

SOCIAL FARMS AND GARDENS REPORT AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Charity Commission Number: 294494

Office of the Scottish Charity Register Number: SC039440

Company Number (registered in England and Wales): 02011023

Amended Accounts

Replace the original accounts, are now the statutory accounts and are prepared as they were at the date of the original accounts

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024)

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP”) (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland; FRS 102) issued in October 2019.

The company has taken advantage of the exemption to not have to prepare a strategic report in accordance with the “the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors’ Report) Regulations 2013”.

Trustees’ responsibilities

The Trustees are required by Company Law to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair account of the state of Social Farms and Gardens (‘SF&G’). The Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business

The Trustees are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the consolidated financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and any other irregularity.

So far as the Trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company’s auditors are unaware. Each trustee has made themselves aware of any relevant audit information and has ensured that the auditors are aware of that information.

The Trustees confirm that they have given due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission as required by Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued)

(YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024)

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have regard for the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Having monitored activities, the Trustees are of the view that our activities are in line with the vision, mission, strategy and charitable purpose and that these deliver public benefit both to the individuals who directly benefit from our services and indirectly through the improved services that our members and other organisations deliver.

Our members include Community Gardens, City Farms and Care/Social Farms. These organisations benefit from the advocacy, networking, training, advice and support and quality assurance that we provide. They can share skills, build capacity, improve their standards and make partnerships with other organisations and commissioners. Their work contributes to the education, health and wellbeing and cohesion of the communities that they serve.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
(continued)

(YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024)

Vision, Mission and Strategy

Our vision

People and communities reaching their full potential through community growing and nature-based activities as a part of everyday life

Our mission

To support people and communities to improve the health and wellbeing of people and planet through community growing and nature-based activities

Social farming and gardening is increasingly recognised as a solution to many of society's challenges. It has a wide range of well documented benefits for health and wellbeing and community cohesion.

Our Values

Community development, mutual support, access to green space for all. We build strong relationships, collaborations and networks that are inclusive and empowering for communities and people

Our Strategic Priorities

To work with members and partners, using our collective knowledge and shared vision, to advocate, inspire, and enable community growing and nature-based solutions to improve the wellbeing of people and planet

How we work towards achieving our vision:

1. Develop services and projects to meet increased demand and opportunities
2. Serve and grow the membership
3. Strengthen and grow the organisation's role for now and in the future

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued)

(YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024)

Chair's introduction

The Trustees regret that the final audited 2023-24 accounts are also being filed late. The in-house Finance Manager was appointed in June 2024 and has worked hard to resolve the outstanding issues, which resulted in some delay in the completion and auditing.

Social Farms and Gardens (SF&G) is a charity supporting communities across the UK to farm, garden and grow together. We have over 3,000 members using nature-based activities as a catalyst to transform the lives of people and the communities in which they live.

We support these grassroots organisations from small fruit and vegetable plots on urban housing estates to large-scale rural care farms, transforming lives and connecting people. SF&G provides a voice for the thousands of farmers, gardeners and growers whose work improves the lives of millions of people.

In London, Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland, our staffed projects continued to support organisations to work more closely together and to learn from each other. Members in the whole of the UK benefitted from our online resources, social media conversations, members' meetings, webinars bulletins and sector jobs updates.

In Wales and Scotland, the Community Land Advisory Service provided advice around community land management. Other schemes have given direct support to member groups: distributing grants and resources. The development of the Green Care Quality Mark from the Code of Practice is providing a quality assurance scheme for green care providers.

We are grateful to Sally Partridge, who was the Chair of the Board during the first quarter of this year. who had led us through the changes in the leadership of the organisation which resulted in the Board having to take more responsibility than it had in the past. Malachy Dolan and Caroline Hutton have been co-chairs since June 2023.

Malachy Dolan and Caroline Hutton

Co-chairs of Trustees

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued)

(YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024)

Review of Activities 2023-24

Overview

The charity has a wealth of resources and experience, built up over 40 years to offer new members and the sector. SF&G have taken part in demonstration projects, primary research and policy writing for the sector to ensure this growth continues and is supported by local, devolved and central government.

Our members contribute significantly to individual, community and environmental health and well-being delivering climate action at a hyper local level - regenerative land use, increase of biodiversity, community land management and stewardship, while producing fresh local food.

SF&G has operated an Executive Team management model, with representation across the UK, since February 2021. This has increased competency and collaboration at both a strategic and operational level and has provided significant economic efficiency in challenging financial times. SF&G have attracted additional funding across the UK from a range of funders and consultancy contracts.

The Board would like to acknowledge the resilience and effort of all staff.

Reviewing our objectives as set out in the 2023/24 trustees report and how SF&G has worked to achieve these:

We continued to

- Serve our members with newsletters, information, advocacy and responding to questions
- Provide training for our members, responding to their needs and developing their training delivery skills
- Support our members' work with the Green Care Quality Mark
- Manage the organisation's finances with the help of an outsourced provider
- Manage the end of our time in the GreenHouse and found another home with Windmill Hill City Farm as our Registered Office in January 2024 and then Pen Dinas Community Garden in August 2024
- Diversify our income with charged services for members
- Improve our communications with a new web site and used social media to promote the work of our members to our partners and the rest of the world
- We conducted a pay review with South West Councils.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued)

(YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024)

Membership

Membership continued to grow as communities discovered the benefits of growing in communities and discovered the wealth of information on our web site. Membership continues to be free, with income earned from providing services (e.g. training).

As a membership organisation SF&G also secures funding for particular projects which we then make available for our members to apply for.

Organisation development

Esmee Fairbairn Foundation funded the senior staff to work on our strategic issues as a second-tier organisation with an increasing membership. Devolution, leaving the EU and the pandemic have changed the environment and how we operate.

Support and advice

The SF&G website www.farmgarden.org.uk has almost everything that a new community garden, city farm or care/social farm needs to get started. A resource like this needs regular updating, both in its content and its software. Our staff produce regular newsletters and use social media to promote what services we provide.

Information on Activities

SF&G agreed a Climate Statement this year.

Community Land Advisory Service (CLAS Cymru): funded by the Welsh Government, supports the sector in Wales with land and planning issues and raises awareness of community managed green spaces.

Growing Resilience: Digging Deeper funded by the National Lottery Community Fund: People & Communities. A five-year project 2019 - 2024 to build capacity in the community growing sector across each local Council area in Northern Ireland based on skill-sharing, networking and relationship building with decision makers.

Food Security through Seed Saving and Exchange: a pilot in NI funded by Necessity to build resilience and skills in seed saving and a network for seed exchange, overcoming boundaries imposed by Brexit and Covid.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued)

(YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024)

Report on The Case Benchmark Standard for Community Growing and Allotment Provision in NI: Primary Research Funded by the National Lottery Community Fund, the Urban Agriculture Consortium and Sustain

Sustainable Food Places Programme: Social Farms and Gardens directly supports a number of these emerging networks across the UK, e.g. a contract with Ards & North Down Council in NI, delivering a Food for the Planet programme including distribution of micro grants for community growing initiatives using Participatory Budgeting and in Carmarthenshire County Council, in Wales where we host the network coordinator.

Scottish Government Food & Drink, Good Food Nation Team funding: supported two main strands of work in Scotland, Community Land Advisory Service and Gardeniser. This enabled community projects to secure land for food growing and 17 people to complete the second Scotland accredited course for 'community growing organisers'.

