

Company number: 2712823
Charity number: 1012361
OSCR number: SC040116

The Bat Conservation Trust

Report and financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2018

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For the year ended 31 March 2018

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The Bat Conservation Trust

Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 March 2018

Status	The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 7 May 1992 and registered as a charity on 29 June 1992.
Governing document	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.
Company number	2712823
Charity number England and Wales	1012361
Charity number Scotland	SC040116
Registered office and operational address	Quadrant House, 250 Kennington Lane London SE11 5RD
Trustees	Dr. David Gibbons, Chair Sarah Escott, Vice Chair Tom Andrews, Treasurer Steve Markham, Hon Secretary Annika Binet (Partner Bat Group Nominated Trustee) (from Nov 2017) Bob Cornes (Partner Bat Group Nominated Trustee) Dr. Abigail Entwistle Rupert Lancaster Roger Mortlock Professor Kirsty Park Steve Parker (Partner Bat Group Nominated Trustee) Professor Robert Upex
President	Chris Packham
Vice Presidents	Professor Paul Racey John Burton Dr. Robert Stebbings
Patron	David Gower OBE

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For the year ended 31 March 2018

Staff	Joint Chief Executive	Julia Hanmer (until March 2018) and Kit Stoner
	<u>Science Team</u>	
	Monitoring & Science Manager	Dr. Katherine Boughey
	Science Manager (maternity cover)	Dr. Charlotte Hawkins (Sept 2017)
	Monitoring Manager (maternity cover)	Philip Briggs
	Acting Survey Manager (maternity cover)	Rebecca Wilson
	NBMP Survey Manager (maternity cover)	Thomas Sheppard (Sept 2017)
	<u>Conservation team</u>	
	Director of Conservation	Dr. Carol Williams
	Head of Biodiversity	Jan Collins (part time)
	Head of Conservation Services & Partnerships Officer	Lisa Worledge
	Built Environment Officer	Joanna Ferguson
	Conservation Wildlife Crime Officer	Peter Charleston (part time)
	Planning Project Officer	Catherine Wyatt
	Planning Project Assistant/ GIS Development Officer	Alexandra Waechter (part time) (Until May 2017)
	Scottish Officer	Anne Youngman (until July 2017) Elisabeth Ferrell (from July 2017)
	Wales Officer/Species Legislation & Policy Specialist	Steve Lucas
	Training & Conferences Manager	Naomi Webster
	Volunteer Co-ordinator	Sonia Reveley (also Woodland Officer from Mar 2017)
	Volunteer Co-ordinator (Discovering the Connection Woodland Project) & Woodland Officer	Sonia Reveley
	Bat Mitigation Project Officer (Bearing Witness for Wildlife Project)	Andrew Ross
	Bat Mitigation Field Assistant (Bearing Witness for Wildlife Project)	Kelly Rosier (until Sept 2017)
	Volunteer Network Development Officer (Bats in Churches Project)	Lisa Campbell-Bannerman (May 2017-Mar 2018)
	Survey Development Officer (Bats in Churches Project)	Rebecca Brassey (May-Dec 2017)
	Grey Long-Eared Bat Project Officer (Back from the Brink Project)	Craig Dunton (from Jul 2017)
	Helpline Managers	Amanda Adebisi

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For the year ended 31 March 2018

Helpline Bat Advice Officers	Peter Crome Laura Brown Olivia Morton Jennifer Pope (part time) Hannah Ryan-Leah (from Nov 2017 to Mar2018, previously Helpline Officer) Hannah Van Hesteren
Helpline Officer (HLO)	Grace Johnson (from May 2017, previously SHLO)
Seasonal Helpline Officers (SHLO)	Keiron Brown (Mar-Nov 2017) Christie Breen (May-Sept 2017) Caroline Coyle (May-Nov 2017) Julie Day (May-Nov 2017) Poppy Jones-Pierpoint (May-Nov 2017)

Communications/Fundraising team

Director of Communications & Fundraising	Dr. Joe Nunez-Mino
Trusts & Grants Fundraiser	Rosalind Hutchinson
Fundraising & Membership Officer	Andreia Correia da Costa

Finance/Operations team

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 Advisors	Professor Gareth Jones Professor Kate Jones
Honorary Legal Advisor	Michael Ford QC

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank plc
Kings Valley
Yew Street
Stockport SK4 2JU

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Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 March 2018

Health and Safety	JEM Safety Management Ltd 190 Moor Lane Upminster Essex RM14 1HG
Insurance brokers	First Insurance Solutions Ltd First Insurance Solutions House Centre 3000, St. Leonards Road Maidstone, Kent ME16 0LS
Financial advisors	Coloma Wealth Management LLP 2 nd Floor Mitre House, 12-14 Mitre Street London EC3A 5BH
Employment advisors	Ellis Whittam Ltd Woodhouse, Church Lane Aldford, Chester CH3 6JD
Solicitors	Aaron & Partners LLP Grosvenor Court, Foregate Street Chester CH1 1HG
Auditor	Sayer Vincent Chartered accountants and registered auditors Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane London EC1Y 0LT

The Bat Conservation Trust

The President's message

For the year ended 31 March 2018

Spring was shy to arrive this year and consequently so was much of our beautiful wildlife, including the soprano pipistrelles, Natterer's bats and serotines that regularly visit my garden. But as I write this, spring is in full swing and bats are back. Little do they know the challenges and changes BCT has been facing while they were hibernating.

However with change comes opportunity. In The Bat Conservation Trust (BCT)'s case, the opportunity to build on previous successes and maximise the benefit to bats and people. And that is why all of BCT, including its volunteers, supporters and members continue to work as tirelessly as ever to protect and speak up for bats.

Wildlife crime is still a seldom mentioned threat affecting bat populations and yet, as highlighted by the first ever UK wildlife crime report, is still a clear and present danger for British bats and other wildlife. BCT's Bearing Witness for Wildlife Project will continue to address this issue by working alongside law enforcement across the UK and raising awareness of wildlife crime.

Now more than ever collaborations seem to be the way forward to get all British wildlife through the times of change that we are facing. The Partnership for Biodiversity in Planning is an example of a unique collaboration of developer, planning and ecological expertise; this BCT-led project will be launching an online tool this year which will provide an indication of whether proposed developments are likely to affect protected and priority species and if ecological expert advice should be sought.

The British Bat Survey is a new way of monitoring bats being tested via the National Bat Monitoring Programme (NBMP) and is another partnership project; this new survey will utilise the latest technology developments to make it a more interactive and engaging user experience. If you have not done so already I would urge you to take part in any of the existing NBMP surveys. The data collected by NBMP volunteers is incredibly valuable and allows everyone to see how our bat populations are faring (plus going out on bat surveys is a lot of fun!). It's thanks to the effort of over 1,000 volunteers that allowed the publication of the State of the UK Bats 2017. The report (downloadable from the BCT website) suggests we continue to see signs of a possible recovery in some species, although we still have a long way to go before bats recover from the massive decline in their populations in the last century.

However one species in particular, the grey long-eared bat, isn't doing so well in the UK with a population estimate of 1,000 individuals, all restricted to the south-west of the UK. Fortunately the species is part of one of the most ambitious collaborative projects – namely, Back from the Brink. This project aims to save 20 species of animal, plant and fungi from extinction while helping hundreds of others. What an exciting endeavour!

I hope this very brief summary convinced you there is also hope in change and that by joining me and BCT you too can make a positive and significant change for bats.

Chris Packham



President, Bat Conservation Trust

Review by the Chair and Joint Chief Executives

The future of wildlife legislation is a bit of an unknown at the moment, so over the last 12 months we have concentrated on strengthening our existing partnerships as well as forging new ones to ensure that we maintain or improve existing protections. To raise awareness of the benefits of bats to people, we held a successful bat event at the House of Lords. The need for advocacy in all the UK parliaments has never been higher which is why Steve Lucas has taken on the role of part-time Policy and Legislation Specialist.

We were pleased to welcome Liz Ferrell as our new Scottish Officer. Liz takes over from Anne Youngman who retired in summer 2017 after 13 years with BCT. Liz will be working with the NBMP team to pilot aspects of the new British Bat Survey. Our work supporting bat groups in the whole of the British Islands is an important role for BCT: bat groups are crucial to bat conservation, and enable us to take opportunities as they arise and meet new challenges in partnership.

Just like bat groups, the National Bat Helpline continues to play a crucial role in raising awareness of bats and, as our president recently stated, it is difficult to see how we would have made the significant gains to bat conservation without it. The helpline provides advice on behalf of Natural England to those who need help with a roost in a house or church, as well as providing immediate welfare advice about grounded and injured bats. It is supported in its work by volunteer bat roost visitors, Out of Hours volunteers and a network of volunteer bat carers. While on the topic of bat care, it was a real privilege to attend our second bat care conference this year. This provided a great platform to both share ideas and experiences as well as celebrating everyone involved in bat care across the UK.

The Bats in Churches project is another great example of our collaborative approach. We have been working closely with the Church of England, Historic England, Natural England and the Churches Conservation Trust to mitigate issues caused by large bat roosts in some churches. The first phase of the project has included working with three pilot churches to carry out in-depth ecological surveys in order to try and find sustainable solutions. We now need to build on what has already been achieved so a further application for funding will be submitted this year.

Our collaborations have extended even further to work with key sectors including ecological consultants, the construction industry, forestry and planners. This synergistic approach has enabled us to deliver programmes to improve awareness, knowledge and action that benefits bat conservation. We will continue to work in collaboration with others to improve the evidence base for bats and find practical solutions to issues that may affect them. We need to continue to highlight the importance of bats to people; their role in our health and well-being and their crucial role in ecosystems services. We will do this through projects such as Back from the Brink.

It has been a real pleasure to work alongside Julia Hanmer, Joint CEO, to help develop these collaborations. This makes it particularly poignant that Julia has now left BCT after 20 years with us. Julia has made a huge contribution to bat conservation and to the development of BCT. She will be greatly missed but has left a solid legacy for us to build on and will always remain a strong advocate to bat conservation.

