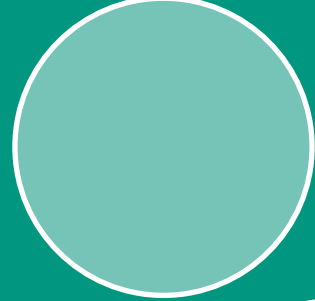


# Fife Coast and Countryside Trust

## Annual Report

for year ending 31st March 2025





*The Fife Coast and Countryside Trust is an independent charity working with partners for a healthy environment that supports wellbeing and sustains the balance between people and nature.*

*Spread across more than 70 sites, FCCT maintains the Fife Coastal Path, Fife Pilgrim Way, the Lomond Hills Regional Park, local nature reserves, and award-winning beaches. The organisation has its headquarters at Harbourmaster's House in Dysart.*

### *Mission Statement*

*Connecting Environment and People*

### *Vision*

*We lead in the care of Fife's outdoors. Working together with you, we create a healthier environment that supports wellbeing and sustains the balance between people and the natural world.*

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## A Message from Stephen Carter, Chair of the Board

It has once again been a privilege to serve as Chair of Fife Coast and Countryside Trust, and it is not without sadness that I step aside as my term as a Board member ends, making this my final Annual Report contribution.

This past year has seen a vast amount of work progress as we've continued to understand just how important our natural environment is to the health, happiness, and wellbeing of the people of Fife and beyond.

The Trust's work – whether it's caring for paths and coastlines, supporting biodiversity, or helping people connect with nature – relies on the dedication of a remarkable team. I'm continually impressed by the energy, knowledge, and good humour they bring to every challenge. It's been a pleasure to work alongside them, and to see the difference they make day in and day out.

We've also strengthened our partnerships with Fife Council and other key stakeholders. The support and trust placed in us have helped ensure the sustainability of our work, even in the face of continuing economic pressures and climate-related demands. I am particularly proud of the way the Board has worked together, drawing on a range of experience to support good governance and long-term thinking.

As always, people remain at the heart of what we do – from our staff and volunteers to the many individuals, families, and communities who enjoy and care for Fife's great outdoors. This report gives just a snapshot of the progress we've made, but I hope it also reflects the spirit with which we go about our work.

I have been so proud to work alongside the capable staff of FCCT and my deeply thoughtful colleagues on the Board these past years. I take this opportunity to thank them for their endeavours under my chairmanship. I would also like to add my personal thanks to Jeremy Harris, our CEO, for his dedication, motivation, and vision for the organisation.

We trust you will find the report both informative and enjoyable. As ever I hope to enjoy many a chat with anyone out and about in Fife throughout the year ahead. While my formal duties have drawn to a close, I remain dedicated to what FCCT is seeking to achieve for Fife and look forward to continuing to enjoy the fruits of this excellent organisation's labour.

Stephen Carter, OBE  
Chairman  
26th August, 2025

## A Message from the CEO

This year's report captures not only the breadth of our work, but the values and commitment that continue to drive it forward. From facilities management and path maintenance to education, access, and community engagement, our team has delivered with professionalism, care, and an unwavering sense of purpose.

A major undertaking this year has been the revision of our strategic plan that will guide us over the coming years. Built through ongoing dialogue with our Board and staff, and taking account of our many partners and stakeholders, it sets a clear course for FCCT – anchored in our charitable mission and responsive to the growing role that nature plays in public wellbeing, climate adaptation, and community resilience. It outlines some bold and necessary steps that will guide how we prioritise, invest, and collaborate.

We've also made tangible progress in modernising our operations. Time invested in building systems, training, and planning has strengthened our capacity to respond flexibly to change and to manage our sites and assets in a way that reflects both environmental and financial sustainability. Our focus on environment and people – within the organisation and across the communities we serve – remains central to our ethos.

We are operating in challenging times: rising costs, shifting expectations, and the accelerating effects of climate change and the loss of nature, all bring pressure. But they also bring purpose. We have an opportunity – and a responsibility – to lead with integrity, to work collaboratively, and to ensure that Fife's outstanding outdoor spaces continue to benefit everyone, now and for generations to come.

What makes all of this possible is the collective effort of a passionate and talented team, our Board's guidance and support, and the enduring trust placed in us by Fife Council and other valued partners. We remain deeply grateful for that support.