Londoners Natural Future Together, funded by The Kusuma Trust UK, supported members to design, deliver and participate in 13 professional development days on topics such as co-production, data-management, volunteer management, corporate partnerships and professional boundaries. This was coupled with 8 networking tours of members sites. Members collaborated to demonstrate the sector's value through events such as the London Harvest Festival and a community gardens showcase in central London. The programme amplified the voice of farm and gardens to the wider world, facilitated dovetailing rather than competing, and was proud to pay members for training delivery and facilities hire.

Funding from both **Populo Living** and **London Legacy Development Corporation** saw SF&G work closely with East End London communities to successfully engage Londoners young and old in the sector. We also installed a new Stick Man Trail in Newham.

18 people gained a **Gardeniser** qualification as a result of these funders grants, with 1,000 people accessing information and guidance through email, phone and the London bulletin.

SF&G also seconded the London Manager part-time to Kentish Town City Farm to bridge a summer-long gap between Directors at the farm.

Resilient Green Spaces: funded by the Welsh Government, a £1.30m partnership project led by Social Farms and Gardens to pilot alternative re-localised food systems using communities and their green spaces as the driving force for change across Wales until June 2023. Projects include: A national allotment development team, Innovative food hubs, community orchards, Greener corridors and spaces in Gwynedd, exploring community access to farms and land, building horticultural future farming skills

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued)

(YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024)

Growing Resilience Across Ireland: funded by the Community Foundation Ireland, a cross-border partnership project between SF&G in Northern Ireland and our sister organisation in Ireland, Community Growing Ireland. This project recognises an all-island/bioregional approach in matters of the environment and natural resources. Our constituencies gain insight into activities across Ireland. The partnership enhanced advocacy, lobbying and policy proposals at a national level in both jurisdictions for the provision of and support for community gardens.

Hilden Trust: funded summer play activities at member sites across the UK.

Edible Cardiff: funded by the National Lottery, supporting networking between community growing sites across Wales, development of resource and skills sharing, and advocating on behalf of the network to get more land in Cardiff into use for growing until September 2024.

Procurement Food Hubs: funded through Welsh Government and the European Community Rural Development Fund. The Food Hubs project has supported two community food hubs to upskill and to become accredited to supply the local authorities, health boards and care setting in several communities in Wales.

Carmarthenshire Food System Development: a transformative initiative underway to help develop a thriving, sustainable, and inclusive local food system in Carmarthenshire. Through the Bwyd Sir Gar, the county's dynamic food partnership, the project aims to address a range of social, economic, and environmental challenges.

In collaboration with key delivery partners Hywel Dda University Health Board, Food Sense Wales, Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services and Social Farms and Gardens, Carmarthenshire County Council leads the project to enhance the local food economy, promote health and wellbeing, and contribute to nature recovery and climate resilience. There are three strands of project delivery that include; Connected Communities and Community Access to Healthy Food, Strategic Land Management for Public Goods and Building a Good Food Movement.

Building on its existing work, Bwyd Sir Gâr Food's Food System Development Project aims to improve the local food system for current and future generations.

DTA Assured Growing we have been funded by DTA Wales to create support and guidance around food procurement for our sector and we have been working with a number of partners on this during the year.

Nature's Path: funded a competition for members redesigning part of their sites, with a prize of funds to pay for the construction.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued)

(YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024)

Ards & North Down Council Northern Ireland: Micro grants distributed using the Participatory Budgeting Model.

One Voice Wales: SF&G in Wales successfully tendered for a pictorial guide for Towns and Community Councils in Wales to set up community growing spaces. This guide was printed in physical form and is available via One Voice Wales, the representative body for Community and Town Councils in Wales.

Camau Gwyrdd: a three-year project to help people in Wales take their first steps towards climate action. We aim to inspire and empower communities across Wales to take action and live in a more sustainable way. We don't claim to have all the answers and solutions, but we're aiming to help to tick as many of those Earth-friendly boxes as possible!

Our aim is to connect 'champion' groups, who are established organisations within the Social Farms and Gardens membership circle - with groups and communities who are working towards creating their pathway towards a sustainable and regenerative future.

Many of us experience feelings of powerlessness when faced with the threats of climate change. Likewise, groups may be climate conscious but may be unsure on where to start on their eco journey. We aim to facilitate relationships that will pave the way for grassroots, community based green action to mitigate and tackle climate change.

Future Farms: an SF&G in Wales led partnership pilot project, focussed on a Powys site. The partnership shares a vision for more agroecological horticultural enterprises across Wales, helping to meet the fruit and veg needs of our citizens and supporting a flourishing rural economy. The partnership includes: Our Food 1200, Powys County Council, Shared Assets, Ecological Land Cooperative, Gwlad Consortium, Landworkers Alliance, Cultivate and the Powys Sustainable Food Partnerships, Lantra Wales, Nature Friendly Farming Network, Black Mountains College. With Welsh Government Backing Local Firms Funding, the partnership supported Powys County Council to develop planning guidance to support and assist small-scale horticultural enterprises in the preparation of a planning application for a Rural Enterprise Dwelling (permanent or temporary). The continuing Shared Prosperity funding runs until December 2024 to take on a new growing site in Powys, submitting a planning application to put three temporary dwellings and horticultural enterprises on a Powys farm holding.

Tyfu Powys: Shared Prosperity funding to work with community growing sites in Powys to support local people to grow, be active, healthy and learn new skills. We recruited for a Tyfu Powys Development Worker at the end of 2023. Tyfu Powys runs a series of support strands for community growing organisations, including small capital grants, bespoke development support, orchard and mapping training until December 2024.

Keep Wales Tidy: SF&G sits on bi-weekly panel meetings awarding starter and wildlife or food development packages to sites across Wales that want to increase access to nature for their community. When a food development package is awarded, SF&G is the expert partner that attends a

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued)

(YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024)

site visit and produces a report giving an indication of where key, large elements of the package be sited. Until March 2025.

GreenME: a Horizon Europe project, aiming to identify ways in which effective nature-based therapy and a broader green care framework can be scaled-up to improve adult mental health and wellbeing equity while contributing to multiple socio-ecological co-benefits. GreenME covers three scales: nature-in-everyday-life (the existence of green and blue infrastructure for viewing and walks), nature-based health promotion (the promotion of active interaction with nature, such as gardening and conservation) and nature-based therapy (the provision of treatment for individual patients). The project comprises 21 partner organisations from across Europe and the US and will run until 2027.

Advocacy

Social Farms and Gardens has continued to advocate on behalf of our members, promoting the benefits of their work in their local communities. SF&G have worked with the devolved governments and central government over the year.

We have contributed to the updating and re-writing of key Welsh Government documents aimed to stimulate and support more community growing spaces, such as allotments and community gardens.

Training and Webinars

Lantra: funded support for Community Supported Agriculture, around planning and crop management / rotation.

Gardeniser: funded by the EU, delivered in partnership across Europe, we train people to run community gardens, including organising placements in other countries

Webinars: Monthly Webinars were held for members on subjects of interest, The Orchard Forum and The Allotment Forum were held quarterly

Quality Assurance

The **Green Care Quality Mark**, we are working with our colleagues in the Green Care Coalition to extend the use of the Quality Mark across the sector.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued)

(YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024)

Plans for 2024-25

Throughout the UK

To continue:

- Serving our members with newsletters, information, advocacy and responding to questions
- Providing training for our members, responding to their needs and developing their training delivery skills
- Supporting the quality of our members' work with the Green Care Quality Mark
- Managing the organisation's finances, with an in-house Finance Manager
- Diversifying our income with charged services for members
- Communications: improving the new web site and using social media to promote the work of our members to our partners and the rest of the world.

