

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

The Bat Conservation Trust

Report and financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2019

The Bat Conservation Trust

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The Bat Conservation Trust

Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 March 2019

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 (resigned Sept 2018) Dr. Abigail Entwistle (Vice Chair from Sept 2018) Tom Andrews, Treasurer Steve Markham, Hon Secretary Annika Binet (Partner Bat Group Nominated Trustee) Bob Cornes (Partner Bat Group Nominated Trustee) Rupert Lancaster Jean Matthews (from Sept 2018) Roger Mortlock Professor Kirsty Park Steve Parker (Partner Bat Group Nominated Trustee) (resigned Sept 2018) Steven Roe (Partner Bat Group Nominated Trustee) (from Sept 2018) Professor Robert Upex (resigned May 2019)
President	Chris Packham
Vice Presidents	Professor Paul Racey John Burton Dr. Robert Stebbings
Patron	David Gower OBE

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Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 March 2019

Honorary roles	Hon Education Officer Hon Science & Conservation Advisor Hon Science Advisors Hon Legal Advisor	Shirley Thompson MBE Professor Paul Racey Professor Gareth Jones Professor Kate Jones Michael Ford QC
Staff	<u>Senior Management Team</u> Chief Executive Director of Conservation Director of Communications & Fundraising	Kit Stoner Dr. Carol Williams Dr. Joe Nunez-Mino
	<u>Science Team</u> Head of Science & Monitoring Science Manager Monitoring Manager NBMP Survey Manager NBMP Survey Co-ordinator NBMP Survey Co-ordinator NBMP Survey Assistant	Dr. Katherine Boughey (part time) Dr. Charlotte Hawkins (maternity cover to Sept) (part time) Philip Briggs Thomas Sheppard (maternity cover to May) (part time) Judy Tung (maternity cover May-Sept) (part time) David Williamson (from Aug) Joana Fernandes (Feb-Mar) (part time) Victoria Mercier (from Mar) (part time)
	<u>Conservation team</u> Head of Biodiversity Head of Conservation Services & Partnerships Officer Built Environment Manager Training & Conferences Manager Conservation Wildlife Crime Officer Planning Project Officer Scottish Officer Wales Officer/Species Legislation & Policy Specialist Woodland Officer Bats in Churches Training & Survey Officer Grey Long-Eared Bat Project Officer Bat Mitigation Project Officer Bat Mitigation Field Assistant Conference Admin Assistant Helpline Managers	Jan Collins (part time) Lisa Worledge Joanna Ferguson Naomi Webster Peter Charleston (part time) Catherine Wyatt (to Nov) Dr. Rosalie Callway (from Sept) (part time) Elisabeth Ferrell Steve Lucas Sonia Reveley (part time) Claire Boothby (from Feb) Craig Dunton (part time) Andrew Ross (to Nov) Lorna Griffiths (to Aug) Aliya Kotadia (Aug-Sept) Amanda Adebisi (to Aug) Hannah Van Hesteren (from Aug, previously Bat Advice Officer)

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For the year ended 31 March 2019

Helpline Bat Advice Officers	Rebecca Wilson (from Aug, previously NBMP Acting Survey Manager) Laura Brown Grace Johnson Olivia Morton (to May) Jennifer Pope (part time)
Helpline Officers	Tristan Evans (previously SHLO) Eleanor Johnstone (previously SHLO)
Seasonal Helpline Officers (SHLO)	Francesca Fitzpatrick (May-Oct) Eibhlin McMenamin (May-Oct, Dec) Gora Neogi (Jul-Oct) Peter Selway (Jul-Oct, Dec, from Feb) Roderick Shaw (May-Oct) Holly Williams (May-Sept)

Communications/Fundraising team

Trusts & Grants Fundraiser	Rosalind Hutchinson (to Apr)
Fundraising & Membership Officer	Andreia Correia da Costa
Fundraising & Development Officer	Nicola Quinn (from Mar)

Finance & Operations team

Head of Operations	Peter Crome (from Jul, previously Helpline Manager)
Operations Manager/PA to CEO	Janet Baumkotter (part time)
Finance Administrator	Jane Collett (part time) (to May)
Senior Administration Officer	Sian Moore
Admin Support Officer	Jessica Taylor (from Jun)

Bankers

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

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
2nd Floor Mitre House, 12-14 Mitre Street
London EC3A 5BH

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Reference and administrative information

For the year ended 31 March 2019

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 2019

On a damp Saturday last September, ten thousand gathered in London for the first People's Walk for Wildlife with thought-provoking signs and banners, and colourful costumes of many different animals. Biggles the bat joined the march in spectacular style, flapping overhead as walkers of all ages raised their voices in concern for our wildlife. And of course, Biggles's message was clear - as an indicator species, bats are vital for measuring the health of ecosystems across our country.

As ever there are many ways people can get involved in wildlife conservation and BCT encourages the public to help conserve bats through a variety of excellent initiatives. The National Bat Monitoring Programme (NBMP) is a long running project that relies on citizen scientists to count bats and produces statistics for population trends for many bat species in the UK. It is easy to join thousands of others to get involved in this very important work and produce essential data used by scientists, conservationists and government in the UK and abroad. It's also a great way to increase your 'batty' knowledge and field skills.

The British Bat Survey has continued to be developed this year with the aim of engaging a wider range of volunteers for bat surveys with acoustic bat detectors and identification software to calculate species trends for more bat species. This eye-opening technology is rapidly increasing our understanding of bat distribution in the UK and is a perfect resource for schools, community groups and keen naturalists. Meanwhile, NBMP staff are continuing to deliver meaningful results as they co-author important papers on bat activity and citizen science.

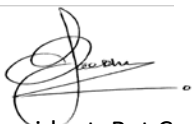
Working collaboratively with other organisations, BCT has moved into the delivery phase for the Bats in Churches project (initiated last year) and will be launching two exciting citizen science surveys in the coming months. These will shed more light on bats' use of churches, a vital and stable feature in the landscape and serve to expand inclusivity, bringing more people into our batty fold with a greater appreciation of bat ecology, behaviour and welfare.

BCT's invaluable National Bat Helpline is as busy as ever taking calls from people all over the country. This truly is the emergency service for bats and it's critically important. The team expands in the summer months in response to the increase of bat activity and an influx of calls from the public. This also gives the opportunity for members of the public to volunteer for the Out of Hours service to support people finding grounded bats in evenings and weekends and put them in touch with their amazing local bat carers.

And finally, something we can all do is create wildlife friendly environments in our gardens, balconies and windowsills. BCT has attended various gardening events to showcase a bat friendly garden and show this wonderful community that it's not all about birds! A garden that's inviting to bats is one that is also inviting to other wildlife and can make a massive difference to available habitat and foraging grounds for local bat populations.

The underlying message from the Walk for Wildlife was that if we work together we really can conserve our precious wildlife and that includes bats. So whilst sometimes the task may seem impossible, the brief glimpse of the work BCT, volunteers and the public outlined above should give us hope for the future. The time for simply caring is over, now we have to act too. Please join us to act on behalf of our bats, who need us more than ever.

Chris Packham



President, Bat Conservation Trust

The Bat Conservation Trust

Review by the Chair and Chief Executive

For the year ended 31 March 2019

Review by the Chair and Chief Executive

In the past year, the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) has continued to work with others to improve awareness, knowledge and action for bat conservation within a number of different sectors. This year has seen significant progress in the updating and production of guidance in relation to the impacts of artificial lighting and bats. BCT has worked with the Institution of Lighting Professionals to publish an updated 'Guidance Note on Bats and Artificial Lighting'. We also collaborated with our European colleagues to produce the new Eurobats guidance on bats and artificial lighting. As well as developing lighting guidance, we also contributed to new bats and wind farm guidance as part of a group led by Scottish Natural Heritage, which was published in January 2019.

BCT's mitigation project focused on over 70 case study sites which were surveyed to investigate implementation and effectiveness of roost mitigation. The report is due later this year and will feed into the update of the Bat Mitigation Guidelines, the steering group of which BCT sits upon.