It would be remiss of me not to take this opportunity to explicitly thank our outgoing Chair Stephen Carter. Stephen's contribution to FCCT over many years has been exemplary and his steady leadership of our Board meetings, and his wise and thoughtful counsel to me individually, will be something I miss as our regularly scheduled times together draw to a close. Stephen will be succeeded by Jill Miller OBE. Jill has been on FCCT's Board since 2017 and has served for much of that time as Vice-Chair. She assumed the role of Chair following a call for nominations that culminated in a unanimous show of support at the Board Meeting in March 2025.

Looking ahead, I'm confident in our direction and energised by what we can achieve together. We are not standing still. We are building something lasting: an organisation that is agile, inclusive, and ambitious about the role it plays in shaping a better future for people and planet alike.

Thank you for taking the time to explore this report. I hope it offers not only insight into our work, but a sense of the ambition and integrity that shape our future.



Jeremy Harris  
CEO

# Governance

## Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) Year Ended 2025 Organisational Structure

Fife Coast and Countryside Trust balances the delivery of high-quality countryside services and outdoor recreation with preserving the natural environment and beautiful landscapes found in Fife. Despite a scarcity of funding, FCCT delivers multiple services, maintains many sites, and manages projects across all of Fife. Diversifying our revenue streams continues to underpin our strategy and approach despite our fundamental belief that the countryside should be free for everyone to access. We have dual accountability to Companies House and the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) and are governed by a Board of Directors. This accountability necessitates and underlines the need for strong governance throughout FCCT. Each Committee meets quarterly as does the full Board. The Chief Executive Officer, Chair, and Vice Chair are in regular contact between Board and Committee meetings. The Board of Directors is the governing authority of FCCT and takes ultimate responsibility for the Trust's adherence to sound and ethical practices and standards. The Board oversees a simple and transparent corporate Vision and Mission that underpins a Strategy ensuring that all business decisions and judgements are made with reasonable care, skill and diligence and are solely driven by business needs. The Board of Directors receive no remuneration from FCCT for their involvement and give of their time and effort voluntarily.

For the year ending 31st March 2025, The Board of Directors was made up of the following members:

Mr S Carter OBE (Chair, Chair of HR & Remuneration Committee) (Until 21st March 2025)

Ms J Miller OBE (Vice Chair) (Chair from 21st March 2025)

Ms S Roberts (Vice Chair, Chair of Communications & Fundraising Committee)

Ms R McInroy

Mr P Teale

Ms C Warburton

Cllr J Leslie (Fife Council Member)

Cllr F Corps (Fife Council Member)

Cllr C Davidson (Fife Council Member)

Cllr B Goodall (Fife Council Member)

Ms Sheila Boardman (Treasurer, Chair of Audit and Finance Committee)

Ms Sarah Lonie

Mr Neil McCormick

The day-to-day management of FCCT is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, Mr Jeremy Harris, who is not a Director or Trustee of the charity and who is supported by a Senior Management Team. Three Committees are established by the Board to support both the work and governance of FCCT. In accordance with the Articles of Association, all Committees comprise a minimum of two Board members and are supported as required by external retained financial, legal and HR services.





The Audit & Finance Committee is responsible for reviewing and providing guidance on FCCT's financial matters. Specifically, the Committee oversees internal controls, independent audit, and financial analysis for the organisation including:

- To monitor the integrity of the financial statements;
- To review FCCT's internal controls, internal audit, compliance, and risk management systems;
- To receive and discuss the external auditor's report including any issues and recommendations; and
- To review and monitor the external auditor's independence and objectivity and the effectiveness of the audit process, while taking into consideration all relevant professional and regulatory requirements.

The HR & Remuneration Committee provides oversight and support while monitoring the implementation of FCCT's Human Resources framework reporting to the Board any matters it considers where action or improvement is needed. This Committee has the following specific tasks and responsibilities:

- To assist the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities regarding the oversight of human resources and remunerations issues;
- To ensure that the HR & Remuneration arrangements support the strategic aims of the FCCT; and
- To enable the recruitment, motivation and retention of staff while complying with the requirements of legislative and governing bodies.