Governance

The Board will continue:

- To meet regularly both in person and by video conference
- To monitor the organisation's finances
- To consider the structure and leadership of the organisation
- To review the policies of the organisation
- To review strategic plans.

Fundraising

Social Farms and Gardens strives to have diverse funding streams. A large proportion of our funding is from Charitable Trust grants, we continue to receive grant support from the Scottish Government. In addition, SF&G tenders for contract work with devolved country governments and Local Authorities. In Wales, we have secured European Union Funding through the Welsh Government for predominantly capital programmes. We also earn income from: training programme delivery, consultancy work, partnership initiatives, research projects, managing grants to our members and modest philanthropic donations.

To continue:

- Building relationships across the sector and with our members and academic partners
- Building relationships with funders and the public sector

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued)

(YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024)

- Identifying sources of income that meet our strategic aims and fit within our values.

Sustainability

To:

- Ensure financial security by reviewing and finding ways to build reserves
- Encourage the equality, diversity and inclusion work of the organisation.

Financial Review

Reserves Policy

In accordance with the guidelines from the Charity Commission, the Trustees and Executive Team have reviewed the policy and continue to plan for 'free reserves' of between three- and six-months running costs. This was calculated on 'core' costs, but at request of the staff, we have started making the calculation based on all costs.

At 31 March 2024, the accounts show the following (previous year, 31 March 2023)

- General reserves: £70,721 (2023: £64,902) – set aside to fund some of the overhead expenditures and all the objectives and activities that the trustees decide are required including a 3-months running costs of the organisation.
- Designated reserves – set aside for specific work: £80,490 (2023: £280,361) this includes a fixed asset reserve of £6,802 (2023: £163,126)
- Restricted reserves – advance payments on continuing projects: £63,944 (2023: £89,762)

As disclosed in note 3(b) to accounts, we did not comply with our reserves policy as of 31 March 2024 and the date of this report. To achieve a more appropriate level of reserves, the charity will continue to practice:

Comprehensive funding bids: to cover overheads as well as direct costs. Some grant funding streams provide inadequate coverage for overheads

Rigorous funding review process: a panel of senior staff with Board representation to ensure that all projects contribute to overheads and don't endanger the organisation

Efficient operations and sound management of resources with oversight by the Executive Team and the Finance Manager

Income generation by providing charged services such as consultancy and training

The Reserves policy is reviewed annually, and the reserves required are calculated quarterly to take account of changes in operating costs.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued)

(YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024)

Financial management and checks

A trustee and the Company Secretary are delegated to carry out financial controls on income and expenditure including payroll, credit cards and bank transfers. Random sample checks are undertaken by other trustees. A system is in place that significant expenditure is authorised by a trustee and all expenditure is monitored, checked and countersigned. Expenditure against budget is monitored monthly. The Trustees are confident that appropriate checks are in place.

Additional financial controls include:

- Providing clear and accurate management reports, quarterly
- The Trustees are informed promptly of any major changes in our financial position
- Financial policies and strategies are up to date, agreed by the Board and implemented
- Continuing to work to the SORP and any other accepted good practice

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the organisation is exposed, in particular those associated with finance and operations and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to major risks.

Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of effective systems and control procedures, which ensure appropriate authorisation of projects and transactions, and consistent quality of delivery.

Structure, Governance and Management

The formal name of the charity is now Social Farms and Gardens (otherwise referred to as SF&G).

The name change from The Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens was implemented following the merger with Care Farming UK, which occurred on 1st April 2018.

The legal status of the Federation was retained following the merger; that of a charitable company limited by guarantee. It is registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales (number 294494), the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator in Scotland (number SC039440) and Companies House in England and Wales (number 2011023).

The company was established in 1980 and registered as a charitable company on 20 June 1986. The Memorandum and Articles which set out the objects, powers and governance of the charity were reviewed following the merger and have been updated in the light of minor changes to the governance structure.

The charity was established under a Memorandum of Association which establishes the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued)

(YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024)

Social Farms and Gardens is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales (No. 294494) and the Office of the Scottish Register of Charities (SC039440). It is a Company Limited by Guarantee registered with Companies House (No. 2011023).

Members of the Board of Directors (Trustees)

Under the Articles of Association, the Board can have a maximum of eleven members, eight of whom are elected at the Annual General Meeting by the voting members. Up to three people are appointed by the Board. The Board elects a Chair, a Vice Chair and the Company Secretary.

The Board met with the Executive Team, ten times in the year. Most meetings have been held using video conferencing, but two were held in person in June (Birmingham) and November (Belfast).

Trustees are volunteers and receive no financial benefit from the charity. Any reclaimed expenses are shown in the accounts.

The Board choose someone to provide supervision or line management to the Executive Team who line manage the rest of the staff.

Related parties

The charity wholly owned a Community Interest Company (Cultivating Communities) registered with Companies House (No. 07292005). All profits are gifted to the Charity.

The Board agreed to strike off the CIC on the 17th of December 2024, as all activities could be run directly through the charity.

At the end of 31 March 2024, the CIC board comprised:

- Ian Egginton-Metters
- Caroline Hutton (Company Secretary)
- Paul Savident

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued)

(YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024)

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity name: Social Farms and Gardens

Charity registration 294494

Scottish Charity SC039440

Company 2011023

Registered Office: Cultivate, Pendinas, Llanidloes Road, Newtown, SY16 4HX

Auditors: Burnside Chartered Accountants

61 Queen Square, Bristol BS1 4JZ

Bankers: Co-operative Bank PLC, 14 Broadmead, Bristol BS1 3HH

CAF Bank, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, West Malling ME19 4JQ

Triodos Bank, Deanery Road, Bristol BS1 5AS

Scottish Widows, 67 Morrison Street, Edinburgh EH3 8YJ

Royal Bank of Scotland, 36 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued)

(YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024)

Trustees

The Directors of the charitable company, Social Farms and Gardens, are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees. The trustees serving during the year and to the date of signing were as follows:

- Sally Partridge (resigned 30 June 2023)
- Malachy Dolan (term ended 31 March 2024 – but co-opted for a further period)
- David Drury (term ended 31 March 2024 – but co-opted for a further period)
- Gemma Hooper (resigned 10 July 2023)
- Michelle Howarth (resigned 31 March 2024)
- Caroline Hutton
- John le Corney
- Michael Collins (elected 1 April 2023 resigned 12 September 2024)
- Michael Hardman (appointed 29 February 2024)
- Elinor Goff (co-opted 14 December 2023, elected 22 October 2024)
- Vicky Moller (co-opted 14 December 2023, elected 22 October 2024)
- Michael Chadney (appointed 4 April 2022, resigned 11 September 2023)
- Mark Roberts (elected 1 April 2023, resigned 18 September 2023)
- Ellen Ledingham (appointed 15 May 2023, resigned 31 March 2024)

Executive Team

- Amber Alferoff (London manager)
- Sophie Antonelli (Central Services manager until November 2023)
- Gary Mitchell (Joint Wales manager)
- Dr. Nicola Perkins (Joint Wales manager until September 2023)
- Patricia Wallace (Northern Ireland manager until December 2024)

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of Social Farms and Gardens (formerly the Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens) for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated and Parent Company Balance Sheets, Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 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 group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the 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 parent charitable company and the parent company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

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 group and the parent 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.