BCT works closely with the planning sector and the construction industry. The Partnership for Biodiversity in Planning (PBP) has published its new interactive planning tool: the Wildlife Assessment Check. This will simplify, streamline and improve the consideration of biodiversity in the planning process, and is an excellent example of how we can help householders, small developers and local authorities to put the environment at the heart of planning and development. We will be promoting the tool at a 'Biodiversity in Planning' exhibit in July 2019 at the House of Commons, and planning partners: individual planners, Association for Local Government Ecologists, Royal Town Planning Institute and Town and Country Planning Association, will be contributing to creating a 'Biodiversity in Planning' Advice Note.

We have also been working with and advising landowners, as part of 'Back from the Brink', to help them improve foraging and connectivity around the most isolated maternity roosts of the very rare grey long-eared bat. In the past two years, action on the ground has involved over 100 landowners who have committed to changing their management to benefit this species.

Alongside this work, BCT has continued to provide support to the general public through its National Bat Helpline. It has been a challenging year for the Helpline with substantial government funding cuts, but staff and volunteers have continued their vital role in increasing the understanding of bats by the public, providing advice on behalf of Natural England and giving welfare advice about grounded and injured bats, in total answering nearly 13,000 enquiries.

The Helpline is supported in its work by volunteer bat roost visitors, Out of Hours volunteers and a network of volunteer bat carers, many of who are also members of a local bat group. Our work supporting bat groups continues to be an important role for BCT, and we are pleased to welcome Colin Morris to the BCT team. He will provide support for bat groups in England, Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands.

There continues to be uncertainty about how environmental protection will look following Brexit, and BCT will continue to work with our NGO partners, our MP, MSP and AM species champions, and others, to ensure our wildlife is protected as and when we leave the EU. We will continue to work with our supporters to identify more allies and advocates for bat conservation, including the launch of a new bat ambassadors programme.

The Bat Conservation Trust

Review by the Chair and Chief Executive

For the year ended 31 March 2019

And finally, we would like to extend huge thanks to all of our staff, our many volunteers, partners, supporters and donors. Your support allows us to make a real difference to bat conservation.

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 that reads 'Kit Stoner'.

Kit Stoner, Chief Executive

The Bat Conservation Trust

Trustees' annual report

For the year ended 31 March 2019

The Trustees present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2019.

Reference and administrative information set out on pages 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 6,500 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 10p on fundraising per £1 raised

Over 170,000 online supporters

6,857 members

Around 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, 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.

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Trustees' annual report

For the year ended 31 March 2019

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 2018 a total of 1,907 sites were surveyed by 989 volunteers, which is more than double the 1997 figure. We also ran 25 bat detector or sound analysis workshops which provided training for over 350 volunteer surveyors. Eighty-five 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 2019.

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Trustees' annual report

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British Bat Survey

Development of the British Bat Survey (BBatS) continued this year. This is a new citizen science survey employing passive full-spectrum acoustic detectors and automated call identification software in an innovative end-to-end open-source system for the acoustic monitoring of bat populations at national scales. It 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. In 2017 we received funding from the National Environment Research Council to develop BBatS in collaboration with UCL, University of Oxford and the BTO. Key achievements of this collaboration include extensive consultation with volunteers, end-users and experts; testing and reconfiguring the sensing technology for ultrasonic surveys; piloting the end-to-end system in Scotland over summer 2018; establishing options for the final survey protocol and developing an interactive results website. Our NERC-funded collaboration came to a formal end in December; however the project group continue to input into survey development. A small-scale roll out of BBatS is planned for summer 2019.

Research collaborations – generating the evidence base

BCT is collaborating on research that addresses our priority evidence needs.

We are co-supervisors of two PhD students: Lea Dambly at the Centre of Ecology and Hydrology is using simulations to identify, quantify and correct bias in the NBMP Roost Count survey data. Ella Browning at UCL is investigating spatial patterns in NBMP data using novel statistical modelling techniques, which will inform BCT's approach to monitoring spatial trends. She is also comparing the performance of different acoustic sensors for passive acoustic monitoring, which will inform the development of the British Bat Survey. A third student co-supervised by BCT, Jeremy Froidevaux at Bristol University, completed his PhD in October. His research showed that climate change has contributed to the recent population recovery of *Greater Horseshoe bat in Great Britain, and that reducing the frequency of hedgerow trimming benefits bats and their insect prey*.

This year data for the National Bat Monitoring Programme contributed to the State of Nature Report 2019 (RSPB) and research investigating the impact of noise pollution on bat activity (University of West England), sex differences in the distribution of Bechstein's bat (University of West England) and winter roosting of *Pipistrellus* spp. in the UK (Manchester Metropolitan University).

National Bat Monitoring Programme staff were authors on the following papers published in this year: Overcoming the challenges of public data archiving for citizen science biodiversity recording and monitoring schemes (Journal of Applied Ecology), An assessment of the state of nature in the United Kingdom: A review of findings, methods and impact (Ecological Indicators), The effect of a Welsh agri-environment scheme on bat activity: A large-scale study (Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment) and Have Welsh agri-environment schemes delivered for focal species? Results from a comprehensive monitoring programme (Journal of Applied Ecology).

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. Liz Rowse of the University of Bristol won the award in 2018 for her work researching the effects of artificial light at night on bats. She found that the switch from orange low pressure sodium lights to more energy efficient LEDs did not affect species richness or activity of bats. She has also looked at potential of dimming LEDs to benefit light averse species of bat. Liz presented a talk on her work at the South West Regional Conference in March 2019.

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. 2018 was the second year of the award. We received 20 applications and once again the standard of applications was very high. The 2018 Kate Barlow Award winner was PhD student Laura Pulscher of the University of Sydney, for her project *Assessing the Nutritional Content and Stable Isotope Ratios of Native and Non-native Food Sources Used by the Endangered Christmas Island Flying Fox*. The Christmas Island Flying-Fox (*Pteropus melanotus natalis*) is critically endangered and is declining. Laura is investigating whether nutritional imbalances, potentially caused by the introduction of non-native plants, could be a significant factor in the decline of the species. *This project will be instrumental in identifying and protecting key resources for the population, and will provide valuable information for the conservation management of other insular flying-foxes*. Fundraising for the Kate Barlow Award continues. We would particularly like to thank Dean Waters who raised over £1,000 for the award by running the York Marathon in October.

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

Biodiversity

Professional guidelines

'Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (3rd edition)' continues to have a far reach both through sales of hard copies and the thousands of copies downloaded.

BCT has contributed to new bats and wind farm guidance as part of a group led by Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH). This guidance was published in January 2019. BCT continues to sit on the Intersessional Working Group on bats and wind turbines for Eurobats.

An updated 'Guidance Note on Bats and artificial lighting' was published on 12th September 2018. This was co-written by BCT and the Institution of Lighting Professionals (ILP). In October 2018 new Eurobats guidance on bats and artificial lighting was published. This was drafted by a panel of experts including BCT and uses the currently available research and knowledge to look at solutions to avoid, mitigate and compensate the negative impacts of artificial light. It is broad international guidance that complements the nationally drafted BCT / ILP guidance.

BCT sits on the Steering Group for the production of an update of the Bat Mitigation Guidelines alongside a variety of stakeholders including the Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies.

BCT is working with the Environment Agency to collect data on the impact of weir removal on bats and the occurrence of bat roosts in culverts. Data collected on culvert use by bats is enabling the framework of guidance to be produced. More data on the impact of weir removal will be gathered this summer.

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Links with other organisations

BCT continues to meet regularly with organisations with which we have overlapping work areas as this level of collaboration is vital in achieving positive outcomes. These organisations include 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. BCT is also working with CIEEM and ALGE (along with Natural England) on developing 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.

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 2018 meeting discussed landscape-scale conservation of bats and biodiversity. The 2019 meeting will be exploring new technologies and their use in bat surveillance and monitoring. The track record of this group is in building on the outcomes of the day. For instance, our 2018 meeting outcomes were fed into the symposium on the same subject that took place in the autumn and allowed us to gain wider stakeholder input on key aspects.