The Communication & Fundraising Committee provides strategic guidance in support of the visibility of the Trust and considers matters related to funding and fundraising. In particular, the Committee:

- Supports external communications including website, social media, newsletters, publications, press and traditional media;
- Identifies and supports areas of strategic focus (whether geographic or demographic) for FCCT's community engagement activities;
- Provides any necessary oversight of internal communications including technologies and methods of internal communication and associated FCCT policies (including telephone and IT), reporting and record keeping, and matters relating to confidentiality and data protection;
- Provides oversight of risk management particularly as this pertains to reputational risk;
- Supports and provides input to fundraising activities including the identification and review of opportunities, the setting of targets, and tracking of progress against such targets;
- And considers the development of revenue generating activities and projects as is appropriate.

## Board Members

Induction, support, and learning underpin the work of our Board and Committees. These ensure that members have all the information they need to fulfil their roles. This also creates a more level playing field for all members, ensuring that they can carry out their duties effectively. FCCT has a regularly reviewed handbook for new Directors, and the CEO and Chair of the Board meet with those who are considering joining the FCCT Board to provide further information. Specific training is made available to all Board Directors and further training and mentoring is made available to Directors as and when required. FCCT ensures that all Directors have a subscription to Governance & Leadership Magazine to support their awareness of available training, current practices, and any legislative changes.

Fife Council is the sole member of the Limited Company and as such retains the final authority on the appointment of Directors to the Board of FCCT. Recommendations for new appointments are submitted to Fife Council by a nominations committee.

## Objectives and Activities

The objectives of FCCT are wholly charitable. They are defined in the Articles of Association and are:

- To provide recreational facilities, and organise recreational activities, primarily within the local authority area of Fife Council (the Operating Area), with such facilities/activities being made available to members of the public at large with the object of improving their conditions of life, including (without prejudice to that generality) promoting and improving access to the countryside within the Operating Area, and through providing, developing, and improving the facilities which support access to the countryside and the wildlife within the Operating Area;
- To advance education, primarily within the Operating Area, including through encouraging public access to the countryside, and its wildlife, which shall include the provision of interpretative centres, signage, and other methods of conveying information;
- To advance environmental protection and/or improvement through the conservation, preservation and general improvement of the countryside and the landscape within the Operating Area and through securing the sustainable use, management and enjoyment of the countryside and the landscape within the Operating Area;
- To advance heritage and/or culture within the Operating Area;
- To advance citizenship and/or community development, within the Operating Area;
- To promote, establish, operate, and/or support other similar schemes and projects which further charitable purposes. Under the Articles of Association, FCCT has the power to invest any funds which are not immediately required for the Trust's activities in such investments as may be considered appropriate.

## Risk Statement

FCCT takes a dynamic approach to managing risks associated with our operations and activities. Risks are reported to, or identified by, the Board and Senior Management Team and captured in a Master Risk Matrix. The matrix supports the identification of appropriate mitigations, categorisation and weighting of risks enabling reporting at the appropriate level and specialism i.e., to the relevant Committee, or to the full Board. Regular snapshots are taken, facilitating risk and trend tracking on an individual and themed basis enabling this tool to be used as an aid to strategic decision making as well as prevention of actuation of identified risks. The Master Risk Matrix is reviewed regularly and the methodology behind it is reviewed in alignment with our policy review schedule to ensure the identification of improvement where possible.





# Financial Review

## Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each 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, for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable 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 business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and 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.

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 other irregularities.

## Auditor Statement as to Disclose to our Auditors

Each of the persons who is a Director at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- So far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware;
- They have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a director to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information; and
- The auditor is deemed to have been re-appointed in accordance with section 487 of the Companies Act 2006.

## Small Company Provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies' exemption. The Trustees' annual report (incorporating the Directors' report) was approved on 26th August 2025 and signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees by:



Stephen Carter, OBE  
Chairman

# Independent Auditor's Report

## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Fife Coast and Countryside Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position, statement of cash flows and the related notes, 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 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 charity's affairs as at 31 March 2025 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 charity 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

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The trustees' 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 charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' 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) requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

## Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors 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 charity'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 charity 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 the Acts and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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.

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:

Based on our understanding of the charity and industry, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to breaches of UK regulations and prohibited business practices, and we considered that the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to the potential posting of inappropriate journal entries to manipulate financial results and management bias in accounting estimates.

Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance including the Board.
- Evaluation and testing of the operating effectiveness of management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities.
- Identifying and testing journal entries based on risk criteria.
- Designing audit procedures to incorporate unpredictability around the nature, timing or extent of our testing.
- Testing transactions entered into outside of normal course of business.
- Investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.
- Reviewed accounting estimates for evidence of bias.
- Performed analytical review and sample testing of income.
- Agreed financial statement disclosures to supporting documentation.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the 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 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity 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.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.