MATERIAL UNCERTAINTY RELATED TO GOING CONCERN

We draw your attention to note 3(b) Going concern which indicates that as of 31 March 2024 the charity did not comply with its reserves policy of minimum three months of running costs as there was not enough unrestricted income to finance charity's core central activities. That results in material uncertainty that may cast doubt on charity's ability to continue as a going concern. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

OTHER INFORMATION

The other information comprises the information included in the 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' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company 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' directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 20, the trustees (who are also the directors of the parent 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 directors 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 group's and parent 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 group or the parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free

from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

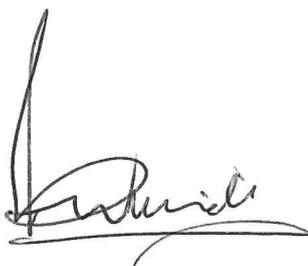
Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

An understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the group and parent charitable company was obtained from management and those charged with governance of the group and parent charitable company, and the audit engagement team was confirmed to have the appropriate competence and capabilities to identify non-compliance with such a framework.

No significant instances of fraud, non-compliance with laws and regulations or other irregularities were communicated to the engagement team by management or those charged with governance, and no particular audit areas or legislation were identified that gave rise to any significant risks of material misstatement in respect of such irregularities.

Due to the size and nature of the entity its susceptibility to material misstatement resulting from fraud, non-compliance with laws & regulations, or other irregularities is considered to be low, and the audit approach was appropriately planned so as to address this risk.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our audit report.



STEPHEN BURNSIDE (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of

Burnside Chartered Accountants

Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor

61 Queen Square

Bristol BS1 4JZ

Date:

13/3/25

Social Farms and Gardens

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
INCOME					
Income from voluntary income:					
Donations	5	2,396	-	2,396	4,950
Income from charitable activities:					
Grants and contracts	4	40,750	1,313,516	1,354,266	1,408,932
Income from property surrender		10,500	-	10,500	-
Hire of facilities	6	2,489	-	2,489	8,537
Fees earned	6	10,592	-	10,592	18,354
Training and conferences	6	4,742	-	4,742	20,582
Miscellaneous income	6	6,240	-	6,240	3,575
TOTAL INCOME		77,709	1,313,516	1,391,225	1,464,930
EXENDITURE					
Costs of raising funds		126	-	126	180
Charitable activities		276,343	1,334,626	1,610,969	1,604,511
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	7	276,469	1,334,626	1,611,095	1,604,691
Net income/(expenditure)		(198,760)	(21,110)	(219,870)	(139,761)
Transfers between funds	14	4,708	(4,708)	-	-
Fund balances brought forward 1 April 2023	15	345,263	89,762	435,025	574,785
FUND BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD 31 MARCH 2024	16	151,211	63,944	215,155	435,025

All the activities are classed as continuing. There are no other reported gains or losses during the year.

Social Farms and Gardens
BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Charity 2024 £	Charity 2023 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible fixed assets	9	6,802	163,126	6,802	163,126
Investments	10	-	-	-	1
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	11	232,426	707,712	232,426	707,712
Cash at bank and in hand		98,724	94,725	98,724	94,505
		331,150	802,437	331,150	802,217
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(122,797)	(530,538)	(122,797)	(529,209)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		208,353	271,899	208,353	273,009
NET ASSETS		215,155	435,025	215,155	436,135
FUNDS:					
Unrestricted					
General Funds	14	70,721	64,902	70,721	66,012
Designated Funds		80,490	280,361	80,490	280,361
Restricted					
	13	63,944	89,762	63,944	89,762
		215,155	435,025	215,155	436,135

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

These financial statements were approved by the directors and authorised for issue on 13/03/2025, and are signed on their behalf by:

Caroline Hutton:
(Chair of Trustees)



The notes on pages 24 to 44 form part of these financial statements.

[Company no: 02011023]

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Cash (used in)/provided from operating activities		4,000	(16,812)
		_____	_____
(Decrease) in cash & cash equivalents		4,000	(16,812)
		_____	_____
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of year		94,724	111,536
		_____	_____
Cash & cash equivalents at end of year		98,724	94,724
		_____	_____
 RECONCILIATION OF NET (EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
		£	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		(219,870)	(139,760)
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation charges	9	2,915	7,444
Impairment charges	9	153,409	-
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	11	475,286	(238,354)
(Decrease) in creditors	12	(407,740)	353,859
		_____	_____
Net cash (used in)/provided from operating activities		4,000	(16,812)
		_____	_____

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The company is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Cultivate, Pendinas, Llanidloes Road, Newtown, SY16 4HX

2. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland'.

3. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Charity Commission Statement of Recommended Practice -Accounting and Reporting by Charities applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2015).

The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) and Balance Sheet consolidate the financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary undertakings. The results of the subsidiary are consolidated on a line-by-line basis. The exemption under s408 Companies Act 2006 has been taken not to include the parent charity SOFA alone.

(b) Going Concern

We confirm that, we haven't complied with our reserves policy of minimum 3 months of running costs to an estimated target of £180,000 as of both 31st of March 2024 and the date of this report. This is because we did not have enough unrestricted income to finance our core central activities. That results in material uncertainty that may cast doubt on our ability to continue as a going concern. To mitigate this uncertainty, we have performed the restructuring of our core central activities and are trying to include central overhead costs in our projects funding from restricted funds. We have started the discussions with funds providers about this.

Although it is not certain that these efforts will be successful, trustees have determined that the actions that they have taken are sufficient to mitigate the uncertainty and have therefore prepared the accounts on a going concern basis.

(c) Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

(d) Incoming resources

Grants, donations, contracts and sponsorship

Income from grants, donations, contracts and sponsorship, including capital grants, is included in incoming resources when these are receivable, except as follows:

- When donors specify that donations and grants given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods.

- When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the pre-conditions for use have been met.
- When donors specify that donations and grants, including capital grants, are for restricted purposes, which do not amount to pre-conditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in incoming resources of restricted funds when receivable.

Interest receivable

Interest is included when receivable by the charity.

(e) Resources expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accrual's basis, inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered.

Certain expenditure is directly attributable to specific activities and has been included in those cost categories. Certain other costs, which are attributable to more than one activity, are apportioned across cost categories based on an estimate of the proportion of time spent by staff on those activities.

Resources expended are allocated to the activity where the cost relates directly to that activity.

Support costs (overhead costs) include office costs such as bank, insurance and governance, and allocations for support staff costs based on time spent on activities.

(f) Tangible fixed assets

The cost of tangible fixed assets is written off by equal annual instalments over their expected useful lives as follows:

Plant and equipment: 15% per annum on the reducing balance basis

Office equipment: 30% per annum on a reducing balance basis

Long leasehold: over 60 years

Building: over 60 years

A de-minimis limit of £1,000 is applied under which fixed assets are not capitalised.

(g) Funds accounting

Funds held by the charity are:

Unrestricted funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for restricted purposes.

Designated funds - these are part of the unrestricted funds which trustees have earmarked for a particular project or use, without restricting or committing the funds legally. The designation may be cancelled by the trustees if they later decide that the charity should not proceed or continue with the use or project for which the funds were designated.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

(h) Fixed assets investments

Investment in subsidiary is stated at cost.

4. GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Welsh Govt: Resilient Green Space	-	367,657	367,657	541,852
Big Lottery Fund – Northern Ireland	-	112,633	112,633	102,321
Welsh Government – Wales CLAS	-	99,942	99,942	98,262
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	-	-	-	2,550
London Newham	-	-	-	2,575
City Bridge Trust	-	10,617	10,617	32,541
Kentish Town City Farm: London	-	5,330	5,330	-
Scottish Govt - Food & Drink	-	37,000	37,000	38,000
Hilden Trust	-	40,000	40,000	40,000
Welsh Govt.: Food Hubs	-	167,419	167,419	267,965
European Social Fund: Gardeniser Hub	-	-	-	75,979
Keep Wales Tidy	40,750	-	40,750	28,900
London LDC	-	9,782	9,782	9,782
Kusuma Trust UK: Londoners National Future Together	-	54,317	54,317	-
National Lottery Community Fund: Edible Car- diff	-	16,034	16,034	39,467
European Social Fund: Gardeniser Plus	-	-	-	1,500
European Social Fund: Learning Bubbles	-	54,894	54,894	18,378
EU fund: GreenMe	-	19,950	19,950	-
Green Grants (Nottingham)	-	-	-	2,240
Hello Fresh grant	-	10,925	10,925	16,445
Sustainable Food Places Carmarthen	-	13,367	13,367	4,128
National Nature Service in Wales	-	-	-	5,000
Cronfa Gymunedol Community Fund: Sustaina- ble Steps	-	69,994	69,994	-
Carmarthen Machinery Ring	-	5,927	5,927	-
Powys County Council: Shared Prosperity Funding	-	33,655	33,655	-
DTA Wales: Assured Growing	-	7,888	7,888	-
Carmarthenshire County Council: Food Sys- tems Development	-	19,844	19,844	-
Welsh Government: Future Farms Powys	-	7,033	7,033	-
Welsh Government: Future Farms	-	82,860	82,860	-
Lord Merthyr Fund	-	1,000	1,000	-
Campaign Grant Sustain	-	986	986	3,940
NI Lottery Cost of Living	-	-	-	9,989
Donaghadee CDA	-	-	-	2,000

Social Farms and Gardens

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Green Future Association	-	-	-	4,000
Carpenters Estate (Populo)	-	19,562	19,562	38,843
Acorn Farm – Community Foundation NI	-	14,950	14,950	7,475
The Alleyways Manifesto Project NI	-	9,200	9,200	-
Seed Saving NI	-	15,000	15,000	-
School Farms Network Conference	-	-	-	5,300
Other small grants	-	1,200	1,200	1,000
Belfast City Council	-	4,550	4,550	10,000
	<u>40,750</u>	<u>1,313,516</u>	<u>1,354,266</u>	<u>1,408,932</u>

5. DONATIONS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations - general	2,396	-	2,396	4,950

6. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Consultancy fees	10,592	-	10,592	18,354
Income from property surrender	10,500	-	10,500	-
Events fees	4,742	-	4,742	20,582
Hire of facilities	2,489	-	2,489	8,537
Other income	6,240	-	6,240	3,575
	<u>34,563</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,563</u>	<u>51,048</u>

7. TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Direct staff costs	Project costs	Other direct costs	Support costs	2024	2023
Programmes						
UK-wide	18,184	106,067	12,924	35,847	173,023	161,336
England	53,111	21,929	18,436	12,398	105,874	102,634
Scotland	18,200	2,872	1,346	18,854	41,272	34,249
Wales	262,453	452,741	136,330	112,010	963,534	1,111,960
Northern Ireland	105,739	9,874	13,711	11,658	140,981	158,808
Property impairment charges	-	-	-	153,409	153,409	-
Governance	-	-	32,876	-	32,876	35,523
Fundraising	-	-	126	-	126	180
	<u>457,687</u>	<u>593,483</u>	<u>215,750</u>	<u>344,176</u>	<u>1,611,095</u>	<u>1,604,690</u>

Support costs include:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£
Salary costs	101,485	73,385
Other staff costs	16,876	5,108
Office costs, including rent	69,491	62,298
Property impairment charges	153,409	-
Depreciation	2,915	7,444
	<u>344,176</u>	<u>148,235</u>

Support costs have been allocated in proportion to the volume and time spent on the activity.

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 £	2023 £
Programme focus:				
UK-wide	40,752	132,577	173,328	161,336
England	1,220	104,654	105,874	102,634
Scotland	1,962	39,310	41,272	34,249
Wales	56,167	907,062	963,363	1,111,960
Northern Ireland	518	140,463	140,981	158,808
Property impairment charges	153,409	-	153,409	-
Governance	22,316	10,560	32,876	35,523
Fundraising	126	-	126	180
	<u>276,469</u>	<u>1,334,626</u>	<u>1,611,095</u>	<u>1,604,690</u>

8. STAFF COSTS AND TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£
Wages and salaries	501,368	479,469
Social security costs	34,585	34,271
Pension costs	23,219	21,057
	—————	—————
	559,172	534,797
	—————	—————
Contractors / freelance	54,412	15,501
Other (recruitment/training)	5,714	2,397
	—————	—————
	60,126	17,898
	—————	—————

No employee earned more than £60,000 per annum.

The Key Management Personnel of the charity consists of the Senior Management Team as listed in the Reference and Administration Section on page 18. The total value of employee benefits (salary and employer's pension contributions) paid to key management personnel in this period was £169,837 (2023: £159,840).

The average number of employees analysed by programme was:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
UK-wide programmes	2.0	1.3
England	3.1	2.0
Scotland	0.8	0.5
Wales	13.0	8.5
Northern Ireland	3.8	2.5
Management & administration including fundraising	2.3	1.5
	—————	—————
	25.0	16.3

Trustees' costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trustees remuneration and expenses	1,191	558

The trustees received no remuneration in this period, except for approved reimbursed travel, subsistence and accommodation costs relating to Board meetings.

9. TANGIBLE ASSETS - GROUP AND COMPANY

	Equipment	Furniture Fittings £	Leasehold Property £	Leasehold Land £	TOTAL
COST					
At 1 April 2023	74,668	7,246	181,758	15,000	278,672
Costs in the year	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	<u>74,668</u>	<u>7,246</u>	<u>181,758</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>278,672</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 April 2023	64,951	7,246	36,349	7,000	115,546
Impairment charges	-	-	145,409	8,000	153,409
Charge for the year	2,915	-	-	-	2,915
At 31 March 2024	<u>67,866</u>	<u>7,246</u>	<u>181,758</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>271,870</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 March 2024	<u>6,802</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,802</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>9,717</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>145,409</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>163,126</u>

All fixed assets are held for direct charitable purposes.

Social Farms and Gardens (then the Federation of City Farms & Community Gardens) leased land from Bristol City Council in 1995. The GreenHouse building belonged to SF&G and served as the organisation's head office with a room to rent for meetings and activities.

Due to the change of Social Farms and Gardens' staff conditions of work, most staff moved to working remotely from their home and the GreenHouse building being in disrepair, Social Farms and Gardens relinquished the leasehold of the the GreenHouse building and land to Bristol City Council at the beginning of this period.

For the past ten years, Bristol City Council has had plans to redevelop the area around the GreenHouse building and paid SF&G £10,500 to surrender the lease in April 2024. This amount was included in SF&G trade debtors as of 31 March 2024.

SF&G suffered an impairment loss of £153,409 in the transaction.

10. INVESTMENTS - GROUP AND COMPANY

	Group		Charity	
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£	£	£
Investment in subsidiary – shares at cost	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Subsidiary company

Social Farms & Gardens owned the whole of the issued share capital of Cultivating Communities, a community interest company registered in England and Wales. Its principal activities are to carry out activities which benefit the community and to act as a trading subsidiary for SF&G. The results of the subsidiary are consolidated in these financial statements.