Hopefully Julia will be able to come along to the National Bat Conference which is returning after a year off. We're looking forward to the conference this year as well as launching our new improved

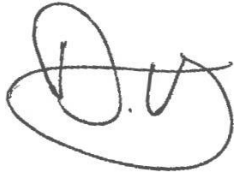
The Bat Conservation Trust

Review by the Chair and Joint Chief Executives

For the year ended 31 March 2018

website. Over half a million people visited our current website this year and the aim is to build further on this with a website fit for mobile devices.

We're going to take this opportunity to say a heartfelt thank you to all our staff, many volunteers, partners, supporters, donors and all those who have fundraised for bats this year. We would not be able to achieve what we achieve for bat conservation without your help and support, and look forward to working with you in the coming year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Gibbons', enclosed within a large, loopy oval shape.

Dr David Gibbons, Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Kit Stoner', written in a cursive style.

Kit Stoner, Chief Executive

The Bat Conservation Trust

Trustees' annual report

For the year ended 31 March 2018

The Trustees present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2018.

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 6,000 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; 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

BCT has championed bats for over 25 years and the places they need to survive.

Our vital stats: We spend just 11p on fundraising per £1 raised

Over 130,000 online supporters

6,351 members

3000+ volunteers

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.

The charity's main activities and the people and wildlife we strive to help are described below. All our charitable activities focus on conserving bats for present and future generations and are undertaken to further Bat Conservation Trust's charitable purposes for the public benefit.

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
- 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: To enable BCT to achieve financial stability and sustainable staff workloads; to ensure staff and volunteers are motivated and well led.

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 2017 a total of 1,858 sites were surveyed by 929 volunteers, which is more than double the 1997 figure. We also ran 26 bat detector workshops which provided training for over 300 volunteer surveyors. Eighty percent of volunteers are now using our online recording portal to return their survey data.

NBMP data have enabled us to produce statistically robust population trends for 11 of the UK's 17 breeding bat species. The data are once again being prepared for use as part of the next UK Biodiversity Indicators report to be published in July 2018.

Research collaborations – generating the evidence base

This year NBMP data have contributed to a range of research studies and peer-reviewed publications, including 'Monitoring the biodiversity of regions: key principles and possible pitfalls' in Biological Conservation; and 'The State of UKs bats 2017'. Our data are being used in four PhD studies: 'Do agri-environment schemes enhance biodiversity under the challenge of agricultural intensification?' at the University of Bristol; 'The use of ecoacoustics to understand anthropogenic impacts on biodiversity' at University College London (UCL); 'The potential of UK bats as agents in pest control' at the University of Greenwich; and 'Modelling the drivers of bat population change' at the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH) and UCL. A peer-reviewed publication co-authored by BCT staff also used NBMP data: 'A new approach to modelling the relationship between annual population abundance indices and weather data' published in the Journal of Agricultural, Biological and Environmental Statistics.

In 2017 we have been working on developing a new survey for the NBMP, the British Bat Survey (BBatS), in collaboration with the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO). This survey will draw upon the latest developments in low cost acoustic sensors, acoustic sound recognition, and online feedback, developed in collaboration with researchers from University College London, University of Oxford and the BTO, to provide an innovative end-to-end open-source system for the acoustic monitoring of bat populations at national scales. This will enable us to calculate population trends for more bat species than is currently possible and engage a wider range of volunteers than ever before. This end-to-end system will be piloted in 2018, following a successful pilot of the working relationship between BCT and BTO in 2017.

Vincent Weir Scientific Award

The Vincent Weir Scientific Award was first established in 2010 to recognise the achievements of new bat researchers and their contributions to bat conservation. Jeremy Froidevaux of the University of Bristol won the award in 2017 for his work in furthering our understanding of bats in forests and agricultural landscapes. Jeremy's work has uncovered the mechanisms driving recent population increases in greater horseshoe bats in the UK, emphasised the importance of canopy gaps for foraging bats, and highlighted how novel imaging methods (LiDAR) can be used to assess bat habitats and quantify forest suitability remotely. Jeremy is hoping to submit his PhD thesis later this year.

Kate Barlow Award

The Kate Barlow Award was set up in honour of the late Dr Kate Barlow. Kate made an outstanding contribution to bat conservation and worked for BCT from 2008 to 2015. The award was set up to encourage the next generation of bat researchers by supporting a postgraduate student to conduct a substantive bat research project. The award is open to students anywhere in the world conducting research which has a direct relevance for bat conservation. 2017 was the first year that the award was made. We received 27 applications from 13 countries and the standard of application was very high. Kristen Lear (PhD candidate at the University of Georgia) is the first recipient of the Kate Barlow Award. Her research project focuses on conserving the endangered Mexican long-nosed bat (*Leptonycteris*

nivalis). This species is a rare but vital pollinator, classified as endangered by the IUCN due to drastic declines of over 50% in the past 10 years – a decline expected to continue without immediate conservation action. The second winner of the award is due to be announced later this year.

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

Biodiversity

Professional guidelines

To the end of February 2018 1,122 copies of Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines 2nd edition have been sold and thousands of copies have been downloaded.

BCT has contributed to new bats and wind farm guidance as part of a group led by SNH; we are now awaiting publication. BCT continues to sit on the Interesessional Working Group on bats and wind turbines for Eurobats.

BCT is seeking funding to produce a 2nd edition of the Bats in Traditional Buildings guidelines alongside Natural England, National Trust and Historic England.

BCT sat on the Advisory Group for the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management's bat roost mitigation project in 2017 and now sits on the Steering Group for the production of bat mitigation guidance alongside a variety of stakeholders including the Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies.

BCT is also working with the Environment Agency to collect data on the impact of weir removal on bats and the occurrence of bat roosts in culverts. Guidance on both of these topics will be produced in 2018 or 2019.

Links with other organisations

It remains important for BCT to continue to meet at regular intervals with organisations with overlapping work areas, including the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM), the Association of Local Government Ecologists (ALGE) and the Environment Agency (EA). BCT sits on the Biodiversity Data User Group, convened by CIEEM, and the Advisory Group for the CIEEM/University of Exeter bat mitigation project. BCT is also working with CIEEM and ALGE (along with Natural England) on scoping out a new project on Earned Recognition for professional ecologists who work with bats. Regular meetings take place between BCT and EA on matters such as bats and weirs and culverts.

A Permitted Development Advice Note produced by CIEEM/ALGE with significant input by BCT, is now available and promoted by BCT where applicable.

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Trustees' annual report

For the year ended 31 March 2018

On an annual basis BCT convenes the UK Bat Steering Group. This group is made up of a range of organisations that influence bat conservation through their activities (Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies, Joint Nature Conservancy Council, Forestry Commission, National Trust, Vincent Wildlife Trust, Environment Agency, Woodland Trust and Historic England). The 2017 meeting discussed bats and farming. The 2018 meeting will be exploring existing initiatives/practices for landscape-scale conservation of bats and biodiversity to gain a focus on where our priorities are for taking this forward. The track record of this group is in delivering on the consensus of the day. For instance, our 2015 meeting was on the subject of roost mitigation for bats and gave rise to the 'Bearing Witness for Wildlife' project; and our work in the agricultural sector has now become more focussed and high profile.

Bats and farming

The Grey Long-eared Bat Project, as part of 'Back from the Brink', is working with landowners to improve foraging and connectivity around the most isolated maternity roosts for this species. In the first year of action on the ground a large number of landowners have committed to changing their management to benefit this species. We are working with facilitation funds in south and east Devon and have also found that many landowners have been willing to make changes without the support of Countryside Stewardship. The methods of delivery of this project and the wider benefits it will bring have raised interest in Government departments and resulted in an invitation to speak at a Public Policy Exchange on the subject of 'Enriching the UK's Biodiversity: Preventing Wildlife Degradation and Assessing Future policy for Ecological Conservation' which took place in May 2018.

Work has also now commenced on advice to landowners to benefit bats under other projects that are part of 'Back from the Brink', such as greater horseshoe bats as part of multi-taxon delivery for the Cotswolds grasslands.

BCT is a partner to the Devon Greater Horseshoe Bat Project, the Farm Wildlife website and Nature Friendly Farming Network.

Policy

BCT continues to be an active member of Wildlife and Countryside Link (WCL), Wales Environment Link (WEL) and Scottish Environment Link (SEL) signing up to consultation responses, briefings, statements, papers and reports on legislation, planning, crime, Brexit, the 25 Year Plan and other relevant subjects. BCT attends the Link AGM and Debate, meetings of WCL's 25 Year Environment Plan, and Legal Group; and meetings of Environment Links UK Brexit Nature Coalition Group and Environment Links Devolution Group. BCT's Conservation Wildlife Crime Officer is the vice chair of the Link Wildlife Crime and Trade Group. BCT's Wales Officer chairs WEL's Governance working group and Species Champions working group.

BCT continues to promote the importance of retaining and strengthening the legislation protecting bats and we have an internal Core Brexit Group to discuss action. Promotion of bats and their protection is carried out through our Species Champion MPs (England – 3 Species Champions, Wales 2 Species Champions, Scotland – 7 Species Champions).

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In February 2018 BCT organised an event at the House of Lords on Bats and People during which speeches, displays of BCT's work and live bats were used to champion bat conservation, including our work on 'better implementation' of the legislation (Partnership for Biodiversity in Planning and Bearing Witness for Wildlife Project). The event was well received and new, influential contacts were established.

We are exploring the possibility of a Parliamentary Office for Science and Technology (POST) note on bats and the ecosystem services they provide.

BCT attended 'Next Steps for Natural Environment Policy in England' in April 2017; the CIEEM conference on 'Making Nature Count: Natural Capital Policy in Practice' in August; and 'UK Farming and Environment Post Brexit' in November.

The Partnership for Biodiversity in Planning

This comprises 19 organisations representing the conservation, planning and development sectors who are dedicated to working together to improve the consideration of biodiversity in the planning process. Led by BCT and funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, the project is now in its fourth and final year of delivery.

