**

### **Report of the trustees**

#### **For the year ended 31 March 2016**

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We have also continued to promote the BatLife Europe 'Bat Species of the Year' project – the 2016 species is the Noctule (*Nyctalus noctula*). Over 30 countries across Europe will focus on promoting conservation issues and raising public awareness about this remarkable species in 2016.

Over the coming year BatLife Europe will register as an independent charity and we are committed to support them in doing this, as well as in developing a strategy, supporting further development of a pan-European indicator and other collaborative activities.

#### **Fundraising Statement**

Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) was established to promote the conservation and study of bats in the British Isles and elsewhere in the world, and to disseminate information relevant to these objects. BCT is committed to these charitable aims, and fundraises in order to fulfil these. BCT respects the rights of its members and supporters to have clear, truthful information on the work we are involved in; to openly report how we spend donated and statutory funds and to manage donors' information responsibly. We will comply with the Charity Commission and UK law in every respect, including those regarding openness and honesty with our supporters and members of the public. We respect the privacy and contact preferences of all members and donors. We will respond promptly to requests to cease contacts or complaints and act to address their causes.

At BCT we do not pass on contact details of our supporters and donors to anyone else, including other charities. We respect the wishes of our members, supporters and donors who ask for no further contact from us, and we adhere to Data Protection Law. We employ reputable companies to assist with membership renewals and in distributing membership material. We do not employ fundraising or marketing agencies to target people by telephone, or in the street, to persuade them to set up regular donations to BCT.

BCT has a small fundraising team which works hard to gain funding for our work. We also support others who choose to make donations or take part in fundraising activities in whatever way they can.

## **Bat Conservation Trust**

### **Report of the trustees**

#### **For the year ended 31 March 2016**

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##### **The trustees**

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report are shown on page 1. All trustees also act as directors for the purposes of company law.

The trustees are elected at an Annual General Meeting (AGM) and serve for three years. Trustees are eligible for reselection at the end of their first and second term of three years, but following election for a third term, may not be eligible for reselection until one year has elapsed from them ceasing to be a member of the Board of Trustees. The trustees may co-opt any Member eligible for election to fill a vacancy until the next AGM.

The trustees regularly audit their collective skills, competencies and experience against those required to fulfil their responsibilities and proactively recruit new trustees to fill gaps. In seeking to recruit new trustees an appeal is first sent to the BCT membership asking for nominations for trustees, up to four trustees can be nominated by partner bat groups. Wider appeals for trustees targeting individuals who have expressed an interest in becoming trustees of charities have also been used in recruitment. All proposed trustees are put to the BCT membership prior to any appointment. On appointment bespoke training is given according to the needs of the trustee and new trustees have an induction with key members of staff.

The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights and any benefits received by the trustees are incidental. As members of the charity they undertake to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such undertakings at 31 March 2016 was 13 (2015:12).

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 7 to the accounts.

##### **Risk Management**

The trustees and Senior Management Team have reviewed the major risks which the charity faces. They review these risks at least annually. The trustees implement improvements to systems of internal control in order to mitigate other operational and business risks as and when identified.

The trustees cannot foresee detriment or harm being caused as a result of BCT's activities, however the Bat Helpline is a free service to the public set up to manage any concerns or views on bats, bat conservation and BCT.

Some of the major risk areas are:

- Dealing with a controversial issue which results in negative publicity for bats and their conservation. BCT proactively communicates with stakeholders and the media to identify, consult on and address potentially controversial areas
- Reduced funding for key projects and services due to changes in the economy, government policy or demand. BCT regularly reviews our financial situation, income, fundraising pipeline and upcoming government policy. We work to diversify our funding sources and build new income streams. We work in close collaboration with funders, supporters and partners to build strong long term relationships and to respond robustly to key risks for wildlife conservation

##### **Remuneration Policy**

Remuneration of all staff is considered on an annual basis by the Board of Trustees. The senior management team make recommendations to the trustees for a) the cost of living based on inflation rates, the London Living Wage and an annual

## **Bat Conservation Trust**

### **Report of the trustees**

#### **For the year ended 31 March 2016**

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salary survey we take part in with other environmental NGOs, and b) for any staff increments based on job bands, performance and any extra responsibilities taken on. The trustees make the final decision in the context of BCT's budget. The salary of the Joint Chief Executives is set by the Chair in consultation with the trustees following annual appraisals.

#### **Statement of Responsibilities of the trustees**

The trustees (who are also directors of the Bat Conservation Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the report of the trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law required 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 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
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity 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 auditors are 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 auditors are 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 the financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

## **Treasurer's report**

BCT had a strong year financially following the difficult decisions that had to be made to manage down expenditure in 2014. Whilst not achieving a balanced budget (in year income and expenditure) in the 2015/16 financial year, the overall deficit of £96,376 is positive considering the challenging current funding environment, which is likely to make achieving a break-even budget difficult in the medium term.

The overall financial stability of the charity, however, has been greatly assisted by a very generous legacy from Vincent Weir in late 2014. This has allowed the charity to establish an investment portfolio of £2,397,762, the gains and income from which can help to ensure BCT is financially sustainable in the long term.