Craig Wallace B.Acc. (Hons) F.C.C.A. (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of PB Audit Limited  
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor  
18 North Street, Glenrothes, Fife, KY7 5NA

PB Audit Limited is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

# Statement of Financial Activities

## (including income and expenditure account)

### Year Ended 31 March 2025

				2025	2024
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
Note		£	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments</b>					
Donations and legacies	5	3,949	15,920	19,869	27,530
Charitable activities	6	842	3,242,622	3,243,464	2,761,358
Other trading activities	7	3,435	71,597	75,032	75,940
Investment income	8	98,526	13	98,539	95,830
Other income	9	–	6,021	6,021	3,845
<b>Total Income</b>		106,752	3,336,173	3,442,925	2,964,503
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	10	–	28,945	28,945	33,268
Cost of other trading activities	11	–	2,808	2,808	3,035
Investment management costs	12	4,948	–	4,948	4,693
Expenditure on charitable activities	13,14	22,798	3,518,492	3,541,290	2,731,787
Other expenditure	16	–	953	953	5,370
<b>Total expenditure</b>		27,746	3,551,198	3,578,944	2,778,153
<b>Net expenditure</b>		79,006	(215,025)	(136,019)	186,350
Transfers between funds		(60,402)	60,402	–	–
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes		(61,000)	–	(61,000)	(91,000)
Gains/(loss) on investment assets		(13,542)	–	(13,542)	7,183
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(55,938)	(154,623)	(210,561)	102,533
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		888,120	565,626	1,453,746	1,351,213
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		832,182	411,003	1,243,185	1,453,746

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.  
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.





## Statement of Financial Position 31 March 2025

		2025	2025	2024
	Note	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	21		150,377	178,264
Investments	22		547,722	560,909
			<u>698,099</u>	<u>739,173</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Stocks	23	7,569		6,282
Debtors	24	713,723		462,888
Cash at bank and in hand		459,837		681,785
		<u>1,181,129</u>		<u>1,150,955</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	25	<u>636,043</u>		<u>436,382</u>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>			<u>545,086</u>	<u>714,573</u>
<b>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities</b>			<u>1,243,185</u>	<u>1,453,746</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>			<u>1,243,185</u>	<u>1,453,746</u>
Restricted funds			411,003	565,626
Unrestricted funds:				
Other unrestricted income funds		832,182		888,120
		<u>832,182</u>		<u>888,120</u>
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>				888,120
<b>Total charity funds</b>	27		<u>1,243,185</u>	<u>1,453,746</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue 26th August 2025, and are signed off on behalf of the board by:



S Carter, OBE  
Chairman



# Fife Coast and Countryside Trust

## Who we are and what we do.....

FCCT is an organisation of around 60 people committed to our mission of connecting people with the wonderful natural environment that is to be found in the Kingdom of Fife.

The organisation is loosely comprised of four parts, each with closely related but distinct functions. Most visible to those out and about in Fife are our Operations Department and our Conservation and Community Engagement Departments.

Our Support Services Department underpins all FCCT's activity, delivering essential back-office functions and driving the organisation's processes and communications.

Finally, FCCT recognises the importance of continually exploring new opportunities and seeking innovative solutions to achieving our mission. This is the work of our small Development Department who feed the rest of FCCT with funding and partnerships that are rich in resources beyond the financial.

Our Development Department also manages projects that sit outside of the remit of other parts of FCCT, all the while considering how best to embed sustainability in all areas of our work.

The organisation is well represented by the illustration of a tree. The image captures how FCCT operates with distinct parts each serving to benefit the whole. It also demonstrates how the structure holds together, with the roots and trunk supporting the wide spreading canopy and the projects delivered there represented as fruit. Missing from the picture but of crucial importance, FCCT's strategic direction is guided by an attentive Board of Directors that diligently considers the founding articles, legislative context, and wider environment (including risk) to ensure that all the right ingredients exist for our tree to grow in healthy and sustainable directions.