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 last two years, action on the ground has involved over 100 landowners who have committed to changing their management to benefit this species. This has resulted in over 34 hectares of land actively in the process of being restored to unimproved grassland, a habitat that is increasingly rare and yet vital for this species for foraging. We are working with three countryside stewardship facilitation funds and have also found that many landowners have been willing to make changes without the support of Countryside Stewardship.

Land management advice has also been given 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 where two workshops have been held so far with more planned.

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 Greener UK & Environment Links Devolution Group, and Co-ordination Group. BCT's Conservation Wildlife Crime Officer is the vice chair of the Link Wildlife Crime and Trade Group. BCT's Wales Officer co-chairs WEL's Governance 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

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through our Species Champion MPs (England – 3 Species Champions, Wales 2 Species Champions, Scotland – 7 Species Champions).

The Partnership for Biodiversity in Planning (PBP)

The Partnership for Biodiversity in Planning (PBP) project activities in the last year have focused on finalising and launching a new interactive planning tool – the Wildlife Assessment Check (formerly the 'Interactive trigger List'), alongside building communications to promote biodiversity in UK planning processes, working with the project Steering Group and external stakeholders.

The project manager, Catherine Wyatt finished working on the project in November 2018 and a new project officer, Rosalie Callway, took over responsibility for the final year of the project. The Wildlife Assessment Check (WAC) was reviewed and refined to take on board feedback from experts and the project Steering Group. A communications plan was developed to promote the tool to users and local planning authorities (LPAs). The tool went live online in November 2018 and additional feedback was invited from users and LPAs.

At the most recent Steering Group meeting (in November) BCT agreed to finalise the background data search guidance document later in 2019, on the return of Jan Collins, BCT Head of Biodiversity, from maternity leave.

A project Steering Group meeting was held in November to mark the transition from the development of the WAC tool to encouraging its use and campaigning to further promote the importance of biodiversity in planning. The steering group discussed establishing sustainable ways to continue working together and supporting the website as a partnership beyond the project grant period (Sept 2019).

The WAC has been promoted at various practitioner events: BCT National Bat Conference, and BCT Landscape Scale Planning and Biodiversity Symposium and Scottish Conference, the National Dormouse conference, Association of Directors for Environment, Planning and Transport (ADEPT) Annual Conference, Federation of Master Builders (FMB) annual meeting, the London Environmental Coordinators Forum, CIEEM workshop on BS 402020; Green Building Council Net Gain workshop; National Self Build Resource Centre (NSBRC); and TCPA annual conference. It has also been promoted on various partner websites and e-newsletters, as well as magazines e.g. 'Your Build' magazine, as well as the PBP Twitter account.

In the next period we are continuing to promote the WAC and refine the tool based on user feedback, updating the website. The national Planning Portal website will include a link to the tool. A 'Biodiversity in Planning' exhibit will take place in July 2019 at the House of Commons. Planning partners: individual planners, ALGE, RTPi and TCPA, will be contributing to creating a 'Biodiversity in Planning Advice' Note.

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 third and final year in November 2018.

The conservation wildlife crime project expands the work of our Conservation Wildlife Crime Officer to include other species of conservation concern such as great crested newts (GCNs).

During the period covered by this review our Conservation Wildlife Crime Officer considered 135 allegations of bat crime with 124 referrals having been made to the Police; a substantial decrease on the previous year. Ten cases led to offenders being cautioned, subjected to community resolution measures or warned. Many cases are still being investigated.

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There have been four prosecutions for bat crime during the past 12 months. Those cases involved four people who faced a total of seven charges. One case resulted in a Proceeds of Crime Act confiscation order that saw a developer having to pay in excess of £20k. Only one of the four cases related to an incident reported to the police in this financial year.

In addition to these allegations of bat crime we have recorded 19 allegations of crime against other species, with 14 cases having been reported to the police. All but one case relate to amphibians and reptiles. One case resulted in restorative justice measures; a number of other investigations have yet to be completed. A case first reported during the previous financial year has resulted in a conviction relating to the destruction of great crested newt breeding and resting places.

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.

Bearing Witness for Wildlife (BWW) also involves us raising awareness of wildlife crime and the provision of training to investigators and field workers. To this end, during the past 12 months we have provided input to police training courses and have provided a number of presentations and workshops at conferences. Our Conservation Wildlife Crime Officer has been elected to be 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 second annual wildlife crime report published in November. The group has been undertaking considerable work aimed at securing guidance to be used in the sentencing of offenders involved in wildlife crime and effective recording of allegations of offences.

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 by carrying out two seasons of field work to investigate implementation and effectiveness. During early 2018 the Project Officer continued to secure access to further case studies in advance of the second summer of fieldwork. The new Bat Mitigation Field Assistant joined the project in April and fieldwork commenced shortly afterwards in May. BCT completed the second season of fieldwork on 23rd August with 71 case study sites surveyed over the two years. Final results have been analysed and a first draft report was produced December 2018 for internal review. Further work is being carried out in spring 2019 to complete the report and also produce outputs for other stakeholder audiences. Results will be disseminated through BCT national and regional events from April 2019 onwards.

BCT reviewed the current Roost website (with mitigation case studies) and its associated award, designing a new structure, logo and content for both. The website and award was relaunched at the National Conference in 2018, with the website to go live in 2019 and the award to follow at the National Conference in 2019.

As part of this review process, the existing Habibat bat box partnership scheme was agreed to 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.

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This unique partnership initiative will be re-launched and widely promoted to tie into the Roost website update in 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 involving BCT's Built Environment Officer, one with the Institution of Lighting Professionals and one through Eurobats, were published in September and October 2018 respectively. Awareness on the topic and new guidance has been raised through presentations at the Scottish Bat Workers day in November 2018 and at the Listed Property Owners Club show in February 2019. This work will continue to a range of stakeholders (ecologists, lighting engineers, bat workers etc.) with presentations, seminars and workshops planned throughout Spring 2019. This culminates in the next built environment symposium on Bats and Artificial Lighting on 21 May 2019 co-hosted with our partners at Arup and bringing together a cross-section of industry for a day of discussion including from academics, lighting engineers, bat workers, ecologists and NGOs.

The 2018 built environment symposium was on the topic of Strategic Planning for Landscape Scale Conservation and was held on 11 October 2018 at Arup in London, our sponsors for the day. Presentations were given by local authority planners, ecologists, NGOs, academics and consultants on a whole range of habitats and species, giving rise to lively debate and sharing of ideas through lunchtime activities, the results of which will be reviewed and publicised on the new BCT website.

In 2018 the built environment training schedule was expanded to include an updated bats and bridges awareness course for industry, based on feedback and discussions with a number of interested parties including Sustrans. The first course however was delivered for highways engineers in south Wales in June 2018, followed by an in-house course held at Sustrans in October 2018; feedback for both was very positive. This course is now on the permanent training plan with a hope that we can run an open course with one of our partner organisations regularly from summer 2019.

Another new course for 2018 was in partnership with Place Services and Essex County Council for local ecologists, planners, bat workers and developers on bats in the built environment in September 2018. It included fieldwork and was well received; another course is planned for May 2019. In 2019 we are aiming to create a bespoke training course for pest controllers and, to that end, a meeting with the British Pest Control Association alongside BCT's Helpline Managers is planned for March 2019.

BCT was asked back again this year to speak at the Listed Property Owners Club (LPOC) show in February 2019 on the importance of buildings to bats; a topic we were also asked to speak on at the National Self Build and Renovation Centre (NSBRC) show in May 2018, where we have permanent stand to promote awareness of bat conservation, training courses and the bat box scheme. Interest in the presentation topic and for 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 by the Built Environment Officer.

BCT's Built Environment Officer was also asked to speak internationally in November 2018 at the first Fauna and Buildings symposium held in Vitoria-Gastiez, Spain, concentrating on the Designing for Biodiversity publication as this created a great deal of interest among Spanish architects. Potential collaborations will be explored in 2019 when looking at updating this document.