The Board agreed to strike off the CIC on the 17th of December 2024, as all activities could be run directly through the charity.

Further details are disclosed in note 17.

11. DEBTORS

	Group		Charity	
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	155,044	5,608	155,044	5,608
VAT receivable	303	-	303	-
Grants receivable	77,079	702,104	77,079	702,105
	<u>232,426</u>	<u>707,712</u>	<u>232,426</u>	<u>707,712</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Grants receivable refer to grants for 2023-24 not yet paid at the end of the financial year:

	Group	
	2024	2023
	£	£
Scottish government: Food & Drink	17,000	-
Carmarthen Machinery Ring	4,031	-
Welsh Government: Resilient Green Spaces	-	456,492
Welsh Government: Food Hubs	-	243,051
Welsh Government: Future Farms Powys	7,033	-
Powys County Council: Shared Prosperity	31,345	-
Innovate: FEW-Meter	1,727	1,727
City Bridge Trust: London	10,617	-
Carmarthenshire County Council: Food Systems	4,697	-
EU funds: GreenMe	2,356	-
Carpenters Estate (Populo)	-	834
	<u>77,079</u>	<u>702,104</u>

12. CREDITORS

	Group	Group	Charity	Charity
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:				
Trade creditors	3,768	213,322	3,768	213,132
VAT	-	401	-	401
Social security and other taxes	16,410	7,366	16,410	7,366
Accruals	32,218	74,512	32,218	73,373
Deferred income	70,401	234,937	70,401	234,937
	<u>122,797</u>	<u>530,539</u>	<u>122,797</u>	<u>529,209</u>

Deferred income refers to income for 2024-25 received in 2023-24:

	2024	2023
Big Lottery Fund: Digging Deeper	8,567	8,346
Resilient Green Spaces – advance	-	129,700
RDP Food Hubs – advance	-	96,891
Welsh Government: Wales CLAS	50,970	-
Kusuma Trust UK: Londoners National		
Future Together	10,863	-
	<u>70,401</u>	<u>234,937</u>

13. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance 1 April 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Balance Transfers £	Balance 31 March 2024 £
Restricted funds					
UK-wide					
Hilden Trust	-	40,000	(40,000)	-	-
European Social Fund: Learning Bubbles	5,727	54,894	(60,621)	-	-
Hello Fresh	1,079	10,925	(12,004)	-	-
EU funds: GreenMe	-	19,952	(19,952)	-	-
Seedbed Trust: Gardens of Sanctuary	1,029	-	-	(1,029)	-
England					
City Bridge Trust	-	10,617	(10,617)	-	-
Green Grants (Nottingham)	2,409	-	-	(2,409)	-
Innovate: FEW-Meter	754	-	-	(754)	-
Carpenters Estate (Populo)	-	19,562	(19,562)	-	-
Kentish Town City Farm: London	-	5,330	(5,330)	-	-
Kusuma Trust UK: Londoners National Future Together	-	54,317	(54,317)	-	-
London LDC	6,074	9,782	(14,869)	-	987
Scotland					
Scottish Govt: Food & Drink	8,753	37,000	(39,310)	-	6,443
Urban Agriculture Consortium	2,500	-	-	-	2,500
Scottish Community Alliance	1,500	-	-	-	1,500
Wales					
Welsh Government: Resilient Green Spaces	-	367,657	(367,657)	-	-
Welsh Government: Food Hubs	-	167,419	(167,419)	-	-
Welsh Government: Community Land Advisory Service	-	99,942	(99,942)	-	-
Cronfa Gymunedol Community Fund: Sustainable Steps	-	69,994	(67,971)	-	2,023
Carmarthen Machinery Ring	-	5,927	(5,927)	-	-
Powys County Council: Shared Prosperity	-	33,655	(33,655)	-	-
DTA Wales: Assured Growing	-	7,888	(5,555)	-	2,333
Carmarthenshire County Council: Food Systems Development	-	19,844	(19,844)	-	-
Welsh Government: other projects	-	1,200	(1,200)	-	-
Welsh Government: Future Farms Powys	-	7,033	(7,033)	-	-
Welsh Government: Future Farms	-	82,860	(82,860)	-	-
Lord Merthyr Fund	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund: Edible Cardiff	37,305	16,034	(44,365)	-	8,974
Food Sense: Food Poverty Cardiff	3,008	-	-	-	3,008

Social Farms and Gardens

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Food Sense	4,375	-	-	-	4,375
Sustainable Food Places Carmarthen	2,348	13,367	(13,144)	-	2,571
National Nature Services in Wales	1,225	-	-	-	1,225
Northern Ireland					
National Lottery Community Fund: Digging Deeper	-	112,633	(112,464)	-	169
Belfast City Council	-	4,550	(2,134)	-	2,416
Campaign Grant Sustain	-	986	(986)	-	-
NI Lottery Cost of Living	4,712	-	-	-	4,712
Seed Saving	-	15,000	(10,987)	-	4,013
The Alleyways Manifesto Project	-	9,200	(4,136)	-	5,064
Acorn Farm – Community Foundation	6,447	14,950	(9,765)	-	11,632
Managed projects					
Manchester Green Alliance	516	-	-	(516)	-
Total restricted funds	89,762	1,313,516	(1,334,626)	(4,708)	63,944

RESTRICTED FUNDS' ACTIVITIES

Community Land Advisory Service (CLAS Cymru): funded by the Welsh Government, supports the sector in Wales with land and planning issues and raises awareness of community managed green spaces.

Growing Resilience: Digging Deeper funded by the National Lottery Community Fund: People & Communities. A five-year project 2019 - 2024 to build capacity in the community growing sector across each local Council area in Northern Ireland based on skill-sharing, networking and relationship building with decision makers.

Food Security through Seed Saving and Exchange: a pilot in NI funded by Necessity to build resilience and skills in seed saving and a network for seed exchange, overcoming boundaries imposed by Brexit and Covid.

Report on The Case Benchmark Standard for Community Growing and Allotment Provision in NI: Primary Research Funded by the National Lottery Community Fund, the Urban Agriculture Consortium and Sustain.

Sustainable Food Places Programme: Social Farms and Gardens directly supports a number of these emerging networks across the UK, e.g. a contract with Ards & North Down Council in NI, delivering a Food for the Planet programme including distribution of micro grants for community growing initiatives using Participatory Budgeting and in Carmarthenshire County Council, in Wales where we host the network coordinator.

Scottish Government Food & Drink, Good Food Nation Team funding: supported two main strands of work in Scotland, Community Land Advisory Service and Gardeniser. This enabled community projects to secure land for food growing and 17 people to complete the second Scotland accredited course for 'community growing organisers'.

Londoners Natural Future Together, funded by The Kusuma Trust UK, supported members to design, deliver and participate in 13 professional development days on topics such as co-production, data-

management, volunteer management, corporate partnerships and professional boundaries. This was coupled with 8 networking tours of members sites. Members collaborated to demonstrate the sector's value through events such as the London Harvest Festival and a community gardens showcase in central London. The programme amplified the voice of farm and gardens to the wider world, facilitated dovetailing rather than competing, and was proud to pay members for training delivery and facilities hire.

Funding from both **Populo Living** and **London Legacy Development Corporation** saw SF&G work closely with East End London communities to successfully engage Londoners young and old in the sector. We also installed a new Stick Man Trail in Newham.