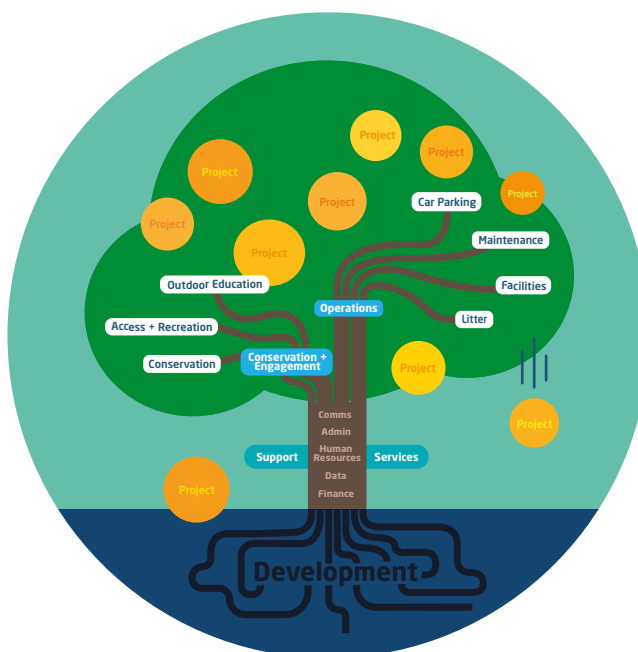
Each of FCCT's Departments operates to their own purpose derived from the approach they take to achieving FCCT's Mission and Vision. These are as follows:

### Conservation and Engagement

Nature has intrinsic value, and we recognise the benefits of spending time in outdoor spaces. We want to restore healthy ecosystems and believe that a closer connection between humans and nature supports our wellbeing. A deeper understanding of, and appreciation for, the natural world is key to our shared future.

### Development

We believe that supporting the transition to sustainable and regenerative systems that benefit nature, people, and the economy will allow us to tackle environmental and social crises at the local, regional and national levels. Through this work, we will be able to provide sustainable and resilient funding to FCCT whilst building in-house skills and capacity.



FCCT Organisational Structure

## Operations

We believe that the effective delivery of all practical aspects of site management is fundamental to supporting responsible access. We know that well-managed and maintained sites offer social, environmental, and economic benefits that promote the connection between the environment and people.

## Support Services

Support Services makes the work of all at FCCT as effective and fulfilling as possible while pursuing the highest standards in all the functions for which we are responsible. We strive to fully support all who wish to join us in achieving our mission. By implementing well-designed processes, we will remove barriers to achieving our goals and ensure that all FCCT's activity is founded on the best available information.

Through these four departments, FCCT achieves a huge amount across a wide set of priorities and work areas.

This includes:

- A litter maintenance service 7 days per week, 52 weeks of the year across more than 70 sites.
- Management of 13 of Scotland's Beach Award winning beaches.
- Management of 17 award-winning toilet blocks across Fife.
- Regular maintenance and management at more than 70 sites and many miles of path including the Fife Coastal Path and the Fife Pilgrim Way. Making use of in-house skills that include grass cutting, pruning, tree work, path upgrades, countryside furniture installation, and an ongoing replacement programme of steps, signage, beach infrastructure, drainage, and much more.
- Implementing sustainable car park management at 15 car parks in coastal and inland countryside locations.
- Supporting sustainable access to Fife's landscapes while carefully balancing conservation priorities, supporting public engagement, and delivering a planned programme of education sessions.
- Developing and implementing site management plans for designated areas including Local Nature Reserves (LNR's), Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's), Special Protection Areas (SPA's), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC's), and wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention (RAMSAR's).
- Making use of in-house project management skills and experience to deliver projects of various kinds that align with our organisational purpose and take us closer to achieving our Mission and Vision.
- Working with NHS Fife to deliver grounds maintenance work at 38 NHS sites across Fife.
- Providing 75 parking bays for motorhomes to park overnight in coastal and countryside locations with an aspiration of providing 150 bays by 2028.
- Introducing recycling to over 50 of our countryside bins to lessen the waste that is sent to landfill from the sites we manage.
- Working in partnership with SEPA and Fife Council to deliver high impact, high integrity river restoration projects in Fife.
- In partnership with Fife Council, supporting leaders from different organisations and sectors through the Fife Transition Lab to consider how systemic change and collaboration might lead to innovative and regenerative practices in the region.

This work is greatly supported by an extensive volunteer network. So much of what we achieve would not be possible without our volunteers and they deserve a great deal of praise for the contribution they make to making Fife's outdoor places such an asset to those who live and visit here.





# FCCT Highlights

## Keep Scotland Beautiful Beach Awards

Fife once again boasts the most award-winning beaches in Scotland. A lucky number of 13 beaches on the Fringe of Gold will be flying the prestigious Scotland's Beach Award flag this summer.