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One exciting new partnership project we are in the initial stages of working on is looking at using novel technology to improve the uptake of monitoring after bat roost mitigation measures have been put in place. After the first stage, this partnership would then include property developers, environmental consultancies and conservation technologists – we hope that the full project will be up and running by early summer 2019.

Lastly, in early 2019 BCT's Built Environment Officer changed her job title to become Built Environment Manager to reflect the additional responsibilities taken on in the last year and the continuation of working at that level.

Bats and woodland

Understanding how bats use woodlands while continuing to raise awareness about bats' use of woodlands is of importance to BCT. We have worked in partnership with Forest Research and Natural England and are also partners on the Heritage Lottery Funded Back from the Brink project, a national four year project whose aims are to learn about and conserve highest priority threatened species and provide integrated advice. BCT continues to be a member of the England Woodland Biodiversity Group, attending quarterly meetings that have kept us updated on new collaborations, policies and legislations of interest that are supported by woodland practitioners, Forestry Commission (FC) and other NGOs.

Monitoring carried out by bat groups for the Putting UK Woodland Bats on the Map project, a BCT and Forest Research partnership project finished in 2018. A habitat suitability modelling framework for mapping British woodland bat species' distributions and predicting the impact of land use and climate change has been developed and the data collected by the bat groups was used to validate the models. Two papers are expected. The first paper will focus on the habitat suitability models methodology using the lesser horseshoe bat. This has been submitted to a journal and is waiting for approval. The second paper will focus on what the data validation is showing and is currently been worked on.

The Heritage Lottery Funded 'Discovering the connection between natural heritage and cultural influence in Swanton Novers woodland' final report and associated guidance for woodland managers and volunteers is now on the BCT website at <https://www.bats.org.uk/our-work/landscapes-for-bats/bats-and-woodland/swanton-novers-woodland-bat-project>. The documents have been distributed through the Natural England Woodland / Bat Technical Information Exchange group.

We are now in the second year of the Back from the Brink project. BCT are involved in three integrated projects – Roots of Rockingham, Ancients of the Future and Adding Diversity to Dorset Heaths. At Rockingham, seven woodland sites were surveyed in 2018 and barbastelle bats were found at six out of the seven sites surveyed. A landowner woodland management workshop was delivered with partners in November, with plans to run another one in 2019. Radiotracking of Bechstein's bats in the Dorset Heath area has allowed us to learn how Bechstein's bats are using the landscape and radiotracking is scheduled for 2019 to investigate further. BCT will continue to monitor, provide training to volunteers and provide advice to landowners to raise awareness of each project's primary target bat species needs and their management throughout 2019.

We continue to provide suitable training for woodland managers to ensure compliance with good practice. BCT successfully worked with FC to deliver a series of European Protected Species (EPS) training throughout England during 2018, covering the legislation and the habitat requirements of key woodland EPS species. In 2019 we will deliver two more EPS training events with FC and will be talking to members of the Confederation of Forest Industries on the practicalities of the management of European Protected Species in a woodland. We also deliver courses for the BCT's training programme.

Bats in churches

Following the development phase of the Bats in Churches project, BCT and the project partners (Church of England, Historic England, Natural England and Churches Conservation Trust) submitted a bid in June 2018 to the Heritage Fund for stage 2 of the project. The bid was successful and the delivery phase began in December 2018. A project team of eight, hosted across the partner organisations, has been recruited. BCT is hosting the project's Training and Survey Officer, who has been developing two citizen science surveys, the National Bats in Churches Study to be launched in June 2019, and the Church Bat Detectives, which will be widely promoted from May 2020. Together the surveys will look at how bats use churches in England, the impact bats may have, and the attitude of the congregation to the bats. The Training and Survey Officer will also be developing a suite of training courses to support the project.

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 Helpline fielded a total of 12,994 enquiries (calls, emails and letters) in 2018-19;

- 10,875 were dealt with by Helpline staff.
- 2,119 came through the Out of Hours volunteer service.
- These figures do not include switchboard enquiries that were forwarded on to other BCT staff.

In 2018-19, we organised 972 roost visits (7.5% of all Helpline enquiries) on behalf of Natural England. We also advised on a further 2,529 Natural England enquiries (19.5% of all Helpline enquiries) over the phone which did not require a visit. 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 the UK. We will continue this coming year to update our advice and resources as new building practices evolve.

The Helpline also provides immediate welfare advice to those who have found grounded, injured and orphaned bats. We put callers into contact with over 300 local volunteer bat care experts and regional helplines who comprise the National Bat Care Network, which is co-ordinated by the Helpline. In 2018-19 we registered 42 new volunteer bat care contacts on our network and aim to expand this in the year ahead.

In 2018-19, the Helpline received over 371 calls from churches with enquiries about injured bats, safely undertaking maintenance work, bat walks and involving parishioners in encouraging bats to the church and grounds. We have also contributed to the Bats in Churches partnership project and will continue to do so over the coming year.

As ever, we received some calls about bats being found in unusual places – including a bat that was found on a park swing and contained by a member of public in a sock! Another was found on a train travelling from Glasgow to Edinburgh, where it was contained in a coffee cup by a train worker for the return journey. Thankfully it was met by a volunteer bat carer in Glasgow.

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Helpline had another very busy year and as always, the feedback we received from enquirers was overwhelmingly positive. For example, 92.5% of Natural England free bat advice service users indicated that they thought the overall service was 'Excellent' or 'Good' and 97% rated the helpfulness and politeness of Helpline positively. One respondent to our feedback form said "Excellent service ... very inspiring". This is a great testament to the hard work of all the dedicated 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 29 training courses in 2018-19 for a combined audience of 341 people; this is more courses than in 2017-18 when we ran 26 courses for 377 people. Twenty-two courses were openly advertised, and seven were in-house training courses for various professional audiences including Warwickshire County Council, South Wales Trunk Road Agents and Landmarc.

This year we offered two new courses: 'Bats for Bridge Engineers' developed in collaboration with Sustrans, and 'Kaleidoscope Viewer for Bat Groups' adapted from the original Kaleidoscope course in collaboration with Wildlife Acoustics. Both received positive feedback from the participants.

The National Bat Conference returned after a year's break. It took place at the University of Nottingham and was attended by 370 people. The keynote talk was given by Dr Winifred Frick from Bat Conservation International and the programme included a diverse range of talks, workshops and networking opportunities. A Consultant's Forum was trialled for the first time as a workshop option and went down well with some lively discussions. The feedback from participants was positive and the National Bat Conference 2019 will use the same venue. We also plan to run a one day Conservation and Technology Conference the day before.

The regional bat conferences continued through the year with the South West of England Bat Conference 2019 particularly over-subscribed, leading to the start of a pilot scheme to livestream the BCT update via Periscope and film other talks to share with people who were unable to attend.

Membership

Bat Conservation Trust offers a range of memberships, from corporate membership through to The Young Batworker Club membership. Becoming a member is both a great way to support bat conservation as well as to find more about bats. The continued engagement with our current members and the recruitment of new members remains a priority for BCT. We have been working on refreshing the look of the welcome pack new members receive and have offered an array of incentives throughout the year for new members to join. In addition to receiving our membership magazines (Bat News and/or The Young Batworker) three times a year, members also benefit from discounts on training courses and conferences. The content of both membership magazines continues to receive very positive feedback which is encouraging.

The continued investment in the engagement of both existing and prospective members is reflected by the steady increase in members – at the end of the financial year the Bat Conservation Trust had a total of 6,847 members (three years ago BCT had just under 6,000). That includes the support of 38 corporate members. This year three new Life Members joined The Bat Conservation Trust, raising our total to 56.

The Adopt a Bat scheme, although not a true membership, plays a crucial role in engaging with a slightly different audience and in raising unrestricted funds that benefit bat conservation. The scheme was started in 2011 and it now has 465 active 'adopters' all of whom receive an Adoption update newsletter twice a year.

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In May 2018 we launched a new cuddly brown long-eared bat (sent out to new 'adopters') which proved to be very popular. Our Christmas Adopt a Bat push for example resulted in 35 new Adopt a Bat 'members' joining in the week leading up to Christmas; this was the highest ever for the same period of previous years since the inception of the Adopt a Bat scheme.