Project activities over the past year have been focused on the development of the web-based planning tool/Interactive Trigger List, extending the working prototype that we have developed for bats to the other protected and priority species that will be included within the planning tool. The species' NGOs (non-governmental organisations) represented within the partnership have been preparing the outputs required for the tool for amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, invertebrates and plants which BCT has been reviewing and compiling for incorporation into the tool. These species/species group outputs have been passed on to the IT consultants who have started constructing the tool.

BCT has completed a first draft of the background data search guidance document aimed at ecological consultants requesting biodiversity data and interpreting it for planning and development purposes. This has been shared with the project Steering Group for them to review and was looked at in more detail at the project Steering Group meeting held last May. We will be updating our guidance to take into account the comments and suggestions received.

Looking ahead, we will be carrying out some initial testing of the Interactive Trigger List and will then be trialling it with local planning authorities and end users before completing development of the tool. We will also be consulting practitioners on our guidance on background data searches before finalising and publishing this work.

Bearing Witness for Wildlife – conservation crime investigations

This project, funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, and encompassing two work areas, conservation wildlife crime and bat roost mitigation, entered its second year in November 2017.

The conservation wildlife crime project expands the work of our investigations officer to include other species of conservation concern such as Great Crested Newts.

The Bat Conservation Trust

Trustees' annual report

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During the period covered by this review our investigations officer considered 195 allegations of bat crime with 164 referrals having been made to the Police. 12 cases led to offenders being cautioned, subjected to community resolution measures or warned. 33 cases are still being investigated.

There have been four prosecutions for bat crime during the past 12 months. In two of these cases the Crown Court has been asked to consider confiscation of profit made as a consequence of offending.

In addition to these allegations of bat crime we have recorded 15 allegations of crime against other species. A number of those investigations have yet to be completed but at least two cases appear destined to result in prosecution.

The past 12 months has, once again, seen a number of cases where a minority of Police forces seem unable or unwilling to undertake effective investigations into bat crime. Undoubtedly this is a sign of the resource and financial pressures they face. Trying to ensure that effective investigations are undertaken will continue to be our greatest challenge. This rather sombre picture can be relieved to some extent by the knowledge that most referrals to the Police are still dealt with adequately, and in some instances exceptionally, with many examples of good crime prevention work occurring.

BWW also involves us in raising awareness of wildlife crime and the provision of training to investigators and field workers who may encounter wildlife crime. To this end, during the past twelve months we have had articles published in periodicals, provided input to police training courses and have run a training day for field workers. Further courses and training events are planned. Our investigations officer has been elected to be vice chair of Wildlife and Countryside Link's (WCL) wildlife crime and trade group. In that role he has been influential in the production of the first annual wildlife crime report due to be published in April.

Bearing Witness for Wildlife – bat roost mitigation

This part of the project funds important work to improve evidence of what works in bat roost mitigation. In April 2017 the Project Officer and Field Assistant joined the project and started their first season of field work to investigate the implementation and effectiveness of bat roost mitigation. Sites were surveyed across England and Wales between May and September 2017, after which initial findings were presented at the Chartered Institute for Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) autumn conference. Preparation in early 2018 was undertaken to secure sites for the second field season and to employ the Field Assistant for this survey period. Fieldwork for 2018 began in May and will run until September 2018, after which the final project results will be produced.

In addition, in August 2017 a booklet of abstracts and the live polling results from our well received Mitigation Case Studies Forum (held Jan 2017) was published and has been publicised through social media and events throughout 2017.

BCT reviewed the current Roost website (with mitigation case studies) and associated award, designing a new structure and content for both. The website and award will be relaunched in 2018, with the award ceremony to be in early 2019.

Built environment

BCT continues to work to improve awareness, knowledge and action for bat conservation with the built environment sector. For example, this year has seen significant progress in the updating and production of guidance in relation to the impacts of artificial lighting and bats. Collaborative documents, one with the Institute of Lighting Professionals and one through Eurobats, are due to be published in 2018. Awareness on the topic and upcoming guidance has been raised through presentations at the international lighting conference LuxLive in November 2017 and to Philips Lighting UK Ltd engineers at their headquarters in February 2018.

We have put significant effort in 2017 into building on our existing relationships within the industry to set out clear work streams and maximise the benefits for both parties. The Ministry of Justice and BCT signed a Memorandum of Understanding setting out joint working ventures and the first document on working procedures to protect bats from the impacts of artificial lighting drafted by the BCT was adopted by the Ministry of Justice in March 2018.

After our series of articles produced for the Listed Property Owners Club and a free stand at their show in 2017, BCT was asked to speak at the show in February 2018 on the importance of buildings to bats; a topic we were also asked to speak on at the National Self Build and Renovation Centre show in May 2018, where we have permanent stand to promote awareness of bat conservation, training courses and the bat box scheme. Interest in including provision for bats in new builds using bat boxes from the BCT scheme was clearly evident at the trade shows at the LPOC and NSBRC attended previously by the Built Environment Officer.

After a review process in 2017 it was decided that the existing Habibat bat box partnership scheme should be adapted to include a greater variety of bat box manufacturers and bat access products. This new partnership scheme is called Roost and still includes Ecosurv, our initial partner company, who we work closely with. A proportion of the profits from bat box and access product sales from partnership companies will be reinvested into the Roost scheme, with the long-term aim of improving bat roosting habitat using feedback from monitoring. This unique partnership initiative will be re-launched and widely promoted to tie into the Roost website update in 2018 (see above section).

In 2018 the built environment training schedule will be expanded to include an updated bats and bridges awareness course for industry, based on feedback and discussions with a number of interested parties such as Sustrans in 2017. The course should be on the permanent training plan by the end of 2018 when specific areas of industry will be approached for targeted discussion, such as those managing the road and rail network infrastructure.

BCT continues to liaise with Stacey Waring, who completed her research into the impacts of Breathable Roofing Membranes (BRMs) on bats in 2014, the findings of which has been used to consolidate the advice provided on this subject. Further scientific publications based on Stacey's research are expected and BCT are liaising with her while drafting content for the Eurobats insulation guidance document due for completion in 2018.

One exciting new partnership project we are still pursuing involves using novel technology to improve the uptake of monitoring after bat roost mitigation measures have been put in place. This partnership would include two property developers, environmental consultancies and conservation technologists – we hope that the project will be up and running by autumn 2018.

Bats and woodland

Partnership work with the Woodland Trust, Forest Research, Forestry Commission, Natural England, Natural Resources Wales, Scottish Natural Heritage, Back from the Brink and bat groups has continued to support BCT with the important task of raising awareness about bats and their woodland requirements, as well as improving our understanding of how they use such an important habitat. In addition, we have also continued to attend the meetings held by the England Woodland Biodiversity Group, which has signposted us to collaborations of interest supported by woodland practitioners, Forestry Commission and other NGOs.

All the survey and public engagement elements of the Heritage Lottery Funded (HLF) 'Discovering the connection between natural heritage and cultural influence in Swanton Novers woodland' project have been completed. As we come to the end of the project we have shared some of the project's results with volunteers and the local community at an event at Swanton Novers on the 7th April, and we are working on completing the final report and producing guidance for woodland managers and volunteers.

The Forest Research and BCT collaboration 'Putting UK Woodland Bats on the Map' recruited four bat groups (Cardiff, Dorset, Suffolk, and Loch Lomond and Trossachs) in four study areas (Scotland, East of England, Wales and South of England) to pilot an acoustic survey methodology for monitoring bats in woodlands and carry out trapping surveys. During 2017, eight surveys were carried out and all four bat groups have agreed to continue surveying for the project during 2018. The surveys will provide bat distribution data which will be used to train and test the ensemble of habitat suitability models produced by Forest Research.

BCT's involvement with the HLF-funded 'Back from the Brink' project has started with our first Introduction to Bats training delivered to potential volunteers on the 23 March 2018 at Fineshade for the Roots of Rockingham project. Other integrated projects we are involved in are Ancients of the Future (about veteran trees) and Adding Diversity to Dorset's Heaths with delivery scheduled to continue over the next three years. The coming years will see the woodland officer providing advice, training to volunteers on survey methodology and training to landowners to help raise awareness of the needs of the project's priority target bat species and their management. More information about the Back from the Brink project can be found on <https://naturebftb.co.uk/>.

Further training for woodland managers is a key priority for BCT and during the spring of 2018, BCT has been working with Forestry Commission to deliver a series of European Protected Species (EPS) training throughout England that is specifically targeted towards woodland owners, agents and contractors. The training covered the legislation and the habitat requirements of key woodland EPS species and ensure compliance with good practice.

Bats in churches

Following a successful stage 1 bid for funding from HLF in February 2017, BCT has continued to work with partners (Church of England, Historic England, Natural England and Churches Conservation Trust) to develop the Bats in Churches partnership project. The project has been working with three pilot churches to carry out in-depth ecological surveys and seek solutions to mitigate issues caused by the large bat roosts in the churches; we have also carried out ecological surveys at a further 100 churches, to establish a current picture of bat use at these churches. The project staff team have visited 20 of these 100 churches to find out more about the church-users' experience with bats and plan ways to

work together in the delivery phase of the project. We have consulted with volunteers, experienced and new, about how they would like to get involved with the project. We have also piloted a new volunteer survey of churches across England, which will help us get a better understanding nationally of the factors determining whether or not bats will roost at a church and how church-goers feel about their bats.

The project team are currently working hard to pull together all the information collected over the last year and will be submitting a Stage 2 funding bid to HLF in June 2018. If successful in the bid, the delivery phase of the project will start in winter 2018.

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 9.30am and 4.30pm 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 15,133 enquiries (calls, emails and letters) in 2017-18;

- 12,796 were dealt with by Helpline staff.
- 2,337 came through the Out Of Hours volunteer service.
- These figures do not include switchboard enquiries that were forwarded on to other BCT staff.