SF&G also seconded the London Manager part-time to **Kentish Town City Farm** to bridge a summer-long gap between Directors at the farm.

Resilient Green Spaces: funded by the Welsh Government, a £1.30m partnership project led by Social Farms and Gardens to pilot alternative re-localised food systems using communities and their green spaces as the driving force for change across Wales until June 2023. Projects include: A national allotment development team, Innovative food hubs, community orchards, Greener corridors and spaces in Gwynedd, exploring community access to farms and land, building horticultural future farming skills.

Hilden Trust: funded summer play activities at member sites across the UK.

Edible Cardiff: funded by the National Lottery, supporting networking between community growing sites across Wales, development of resource and skills sharing, and advocating on behalf of the network to get more land in Cardiff into use for growing until September 2024.

Procurement Food Hubs: funded through Welsh Government and the European Community Rural Development Fund. The Food Hubs project has supported two community food hubs to upskill and to become accredited to supply the local authorities, health boards and care setting in several communities in Wales.

Carmarthenshire Food System Development: a transformative initiative underway to help develop a thriving, sustainable, and inclusive local food system in Carmarthenshire. Through the Bwyd Sir Gar, the county's dynamic food partnership, the project aims to address a range of social, economic, and environmental challenges.

In collaboration with key delivery partners Hywel Dda University Health Board, Food Sense Wales, Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services and Social Farms and Gardens, Carmarthenshire County Council leads the project to enhance the local food economy, promote health and wellbeing, and contribute to nature recovery and climate resilience, There are three strands of project delivery that include; Connected Communities and Community Access to Healthy Food, Strategic Land Management for Public Goods and Building a Good Food Movement.

Building on its existing work, Bwyd Sir Gâr Food's Food System Development Project aims to improve the local food system for current and future generations.

DTA Assured Growing we have been funded by DTA Wales to create support and guidance around food procurement for our sector and we have been working with a number of partners on this during the year.

Camau Gwyrdd Sustainable Steps: a three-year project to help people in Wales take their first steps towards climate action. We aim to inspire and empower communities across Wales to take action and live in a more sustainable way. We don't claim to have all the answers and solutions, but we're aiming to help to tick as many of those Earth-friendly boxes as possible!

Our aim is to connect 'champion' groups, who are established organisations within the Social Farms and Gardens membership circle - with groups and communities who are working towards creating their pathway towards a sustainable and regenerative future.

Many of us experience feelings of powerlessness when faced with the threats of climate change. Likewise, groups may be climate conscious but may be unsure on where to start on their eco journey. We aim to facilitate relationships that will pave the way for grassroots, community based green action to mitigate and tackle climate change.

Future Farms: an SF&G in Wales led partnership pilot project, focussed on a Powys site. The partnership shares a vision for more agroecological horticultural enterprises across Wales, helping to meet the fruit and veg needs of our citizens and supporting a flourishing rural economy. The partnership includes: Our Food 1200, Powys County Council, Shared Assets, Ecological Land Cooperative, Gwlad Consortium, Landworkers Alliance, Cultivate and the Powys Sustainable Food Partnerships, Lantra Wales, Nature Friendly Farming Network, Black Mountains College. With Welsh Government Backing Local Firms Funding, the partnership supported Powys County Council to develop planning guidance to support and assist small-scale horticultural enterprises in the preparation of a planning application for a Rural Enterprise Dwelling (permanent or temporary).

The continuing Shared Prosperity funding runs until December 2024 to take on a new growing site in Powys, submitting a planning application to put three temporary dwellings and horticultural enterprises on a Powys farm holding.

Tofu Powys: Shared Prosperity funding to work with community growing sites in Powys to support local people to grow, be active, healthy and learn new skills. We recruited for a Tyfu Powys Development Worker at the end of 2023. Tyfu Powys runs a series of support strands for community growing organisations, including small capital grants, bespoke development support, orchard and mapping training until December 2024.

GreenME: a Horizon Europe project, aiming to identify ways in which effective nature-based therapy and a broader green care framework can be scaled-up to improve adult mental health and wellbeing equity while contributing to multiple socio-ecological co-benefits. GreenME covers three scales: nature-in-everyday-life (the existence of green and blue infrastructure for viewing and walks), nature-based health promotion (the promotion of active interaction with nature, such as gardening and conservation) and nature-based therapy (the provision of treatment for individual patients. The project comprises 21 partner organisations from across Europe and the US and will run until 2027.

European Social Fund: Learning Bubbles – This European Erasmus Plus project investigated potential collaborations between schools, community gardens and the digital world, with SF&G sharing insights into utilising the unique educational setting of community gardens and city farms can provide.

Hello Fresh – SF&G partnered with meal delivery company HelloFresh to support SF&G members in London, Edinburgh, Sheffield and Birmingham to run activities that help educate consumers about food and encourage more sustainable habits. Small grants were awarded to member organisations.

Seedbed Trust: Gardens of Sanctuary - funding to enable community gardens to support refugees and asylum seekers.

City Bridge Trust: Gardens & Farms for a Sustainable Future - a two-year project extension to develop skills and resilience in city farms and community gardens across London. City Bridge Trust also gave a Covid grant to bridge the service.

Green Grants Nottingham – Funded by Nottingham Community and Voluntary Service to promote green prescribing in the city.

Innovate: FEW-Meter - a European-funded project working with community gardens and city farms to measure their use of resources.

Urban Agriculture Consortium - a grant to explore opportunities in urban agriculture in Scotland.

Food Sense Wales – Funding to promote a healthy food system in Wales, good for people and planet.

National Nature Services in Wales - A short research contract administered by WCVA to build the case to create better access to employment and enterprise opportunities in nature friendly farming through community-led growing, as part of the envisaged Nature Service for Wales.

Belfast City Council – Funding to undertake engagement with key stakeholders and propose a framework and action plan which will allow for renewal of the Bronze Sustainable Food Place.

Campaign Grant Sustain - A grant to support SF&G work on producing the Benchmark Standard Reporting, demonstrating and promoting the results of the research to progress implementation.

National Lottery Cost of Living Crisis - A grant to alleviate the cost of living for staff and member groups in N. Ireland. Member groups to be offered the opportunity to organise nutritious community meals for those in need.

Acorn Farm – Community Foundation NI - To make the critical links between the Acorn Farm flagship food growing project in Derry/Londonderry with Community Growing Groups in the area.

Manchester Green Alliance - funds held for work in Manchester.