Our membership work to continue engaging with current and prospective members will continue – we are optimistic that the launch of the new database will improve user experience particularly since it will make the BCT website more accessible from mobile phone devices. Our current members in particular will benefit from having access to a more interactive exclusive members area with lots of resources. We are also aiming to run a member survey to better understand their motivations for supporting BCT, to generally assess their satisfaction with what their membership currently offers and how we can do better in engaging with them.

Championing Bats

Bat Conservation Trust has a very strong presence in social media which continues to grow. We believe each of the platforms we use are crucial to spread the word about our internal and collaborative projects, to engage and enthuse with supporters, raising awareness of bats and raising funds. At the end of the financial year the Bat Conservation Trust had:

- Over 112,000 likes on Facebook
- Over 42,500 followers on twitter
- Just over 4,200 followers on LinkedIn
- Over 11,200 followers on Instagram (which was only created in June 2016)

We also continue to engage with mainstream media outlets to make sure our messages reach as wide an audience as possible. This year we were also involved in promoting a theatre play which was inspired by an article written in The Guardian newspaper about the greater mouse-eared bat. This was a new and great opportunity to engage with a novel audience and raise awareness of bats.

We launched our new website in November 2018 and so far the feedback has been nothing but positive. The fresh new design and the adjustments in how the information is presented and organised have improved the user experience. Last year we posted 23 news stories directly onto the BCT website and 10 blogs from a range of bat enthusiasts. With the new General Data Protection Regulations our e-Bulletin subscribers have decreased as they had to manually re-subscribe but we have been building this back up and encouraging people to subscribe. Our bat e-Bulletin has over 2,000 subscribers and the corporate e-Bulletin just over 600 professionals. After a brief hiatus for some much needed improvements we sent both e-Bulletins with a fresh new look and design in March 2019 and the feedback has been very positive and supportive.

We again took part in Gardener's World Live in June 2018 thanks to a collaboration with the Butterfly Brothers (Jim and Joel Ashton from Hazelwood Landscapes Ltd) who designed and installed a garden in our stand. Hazelwood Landscapes Ltd have been designing and creating wildlife friendly gardens and habitats since they were set up in 2006. This collaboration has expanded to other areas of BCT; they have for example delivered a training workshop at a BCT conference. In May 2019, BCT also took part in the first Wildlife Gardening Day held at the London Wetland Centre although the event did not have as many people coming as expected because it clashed with the Royal wedding. We are hoping this year's event will be more popular and we plan to be there.

We have encouraged everyone to celebrate bats and support Bat Conservation Trust during International Bat Night and Halloween 2018. We are in the process of exploring new collaborations to celebrate those dates in 2019 with the aim to raise awareness of bats and the work BCT does.

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Education

Whilst education in its broadest sense is at the root of all BCT's initiatives, the importance of specifically capturing young people's interest is recognised.

Subscriptions to the teacher and youth leader membership receive The Young Batworker, our junior membership magazine, which is sent out three times a year and includes an educational section with articles linking bat studies to the National Curriculum.

This year a bilingual educational pack for Wales has been developed and is now available on line.

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 91 bat groups across the British Islands (69 Partner Groups and 22 Network Groups). BCT 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 £2,200 for bat group projects and £554 to support attendance at the National Bat Conference 2018). 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 on the Friday night of the National Bat Conference.

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. We have recruited a new full-time Bat Groups Officer working alongside our Scottish & Wales Officers from April 2019. The next annual Bat Workers Forum will be held on Friday 6 September 2019 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 Workers Day took place at the Media Resource Centre in Llandrindod Wells Saturday 14 April, with an excellent breadth of presentations from bat groups and academics based around a theme of future projects for bat groups to get involved with, such as British Bat Survey, a Nathusius' Pipistrelle survey project for Wales, and a Wales Bat Swarming project.

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- BCT delivered four NBMP bat detector workshops ('Using Your Ears') and two sound analysis training events for volunteers in Wales in 2018.

We continue to work closely with other environmental NGOs through Wales Environment Link, but also at a UK level through Environment Links UK to pool resources and expertise to get a strong and effective voice for bat conservation in Wales. Much of our work in 2018 has focused around the likely impacts of Brexit.

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 2019/20.

BCT in Scotland

With the support of Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), BCT runs the Scottish Bat Project which engages people in bat recording, conservation and education activities. The project currently works with 153 National Bat Monitoring Programme volunteers, as well as 12 volunteer bat groups, to increase our knowledge of the ten bat species found in Scotland as well as tackle their conservation threats.

Other areas of our work in Scotland covers engagement, input into key consultation responses and advocacy. Our advocacy is focused around our joint action with the Scottish Environment LINK and its members to ensure that the environment is fully recognised in the development of policy and legislation affecting Scotland.

Some of the project highlights over the past year:

Over 90 delegates attended our 2018 conference held at The Aberdeen Altens Hotel. This day delivered a wide range of workshops and talks covering the latest research, technology and bat news.

Over 60 delegates attended our 2018 Spring into Action day held at SNH Battleby, Perth. Through a range of workshops, attendees were given an opportunity to expand their knowledge of bats and practical survey skills.

The Scottish Officer and two National Bat Monitoring Programme (NBMP) trainers delivered a total of five workshops at various locations around Scotland. A total of 61 new volunteers signed up to take part in the NBMP.

Over 500 people were engaged through events, training days, conferences, talks and bat walks undertaken by the Scottish Officer and bat groups.

The British Bat Survey Pilot saw 15 volunteers from Scotland take part in testing the new audiomoth detectors and methodology for a new survey as part of the NBMP.

Through 2019 into 2020 we will continue our work to increase our knowledge of the status of bat populations in Scotland, with an increased focus on the Scottish Isles. We will further our collaborative working with a range of wildlife charities and volunteers to develop exciting species and habitat project funding bids.

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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 11 bat workers (including a joint nomination) were nominated in 2018 and we received over 250 votes. The 2018 winners were Fiona and Steve Parker from South Lancashire. Fiona and Steve were nominated for their dedication to bat conservation through their 20+ years of working and caring for bats as well as their generosity in sharing their enormous wealth of knowledge and experience with anyone who asks.

BCT in Europe and Internationally

BCT has primarily focused on UK work in the past year. However, we have continued to engage with the Eurobats Agreement. BCT's CEO attended the Advisory Committee of Eurobats in May 2018, and the Meeting of Parties in October 2018. BCT staff have contributed 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.

BCT's Head of Conservation Services, gave the keynote presentation at the Dutch Mammal Society conference in March 2019.

Bats and disease

Through key staff at BCT, including the National Bat Helpline, supported by 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, and other publications, as well as presentations at meetings and conferences. Over the past year we have focussed on changes to rabies vaccinations for bat volunteers and bat workers in England and Wales. We updated our guidance on rabies reflecting the confirmation of European Bat Lyssavirus 1 (EBLV1) for the first time in the UK. We continue to work closely with UK governmental organisations such as the Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA) and Defra on disease surveillance, including representation on the GB Exotic Disease Core Group for Rabies. We had presentations at the National Bat Conference in September 2018 from APHA, about bats and rabies research, and European Bat Lyssavirus in the UK, and Public Health England about rabies vaccinations.

We have been working with Dr Joseph Hoyt, University California (Santa Cruz) on a project investigating the prevalence of *Pseudogymnoascus destructans* (the fungus that causes white-nose syndrome in North America). The field work for this international project was completed last year and a final paper has been submitted for peer-reviewed publication. Joseph presented his work (including the UK findings) at the National Bat Conference in September 2018.