In 2017-18, BCT organised 1,022 roost visits in England (6.8% of all Helpline enquiries). We also answered a further 3,811 Natural England enquiries (25.2% of all Helpline enquiries) which did not require a visit, such as planning enquiries or information about an enquirer's roost. The Natural England casework is an enormously important part of our work, which would not be possible without the dedication of their 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. We will continue this coming year to update our advice and resources as new building practices evolve.

The National Bat Helpline also provides immediate welfare advice about grounded and injured bats and puts callers into contact with around 300 local volunteer bat care experts and regional helplines who comprise the National Bat Care Network, which is co-ordinated by the Helpline. We aim to expand this network further in the year ahead.

In 2017-18, the National Bat Helpline received over 371 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. We have also assisted with the development of the Bats in Churches partnership project and will continue to do so over the coming year.

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As ever we received some calls about bats being found in unusual places – including a bat that fell out from behind a sign at a motorcycle shop before being contained in a tyre and one found in a trophy at a town hall. Some bats were found hibernating in a disused beehive and a bat visiting the sea lion enclosure at Dudley Zoo. A bat was found in the Lincolnshire Echo letterbox prompting them to write a story about bats. Finally a bat was found clinging to the sign of British American Tobacco (B.A.T.).

Having had one of our busiest years ever, the feedback we received from service users is overwhelmingly positive and is a great testament to the hard work of all the dedicated National Bat Helpline team, including the Out of Hours volunteers, the Volunteer Bat Roost Visitors and Bat Care Network volunteers. 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 and conferences

BCT delivered 26 training courses in 2017-18 for a combined audience of 377 people; this is less than 2016-17 when we ran 36 courses for 392 people but more than 2015-16 (19 courses for 210 people). 19 courses were openly advertised, one course was run for volunteers and seven in-house training courses were provided for various professional audiences including Sustrans and the Environment Agency.

This year we offered two new courses 'Bearing Witness for Wildlife' offering training in recognising and reporting wildlife crime or acting as a witness, and 'Kaleidoscope Pro' delivered in collaboration with Wildlife Acoustics. Both received positive feedback from the participants.

A new Training and Conferences Strategy was developed to guide the direction of the programme over the next few years and key policies and processes have been updated.

In the absence of a National Bat Conference, BCT co-organised the Autumn Swarming Bat Conference with the Vincent Wildlife Trust and the Derbyshire Bat Conservation Group. This took place in September and was attended by 100 bat enthusiasts from across the country. The conference combined an international talks programme with workshops, discussion sessions and an evening of field work at key swarming sites in Derbyshire. The feedback from participants was positive and particularly enthusiastic about similar events in the future.

We also co-organised the National Bat Care Conference in February with Maggie Brown from West Yorkshire Bat Hospital and Bat Care News, in response to requests as it is three years since the last one. The event included a range of speakers talking about different aspects of bat care from triage and bat ectoparasites to releasing pups, as well as a range of workshops to develop participants' skills. The event was attended by 77 people and 88% of the 25 feedback respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the overall event.

BCT English 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. Two were held this year:

- The North of England Bat Conference on 6th May 2017, Gateshead College, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, attended by 96 people
- The East of England Bat Conference on 17th March 2018, Ely College, Ely, Cambridgeshire, attended by 96 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 Midlands (April 2018), South East (November 2018) and South West of England in March 2019.

The National Bat Conference

There was no National Bat Conference in 2017 but plans are in place to hold the conference in 2018.

Membership

Memberships are an important way to both engage and fundraise towards the work we do to protect and speak up for bats. BCT continues to strive to keep our current members engaged and to encourage more people to join us and learn more about bats. For that reason we decided to refresh the look of both our membership magazines, Bat News and The Young Batworker. They are now in A5 format and with a brand new design. We continue to receive very positive feedback on this new format.

At the end of the financial year The Bat Conservation Trust had a total of 6,351 members. That includes the support of 39 corporate members – six more than last year. This year seven new Life Members joined The Bat Conservation Trust, raising our total to 53.

Although not a true membership, the Adopt a Bat scheme plays a crucial role in engaging with a slightly different audience and in raising unrestricted funds. The scheme was started in 2011 and it now has 387 'members'. We will be launching a new Adopt a Bat pack which contains a newly designed bat toy. We believe this new toy could prove very popular.

The year ahead will be an exciting one as BCT will be getting a new and improved website. This will massively improve user experience both for existing and prospective members (and anyone visiting the website). Our current members in particular will benefit from having access to a more interactive and accessible exclusive area, filled with lots of resources.

Championing Bats

BCT has continued to work to inspire and enthuse others as well as speaking up for bats and raising awareness. To spread our message far and wide we use different media outlets such as print, TV and

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radio. We also work hard to have a strong social media presence and that is reflected in our social media reach which continues to grow year after year:

- Over 110,000 likes on Facebook representing an increase of 5,000 from the previous year
- Close to 40,000 followers on twitter. An increase of approximately 5,000 this year
- Just over 4,000 followers on LinkedIn
- Our Instagram account which was only created in June 2016 already counts with just over 7,500 followers, almost double since last year

Our website continues to be the main source of information for anyone looking for more detailed information about bats and therefore it is updated regularly. Last year we posted 35 news stories directly onto the BCT website and 21 blogs from a range of bat enthusiasts. Our regular e-Bulletins also have the capacity to reach a wide audience; with the Bat e-Bulletin which is targeted at a much broader audiences, reaching over 12,500 subscribers and our corporate e-Bulletin reaching over 3,000 professionals.

We once again encouraged everyone to celebrate bats during International Bat Night 2017 and created a free to download International Bat Night Pack, with lots of tips and ideas. We also took the opportunity to celebrate bats this Halloween and organised a local event in partnership with Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park in London. Our 'Halloween is For Bats' event was a family friendly afternoon and evening with lots of arts and crafts and activities which was finalised with a bat walk.

Education

Education remains at the core of all the work we do in order to raise awareness and knowledge of bats with a wide range of target groups ranging from professionals such as architects or planners through to members of the general public.

There is a range of free resources available from the BCT website, this includes posters, activity sheets, information leaflets/documents and suggestions on how to carry out successful public outreach and engagement activities. We have developed a particular set of resources that are made available to teachers and youth leaders; we currently have 88 subscribers to this service who receive an education pack in the post and also receive The Young Batworker magazine three times a year.

A specific teacher's pack for Wales has been developed and is expected to be distributed to Welsh schools later in 2018.

BCT works for bats around the UK and internationally

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

Bat group support: UK, Channel Islands and the Isle of Man

Bat groups are at forefront of bat conservation in the UK and remain at the core of BCT. We have a formal relationship with 88 Bat Groups, of which 69 are Partner Groups and 19 Network Groups. BCT

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provides support to bat groups including talks, training, outreach materials (e.g. leaflets), insurance, etc. as well as some financial support through the Partner Group Support Fund (with awards for this year totalling £1,445 for projects and support to attend the Autumn Bat Swarming Conference). Updates and information are disseminated to Bat Groups through the production of the monthly bat group bulletin, the BCT website (which includes dedicated pages for bat groups), as well as through direct regular contact, annual meetings with groups (which include presentations and training), regional meetings, regional conferences (see above) and the Bat Workers' Forum, which was held as part of the Wales Bat Conference in 2017.

Looking ahead, we are looking to see how we can better support bat groups through training and online resources, continuing to develop collaborative projects that engage with the bat group network as well as showcasing the wonderful work being done locally throughout the British Isles. With the return of National Conference in 2018, the Bat Workers Forum will be held on Friday 7 September at the University of Nottingham.

BCT in Wales

The 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 15 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 Swansea University over the weekend of 3 and 4 June with an excellent breadth of presentations from bat groups and academics on topics such as horseshoe bats and mitigation.
- BCT delivered four NBMP bat detector workshops ('Using Your Ears') for volunteers in Wales in 2017.

We continue to work closely with other environmental NGOs through Wales Environment Link, but also at a UK level through Environment Link UK to pool resources and expertise to get a strong and effective voice for bat conservation in Wales. Much of our work in 2017 has focused around the results of the Brexit referendum.

We will build on the successes of the previous year and expand on further activities relating to both Brexit and the developing strategies for the Nature Recovery Action Plan throughout 2018/19.

BCT in Scotland

With support from Scottish Natural Heritage, the Scottish Bat Project's objective is to engage more people in Scotland with bat recording, conservation and education, in order to increase our knowledge of bats' status and distribution and tackle the conservation threats to Scotland's 10 bat species.

Anne Youngman retired from her role as Scottish Bat Officer after 14 years working for BCT. Anne received the RSPB's Nature of Scotland Lifetime Achievement Award which acknowledged Anne's long

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term contribution to bat conservation. The new Scottish Officer, Liz Ferrell, started her role at the end of July 2017 and has her office based in Stirling.

There are 12 bat groups in Scotland. In addition to undertaking surveys, groups have continued to deliver outreach activities within schools and community groups. The Scottish Bat Project recognises their fantastic contribution to BCT's work and we continue to support all 12 groups with their activities and training needs.

Over 100 delegates attended our 2017 conference held at Battleby Conference Centre, Perth. This day delivered a wide range of workshops and talks covering the latest research, technology and bat news.

The Scottish Officer has delivered training workshops to a variety of audiences including students, rangers and local wildlife groups. Along with the detector loan scheme our activities have encouraged 47 new volunteers to take part in surveys across Scotland this year.

In 2017 BCT ran a pilot involving 16 volunteers from Scotland. From 17 one kilometre squares surveyed a total of 15,997 bat calls were identified. Volunteer involvement was greatly appreciated as BCT and project partners look to continue the surveys development.

BCT Scotland is a member organisation of Scottish Environment LINK (who are the forum for Scotland's voluntary environment organisations) working to create a more environmentally sustainable society. Through the Species Champion Initiative, BCT has seven MSP (Members of the Scottish Parliament) bat Species Champions, with George Adam MSP joining the initiative this year to champion the soprano pipistrelle.

The Scottish Officer is also a member for the Wildlife and Wildlife Crime sub groups within LINK looking at enabling information-sharing, discussion and joint action with other member groups to ensure that the environment is fully recognised in the development of policy and legislation affecting Scotland.