### **Investment policy**

Following the move of its investments to ethical fund manager Parmenion in the previous year, 2015/16 represented the first full year under their management. Investments total £2,397,762 (2015: £2,418,648) at 31 March 2016. The aim of these funds is to provide a steady additional annual income stream to support our work, helping to reduce the risks associated with our reliance on project funding. This year our investments fell slightly, in line with general market conditions, but are viewed by BCT as part of the longer term financial strategy.

### **Reserves policy**

We adopt a risk-based approach for our reserves policy in order to define the amount we need to enable us to sustain our operations and protect us from unforeseen events. We have also been investing some of our reserves in strategic projects to secure BCT's long term financial viability.

At the end of the 2015/16 financial year our total reserves stand at £2,759,476. Of this, £1,962,129 are endowment funds and £196,801 are restricted funds for projects. This leaves unrestricted funds of £600,546 of which £114,240 have been designated to key programmes of work in the next and subsequent financial years (see notes to the accounts for details). This leaves us with £486,306 as unrestricted, unallocated funds. The trustees' policy is to work towards holding six months operating costs, approximately £675,000, in unrestricted reserves and we will continue to review our reserves policy and our progress towards achieving it each year.

On behalf of BCT, I would like to thank all our members, donors and partners for their fantastic support and our volunteers and staff for their endless hard work on behalf of bat conservation.



Tom Andrews, Treasurer

### **Supporters**

We would like to thank all our members and friends who have made donations during the past year. We do not have the space to name everyone; however, we would like to thank everyone for their greatly valued support without which none of our work would be possible.



## Bat Conservation Trust

### Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2016

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#### Charitable Trusts, Statutory Bodies and Other Organisations

Natural England	Clark Bradbury Charitable Trust
Joint Nature Conservation Council	Langdale Trust
Scottish Natural Heritage	The Jack Patston Trust
Defra	William Haddon Charitable Trust
Natural Resources Wales	Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust
SITA Trust	The Leslie Mary Carter Charitable Trust
Animal and Plant Health Agency	A&N Daniell Charitable Trust
The Chapman Trust	Pilkington General Fund
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	Marsh Christian Trust
Green & Lillian F M Ainsworth Family Benevolent Fund	Walker 597 Trust
Miss Edith Mary Sage Charitable Trust	Holbeche Corfield Charitable Settlement
John Coates Charitable Trust	The Mitchell Trust
Heritage Lottery Fund	Dolly Knowles Charitable Trust
The Rufford Foundation	

#### Sponsors *(Sponsorships of £100 or more)*

Applied Ecology Ltd	Arup
Arcus	Elekon
Corvus	Envisage Wildcare Ltd
Echoes Ecology Ltd	Kier Group
The Ecology Consultancy	NHBS
Ecosulis	Petterson Electronik
Just Mammals Ltd.	Portland Data Ltd
Kestrel Wildlife	Wildcare
Mott MacDonald	Wildlife Acoustics
Tree Surveys	Wildwood Ecology
	Wilmott Dixon

#### Corporate Members (as at 1 April 2016)

Cleankill Environmental Services Ltd  
Wilby Tree Surgeons  
Echoes Ecology Ltd  
Just Mammals Consultancy LLP  
Asw Ecology, Regent's Place  
Wealden Heartwood Enterprises Limited  
Wildwood Ecology Ltd  
Tamworth Property Services  
Mka Ecology  
Ecological Survey & Assessment Ltd  
Treework Ltd  
National Insulation Association  
English Heritage  
Marquis & Lord Limited

## **Bat Conservation Trust**

### **Report of the trustees**

**For the year ended 31 March 2016**

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#### **Donations from Bat Groups** *(of £100 or more as of 1st April 2016)*

Birmingham & the Black Country Bat Group	Kent Bat Group
Cardiff Bat Group	Leicestershire & Rutland Bat Group
Derbyshire Bat Conservation Group	London Bat Group
Devon Bat Group	Oxfordshire Bat Group
Fife & Kinross Bat Group	South Lancashire Bat Group
Gloucestershire Bat Group	South Yorkshire Bat Group
Gwent Bat Group	Surrey Bat Group
Hampshire Bat Group	Sussex Bat Group
Inverness Bat Group	Tayside Bat Group
Isles of Scilly Bat Group	Warwickshire Bat Group
Jersey Bat Group	West Yorkshire Bat Group

#### **Legacies**

Josephine Mary Payne  
Barbara Else Redlich  
Trudy Seagon

#### **Auditors**

Sayer Vincent LLP were re-appointed as the charitable company's auditors during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

The report of the trustees has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the trustees on 29 June 2016 and signed on their behalf by

Dr David Gibbons  
Chair

## **Independent auditors' report**

### **To the members of**

#### **Bat Conservation Trust**

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We have audited the financial statements of Bat Conservation Trust for the year ended 31 March 2016 which comprise primary financial statements and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members and trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members and trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members and trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditors**

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities set out in the report of the trustees, the trustees (who are also the directors of the 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.