Looking ahead, we need to find alternative sources of funding for our disease risk management work as Defra have withdrawn funding from April 2019 (although the agreement with Defra for our work supporting the APHA passive surveillance programme is continuing for 2019/20). We will be continuing the communications

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work around bats and disease, including plans for a special communication to bat workers and volunteers about rabies vaccinations. We will work to keep our information and guidance as current as possible. We are awaiting results from a small project with the United States Geological Survey analysing 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 BCT's CEO acting as a Trustee and Treasurer. BatLife Europe is now a Stichting in the Netherlands, and now has a bank account there. BatLife has been making changes to its website, including a new 'partners page' which features further information about each of our partner NGOs. The lesser horseshoe bat has continued as Bat of the Year in 2019, and BatLife has been successful in raising awareness on social media with the use of infographics. These have been translated into a number of different languages, and have been shared by many organisations and individuals. The update of the pan-European indicator (to which BCT has contributed data) is due to be completed in the coming year.

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: <https://www.bats.org.uk/the-trust/policies/safeguarding>

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The Trustees

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

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

The Trustees regularly audit their collective skills, competencies and experience against those required to fulfil their responsibilities and proactively recruit new Trustees to fill gaps. All Trustees are elected by members at an AGM. On appointment bespoke training is given according to the needs of the Trustee and new Trustees have an induction with key members of staff.

The Trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights and any benefits received by the Trustees are incidental. As members of the charity they undertake to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such undertakings at 31st March 2019 was 12 (2018: 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.

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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 Chief Executive 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

The charity sector is undergoing challenging times and this is to some extent reflected in BCT's accounts. A reduction in project funding, along with reduced fundraising capacity, led to a deficit in FY18/19 compared to a modest surplus the previous year.

Statutory funding remained stable compared to the previous year but BCT will need careful control of expenditure and diversification of our income streams to mitigate expected reduction in statutory funding in coming years. Membership subscription and donation levels were maintained from the previous year. For the year ended 31 March 2019, income was £1,228,508 (2018: £1,527,873) and expenditure was £1,510,878 (2018: £1,525,148), leading to net deficit for the year of £282,370 (2018: net surplus of £2,725). Taking into account gains on investments of £66,195 (2018: gains of £48,957), the net movement in funds for the year was a decrease of £216,175 (2018: an increase of £51,682).

Investment policy

Investments total £2,746,041 (2018: £2,761,223) at 31 March 2019. 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. It was an unpredictable year for investments, but an upturn toward the end of the year in line with general market conditions produced a more positive outcome than was expected. 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 2018/19 financial year our total reserves stand at £3,133,865 (2018: £3,350,040). Of this, £2,099,145 (2018: £2,060,670) are endowment funds and £242,386 (2018: £384,406) are restricted funds for projects. This leaves unrestricted funds of £792,334 (2018: £904,964) of which £133,238 (2018: £108,110) have been designated to key programmes of work in the next financial year (see notes to the accounts for details). This leaves us with £659,096 (2018: £796,854) as unrestricted, unallocated funds. The trustees' policy is to work towards holding six months operating costs, approximately £760,000, in unrestricted reserves. We will continue to review our reserves policy and our progress towards achieving it each year. On behalf of BCT, I would like to thank all our members, donors and partners for their fantastic support and our volunteers and staff for their endless hard work on behalf of bat conservation.



Tom Andrews, Treasurer

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
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
Mid Anglian Bat Group
Montgomeryshire Bat Group
Norfolk Barbastelle Research Group

The Bat Conservation Trust

Trustees' annual report

For the year ended 31 March 2019

North Bucks Bat Group
North Ceredigion Bat Group
North East Scotland Bat Group
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
The John S Cohen Foundation
Defra
Dolly Knowles Charitable Trust
Edith Murphy Foundation
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
National Lottery Heritage Fund
J Patson Charitable Trust
Joint Nature Conservation Committee
Natural England
Natural Resources Wales
N Smith Charitable Trust
Pilkington General Fund
Pillar Charitable Trust
Scottish Forestry Trust
Scottish Natural Heritage
The Anthony and Noreen Daniell Charitable Trust
The Reeve Charitable Trust

The Bat Conservation Trust

Trustees' annual report

For the year ended 31 March 2019

Sponsors (Sponsorships of £100 or more)

ARUP

BatAbility Courses & Tuition

Auritus Wildlife Consultancy

Elekon AG

Highland Titles

Pettersson Elektronik AB

Titley Scientific

Wildlife Acoustics, Inc.

Corporate Members (as at 1 April 2019)

Absolute Ecology

Arbtech Consulting Ltd

Asw Ecology

Barn Hill Ecology

Batability Courses & Tuition

Big Domain

Bramley and Teal

C J Wildbird Foods Ltd

Canine Cottages

Cleankill Environmental Services Ltd

Continental Landscapes Ltd

Denbies Wine Estate Limited

Dorset County Council

Echoes Ecology Ltd

Ecological Survey & Assessment Ltd

English Heritage Trust

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

Serenata Flowers

Stay In Cornwall

Stay in Devon

Tamworth Property Services

The Nestbox Company Ltd

Titley Scientific

Treework Ltd

United Environmental Services Ltd

Whitcher Wildlife Ltd

Wilby Tree Surgeons

Wildlife Acoustics

The Bat Conservation Trust

Trustees' annual report

For the year ended 31 March 2019

Wold Ecology Ltd

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

Bedfordshire Bat Group

Devon Bat Group

Dumfries and Galloway Bat Group

Durham Bat Group

Gwent Bat Group

Kent Bat Group

South Yorkshire Bat Group

Surrey Bat Group

Warwickshire Bat Group

Legacies

Michael John Rich

John Webber

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 2 July 2019 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 Bat Conservation Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2019 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 2019 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, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the 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.

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

The Bat Conservation Trust

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual 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 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 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept, 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

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

Our 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 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

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

The Bat Conservation Trust

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 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members 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)

9 July 2019

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor

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

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

The Bat Conservation Trust

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

For the year ended 31 March 2019

	Note	Endowment £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2019 Total £	2018 Total £
Income						
<i>Income from generated funds</i>						
Donations and legacies	2	-	34,546	191,299	225,845	259,938
Investment income		-	-	65,424	65,424	59,831
<i>Income from charitable activities</i>						
Conference		-	-	99,744	99,744	35,947
Training courses and meetings		-	-	60,039	60,039	54,613
Projects and research	3	-	304,644	413,378	718,022	1,066,268
Other activities		-	-	59,434	59,434	51,276
Total income		-	339,190	889,318	1,228,508	1,527,873
Expenditure						
<i>Expenditure on raising funds</i>						
Membership support		-	-	60,807	60,807	58,609
Costs of raising funds		14,963	-	90,172	105,135	110,262
		14,963	-	150,979	165,942	168,871
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>						
National Conference		-	-	77,860	77,860	-
Biodiversity training courses and regional conferences		-	-	85,830	85,830	90,259
Project and research costs	4	-	477,173	704,073	1,181,246	1,266,018
Total expenditure	5	14,963	477,173	1,018,742	1,510,878	1,525,148
Net (expenditure) / income before net gains on investments		(14,963)	(137,983)	(129,424)	(282,370)	2,725
Net gain on investments		49,401	-	16,794	66,195	48,957
Net income / (expenditure) for the year		34,438	(137,983)	(112,630)	(216,175)	51,682
Transfers between funds		4,037	(4,037)	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		38,475	(142,020)	(112,630)	(216,175)	51,682
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		2,060,670	384,406	904,964	3,350,040	3,298,358
Total funds carried forward	15	2,099,145	242,386	792,334	3,133,865	3,350,040

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

The Bat Conservation Trust

Balance sheet

Company number: 02712823

As at 31 March 2019

	Note	2019		2018	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets - Equipment					
Tangible assets	9		1,226		2,145
Intangible assets	10		98,860		84,484
Investments	11		2,746,041		2,761,223
Non-Current Assets			2,846,127		2,847,852
Current assets					
Assets held for Sale		155,000		155,000	
Debtors	12	124,317		167,025	
Short term deposit		60,016		105,647	
Cash at bank and in hand		94,418		183,752	
		433,751		611,424	
Creditors: amounts due within one year	13	(146,013)		(109,236)	
Net current assets			287,738		502,188
Net assets	15		3,133,865		3,350,040
Reserves					
Endowment funds	16	2,099,145		2,060,670	
Restricted funds	16	242,386		384,406	
Unrestricted funds					
General funds		659,096		796,854	
Designated funds		133,238		108,110	
Total funds	16		3,133,865		3,350,040

Included in the reserves above are unrealised gains of £264,119 (2018: £249,655).