This year, over 450 people were engaged through a variety events such as training days, conferences and bat walks undertaken by the Scottish Officer and volunteers.

The Scottish Bat Project will continue its work next year with the support from Scottish Natural Heritage. Some areas of focus are listed below:

- Continue bat group support through provision of resources, training, news updates and meetings
- Further British Bat Survey development with a 2018 pilot recruiting 15 volunteers with a range of previous survey experience
- Continued commitment to work with member group organisations through Scottish Environment LINK
- Deliver training opportunities for all through events such as the Spring Into Action day and the Scottish Bat Workers' Conference

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.

A total of 12 bat workers (including three joint nominations) were nominated in 2017 and we received over 200 votes. The 2017 winners were Donna and Graham Street from the Isle of Wight. Donna and Graham were nominated for their dedication to bat conservation through 20+ years of running the Isle of Wight Bat Hospital, all their bat care and rehabilitation work along with the many education and engagement activities they undertake every year to inspire people about bats.

BCT in Europe and Internationally

Following the development of a high level international strategy in 16/17, BCT took a strategic decision to focus on UK work in the past year, and revisit the international strategy in future years. However, BCT continued to engage with the Eurobats Agreement, with Kit Stoner, Jo Ferguson, Jan Collins and Lisa Worledge contributing to Intersessional Working Groups on Light Pollution, Wind Turbines and Bat Populations, Communication, Bat Conservation and Public Health, Education, Bats and Building Insulation, Rescue and Rehabilitation, and Quality of Assessments and Experience and Skills of Experts. Kit Stoner attended the Advisory Committee of Eurobats in May 2018, and then the Meeting of Parties in October 2018.

Bats and disease

Through the National Bat Helpline, other key staff at BCT and specialist advisors we continue to provide advice and guidance in the UK and internationally to the public, volunteers and bat workers around issues relating to bats and disease, in particular relating to rabies.

We proactively communicate about disease related matters through our web pages, articles in Bat News, the Bat Group Bulletin and Bat Carers' Bulletin (including circulating updated guidance as necessary), and other publications, as well as presentations at meetings and conferences. We continue to work closely with UK governmental organisations such as the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) and Defra on disease surveillance, including representation on the GB Exotic Disease Core Group for Rabies.

We undertook a second year of sampling for a project with Joseph Hoyt, an American bat researcher at the University of California Santa Cruz, studying the prevalence and persistence of *Pseudogymnoascus destructans* (Pd), the fungus that causes WNS in North America. Joseph will be attending the 2018 National Bat Conference to present his findings. This presentation will be part of a session on Bats and Diseases that will also include speakers from APHA and Public Health England.

BCT was represented at the 2nd International Symposium on Infectious Diseases of Bats (29 June to 1 July 2017, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado), by Lisa Worledge, Head of Conservation Services. The conference was attended by researchers from around the world and provided an opportunity to catch-up with colleagues from academia, conservation organisations and others.

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Looking ahead, as well as continuing the communications work around bats and disease, we will review our current guidance on bats and rabies, white nose-syndrome, and the content of the BCT web pages on bats and disease to keep our information as current as possible. We have also been asked to participate in a small project with the United States Geological Survey collecting soil samples from two hibernacula in England where we have confirmed the presence of Pd.

BatLife Europe

As a founding partner of BatLife Europe (which now has 36 NGO partners), BCT has supported this initiative since its creation, and continues to do so with Kit Stoner acting as a Trustee and Treasurer. During the past year, BatLife Europe has registered as a Stichting in the Netherlands. BatLife Europe projects this year have included preparing an update of a pan-European indicator to which BCT has contributed data, providing support to partner organisations, and choosing and promoting a new Bat of the Year (lesser horseshoe bat), which BCT has promoted to UK bat groups and via social media.

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 is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and agrees to abide by its rules and regulations. Those who register with the regulator agree to ensure their fundraising is legal, open, honest and respectful. There were no complaints related to fundraising during the period covered by this report.

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.

Safeguarding

BCT is committed to upholding the principle that children and vulnerable adults are entitled to protection from physical, sexual and emotional harm and have the right to a safe, positive and enjoyable environment when involved with BCT. We are committed to maintaining a safeguarding policy, which can be viewed here: http://www.bats.org.uk/pages/about_us.html

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. 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.

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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 31st March 2018 was 12 (2017: 12).

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

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.

Some of the major risk areas are:

- Pressure for change in government policy or legislation (particularly arising from Britain leaving the EU) impacts on bat conservation. BCT undertakes advocacy and mobilises our supporters to speak up for the importance of the legislation and policy protecting bats.
- 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 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) 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 those 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 accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- 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 adequate 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 reasonably strong year financially in FY17/18 despite challenges relating to statutory funding. Income from trusts and grants, donations and legacies, alongside continued careful control of expenditure, has resulted in a positive year end picture. For the year ended 31 March 2018 Income was £1,527,873 (2017: £1,584,049) and expenditure was £1,525,148 (2017: £1,336,849), leading to net income for the year of £2,725 (2017: Net income of £247,200). Taking into account gains on investments of £48,957 (2017: gains of £291,682) the net movement in funds for the year was an increase of £51,682 (2017: an increase of £538,882).

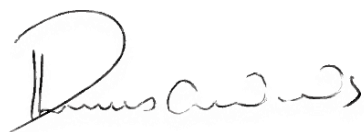
Investment policy

Investments total £2,761,223 (2017: £2,724,326) at 31 March 2018. 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 performed strongly in the first three quarters of the year, but dropped in the final quarter of the year in line with general market conditions. For budgeting purposes BCT assume a 6% total return per year to take into account market fluctuations.

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 2017/18 financial year our total reserves stand at £3,350,040 (2017: £3,298,358). Of this, £2,060,670 (2017: £2,101,550) are endowment funds and £384,406 (2017: £413,875) are restricted funds for projects. This leaves unrestricted funds of £904,964 (2017: £782,933) of which £108,110 (2016: £168,851) have been designated to key programmes of work in the next financial year (see notes to the accounts for details). This leaves us with £796,854 (2017: £614,082) as unrestricted, unallocated funds. The trustees' policy is to work towards holding six months operating costs, approximately £760,000, in unrestricted reserves. The level of unrestricted reserves currently slightly exceeds this target, which means we can face any medium term financial uncertainty with a good degree of confidence. We will continue to review our reserves policy and our progress against 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

Thanks to our 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.

Partner Bat Groups

Avon Bat Group
Ayrshire Bat Group
Bedfordshire Bat Group
Berkshire & South Bucks Bat Group
Birmingham & Black Country Bat Group
Borders Bat Group
Cambridgeshire Bat Group
Cardiff Bat Group
Central Scotland Bat Group
Cheshire Bat Group
Clwyd Bat Group
Clyde Bat Group
Cornwall Bat Group
Derbyshire Bat Conservation Group
Devon Bat Group
Dorset Bat Group
Dumfries & Galloway Bat Group
Durham Bat Group
East Lancashire Bat Group
East Yorkshire Bat Group
Essex Bat Group
Fife & Kinross Bat Group
Glamorgan Bat Group
Gloucestershire Bat Group
Guernsey Bat Group
Gwynedd Bat Group
Hampshire Bat Group
Herefordshire Mammal Group
Herts & Middlesex Bat Group
Inverness Bat Group
Isle of Wight Bat Group
Isles of Scilly Bat Group
Jersey Bat Group
Kent Bat Group
Leicestershire & Rutland Bat Group
Lincolnshire Bat Group
Loch Lomond Bat Group
London Bat Group
Lothians Bat Group
Manx Bat Group
Merseyside & West Lancs Bat Group

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Mid Anglian Bat Group
Montgomeryshire Bat Group
Norfolk Barbastelle Research Group
North Bucks Bat Group
North Ceredigion Bat Group
North East Scotland Bat Group
North Highland Bat Network
North Lancashire Bat Group
North Wales Mammal Group
Northern Ireland Bat Group
Northumberland Bat Group
Norwich Bat Group
Nottinghamshire Bat Group
Oxfordshire Bat Group
Pembrokeshire Bat Group
Somerset Bat Group
South Cumbria Bat Group
South Lancashire Bat Group
South Yorkshire Bat Group
Staffordshire Bat Group
Surrey Bat Group
Sussex Bat Group
Tayside Bat Group
Vale of Glamorgan & Bridgend Bat Group
Valleys Bat Group
Warwickshire Bat Group
West Yorkshire Bat Group
Worcestershire Bat Group

Charitable Trusts, Statutory Bodies and Other Organisations

Animal and Plant Health Agency
Chapman Charitable Trust
C James Cadbury Trust
Cecil Pilkington Charitable Trust
Clark Bradbury Charitable Trust
Defra
Dolly Knowles Charitable Trust
Edith Murphy Foundation
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
Forest Research
Garfield Weston Foundation
Helen A Gillman's Trust
Heritage Lottery Fund
Joint Nature Conservation Committee
Maldwyn Williams Charitable Trust
Margaret Joan Tottle Deceased Will Trust
Marsh Christian Trust

The Bat Conservation Trust

Trustees' annual report

For the year ended 31 March 2018

Martin Wills Wildlife Maintenance Trust
Natural England
Natural Resources Wales
Oakdale Trust
Pilkington General Fund
Robert O Curle Charitable Trust
Russell and Mary Foreman 1980 Charitable
Scottish Forestry Trust
Scottish Natural Heritage
The Anthony and Noreen Daniell Charitable Trust
The Barry Green Memorial Fund
The Bourne-May Charitable Trust
The J & J R Wilson Trust
The Late Miss Eileen Margaret Tyler Charitable Trust
The Leonard And Suzanne Phillips Foundation
The Mary Heap Charitable Trust
The Reeve Charitable Trust
The Roger And Sarah Bancroft Clark Charitable Trust
The Roger Vere Foundation
The William Dean Countryside And Educational Trust
Walker 597 Animal Trust
Waterloo Foundation
Woodland Trust

The Bat Conservation Trust

Trustees' annual report

For the year ended 31 March 2018

Sponsors (Sponsorships of £100 or more)

ARUP

Atkins

Auritus Wildlife Consultancy

Ecosurv/Habibat

Elekon AG

Forticrete

Greenwood Ecohabitats

NatureCounters (BioMotors Ltd)

Pettersson Elektronik AB

Titley scientific

Wildlife Acoustics, Inc.