RESTRICTED FUNDS - PREVIOUS YEAR

	Balance 1 April 2022 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Balance Transfers £	Balance 31 March 2023 £
Restricted funds					
UK-wide					
Hilden Trust	-	40,000	(40,000)	-	-
European Social Fund: Gardeniser Hub	2,400	75,979	(78,379)	-	-
European Social Fund: Gardeniser Plus	4,247		(4,807)	560	-
European Social Fund: Learning Bubbles Hello Fresh	821	18,378	(13,473)	-	5,727
	-	16,445	(15,366)	-	1,079
Seedbed Trust: Gardens of Sanctuary	3,881	-	(2,852)	-	1,029
England					
City Bridge Trust	10,719	32,541	(49,319)	6,059	-
Green Grants (Nottingham)	4,130	2,240	(3,961)	-	2,409
Innovate: FEW-Meter	754	-	-	-	754
Carpenters Estate (Populo)		38,843	(38,920)	77	
London LDC	-	9,782	(3,708)	-	6,074
Scotland					
Scottish Govt: Food & Drink	4,327	38,000	(33,574)	-	8,753
Urban Agriculture Consortium	2,500	-	-	-	2,500
Scottish Community Alliance	1,500	-	-	-	1,500
Wales					
Welsh Government: Resilient Green Spaces	2,887	541,852	(544,739)	-	-
Welsh Government: Food Hubs	-	267,965	(267,965)	-	-
Welsh Government: Community Land Advisory Service	-	98,262	(98,262)	-	-
Controlled Environment Agriculture	71,730		71,730	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund: Edible Cardiff	15,728	39,467	(17,890)	-	37,305
Food Sense: Food Poverty Cardiff	38,508		(35,500)	-	3,008
Food Sense	5,000		(625)	-	4,375
Sustainable Food Places Carmarthen		4,128	(1,780)	-	2,348
National Nature Services in Wales		5,000	(3,775)	-	1,225
Northern Ireland					
National Lottery Community Fund: Digging Deeper	1,090	102,321	(103,411)	-	-
Community Foundation – Cross Border Co-operation	1,522	-	(1,863)	341	-
Belfast City Council	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Necessity (SHED): Seed Swap	7,362	-	(7,362)	-	-
Campaign Grant Sustain	-	3,940	(3,940)	-	-

Social Farms and Gardens

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

NI Lottery Cost of Living	-	9,989	(5,277)	-	4,712
Donaghadee CDA	-	4,000	(4,000)	-	-
Green Future Association	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Acorn Farm – Community Foundation	-	7,475	(1,028)	-	6,447
Managed projects					
Manchester Green Alliance	516	-	-	-	516
Total restricted funds	179,622	1,368,607	(1,465,504)	(7,037)	89,762

14. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS - GROUP

	Balance 1st April 2023 £	Incoming Re- sources £	Outgoing Re- sources £	Balance Transfers £	Balance 31st March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Organisational develop- ment	49,737	-	-	-	49,737
Quality Mark development	14,486	6,510	(13,889)	-	7,107
School Farms Network	4,701	2,210	(6,911)	-	-
England	1,000	1,650	(2,650)	-	-
Wales	31,055	45,633	(70,602)	-	6,086
Scotland	4,136	-	(4,136)	-	-
Northern Ireland	12,120	500	(1,862)	-	10,758
Equipment Fund	9,717	-	(2,915)	-	6,802
Leasehold Property Fund	145,409	10,500	(145,409)	(10,500)	-
Leasehold Land Fund	8,000	-	(8,000)	-	-
	280,361	67,003	(256,374)	(10,500)	80,490
General funds	64,902	10,706	(20,095)	15,208	70,721
Total unrestricted funds	345,263	77,709	(276,469)	4,708	151,211

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Organisational development: income designated by the Trustees to support the development of the organisation.

Quality Mark development: income designated for the charity to obtain the Quality Mark.

Wales: income designated to continue delivery of key project work.

Scotland: generated income designated to continue delivery of specific work.

Northern Ireland: generated income designated to continue delivery of key work areas.

Equipment Fund: this balance reflects the net book value of laptops used by the staff.

Leasehold Property Fund and Land Fund: these balances reflect the net book value of these items.

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS - GROUP PREVIOUS YEAR

	Balance 1st April 2022 £	Incoming Re- sources £	Outgoing Re- sources £	Balance Transfers £	Balance 31st March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Organisational develop- ment	59,442	2,550	(6,562)	(5,693)	49,737
Quality Mark development	14,000	5,221	(4,735)	-	14,486
School Farms Network		5,300	(599)		4,701
England	5,290	3,875	(7,162)	(1,003)	1,000
Wales	17,132	34,883	(20,960)	-	31,055
Scotland	3,636	500	-	-	4,136
Northern Ireland	14,479	4,960	6,978	(341)	12,120
Equipment Fund	13,882	-	(4,165)	-	9,717
Leasehold Property Fund	148,438	-	(3,029)	-	145,409
Leasehold Land Fund	8,250	-	(250)	-	8,000
	284,549	57,288	(54,439)	(7,037)	280,361
General funds	110,614	39,034	(84,745)		64,902
Total unrestricted funds	395,163	96,324	(139,186)	(7,037)	345,263

15. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS – GROUP

	General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	6,802	-	6,802
Current assets	193,519	73,688	63,943	331,150
Current liabilities	(122,797)	-	-	(122,797)
Net assets at 31st March 2024	70,722	80,490	63,943	215,155

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS - CHARITY

	General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	6,802	-	6,802
Current assets	193,519	73,688	63,943	331,150
Current liabilities	(122,797)	-	-	(122,797)
Net assets at 31st March 2024	70,722	80,490	63,943	215,155

17. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

On the 17th of December 2024 the charity's whole-owned subsidiary, Cultivating Communities, a community interest company registered in England and Wales, was struck off as all its activities could be run directly through the charity. Net assets of CIC as of the date of strike-off were nil.

In September 2024 the charity obtained a £60,000 loan from Robert Owen Community Banking. The loan is unsecured and payable within 12 months. Interest are accrued at 6% per annum.

18. AUDITORS REMUNERATION

The auditors' remuneration is as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Auditors remuneration	7,600	13,080
Other services	4,895	2,000

19. SUBSIDIARY COMPANY

As of 31 March 2024 Social Farms and Gardens still owned the whole of the issued share capital of Cultivating Communities, a community interest company registered in England and Wales (company number 07292005), which provides consultancy services.

All activities have been consolidated on a line-by-line basis in the Statement of Financial Activities. The taxable profit is gifted to Social Farms and Gardens. A summary of the results of the subsidiary is shown on the following page.

The Board agreed to strike off the CIC on the 17th of December 2024, as all activities could be run directly through the charity.

Cultivating Communities CIC

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£
Administrative expenses		
Rent, rates, office costs	-	22
Accountancy	(1,112)	1,140
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	(1,112)	1,162
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds was:		
Assets	-	220
Liabilities	-	(1,330)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Funds	-	(1,110)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

20. RELATED PARTIES

The company was the ultimate controlling party of its subsidiary Cultivating Communities, a community interest company limited by guarantee, which forms the trading arm for the charity. One of the charity's Trustees served on the Board of Directors of the trading company.

During this period Social Farms and Gardens awarded an Orchards' lease hire equipment contract to Sarah Collick, one of its staff members as part of Resilient Green Spaces' activity. The contract of the value of equipment of £18,750 and management fee of £6,050 was awarded to Sarah Collick in her freelancing capacity because SF&G struggled to find a provider for a similar service after having advertised for tenders for the contract.

Sarah Collick was awarded the contract after deliberation of a panel that carefully analyse all tenders received for best ration of quality/ price.

In summary, the conflict of interest has been carefully considered and mitigated by excluding Sarah from any conversation regarding the equipment lease hire following the submission of her tender. The costs proposed are reasonable and not inflated.

21. COMPARATIVE SOFA

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total funds 2023 £
INCOME			
<i>Income from voluntary income:</i>			
Donations	4,950	-	4,950
<i>Income from charitable activities:</i>			
Grants and contracts	40,325	1,368,607	1,408,932
Hire of facilities	8,537	-	8,537
Fees earned	18,354	-	18,354
Training and conferences	20,582	-	20,582
Miscellaneous income	3,575	-	3,575
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL INCOME	96,323	1,368,607	1,464,930
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
EXPENDITURE			
Costs of raising funds	180	-	180
Charitable activities	139,006	1,465,504	1,604,511
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	139,185	1,465,506	1,604,691
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net income/(expenditure)	(42,863)	(96,897)	(139,761)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>