Approved by the trustees on 2 July 2019

Signed on their behalf by:

David Gibbons, Chair

The Bat Conservation Trust

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 March 2019

	2019		2018	
	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:				
Net (expenditure) / income for the year	(216,175)		51,682	
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation charges	919		613	
Dividends and interest	(65,424)		(59,831)	
Decrease in debtors	42,708		40,135	
Increase in creditors	36,777		28,253	
(Gains) on investments	(66,195)		(48,957)	
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities		(267,390)		11,895
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Dividends and interest	65,424		59,831	
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	-		(2,758)	
Purchase of intangible asset	(14,376)		(84,484)	
Proceeds from sale of investments	413,766		419,562	
Purchase of investments	(332,389)		(462,504)	
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		132,425		(70,353)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(134,965)		(58,458)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		289,399		347,857
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		154,434		289,399

Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	At 1 April 2018	Cash flows	At 31 March 2019
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	183,752	(89,334)	94,418
Short term deposit	105,647	(45,631)	60,016
	<u>289,399</u>	<u>(134,965)</u>	<u>154,434</u>

1. Accounting policies

- a) The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective August 2014) and the Companies Act 2006. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the trustees have considered the 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 incoming resources and resources expended at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity, which is the price that would have had to be paid if hiring a room and paying for catering on the open market. Volunteer time is not included in the financial statements.

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 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.

The Bat Conservation Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2019

1. Accounting policies (continued)

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.

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	2019
	£	£	Total £
Membership subscriptions	-	136,885	136,885
Members' & other donations	34,546	46,807	81,353
Legacies	-	7,606	7,606
	<u>34,546</u>	<u>191,299</u>	<u>225,845</u>
Prior 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>

The Bat Conservation Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2019

3. Project income

Current Year	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2019 Total £
Government grants & contracts	189,304	399,385	588,689
Grants & contracts from other charitable bodies	115,339	13,993	129,332
	304,644	413,378	718,022

Project income - grants, contracts and donations

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

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2019 £
Natural England	61,000	250,000	311,000
Joint Nature Conservation Council	-	105,306	105,306
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	62,736	-	62,736
Heritage Fund - Back from the Brink	57,362	-	57,362
Defra	-	44,079	44,079
Heritage Fund - Bats in Churches	38,810	-	38,810
Scottish Natural Heritage	34,377	-	34,377
Natural Resources Wales	28,565	-	28,565
Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency	8,000	-	8,000
J Patson Charitable Trust	3,000	-	3,000
The Daniell Trust	2,500	-	2,500
John S Cohen Foundation	2,000	-	2,000
Heritage Fund - Swanton Novers	1,593	-	1,593
Other Grants and Contracts	4,700	13,993	18,693
	304,644	413,378	718,022

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

The Bat Conservation Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2019

3. Project income (continued)

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

4. Project costs

Current Year

	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Unrestricted</i>	2019
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	Total
			<i>£</i>
Biodiversity Projects	364,712	469,955	834,667
National Bat Monitoring Programme	29,964	115,380	145,344
Research projects	4,819	27,487	32,306
Bat Groups Support & Public Education	20,805	21,853	42,658
International Projects	-	(1,394)	(1,394)
Scottish Bat Project	34,377	34,151	68,528
Wales Bat Project	22,495	36,642	59,137
	<u>477,172</u>	<u>704,074</u>	<u>1,181,246</u>

Prior Year

	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>2018</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>Total</i>
			<i>£</i>
<i>Biodiversity Projects</i>	534,619	408,522	943,141
<i>National Bat Monitoring Programme</i>	23,923	109,136	133,059
<i>Research projects</i>	4,515	11,373	15,888
<i>Bat Groups Support & Public Education</i>	19,000	26,801	45,801
<i>International Projects</i>	-	2,524	2,524
<i>Scottish Bat Project</i>	37,129	24,117	61,246
<i>Wales Bat Project</i>	23,752	40,607	64,359
	<u>642,938</u>	<u>623,080</u>	<u>1,266,018</u>

The Bat Conservation Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2019

5. Total Expenditure

	Raising funds £	Membership support £	National Conference £	Biodiversity training courses and regional conferences £	Projects and research £	(note 8) Governance £	Other support costs £	2019 Total £
Current Year								
Salaries & temporary staff (note 7)	47,794	25,353	18,158	37,155	784,103	2,296	30,670	945,528
Travel & training	331	1,318	308	1,283	47,781	4,903	17,373	73,299
Advice & other project costs	14,340	10,175	-	-	97,853	8,000	17,646	148,014
Grants to partner organisations	-	-	-	-	13,702	-	-	13,702
Publications & events	788	11,027	54,829	37,698	18,162	-	1,576	124,080
Premises	-	-	-	-	2,916	-	60,524	63,440
Other costs	16,753	5,467	498	289	8,233	-	111,574	142,814
	80,006	53,340	73,793	76,425	972,750	15,200	239,363	1,510,878
Support costs allocated to activities	23,629	7,021	3,824	8,843	196,047	-	(239,363)	-
Governance costs allocated to activities	1,500	446	243	562	12,449	(15,200)	-	-
Total	105,135	60,807	77,860	85,830	1,181,246	-	-	1,510,878

	Raising funds £	Membership support £	National Conference £	Biodiversity training courses and regional conferences £	Projects and research (note 5) £	Governance £	Other Support costs £	2018 Total £
Prior 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	170,270	-	(190,962)	-
Governance costs allocated to activities	778	306	-	425	12,423	(13,932)	-	-
Total	110,262	58,609	-	90,259	1,266,018	-	-	1,525,148

The Bat Conservation Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2019

5. Total Expenditure (continued)

Grants to partner organisations

Institutional grants were made to the following organisations in furtherance of joint projects:

	2019	2018
	£	£
Amphibian and Reptile Conservation	5,119	38,463
RSPB	2,176	44,570
Plantlife	5,519	17,373
Other grants under £2,000	888	1,522
	<u>13,702</u>	<u>101,928</u>

	2019	2018
	£	£
Analysis of support costs:		
Salaries	30,670	4,461
Non salary staff costs	22,469	19,973
Conference costs	1,576	583
Membership costs	1,020	831
Property	60,524	54,617
IT costs	15,022	13,916
Office running costs	36,893	27,344
Insurance	17,507	14,039
Legal fees	755	-
Depreciation	919	-
Outsourced finance & payroll	33,796	27,872
Irrecoverable VAT	9,748	21,214
Bank charges	8,464	6,112
	<u>239,363</u>	<u>190,962</u>
Analysis of governance costs:		
Governance staff costs	2,296	2,221
Audit Fee	8,000	7,750
Trustee expenses	4,903	3,961
	<u>15,200</u>	<u>13,932</u>

6. Net (expenditure) / income for the year

	2019	2018
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	919	613
Operating lease costs	47,005	43,800
Trustees' expenses	4,903	3,961
Trustee indemnity insurance	1,036	1,036
Auditors' remuneration:	8,000	7,750

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 (2018: no trustees reimbursed).

The Bat Conservation Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2019

7. Staff numbers and costs

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons was as follows:

	2019	2018
	£	£
Wages and salaries	845,859	869,420
Social security costs	70,574	72,364
Employer's pension contributions	29,095	22,624
	<u>945,528</u>	<u>964,408</u>

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	
	2019	2018
	No.	No.
Support and governance	3.0	3.0
Other charitable activities	31.0	34.0
	<u>34.0</u>	<u>37.0</u>

No employees earned more than £60,000 during the year (2018: 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 £158,425. (2018: £162,888).