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with regulations made under those Acts.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

#### **Scope of the audit of the financial statements**

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the report of the trustees to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

#### **Opinion on financial statements**

In our opinion the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2016 and of its 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 Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

#### **Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion the information given in the report of the trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

## **Independent auditors' report**

**To the members of**

**Bat Conservation Trust**

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### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

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) requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- The charitable company has not kept proper and adequate accounting records or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The 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
- Or the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the report of the trustees.

Noelia Serrano (Senior statutory auditor)

2 August 2016

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditors

Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, LONDON EC1Y 0TL

Sayer Vincent LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

# The Bat Conservation Trust

## Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 March 2016

	Note	Endowment £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2016 Total £	2015 Total £
<b>Income</b>						
<i>Income from generated funds</i>						
Donations and legacies	2	-	-	248,685	248,685	1,749,112
Investment income		86	-	50,545	50,631	36,278
<i>Income from charitable activities</i>						
Conferences income		-	-	102,872	102,872	106,163
Training courses and meetings		-	-	42,397	42,397	57,667
Projects and research	3	-	338,569	470,357	808,926	894,767
Other activities		-	-	58,925	58,925	29,971
<b>Total income</b>		<b>86</b>	<b>338,569</b>	<b>973,781</b>	<b>1,312,436</b>	<b>2,873,958</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
<i>Expenditure on raising funds</i>						
Membership support	4	-	-	59,910	59,910	73,069
Costs of generating voluntary income		-	-	101,369	101,369	118,994
		-	-	161,279	161,279	192,063
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>						
Conferences costs		-	-	84,927	84,927	76,839
Biodiversity training courses		-	-	43,838	43,838	47,162
Project and research costs	5	-	405,905	657,332	1,063,237	985,497
<b>Total expenditure</b>	6	-	<b>405,905</b>	<b>947,376</b>	<b>1,353,281</b>	<b>1,301,561</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) before net gains / (losses) on investments</b>						
		86	(67,336)	26,405	(40,845)	1,572,397
Unrealised (losses) / gains on investments	11	2,715	-	(31,922)	(29,207)	165,471
Realised (losses) / gains on investments		-	-	(26,324)	(26,324)	13,414
<b>Net income / (expenditure) for the year</b>		<b>2,801</b>	<b>(67,336)</b>	<b>(31,841)</b>	<b>(96,376)</b>	<b>1,751,282</b>
Transfers between funds		1,000,000	114,251	(1,114,251)	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>1,002,801</b>	<b>46,915</b>	<b>(1,146,092)</b>	<b>(96,376)</b>	<b>1,751,282</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>959,328</b>	<b>149,886</b>	<b>1,746,638</b>	<b>2,855,852</b>	<b>1,104,570</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	16	<b>1,962,129</b>	<b>196,801</b>	<b>600,546</b>	<b>2,759,476</b>	<b>2,855,852</b>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 16 to the financial statements.

# The Bat Conservation Trust

## Balance sheet

Company: 2712823

As at 31 March 2016

	Note	2016 £	£	2015 £	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible fixed assets	10		2,459		17,293
Investments	11		<u>2,397,762</u>		<u>2,418,648</u>
			2,400,221		2,435,941
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	12	171,061		187,350	
Short term deposit		114,117		116,639	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>176,178</u>		<u>222,653</u>	
		461,356		526,642	
<b>Creditors: amounts due within one year</b>	13	<u>(102,101)</u>		<u>(106,731)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>359,255</u>		<u>419,911</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	14		<u><u>2,759,476</u></u>		<u><u>2,855,852</u></u>
<b>Reserves</b>					
Endowment funds	16		1,962,129		959,328
Restricted funds	16		196,801		149,886
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds			486,306		171,822
Designated funds			114,240		1,574,816
<b>Total funds</b>	16		<u><u>2,759,476</u></u>		<u><u>2,855,852</u></u>

Approved by the trustees on 29th June 2016.

Signed on their behalf by:

David Gibbons, Chair

**The Bat Conservation Trust**

**Statement of Cash Flows**

**For the year ended 31 March 2016**

	2016	2015
	£	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	(96,376)	1,751,282
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	14,834	19,994
Dividends and interest	(50,631)	36,278
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	16,289	14,373
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(4,630)	(38,592)
(Gains)/Losses on investments	55,531	(178,885)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>(64,983)</b>	<b>1,604,450</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Dividends and interest	50,631	(36,278)
Proceeds from sale of investments	515,780	(15,484)
Purchase of investments	(550,425)	(1,510,055)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>15,986</b>	<b>(1,561,817)</b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>	<b>(48,997)</b>	<b>42,633</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year</b>	<b>339,292</b>	<b>296,659</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	<b>290,295</b>	<b>339,292</b>

**1. Accounting policies**

- a) The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective August 2014) and the Companies Act 2006. 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 whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the trustees have considered the charities forecasts and projections and have taken account of pressures on donation and investment income. After making enquiries the trustees have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

FRS 102 has been adopted for the first time when preparing these financial statements. The transition date to FRS 102 was 1 April 2014 and the last financial statements prepared under the previous financial reporting framework were prepared for the year ended 31 March 2015.

No adjustments were required in order to comply with the new SORP/ FRS 102.