Wildsurveys Ltd.

Corporate Members (as at 1 April 2018)

Absolute Ecology

Arbtech Consulting Ltd

Asw Ecology

Barn Hill Ecology

Batability Courses & Tuition

Big Domain

Cleankill Environmental Services Ltd

Continental Landscapes Ltd

Denbies Wine Estate Limited

Dorset County Council

Echoes Ecology Ltd

Ecological Survey & Assessment Ltd

English Heritage

Ground Control Ltd

Highland Titles

Hipper.com

Historic England

Holidaycottages.Co.Uk

Ingencia

Just Mammals Consultancy LLP

Kates Clothing Ltd

Marquis & Lord Ltd

Mka Ecology

Original Cottages

Peersonic Ltd

Serenata Flowers

Stay In Cornwall

Tamworth Property Services

Teign Trees & Landscapes Sw Ltd

The Nestbox Company Ltd

Titley Scientific

Treework Ltd

United Environmental Services Ltd

The Bat Conservation Trust

Trustees' annual report

For the year ended 31 March 2018

Waterman Infrastructure & Environment Ltd
Wealden Heartwood
Whitcher Wildlife Ltd
Wilby Tree Surgeons
Wildcare

Donations from Bat Groups (of £100 or more as of 1st April 2018)

Bedfordshire Bat Group
Fife and Kinross Bat Group
Hampshire Bat Group
Oxfordshire Bat Group
South Lancashire Bat Group
South Yorkshire Bat Group
Surrey Bat Group
Surrey Bat Group
Tayside Bat Group
Warwickshire Bat Group

Legacies

Rev Wendy Aird
Betty M Defazio
Mrs June Dutton

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the charitable company's auditor during the year and has expressed its 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 25 June 2018 and signed on their behalf by

Dr David Gibbons
Chair

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

The Bat Conservation Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Bat Conservation Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2018 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2018 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
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- The Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- The Trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charitable company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' annual report, including the strategic report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

The Bat Conservation Trust

information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- The information given in the Trustees' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements
- The Trustees' annual report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' annual report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept, 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' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities set out in the Trustees' annual report, 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, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

The Bat Conservation Trust

material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Noelia Serrano (Senior statutory auditor)

Date: 26 July 2018

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor
Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TL

The Bat Conservation Trust

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

For the year ended 31 March 2018

	Note	Endowment £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2018 Total £	2017 Total £
Income						
<i>Income from generated funds</i>						
Donations and legacies	2	–	19,612	240,326	259,938	373,644
Investment income		–	–	59,831	59,831	51,420
<i>Income from charitable activities</i>						
Conferences income		–	–	35,947	35,947	103,448
Training courses and meetings		–	–	54,613	54,613	65,986
Projects and research	3	–	581,751	484,517	1,066,268	937,462
Other activities		–	–	51,276	51,276	52,089
Total income		–	601,363	926,510	1,527,873	1,584,049
Expenditure						
<i>Expenditure on raising funds</i>						
Membership support	5	–	–	58,609	58,609	57,181
Costs of raising funds		12,994	–	97,268	110,262	108,364
		12,994	–	155,877	168,871	165,545
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>						
National Conference		–	–	–	–	80,569
Biodiversity training courses and regional conferences		–	–	90,259	90,259	68,985
Project and research costs	4	–	642,938	623,080	1,266,018	1,021,750
Total expenditure	5	12,994	642,938	869,216	1,525,148	1,336,849
Net income before net gains on investments		(12,994)	(41,575)	57,294	2,725	247,200
Net gains on investments		(15,780)	–	64,737	48,957	291,682
Net income for the year		(28,774)	(41,575)	122,031	51,682	538,882
Transfers between funds		(12,106)	12,106	–	–	–
Net movement in funds		(40,880)	(29,469)	122,031	51,682	538,882
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		2,101,550	413,875	782,933	3,298,358	2,759,476
Total funds carried forward	16	2,060,670	384,406	904,964	3,350,040	3,298,358

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 15 to the financial statements.

The Bat Conservation Trust

Balance sheet

Company number: 2712823

As at 31 March 2018

	Note	2018 £	£	2017 £	£
Non-Current Assets					
Fixed assets	9		2,145		–
Intangible assets	10		84,484		–
Investments	11		2,761,223		2,724,326
			<u>2,847,852</u>		<u>2,724,326</u>
Current assets					
Assets held for Sale	11	155,000		100,000	
Debtors	12	167,025		207,159	
Short term deposit		105,647		136,099	
Cash at bank and in hand		183,752		211,758	
		<u>611,424</u>		<u>655,016</u>	
Creditors: amounts due within one year	13	<u>(109,236)</u>		<u>(80,984)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>502,188</u>		<u>574,032</u>
Net assets	15		<u>3,350,040</u>		<u>3,298,358</u>
Reserves					
Endowment funds	16	2,060,670		2,101,550	
Restricted funds	16	384,406		413,875	
Unrestricted funds					
General funds		796,854		614,082	
Designated funds		108,110		168,851	
Total funds	16		<u>3,350,040</u>		<u>3,298,358</u>

Included in the reserves above are unrealised gains of £249,655 (2017: £285,874).

Approved by the trustees on 25 June 2018 and signed on their behalf by

David Gibbons, Chair

The Bat Conservation Trust

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 March 2018

	2018		2017
	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	51,682		538,882
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation charges	613		2,459
Dividends and interest	(59,831)		(51,420)
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	–		–
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	40,134		(136,098)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	28,252		(21,117)
(Gains) on investments	(48,957)		(291,682)
Net cash provided by operating activities		11,893	41,024
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends and interest	59,831		51,420
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(2,758)		–
Proceeds from sale of investments	419,564		434,685
Purchase of investments	(462,504)		(469,567)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		14,133	16,538
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		26,026	57,562
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		347,857	290,295
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		373,883	347,857

Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	At 1 April 2017	Cash flows	At 31 March 2018
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	211,758	(28,006)	183,752
Short term deposit	136,099	(30,452)	105,647
	347,857	(58,458)	289,399

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 September 2015) 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 charity's 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.

- 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 income and expenditure 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 income is 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 income is deferred.

- d) Grants for the purchase of fixed assets are credited to restricted income 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 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.

The permanent endowment funds are funds whereby the capital sum is invested, and interest earned is used to contribute to core costs. The capital element is to be retained to generate future income for the work of BCT.

- 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) Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Expenditure includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Expenditure is 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; Raising funds, Conferences, Biodiversity training courses and 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) Intangible assets are recognised at cost and amortised over the assets expected useful life. The amortisation rate in use is as follows:

Database	20% per annum on a straight line basis.
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Amortisation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities.

- m) 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.
- n) Rentals payable under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership remain with the lessor, are charged to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they fall due.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

- o) 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.
- p) 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.
- q) 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.
- r) 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

Current Year	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2018 Total £
Membership subscriptions	–	134,661	134,661
Members' & other donations	19,612	85,330	104,942
Legacies	–	20,335	20,335
	<u>19,612</u>	<u>240,326</u>	<u>259,938</u>
<i>Prior Year</i>	<i>Restricted £</i>	<i>Unrestricted £</i>	<i>2017 Total £</i>
<i>Membership subscriptions</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>123,948</i>	<i>123,948</i>
<i>Members' & other donations</i>	<i>43,521</i>	<i>81,175</i>	<i>124,696</i>
<i>Legacies</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>125,000</i>	<i>125,000</i>
	<u><i>43,521</i></u>	<u><i>330,123</i></u>	<u><i>373,644</i></u>

3. Project income

Current Year	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2018 Total £
Government grants & contracts	120,836	437,685	558,521
Grants from other charitable bodies	460,915	46,832	507,747
	<u>581,751</u>	<u>484,517</u>	<u>1,066,268</u>

Project income – grants, contracts and donations

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

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2018 £
Joint Nature Conservation Council	–	100,002	100,002
Scottish Natural Heritage	34,084	–	34,084
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	206,334	–	206,334
Defra	–	31,485	31,485
Natural England	50,000	306,198	356,198
Natural Resources Wales	28,752	–	28,752
Heritage Lottery Fund – Swanton Novers	7,087	–	7,087
Heritage Lottery Fund – Bats in Churches	102,744	–	102,744
Animal & Plant Health Agency	8,000	–	8,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	100,000	–	100,000
Dolly Knowles Charitable	–	30,000	30,000
The Late Eileen Margaret Tyler Charitable Trust	–	3,800	3,800
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	12,500	–	12,500
Edith Murphy Foundation	5,000	–	5,000
Margaret Joan Tottle Deceased Will Trust	10,000	–	10,000
Pilkington Charitable Trust	4,000	3,000	7,000
Other grants and contracts	13,250	10,032	23,282
	<u>581,751</u>	<u>484,517</u>	<u>1,066,268</u>

3. Project income (continued)

<i>Prior Year</i>	<i>Restricted £</i>	<i>Unrestricted £</i>	<i>2017 Total £</i>
<i>Government grants & contracts</i>	<i>133,514</i>	<i>422,920</i>	<i>556,434</i>
<i>Grants from other charitable bodies</i>	<i>346,039</i>	<i>34,989</i>	<i>381,028</i>
	<i>479,553</i>	<i>457,909</i>	<i>937,462</i>