Scotland's Beach Awards, from environmental charity Keep Scotland Beautiful, celebrate clean, well-managed and sustainable beaches. They've handed out 51 in total from Shetland to South Ayrshire.

FCCT CEO Jeremy Harris says: "It's a privilege to work with partners such as Keep Scotland Beautiful, Fife Council and the RNLI to ensure the Fringe of Gold tops the beach charts. These awards are testament to our dedicated team who deliver the high standards that locals and visitors expect."





## First Minister Visit

We were delighted to be among the project partners who welcomed First Minister John Swinney to the Kirkland Dam in Methil, during Scotland's Climate Week. His visit highlighted the project's importance and attracted significant public and media attention.

The visit in September 2024 coincided with the launch of the Scottish National Adaptation Plan 2024-2029 (SNAP3), which sets out a comprehensive suite of more than 200 actions and proposals for managing the current and future impacts of climate change in Scotland.

The First Minister met CEO Jeremy Harris and Head of Development Ed Heather-Hayes, to learn about the Restoring the River Leven Project.

Mr Swinney commented that it was 'quite remarkable' to see the river's transformation. Improvements are helping the river to function more naturally, all to the benefit of nature, people, and biodiversity.

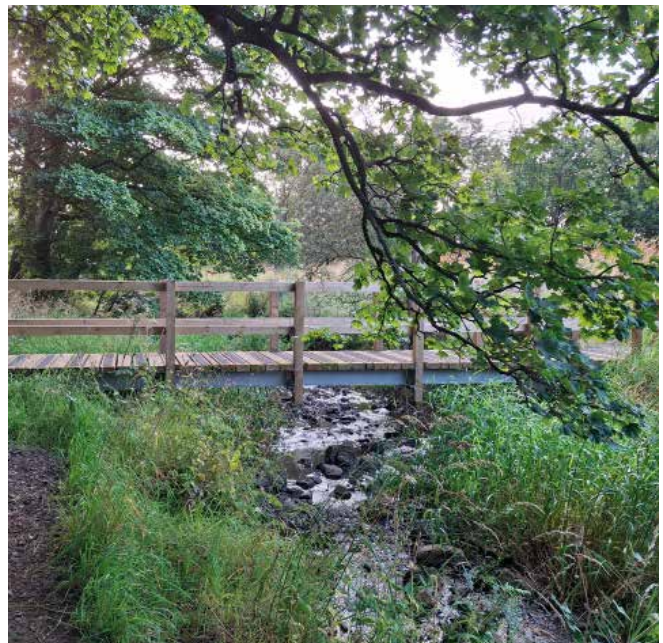
Later, at the Fife Renewables Innovation Centre, Leven, the First Minister met community groups from the wider Leven Programme which he described as 'very inspiring'. Among them were FCCT's Education Manager, Aidan Duncan, who, along with Annemarie Smith from NHS Fife Health Promotion team, briefed him on the Levenmouth Green Health Partnership. Essentially, this is about connecting people with the environment for the benefit of their health and wellbeing.

In his speech Mr Swinney highlighted their work, saying, "I am taken by the work of this natural health service. Like the NHS, it has a lot to contribute to our society too. All of us need to make sure we have a wonderful natural environment which is important to benefit our wellbeing."

## Building Bridges in the Community

The upgrading of the Upper and Lower Crawhill bridges near Anstruther is a very tangible way of demonstrating our mission of 'Connecting Environment and People'. Our Maintenance Team reinstated these important countryside links, laying the foundations, positioning the steel beams, and fitting timber treads and railings.

The old bridges had become severely weathered and unsafe, so it was really satisfying for our team to complete the project which is of great benefit to the community. Thanks to our partners at Anstruther, Cellardyke and Kilrenny Community Council.



## A Snapshot in Time - Fixed-point Photography Posts

Fife's coast is an extremely dynamic, constantly changing environment. Some of the storms over the 2023/24 period altered the shape of the coastline quite significantly; removing up to 10m of land in places, stripping sandy beaches back to the bedrock whilst simultaneously creating sandy beaches where previously there had been none. Naturally, this has impacted the Fife Coastal Path, requiring remedial action and forcing diversions to be put in place.