- b) Income from generated funds received by way of donations and member subscriptions are included in full in the statement of financial activities when probable.

Gifts in kind comprise meeting rooms and catering provided free of charge for trustee and other meetings. Gifts in kind are included in incoming resources and resources expended at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity, which is the price that would have had to be paid if hiring a room and paying for catering on the open market. Volunteer time is not included in the financial statements.

Legacy income is accounted for on a receivable basis. A legacy is considered receivable when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Entitlement is the earlier of the charity being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received.

Investment income represents bank interest and dividend income, included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable.

- c) Revenue grants are credited to the statement of financial activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier.

Where unconditional entitlement to grants receivable is dependent upon fulfilment of conditions within the charity's control, the incoming resources are recognised when there is sufficient evidence that conditions will be met. Where there is uncertainty as to whether the charity can meet such conditions the incoming resource is deferred.

- d) Grants for the purchase of fixed assets are credited to restricted incoming resources when probable. Depreciation of fixed assets purchased with such grants is charged against the restricted fund. Where a fixed asset is donated to the charity for its own use, it is treated in a similar way to a restricted grant.

- e) Fees for training courses and the annual conference are recognised in the financial statements during the year in which the conference or training course to which they relate occurred. Research contracts are recognised in the financial statements as entitlement is earned through completion of the contract.



1. Accounting policies (continued)

- f) The expendable endowment funds are restricted funds whereby the capital sum is invested, and interest earned is used to contribute to core costs. The capital element may also be spent should sufficient need arise.
- g) Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.
- h) Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity.
- i) Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.
- j) Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred. Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.  
  
Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity; Costs of generating funds, Conferences, Biodiversity training courses, Project costs.
- k) Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Computer equipment	33% per annum on a straight line basis.
Field equipment	25% per annum on a straight line basis.
Furniture and fittings	20% per annum on a straight line basis.

  
Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.
- l) The costs of generating funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in raising funds for the charitable work. Fundraising costs associated with raising funds for a specific charitable activity are allocated to that activity.
- m) Rentals payable under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership remain with the
- n) The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable under the scheme by the charity to the fund. The charity has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contributions.
- o) Transfers are made to and from designated funds at the discretion of the trustees. Transfers are made from general to restricted funds where a particular restricted fund is overspent. Transfers are made between restricted funds or from restricted funds to general funds only if agreement has been obtained from the donor.
- p) Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the end of the financial year. All exchange differences are written off to the Statement of Financial Activities.
- q) Investments are stated at mid-market value at the balance sheet date. The gain or loss for the period is taken to the statement of financial activities. All movements in value arising from investment changes or revaluations are shown in the statement of financial activities.

## 2. Donation and legacy income

<b>Current Year</b>	<b>Restricted £</b>	<b>Unrestricted £</b>	<b>2016 Total £</b>
Membership subscriptions	-	129,293	<b>129,293</b>
Members' & other donations	-	85,828	<b>85,828</b>
Legacies	-	33,564	<b>33,564</b>
	-	248,685	<b>248,685</b>

<b>Prior Year</b>	<b>Restricted £</b>	<b>Unrestricted £</b>	<b>2015 Total £</b>
Membership subscriptions	-	133,424	133,424
Members' & other donations	-	96,527	96,527
Legacies	-	1,519,161	1,519,161
	-	1,749,112	1,749,112

## 3. Project income

<b>Current Year</b>	<b>Restricted £</b>	<b>Unrestricted £</b>	<b>2016 Total £</b>
Government grants & contracts	129,281	419,775	<b>549,056</b>
Grants from other charitable bodies	209,288	50,582	<b>259,870</b>
	338,569	470,357	<b>808,926</b>

### Project income - grants, contracts and donations

Project income was received in the year from the following organisations and donors:

	<b>Restricted £</b>	<b>Unrestricted £</b>	<b>2016 Total £</b>
Joint Nature Conservation Council	-	99,716	<b>99,716</b>
Scottish Natural Heritage	36,323	-	<b>36,323</b>
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	135,459	-	<b>135,459</b>
Defra	-	37,782	<b>37,782</b>
Natural England	55,000	282,278	<b>337,278</b>
Natural Resources Wales	29,958	-	<b>29,958</b>
SITA Trust	3,002	-	<b>3,002</b>
Rufford Foundation	10,000	2,962	<b>12,962</b>
Heritage Lottery Fund - Swanton Novers	45,900	-	<b>45,900</b>
Heritage Lottery Fund - Back from the brink	4,927	-	<b>4,927</b>
Animal & Plant Health Agency	8,000	-	<b>8,000</b>
National Trust	-	28,596	<b>28,596</b>
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	10,000	-	<b>10,000</b>
The Leslie Mary Carter Charitable Trust	-	2,000	<b>2,000</b>
Langdale Trust	-	2,000	<b>2,000</b>
Other small grants	-	15,023	<b>15,023</b>
	338,569	470,357	<b>808,926</b>

### 3. Project income (continued)

<i>Prior Year</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>2015</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>Total</i>
			<i>£</i>
Government grants & contracts	139,529	440,216	579,745
Grants from other charitable bodies	285,455	29,567	315,022
	<u>424,984</u>	<u>469,783</u>	<u>894,767</u>