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>2017 £</i>
<i>Joint Nature Conservation Council</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>99,808</i>	<i>99,808</i>
<i>Scottish Natural Heritage</i>	<i>40,372</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>40,372</i>
<i>Esmée Fairbairn Foundation</i>	<i>283,766</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>283,766</i>
<i>Defra</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>37,782</i>	<i>37,782</i>
<i>Natural England</i>	<i>50,000</i>	<i>285,330</i>	<i>335,330</i>
<i>Natural Resources Wales</i>	<i>35,142</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>35,142</i>
<i>Heritage Lottery Fund – Swanton Novers</i>	<i>29,633</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>29,633</i>
<i>Heritage Lottery Fund – Back from the brink</i>	<i>12,810</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>12,810</i>
<i>Heritage Lottery Fund – Bats in Churches</i>	<i>2,043</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>2,043</i>
<i>Animal & Plant Health Agency</i>	<i>8,000</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>8,000</i>
<i>Pilkington Charitable Trust</i>	<i>3,000</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>3,000</i>
<i>Waterloo Foundation</i>	<i>9,837</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>9,837</i>
<i>The Golden Bottle Trust</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>10,000</i>	<i>10,000</i>
<i>Miss E M Tyler Charitable Trust</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>5,000</i>	<i>5,000</i>
<i>Forest research</i>	<i>2,500</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>2,500</i>
<i>Small grants</i>	<i>2,450</i>	<i>8,750</i>	<i>11,200</i>
<i>Other contracts</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>11,239</i>	<i>11,239</i>
	<i>479,553</i>	<i>457,909</i>	<i>937,462</i>

4. Project costs

Current Year	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2018 Total £
Biodiversity Projects	534,619	408,522	943,141
National Bat Monitoring Programme	23,923	109,136	133,059
Research projects	4,515	11,373	15,888
Bat Groups Support & Public Education	19,000	26,801	45,801
International Projects	–	2,524	2,524
Scottish Bat Project	37,129	24,117	61,246
Wales Bat Project	23,752	40,607	64,359
	<u>642,938</u>	<u>623,080</u>	<u>1,266,018</u>
<i>Prior Year</i>	<i>Restricted £</i>	<i>Unrestricted £</i>	<i>2017 Total £</i>
<i>Biodiversity Projects</i>	<i>191,832</i>	<i>466,514</i>	<i>658,346</i>
<i>National Bat Monitoring Programme</i>	<i>22,500</i>	<i>98,169</i>	<i>120,669</i>
<i>Research projects</i>	<i>1,296</i>	<i>27,136</i>	<i>28,432</i>
<i>Bat Groups Support & Public Education</i>	<i>20,991</i>	<i>32,417</i>	<i>53,408</i>
<i>International Projects</i>	<i>9,340</i>	<i>2,026</i>	<i>11,366</i>
<i>Scottish Bat Project</i>	<i>73,972</i>	<i>5,771</i>	<i>79,743</i>
<i>Wales Bat Project</i>	<i>69,255</i>	<i>531</i>	<i>69,786</i>
	<u>389,186</u>	<u>632,564</u>	<u>1,021,750</u>

For the year ended 31 March 2018

	Raising funds £	Membership support £	National Conference £	Biodiversity training courses and regional conferences £	Projects and research (note 4) £	Governance £	Other support costs £	2018 Total £
Current Year								
Salaries & temporary staff (note 7)	71,612	24,569	–	33,702	827,843	2,221	4,461	964,408
Travel & training	986	1,596	–	1,721	58,266	3,961	15,742	82,272
Advice & other project costs	9,204	10,463	–	500	62,616	7,750	17,801	108,334
Grants to partner organisations	–	–	–	–	101,928	–	–	101,928
Publications & events	164	11,128	–	48,081	17,445	–	583	77,401
Premises	–	–	–	–	2,576	–	54,617	57,193
Other costs	16,853	6,350	–	–	12,651	–	97,758	133,612
	98,819	54,106	–	84,004	1,083,325	13,932	190,962	1,525,148
Support costs allocated to activities	10,665	4,197	–	5,830	170,271	–	(190,963)	–
Governance costs allocated to activities	778	306	–	425	12,422	(13,932)	–	–
Total	110,262	58,609	–	90,259	1,266,018	–	–	1,525,148
	<i>Raising funds £</i>	<i>Membership support £</i>	<i>National Conference £</i>	<i>Biodiversity training courses and regional conferences £</i>	<i>Projects and research £</i>	<i>Governance £</i>	<i>Other Support costs £</i>	<i>2017 Total £</i>
Prior Year								
Salaries & temporary staff	68,916	23,143	16,544	22,327	725,808	6,968	19,915	883,621
Travel & training	1,048	664	491	1,005	36,252	3,596	11,467	54,523
Advice & other project costs	3,568	11,949	–	9	41,876	8,747	18,985	85,134
Publications & events	1,708	8,626	55,356	40,750	23,462	–	470	130,372
Premises	–	–	–	–	1,872	–	55,262	57,134
Other costs	15,498	5,756	352	–	10,146	–	94,313	126,065
	90,738	50,138	72,743	64,091	839,416	19,311	200,412	1,336,849
Support costs allocated to activities	16,077	6,424	7,138	4,464	166,309	–	(200,412)	–
Governance costs allocated to activities	1,549	619	688	430	16,025	(19,311)	–	–
Total	108,364	57,181	80,569	68,985	1,021,750	–	–	1,336,849

5. Total Expenditure (continued)

Grants to partner organisations

Listed below are contributions to other organisations for participation in two partnership projects – Back from the Brink and Biodiversity in Planning.

	2018 £	2017 £
Amphibian and Reptile Conservation	38,463	–
RSPB	44,570	–
Plantlife	17,373	–
Other grants under £10,000	1,522	–
	101,928	–

	2018 £	2017 £
Analysis of support costs:		
Salaries	4,461	19,914
Non salary staff costs	19,973	16,133
Conference costs	583	470
Membership costs	831	893
Property	54,617	55,262
IT costs	13,916	14,681
Office running costs	27,344	30,187
Insurance	14,039	14,353
Depreciation	–	2,455
Outsourced finance & payroll	27,872	25,821
Irrecoverable VAT	21,214	12,624
Bank charges	6,113	7,619
	190,963	200,413

Analysis of governance costs:		
Governance staff costs	2,221	6,967
Audit Fee	7,750	8,748
Trustee expenses	3,961	3,596
	13,932	19,312

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Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2018

6. Net income for the year

	2018	2017
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	613	2,455
Operating lease costs	43,800	44,424
Trustees' expenses	3,961	3,596
Trustee indemnity insurance	1,036	1,258
Auditor's remuneration	7,750	7,500

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 (2017: no trustees reimbursed).

7. Staff numbers and costs

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons was as follows:

	2018	2017
	£	£
Wages and salaries	869,420	795,510
Social security costs	72,364	65,421
Employer's pension contributions	22,624	22,691
	964,408	883,622

Included in staff costs above are redundancy costs of £nil (2017: £1,073)

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	
	2018	2017
	No.	No.
Support and governance	3.0	3.0
Other charitable activities	34.0	32.0
	37.0	35.0

No employee earned more than £60,000 during the year (2017: No employees 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 £162,888. (2017: £152,504).

8. Taxation

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

9. Fixed assets

	Furniture and Fittings £	Computers £	Field equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At the start of the year	68,342	6,610	14,598	89,550
Additions during the year	–	2,758	–	2,758
At the end of the year	68,342	9,368	14,598	92,308
Depreciation				
At the start of the year	68,342	6,610	14,598	89,550
Charge for the year	–	613	–	613
At the end of the year	68,342	7,223	14,598	90,163
Net book value at the end of the year	–	2,145	–	2,145
Net book value at the start of the year	–	–	–	–

10. Intangible assets

	Database £	Total £
Cost		
At the start of the year	–	–
Additions during the year	84,484	84,484
At the end of the year	84,484	84,484
Depreciation		
At the start of the year	–	–
Charge for the year	–	–
At the end of the year	–	–
Net book value at the end of the year	84,484	84,484
Net book value at the start of the year	–	–

The Bat Conservation Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2018

11. Investments

	2018 £	2017 £
<i>Listed Investments</i>		
Market Value		
Market value at the start of the year	2,724,326	2,397,762
Additions at cost	462,504	469,567
Less disposals at carrying value	(413,672)	(366,811)
Net investment in cash funds	1,834	9,097
Net gain / (loss) on revaluation	(13,769)	214,711
At 31 March 2018	<u>2,761,223</u>	<u>2,724,326</u>

11. Investments (continued)

Listed on a recognised stock exchange	2,700,892	2,665,828
Cash as part of the portfolios	60,332	58,498
	<u>2,761,224</u>	<u>2,724,326</u>
Historical cost of listed investments at the year end	<u>2,451,237</u>	<u>2,379,954</u>

Listed Investments comprise:

	2018 £	2017 £
UK Ethical Corporate Bonds	1,085,997	266,388
UK Ethical Equity Growth	544,123	449,289
UK Ethical Equity Income	407,306	1,037,020
International Ethical Equity	400,402	521,348
Ethical Emerging Markets Equity	263,063	391,783
Cash	60,332	58,498
	<u>2,761,223</u>	<u>2,724,326</u>

<i>Current assets investments held for sale</i>	2018 £	2017 £
Value at the start of the year	100,000	–
Additions	–	100,000
Gain on investment asset	55,000	–
At 31 March 2018	<u>155,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>

Investment assets held for sale represent a property bequeathed to Bat Conservation Trust. Negotiations for the sale were ongoing at 31 March 2018.