8. Taxation

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

The Bat Conservation Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2019

9. Fixed assets

	Furniture and Fittings £	Computers £	Field equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At the start of the year	68,342	9,368	14,598	92,308
Additions during the year				-
At the end of the year	68,342	9,368	14,598	92,308
Depreciation				
At the start of the year	68,342	7,223	14,598	90,163
Charge for the year	-	919	-	919
At the end of the year	68,342	8,142	14,598	91,082
Net book value at the end of the year	-	1,226	-	1,226
Net book value at the start of the year	-	2,145	-	-

10. Intangible assets

	Database £	Total £
Cost		
At the start of the year	84,484	84,484
Additions during the year	14,376	14,376
At the end of the year	98,860	98,860
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	98,860	98,860
Net book value at the start of the year	84,484	84,484

The Bat Conservation Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2019

11. Investments

	2019	2018
	£	£
<i>Listed Investments</i>		
Market Value		
Market value at the start of the year	2,761,224	2,724,326
Additions at cost	332,389	462,504
Less disposals at carrying value	(413,836)	(413,672)
Net investment in cash funds	3,290	1,835
Net gain / (loss) on revaluation	<u>62,976</u>	<u>(13,769)</u>
At 31 March 2019	<u><u>2,746,043</u></u>	<u><u>2,761,224</u></u>
Listed on a recognised stock exchange	2,685,641	2,700,892
Cash as part of the portfolios	<u>60,400</u>	<u>56,860</u>
	<u><u>2,746,041</u></u>	<u><u>2,757,752</u></u>
Historical cost of listed investments at the year end	<u><u>2,421,522</u></u>	<u><u>2,451,237</u></u>
Listed Investments comprise:		
	2019	2018
	£	£
UK Corporate Bonds	808,383	1,085,998
UK Equity Growth	537,153	544,123
UK Equity Income	402,765	407,306
International Equity	300,910	400,402
Emerging Markets Equity	266,724	263,063
Non Modelled Funds (reclassified by Investment Managers)	369,706	-
Cash	<u>60,400</u>	<u>60,332</u>
	<u><u>2,746,041</u></u>	<u><u>2,761,224</u></u>
<i>Current assets investments held for sale</i>		
	2019	2018
	£	£
Value at the start of the year	155,000	100,000
Gain on investment asset	<u>-</u>	<u>55,000</u>
At 31 March 2019	<u><u>155,000</u></u>	<u><u>155,000</u></u>

Investment assets held for sale represent a property bequeathed to Bat Conservation Trust. Negotiations for the sale were ongoing at 31 March 2019.

The Bat Conservation Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2019

12. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	2019	2018
	£	£
Trade debtors	10,796	55,344
Other debtors	6,926	8,036
Accrued income	69,157	61,098
Prepayments	37,437	42,547
	<u>124,317</u>	<u>167,025</u>

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2019	2018
	£	£
Trade creditors	47,170	22,998
Other taxes and social security	27,646	33,568
Accruals	32,793	18,873
Deferred grant income	-	350
Deferred course and event income	27,181	17,865
Other creditors	11,223	15,582
	<u>146,013</u>	<u>109,236</u>

14. Operating lease commitments

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

	2019	2018
	£	£
Land & buildings		
Less than one year	37,176	10,317
Two to five years	27,436	4,237
Other		
Less than one year	1,411	2,418
Two to five years	-	1,209

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

Current Year	Endowment funds £	Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	2019 Total funds £
Fixed asset	-	-	100,086	100,086
Investments	2,099,145	-	646,896	2,746,041
Net current assets	-	242,386	45,352	287,738
Net assets at the end of the year	2,099,145	242,386	792,334	3,133,865
Prior Year	<i>Endowment funds £</i>	<i>Restricted funds £</i>	Unrestricted funds £	<i>2018 Total funds £</i>
<i>Tangible fixed assets</i>	-	-	86,629	86,629
<i>Investments</i>	2,060,670	-	700,553	2,761,223
<i>Net current assets</i>	-	384,406	117,782	502,188
<i>Net assets at the end of the year</i>	2,060,670	384,406	904,964	3,350,040

The Bat Conservation Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2019

16. Movements in funds

Current Year	At 1 April 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains on investments £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 March 2019 £
Endowment funds:						
Expendable endowment fund						
Vincent Weir	1,768,860	-	10,718	42,405	4,037	1,804,584
Permanent endowment fund						
Bat Conversation Trust Fund (Vincent Weir)	291,810	-	4,245	6,996	-	294,561
Total endowment funds	2,060,670	-	14,963	49,401	4,037	2,099,145
Restricted funds:						
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation - Planning	221,743	-	99,840	-	-	121,903
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation - Bearing Witness for Wildlife	95,561	62,736	96,336	-	-	61,961
Natural England - Biodiversity	-	31,000	27,000	-	-	4,000
Natural England - Monitoring	-	15,000	15,000	-	-	-
Natural England - Partnerships	-	15,000	15,000	-	-	-
Natural Resources Wales - Wales Bat Project	-	22,495	22,495	-	-	-
Natural Resources Wales - NBMP MoA Contribution	-	6,070	6,070	-	-	-
Scottish Natural Heritage - Scottish Bat Project	-	34,377	34,377	-	-	-
Heritage Fund - Back from the Brink	-	57,362	46,911	-	(10,452)	(1)
Heritage Fund - Swanton Novers	1,657	1,593	3,250	-	-	-
Heritage Fund - Bats in Churches	-	38,810	38,810	-	-	-
Mapping Woodland Bats	18,252	2,500	12,124	-	-	8,628
AHVLA	-	8,000	8,000	-	-	-
Small Trusts and Donations - BCT Helpline	-	23,593	21,093	-	-	2,500
Small Trusts - Training the Next Generation	8,910	-	7,689	-	-	1,221
Kate Barlow Research award	34,461	-	4,819	-	6,415	36,057
Bat Group Appeals	-	1,805	1,805	-	-	-
Bat Groups - Nathusius Pipistrelle Project	3,822	2,000	1,205	-	-	4,617
Small Trusts and Foundations	-	5,200	5,200	-	-	-
Anonymous donor	-	1,500	-	-	-	1,500
Other restricted project income	-	10,149	10,149	-	-	-
Total restricted funds	384,406	339,190	477,173	-	(4,037)	242,386
Unrestricted funds:						
Designated funds:						
BCT Bat Box Partnership	12,108	-	-	-	11,470	23,578
Individual donors - Adopt a bat	4,802	-	3,305	-	(1,497)	-
Database Project	90,000	-	-	-	8,860	98,860
Bat Swarming Projects	1,200	-	1,200	-	-	-
Fundraising Consultancy	-	-	-	-	10,800	10,800
	108,110	-	4,505	-	29,633	133,238
General funds	796,854	889,318	1,014,237	16,794	(29,633)	659,096
Total funds	3,350,040	1,228,508	1,510,878	66,195	-	3,133,865

16. Movements in funds (continued)

Purposes of expendable endowment funds

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

Purposes of permanent endowment funds

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

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

Purposes of restricted funds

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation – 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
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 Group Appeals	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 Great Britain.
Anonymous Donor	Contribute towards monitoring a bat roost in France
Other restricted project income	Amalgamated small donations restricted to particular projects.
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	For creating and purchasing a new adopt-a-bat toy and pack.

16. Movements in funds (continued)

Purposes of restricted funds (continued)

Database project

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 and made 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.

Fundraising Consultancy

To address the lack of fundraising capacity, we worked with a fundraising consultancy

Transfers between funds

The transfer from the Heritage fund - Back from the Brink represents income received in the year ended 31 March 2019 relating to costs incurred in the prior year in previously shown as unrestricted.

The Bat Conservation Trust

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For the year ended 31 March 2019

16. Movements in funds (continued)

Prior Year	At 1 April 2017 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains on investments £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 March 2018 £
<i>Endowment funds:</i>						
<i>Expendable endowment fund</i>						
Vincent Weir	1,764,295	-	10,908	27,579	(12,106)	1,768,860
<i>Permanent endowment fund</i>						
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
<i>Restricted funds:</i>						
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 - Natusius Pipistrelle Project	-	5,705	1,883	-	-	3,822
Total restricted funds	413,875	601,363	642,938	-	12,106	384,406
<i>Unrestricted funds:</i>						
<i>Designated funds:</i>						
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
Total designated funds	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