Project income - grants, contracts and donations

Project income was received in the year from the following organisations and donors:

	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>2015</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
Joint Nature Conservation Council	-	117,786	117,786
Scottish Natural Heritage	46,256	-	46,256
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	241,427	-	241,427
Defra	-	37,782	37,782
Natural England	45,000	276,648	321,648
Natural Resources Wales	48,273	-	48,273
SITA Trust	4,128	-	4,128
Peoples Trust for Endangered Species	9,900	-	9,900
Rufford Foundation	10,000	-	10,000
Animal Health Veterinary Laboratory Agency	-	8,000	8,000
BICCO-Net	-	1,174	1,174
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	20,000	-	20,000
Cecil Pilkington Trust	-	2,000	2,000
The Hammamelis Trust	-	3,000	3,000
The J S F Pollitzer Charitable Trust	-	2,000	2,000
The Leggett Charitable Trust	-	5,000	5,000
Other small grants	-	16,393	16,393
	<u>424,984</u>	<u>469,783</u>	<u>894,767</u>

### 4. Membership support

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Membership administration	27,200	32,545
Salaries	24,034	27,567
Membership publications	8,676	12,957
	<u>59,910</u>	<u>73,069</u>

5. Project costs

<b>Current Year</b>	<b>Restricted £</b>	<b>Unrestricted £</b>	<b>2016 Total £</b>
Biodiversity Projects	224,744	441,949	<b>666,693</b>
National Bat Monitoring Programme	17,700	128,380	<b>146,080</b>
Research projects	-	21,730	<b>21,730</b>
Bat Groups Support & Public Education	20,000	45,356	<b>65,356</b>
European Projects	-	4,168	<b>4,168</b>
Scottish Bat Project	70,813	7,634	<b>78,447</b>
Wales Bat Project	72,648	8,115	<b>80,763</b>
	<b>405,905</b>	<b>657,332</b>	<b>1,063,237</b>
<b>Prior Year</b>	<b>Restricted £</b>	<b>Unrestricted £</b>	<b>2015 Total £</b>
<i>Biodiversity Projects</i>	<i>167,246</i>	<i>376,994</i>	<i>544,240</i>
<i>National Bat Monitoring Programme</i>	<i>33,348</i>	<i>166,374</i>	<i>199,722</i>
<i>Research projects</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>16,371</i>	<i>16,371</i>
<i>Bat Groups Support &amp; Public Education</i>	<i>10,000</i>	<i>42,356</i>	<i>52,356</i>
<i>European Projects</i>	<i>3,220</i>	<i>3,118</i>	<i>6,338</i>
<i>Scottish Bat Project</i>	<i>87,328</i>	<i>8,556</i>	<i>95,884</i>
<i>Wales Bat Project</i>	<i>64,311</i>	<i>6,275</i>	<i>70,586</i>
	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
	<b>365,453</b>	<b>620,044</b>	<b>985,497</b>

The Bat Conservation Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2016

6. Total resources expended

	Costs of generating funds £	Conferences £	Biodiversity training courses £	Projects and research (note 5) £	Governance £	Other support costs £	2016 Total £
<b>Current Year</b>							
Salaries & temporary staff (note 8)	89,570	22,893	19,476	667,867	6,805	30,796	<b>837,407</b>
Travel & training	1,395	85	40	30,594	6,509	10,316	<b>48,939</b>
Advice & other project costs	26,957	-	12	101,514	8,825	11,235	<b>148,543</b>
Publications & events	11,105	53,230	19,042	51,846	-	442	<b>135,665</b>
Premises	-	-	-	1,823	-	49,605	<b>51,428</b>
Other costs	1,629	318	165	9,319	-	119,868	<b>131,299</b>
	<b>130,656</b>	<b>76,526</b>	<b>38,735</b>	<b>862,963</b>	<b>22,139</b>	<b>222,262</b>	<b>1,353,281</b>
Support costs allocated to activities	27,849	7,640	4,641	182,132	-	(222,262)	-
Governance costs allocated to activities	2,774	761	462	18,142	(22,139)	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>161,279</b>	<b>84,927</b>	<b>43,838</b>	<b>1,063,237</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,353,281</b>

The Bat Conservation Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2016

6. Total resources expended (continued)

	Costs of generating funds £	Conferences £	Biodiversity training courses £	Projects and research (note 5) £	Governance £	Support costs £	2015 Total £
<b>Prior Year</b>							
Salaries & temporary staff (note 8)	99,727	16,520	24,703	627,523	7,517	11,569	787,559
Travel & training	1,545	129	927	65,726	5,300	13,484	87,111
Advice & other project costs	35,198	-	-	54,796	7,050	8,871	98,865
Publications & events	14,111	52,377	13,656	43,303	-	879	124,326
Premises	-	-	-	1,883	-	48,756	50,639
Other costs	189	282	345	7,609	-	137,586	146,011
	150,770	69,308	39,631	800,840	19,867	221,145	1,301,561
Support costs allocated to activities	37,889	6,910	6,910	169,436	-	(221,145)	-
Governance costs allocated to activities	3,404	621	621	15,221	(19,867)	-	-
Total	192,063	76,839	47,162	985,497	-	-	1,301,561