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For the year ended 31 March 2018

12. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	2018 £	2017 £
Trade debtors	55,344	112,008
Other debtors	8,036	8,605
Accrued income	61,098	58,709
Prepayments	42,547	27,837
	<u>167,025</u>	<u>207,159</u>

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2018 £	2017 £
Trade creditors	22,998	13,524
Other taxes and social security	33,568	22,279
Accruals	18,873	22,469
Deferred grant income	350	–
Deferred course and event income	17,865	12,113
Other creditors	15,582	10,599
	<u>109,236</u>	<u>80,984</u>

14. Operating lease commitments

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

	2018 £	2017 £
Land & buildings		
Less than one year	10,317	30,562
Two to five years	<u>4,237</u>	<u>7,641</u>
Other		
Less than one year	2,418	2,418
Two to five years	<u>1,209</u>	<u>3,627</u>

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

Current Year	Endowment funds £	Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	2018 Total funds £
Fixed asset	–	–	86,629	86,629
Investments	2,060,670	–	700,553	2,761,223
Net current assets	–	384,406	117,782	502,188
Net assets at the end of the year	2,060,670	384,406	904,964	3,350,040
 <i>Prior Year</i>	 <i>Endowment funds £</i>	 <i>Restricted funds £</i>	 <i>Unrestricted funds £</i>	 <i>2017 Total funds £</i>
<i>Tangible fixed assets</i>	–	–	–	–
<i>Investments</i>	<i>2,101,550</i>	–	<i>622,776</i>	<i>2,724,326</i>
<i>Net current assets</i>	–	<i>413,875</i>	<i>160,157</i>	<i>574,032</i>
<i>Net assets at the end of the year</i>	<i>2,101,550</i>	<i>413,875</i>	<i>782,933</i>	<i>3,298,358</i>

15. Movements in funds

Current Year	At 1 April 2017 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains on investments £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 March 2018 £
Endowment funds:						
Expendable endowment fund						
Vincent Weir	1,764,295	–	10,908	27,579	(12,106)	1,768,860
Permanent endowment fund						
Bat Conversation Trust Fund (Vincent Weir)	337,255	–	2,086	(43,359)	–	291,810
Total endowment funds	2,101,550	–	12,994	(15,780)	(12,106)	2,060,670
Restricted funds:						
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation – Planning	209,440	107,430	95,127	–	–	221,743
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation – Bearing Witness for Wildlife	127,613	98,904	130,956	–	–	95,561
Natural England – Biodiversity	–	20,000	32,106	–	12,106	
Natural England – Monitoring	–	15,000	15,000	–	–	–
Natural England – Partnerships	–	15,000	15,000	–	–	–
Natural Resources Wales – Wales Bat Project	–	23,752	23,752	–	–	–
Natural Resources Wales – NBMP MoA Contribution	–	5,000	5,000	–	–	–
Scottish Natural Heritage – Scottish Bat Project	–	34,084	34,084	–	–	–
Garfield Weston – Back from the Brink	–	100,000	100,000	–	–	–
Heritage Lottery Fund – Swanton Novers	36,846	7,087	42,276	–	–	1,657
Heritage Lottery Fund – Bats in Churches	–	102,744	102,744	–	–	–
Mapping Woodland Bats	–	31,100	12,848	–	–	18,252
APHA	–	8,000	8,000	–	–	–
Small Trusts and Donations – BCT Helpline	–	12,562	12,562	–	–	–
Pilkington Trust – Monitoring	1,000	–	1,000	–	–	–
Small Trusts – Training the Next Generation	–	9,950	1,040	–	–	8,910
Robert O'Curle Charitable Trust – Scottish Bat Project	–	2,000	2,000	–	–	–
Kate Barlow Research award	38,976	–	4,515	–	–	34,461
Bat Groups – English and Scottish Bat Appeal	–	3,045	3,045	–	–	–
Bat Groups – Nathusius Pipistrelle Project	–	5,705	1,883	–	–	3,822
Total restricted funds	413,875	601,363	642,938	–	12,106	384,406
Unrestricted funds:						
Designated funds:						
BCT Bat Box Partnership	12,108	–	–	–	–	12,108
Vincent Weir – Legacy Built Environment	57,603	–	–	–	(57,603)	–
NBMP data analysis – JNCC	1,140	–	1,140	–	–	–
Individual donors – Adopt a bat	8,000	–	3,198	–	–	4,802
Database Project	90,000	–	–	–	–	90,000
Bat Swarming Projects	–	1,200	–	–	–	1,200
	168,851	1,200	4,338	–	(57,603)	108,110
General funds	614,082	925,310	864,878	64,737	57,603	796,854
Total funds	3,298,358	1,527,873	1,525,148	48,957	–	3,350,040

15. 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 – Planning	Raising the profile of biodiversity in the planning system – a multi-species partnership project.
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation – Bearing Witness for Wildlife	A project working to ensure that wildlife crime prevention and mitigation improve conservation action for bats and those acting to protect them.
Natural England – Biodiversity	To contribute towards our work leading on species conservation plans for six species of bat.
Natural England – Monitoring	To contribute towards site condition monitoring through the National Bat Monitoring Programme.
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.
NRW – NBMP MoA contribution	A contribution towards the JNCC funded National Bat Monitoring Programme to bolster delivery in Wales.
Scottish Natural Heritage – Scottish Bat Project	To contribute towards developing and carry out our conservation and partnership work in Scotland.
Garfield Weston/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.
HLF – Bats in Churches	Partnership project to put in place solutions to solve issues with bats in churches in England.
Mapping Woodland Bats	To fund the Woodland Officer's work in the South East of England.
APHA	To contribute towards rabies surveillance work and risk management.
Small Trusts and Donations – Helpline	Donations to contribute towards the running of BCT's Helpline.
Pilkington Trust – Monitoring	To pilot new methods of monitoring bats in Scotland.
Small Trusts – Training the Next Generation	This project will train students in the skills needed to identify bats in the field based on the bats’ echolocation calls and visual clues.
Robert O'Curle Charitable Trust – Scottish Bat Project	To contribute towards developing and carry out our conservation and partnership work in Scotland.
Kate Barlow Research Award	Award granted to a postgraduate student to conduct a substantive bat research project and to honour the late Dr Kate Barlow's contribution to bat conservation.
Bat Groups – English and Scottish Bat Appeal	Towards conservation and monitoring work in England and Scotland.
Bat Groups – Nathusius Pipistrelle Project	To contribute towards improving our understanding of the ecology, current status and conservation threats for Nathusius' pipistrelles in the British Islands.

Purposes of designated funds

BCT Bat Box Partnership	To contribute towards bat box monitoring projects.
Vincent Weir – Legacy Built Environment & Projects	To fund a Built Environment officer and for other project shortfalls.
NBMP data analysis – JNCC	For statistical analysis of National Bat Monitoring Programme data and analysis of drivers of population trends.
Individual Donors – Adopt a Bat Database project	For creating and purchasing a new adopt-a-bat toy and pack. A fund set aside for the amortisation of the investment in our current website and customer relationship management (CRM) system. The website will be updated to make it more effective and accessible, and the new CRM system will make our fundraising more efficient and improve the way we engage with members, donors and supporters.
Bat Swarming Projects Fund	To fund BCT's bat swarming projects, carried out in partnership with regional bat groups.

15. Movements in funds (continued)

<i>Prior Year</i>	<i>At 1 April 2016 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Gains on investments £</i>	<i>Transfers between funds £</i>	<i>At 31 March 2017 £</i>
<i>Endowment funds:</i>						
<i>Expendable endowment fund</i>						
<i>Vincent Weir</i>	1,661,077	-	10,488	200,892	(87,186)	1,764,295
<i>Permanent endowment fund</i>						
<i>Bat Conversation Trust Fund (Vincent Weir)</i>	301,053	-	1,901	38,104	-	337,256
<i>Total endowment funds</i>	959,328	-	12,389	238,996	(87,186)	2,101,551
<i>Restricted funds:</i>						
<i>Esmée Fairbairn Foundation – Planning</i>	151,070	148,629	90,259	-	-	209,440
<i>Natural England – Biodiversity</i>	-	135,137	7,524	-	-	127,613
<i>SITA Trust – Bats, Churches & the Landscape</i>	-	20,000	45,568	-	25,568	-
<i>Natural England – Monitoring</i>	-	15,000	15,000	-	-	-
<i>Rufford Foundation – International</i>	9,340	-	9,340	-	-	-
<i>Natural England – Partnerships</i>	-	15,000	15,000	-	-	-
<i>Natural Resources Wales – Wales Bat Project</i>	-	28,151	57,918	-	29,767	-
<i>Peoples Trust for Endangered Species – Nathusius' project</i>	-	1,991	1,991	-	-	-
<i>Scottish Natural Heritage – Scottish Bat Project</i>	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-
<i>NRW NBMP MoA Contribution</i>	-	40,372	72,223	-	31,851	-
<i>E Kleinwort</i>	185	12,810	12,995	-	-	-
<i>Heritage Lottery Fund – Back from the brink</i>	36,206	29,633	28,993	-	-	36,846
<i>Heritage Lottery Fund – Swanton Novers</i>	-	2,043	2,043	-	-	-
<i>APHA</i>	-	8,000	8,000	-	-	-
<i>Pilkington Trust – Monitoring</i>	-	3,500	2,500	-	-	1,000
<i>Forestry Research</i>	-	2,500	2,500	-	-	-
<i>The J & J R Wilson Trust</i>	-	1,200	1,200	-	-	-
<i>Waterloo Foundation – Wales Bat Project</i>	-	9,837	9,837	-	-	-
<i>Small trusts and donations – investigations</i>	-	750	750	-	-	-
<i>Bat group appeals</i>	-	3,249	3,249	-	-	-
<i>Kate Barlow Research award</i>	-	40,272	1,296	-	-	38,976
<i>Total restricted funds</i>	196,801	523,074	393,186	-	87,186	413,875
<i>Unrestricted funds:</i>						
<i>Designated funds:</i>						
<i>Woodland project</i>	4,000	-	4,000	-	-	-
<i>BCT Bat Box Partnership</i>	7,789	4,319	-	-	-	12,108
<i>Vincent Weir – Legacy Built Environment</i>	101,211	-	43,608	-	-	57,603
<i>NBMP data analysis – JNCC</i>	1,240	99,808	99,908	-	-	1,140
<i>Individual donors – Adopt a bat</i>	-	8,000	-	-	-	8,000
<i>Database Project</i>	-	-	-	-	90,000	90,000
<i>Total designated funds</i>	114,240	112,127	147,516	-	90,000	168,851
<i>General funds</i>	486,306	948,848	783,758	52,686	(90,000)	614,082
<i>Total funds</i>	1,756,675	1,584,049	1,336,849	291,682	-	3,298,359