# The Bat Conservation Trust

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2016

<b>6. Total resources expended (continued)</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Analysis of support costs:		
Salaries	30,796	11,569
Non salary staff costs	10,316	13,484
Conference costs	442	675
Membership costs	705	64
Property	49,605	48,756
IT costs	9,780	9,011
Office running costs	32,487	38,939
Insurance	13,587	13,089
Legal fees	750	-
Depreciation	14,834	19,995
Outsourced finance & payroll	27,323	26,768
Exchange rate variances	(1,505)	2,801
Irrecoverable VAT	11,036	11,801
Bank charges	7,703	7,212
Investment charges	14,403	16,983
	<b>222,262</b>	<b>221,145</b>
Analysis of governance costs:		
Governance staff costs	6,805	7,517
Audit Fee	8,825	7,050
Trustee expenses	6,509	5,300
	<b>22,139</b>	<b>19,867</b>
<b>7. Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	<b>14,834</b>	19,994
Operating lease costs	<b>37,788</b>	38,028
Trustees' remuneration	-	-
Trustees' expenses	<b>6,509</b>	5,412
Trustee indemnity insurance	<b>981</b>	994
Auditors' remuneration:		
Audit	<b>7,200</b>	7,000

Expenses reimbursed to trustees relate to travel and subsistence costs relating to both attendance at trustees' meetings and other operational work carried out in furtherance of the Trust's objects. No trustees were reimbursed for their services during the year.

## 8. Staff numbers and costs

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons was as follows:

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	<b>755,614</b>	706,006
Social security costs	<b>62,304</b>	63,996
Employer's pension contributions	<b>19,489</b>	17,557
	<b>837,407</b>	<b>787,559</b>

## 8. Staff numbers and costs (continued)

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed and excluding trustees who are all non executive) during the year were as follows:

	Number of employees	
	2016	2015
	No.	No.
Support and governance	2.0	2.0
Other charitable activities	32.0	29.0
	<b>34.0</b>	<b>31.0</b>

No employee earned more than £60,000 during the year.

The key management personnel of the Charity comprise the trustees and the Senior Management Team, The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Charity were £102,216.

## 9. Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable

## 10. Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and Fittings £	Computers £	Field equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>				
At the start of the year	82,372	51,850	59,155	<b>193,377</b>
Disposals	(14,030)	(45,240)	(44,557)	<b>(103,827)</b>
At the end of the year	<b>68,342</b>	<b>6,610</b>	<b>14,598</b>	<b>89,550</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At the start of the year	66,555	51,095	58,434	<b>176,084</b>
Charge for the year	13,666	447	721	<b>14,834</b>
Disposals	(14,030)	(45,240)	(44,557)	<b>(103,827)</b>
At the end of the year	<b>66,191</b>	<b>6,302</b>	<b>14,598</b>	<b>87,091</b>
<b>Net book value at the end of the year</b>	<b>2,151</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,459</b>
Net book value at the start of the year	15,817	755	721	17,293

## 11. Investments

	2016 £	2015 £
<b>Market Value</b>		
Market value at the start of the year	<b>2,418,648</b>	714,225
Additions at cost	<b>550,425</b>	2,888,779
Less disposals at carrying value	<b>(538,472)</b>	(1,378,724)
Net investment in cash funds	<b>(3,632)</b>	28,897
Net gain / (loss) on revaluation	<b>(29,207)</b>	165,471
At 31 March 2016	<b>2,397,762</b>	2,418,648
Listed on a recognised stock exchange	<b>2,348,362</b>	2,365,616
Cash as part of the portfolios	<b>49,400</b>	53,032
	<b>2,397,762</b>	2,418,648
Historical cost of listed investments at the year end	<b>2,245,965</b>	2,197,129



# 11. Investments (continued)

Investments comprise:

	2016 £	2015 £
UK Ethical Corporate Bonds	875,451	913,772
UK Ethical Equity Growth	516,388	505,114
UK Ethical Equity Income	350,313	346,506
International Ethical Equity	368,907	361,514
Ethical Emerging Markets Equity	237,303	238,710
Cash	49,400	53,032
	<b>2,397,762</b>	<b>2,418,648</b>

Investments representing over 5% by value of the portfolio comprise:

	£	%
First State - Asia Pacific Sustainability B Acc	237,303	10%
Alliance Trust - Sust Future Corporate Bond 3 Inc	177,610	8%
Henderson - Global Care UK Income I Inc TR in GB	176,683	8%
Rathbone - Ethical Bond Inst Inc TR in GB	175,971	7%
Royal London - Ethical Bond Z Inc TR in GB	175,166	7%
Kames - Ethical Corporate Bond B Inc TR in GB	174,255	7%
F&C - Responsible UK Income 2 Inc TR in GB	173,631	7%
F&C - Responsible Sterling Bond 2 Inc TR in GB	172,449	7%

# 12. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	2016 £	2015 £
Trade debtors	104,206	114,240
Other debtors	10,350	7,670
Accrued income	25,660	30,255
Prepayments	30,845	35,185
	<b>171,061</b>	<b>187,350</b>

# 13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2016 £	2015 £
Trade creditors	10,033	14,691
Other taxes and social security	30,733	27,045
Accruals	17,915	10,615
Deferred grant income	-	2,962
Deferred course and event income	26,386	20,258
Other creditors	17,034	31,160
	<b>102,101</b>	<b>106,731</b>

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

<b>Current Year</b>	Endowment funds £	Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	<b>2016 Total £</b>
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	2,459	<b>2,459</b>
Investments	1,962,129	-	435,633	<b>2,397,762</b>
Net current assets	-	196,801	162,454	<b>359,255</b>
<b>Net assets at the end of the year</b>	<b>1,962,129</b>	<b>196,801</b>	<b>600,546</b>	<b>2,759,476</b>

<b>Prior Year</b>	Endowment funds £	Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	<b>2015 Total funds £</b>
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	17,293	17,293
Investments	924,994	-	1,493,654	2,418,648
Net current assets	34,334	149,886	235,691	419,911
<b>Net assets at the end of the year</b>	<b>959,328</b>	<b>149,886</b>	<b>1,746,638</b>	<b>2,855,852</b>

15. Operating lease commitments

The charity had annual commitments at the year end under operating leases expiring as follows:

	<b>2016 £</b>	<b>2015 £</b>
Land & buildings		
Less than one year	<b>30,797</b>	21,392
Two to five years	<b>61,626</b>	345
Other		
Less than one year	<b>2,902</b>	2,902
Two to five years	<b>5,803</b>	8,705

# The Bat Conservation Trust

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2016

### 16. Movements in funds

Current Year	At 1 April 2015 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains on investment s £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 March 2016 £
<b>Endowment funds:</b>						
<b>Expendable endowment fund</b>						
Vincent Weir	661,012	65	-	-	1,000,000	<b>1,661,077</b>
<b>Permanent endowment fund</b>						
Bat Conversation Trust Fund (Vincent Weir)	298,316	21	-	2,715	-	<b>301,052</b>
<b>Total endowment funds</b>	<b>959,328</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,715</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>1,962,129</b>
<b>Restricted funds:</b>						
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation -	5,001	-	5,001	-	-	-
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation - Planning	138,185	135,459	122,574	-	-	<b>151,070</b>
Natural England - Biodiversity	-	20,000	52,071	-	32,071	-
SITA Trust - Bats, Churches & the Landscape	-	3,002	3,002	-	-	-
Natural England - Monitoring	-	15,000	15,000	-	-	-
Rufford Foundation - International	-	10,000	660	-	-	<b>9,340</b>
Natural England - Partnerships	-	20,000	20,000	-	-	-
Natural Resources Wales - Wales Bat Project	-	24,958	72,648	-	47,690	-
Peoples Trust for Endangered Species - Nathusius' project	2,700	-	2,700	-	-	-
Scottish Natural Heritage - Scottish Bat Project	-	36,323	70,813	-	34,490	-
NRW NBMP MoA Contribution	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-
E Kleinwort	4,000	10,000	14,000	-	-	-
Heritage Lottery Fund - Back from the Brink	-	4,927	4,742	-	-	<b>185</b>
Heritage Lottery Fund - Swanton Novers	-	45,900	9,694	-	-	<b>36,206</b>
APHA	-	8,000	8,000	-	-	-
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>149,886</b>	<b>338,569</b>	<b>405,905</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>114,251</b>	<b>196,801</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>						
<b>Designated funds:</b>						
Woodland project	4,000	-	-	-	-	4,000
BCT Bat Box Partnership	3,034	4,755	-	-	-	7,789
Vincent Weir - Legacy Built Environment	144,853	-	50,792	-	7,150	101,211
Vincent Weir - Legacy	1,422,929	-	1,000	(58,246)	(1,363,683)	-
NBMP data analysis - JNCC	-	-	-	-	1,240	1,240
	<b>1,574,816</b>	<b>4,755</b>	<b>51,792</b>	<b>(58,246)</b>	<b>(1,355,293)</b>	<b>114,240</b>
<b>General funds</b>	<b>171,822</b>	<b>969,026</b>	<b>895,584</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>241,042</b>	<b>486,306</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>2,855,852</b>	<b>1,312,436</b>	<b>1,353,281</b>	<b>(55,531)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,759,476</b>

## 16. Movements in funds (continued)

### Purposes of expendable endowment funds

The funds were donated by Vincent Weir to be invested to generate income for use to support core costs.

### Purposes of permanent endowment funds

The Bat Conservation Trust Fund was established by trust deed dated 31 October 2006, so that the income only may be used to advance the charitable purposes of BCT.

Under a charity commission scheme dated 31 March 2010 the funds are treated as forming part of BCT for the purposes of registration and accounting.

### Purposes of restricted funds

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation – Biodiversity	Mapping the UK for Bats: developing GIS tools for strategic planning and conservation decision making.
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation – Planning	Raising the profile of biodiversity in the planning system – a multi-species partnership project.
Natural England – Biodiversity	To contribute towards our work leading on species conservation plans for six species of bat.
SITA Trust - Bats, Churches & the Landscape	To support a Bristol University PhD on Bats and Churches.
Natural England – Monitoring	To contribute towards site condition monitoring through the National Bat Monitoring Programme.
Rufford Foundation - International	To develop BCT's international strategy.
Natural England – Partnerships	To contribute towards employing a Partnerships Officer who provides support to local bat groups.
Natural Resources Wales - Wales Bat Project	To contribute towards developing and carrying out our conservation and partnership work in Wales.
Peoples Trust for Endangered Species - Nathusius' project & Ringing Symposium	To pilot a survey of Nathusius' pipistrelle bats and organise a Ringing Symposium.
Scottish Natural Heritage - Scottish Bat Project	To contribute towards developing and carry out our conservation and partnership work in Scotland.
NRW – NBMP MoA contribution	A contribution towards the JNCC funded National Bat Monitoring Programme to bolster delivery in Wales.
HLF - Back from the Brink	To undertake development work for Back from the Brink, a collaborative project to save England's most threatened species.
HLF – Swanton Novers	Working with volunteers to discover the connection between natural heritage and cultural influence on Swanton Novers woodland.
Ernest Kleinwort	To fund the Woodland Officer's work in the South East of England.
APHA	To contribute towards rabies surveillance work and risk management.

### Purposes of designated funds

Woodland Project	To fund a woodland officer who promotes good practice for bats in developing policy and develops guidance and training for woodland professionals.
BCT Bat Box Partnership	To contribute towards bat box monitoring projects.
NBMP data analysis – JNCC	For statistical analysis of National Bat Monitoring Programme data and analysis of drivers of population trends.
Vincent Weir - Legacy Built Environment & Projects	To fund a Built Environment officer and for other project shortfalls.
Vincent Weir - Legacy	To ensure projects and research (including the VW Scientific Award) are funded for BCT in future years through the use of invested funds. This fund was transferred to Expendable endowment and General funds during the year.

# The Bat Conservation Trust

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2016

### 16. Movements in funds (continued)

<b>Prior Year</b>	<i>At 1 April 2014</i> £	<i>Income</i> £	<i>Expenditure</i> £	<i>Gains on investmen ts</i> £	<i>Transfers between funds</i> £	<i>At 31 March 2015</i> £
<i>Endowment funds:</i>						
<i>Expendable endowment fund</i>						
<i>Vincent Weir</i>	661,012	-	-	37,163	(37,163)	661,012
<i>Permanent endowment fund</i>						
<i>Vincent Weir</i>	272,735	-	-	25,581	-	298,316
<i>Total endowment funds</i>	933,747	-	-	62,744	(37,163)	959,328
<i>Restricted funds:</i>						
<i>Esmée Fairbairn Foundation -</i>						
<i>Biodiversity</i>	-	57,377	64,424	-	12,048	5,001
<i>Esmée Fairbairn Foundation - Planning</i>	-	184,050	45,865	-	-	138,185
<i>Natural England - Biodiversity</i>	-	20,000	20,000	-	-	-
<i>SITA Trust - Bats, Churches &amp; the</i>						
<i>Landscape</i>	-	4,128	4,128	-	-	-
<i>Natural England - Monitoring</i>	-	15,000	15,000	-	-	-
<i>Rufford Foundation - Educational</i>						
<i>Resources</i>	-	10,000	10,000	-	-	-
<i>Natural England - Partnerships</i>	-	10,000	10,000	-	-	-
<i>Natural Resources Wales - Wales Bat</i>						
<i>Project</i>	-	33,000	64,311	-	31,311	-
<i>Peoples Trust for Endangered Species -</i>						
<i>Nathusius' project</i>	5,292	9,900	12,492	-	-	2,700
<i>Scottish Natural Heritage - Scottish Bat</i>						
<i>Project</i>	-	45,624	87,328	-	41,704	-
<i>Scottish Natural Heritage - NBMP</i>	-	632	632	-	-	-
<i>NRW Article 17</i>	-	10,273	10,273	-	-	-
<i>NRW NBMP MoA Contribution</i>	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-
<i>E Kleinwort</i>	-	20,000	16,000	-	-	4,000
<i>Total restricted funds</i>	5,292	424,984	365,453	-	85,063	149,886
<i>Unrestricted funds:</i>						
<i>Designated funds:</i>						
<i>Woodland project</i>	-	4,000	-	-	-	4,000
<i>BCT Bat Box Partnership</i>	-	1,784	-	-	1,250	3,034
<i>Vincent Weir - Legacy Built Environment</i>	-	200,000	-	-	(55,147)	144,853
<i>Vincent Weir - Legacy</i>	-	1,307,788	1,000	116,141	-	1,422,929
	-	1,513,572	1,000	116,141	(53,897)	1,574,816
<i>General funds</i>	165,531	935,402	935,108	-	5,997	171,822
<i>Total funds</i>	1,104,570	2,873,958	1,301,561	178,885	-	2,855,852

### 17. The Alan Bartholomew Morshead Estate

During the year, a property as part of the Alan Morshead estate was left to BCT following his death. Upon the signing of these accounts, there is uncertainty as to value of this property and as such has not been included within these financial