Some of our sites have seen an increase in visitor numbers, which also plays a part in altering the coast's shape. This is especially the case at some of the more popular beaches, where the sheer volume of visitors wearing away the grass has exposed the sandy soil beneath, which has then suffered from further erosion due to lack of vegetation cover.

The Access and Recreation Team are investigating ways to monitor and document coastal degradation and have installed several fixed-point photography posts at key locations. These consist of a simple post with a notch for a camera to sit in, which is directed at a particular vulnerable or exposed area. Our wardens take photographs at each of images taken throughout the year will allow changes to be tracked in a more comprehensive way. This will help with planning in both the short and long term.



Once the project has been tried and tested there are plans to develop it into a citizen science project, which will allow the public to develop an understanding of how the Fife coastline is impacted by climate change.



## Letter to a Tree

Individuals and school groups were encouraged to share their personal connection to trees by writing a letter to a tree. The letters could be a memory, a story or simply a heartfelt message - anything that expressed what trees meant to individuals.

Letter to a Tree is an immersive art project and a collaboration developed in partnership with Fife Climate Forest and the Atopon Collective, an artistic organisation that celebrates the natural world. Every Letter to a Tree is being collated into a book which will celebrate Fife's trees and the people who cherish them. Profits from the book will fund further tree planting activities in Fife.



## Remembering Together Fife

In 2022, Greenspace Scotland was given Scottish Government funding to initiate and commission artists in every Scottish local authority to co-create something with communities to sensitively mark the pandemic. This Scotland-wide project is called Remembering Together.

Katie Fowlie, an artist, educator and forager from Fife, was commissioned to deliver Remembering Together in the Kingdom. The project was designed as a response to the Covid-19 pandemic and offered a wonderful opportunity to meet and co-create with communities while trying to process this period which touched and challenged each of us.

Community feedback identified how the people of Fife wanted the funding to be spent: a focus on investing in people, and promoting wellbeing and connection through creative, engaging workshops and events which celebrated Fife's landscape.

Working in partnership with Fife Coast and Countryside Trust, the project engaged with over 700 participants through a series of workshops. These workshops aimed to improve mental well-being, reduce feelings of isolation and diminished self-confidence, connect people with nature, and encourage positive habits and acts of kindness.

These skills were shared with community groups, volunteers and NHS staff, to enable them to be cascaded to a wider audience.

Starting in 2025 a collaboration with Green Action Trust (GAT) on the 'River Park Routes' project will see the planting of large areas of wildflower varieties to encourage biodiversity and mental and physical well-being through enhanced green spaces. The plants will bloom annually, serving as a living, gentle reminder of the pandemic and Remembering Together's positive impact.

Five hundred copies of the project's final art piece PROCESS were shared with schools, colleges, youth organisations, NHS Fife, libraries and community groups across Fife. PROCESS is a bespoke publication that binds images, thoughts and creations and is bound in a box that doubles as a camera obscura. A digital publication will be accessible online until 2030.





# River Restoration





## Rosyth River Restoration

Over the last year, FCCT has scaled up its programme of river restoration projects as part of our goal to deliver catchment-level restoration across the Kingdom. As part of this, FCCT is now supporting Fife Council to deliver a new river restoration project on the Whinny and Brankholm Burns in Rosyth. Rosyth is a priority location for river restoration due to the poor ecological quality of the burns. These were originally part of a floodplain but have been artificially straightened for agriculture and heavily culverted, as the Rosyth industrial and residential areas developed throughout the 20th century.

Today, the burns support limited habitat for native species, accumulate significant amounts of rubbish and suffer from the spread of invasive species. Flooding is increasingly affecting Rosyth as the impacts of climate change are manifested, and the significant modifications along the burns exacerbate this issue.

SEPA has provided funding through the Water Environment Fund (WEF) for a 6-month feasibility study which will assess the potential of the restoration project, including the opportunities for habitat improvement as well as co-benefits such as flood resilience and community wellbeing. Following the feasibility study, Fife Council will seek further funding for the design and construction phases of the project, with FCCT acting as project manager. The total project, from feasibility to final product, could take approximately five years. The long-term vision is to:

- Connect the river to the wider environment.
- Create a nature-based, multi-use space for the community.
- Deliver significant ecological improvements.
- Improve the catchment's resilience to climate change.
- Enhance the 'Garden City' character of Rosyth.
- Promote Rosyth as a great place to live and visit.
- Improve mental and physical health and wellbeing benefits for the community.
- Enable the community to be involved with the restoration of their local

## The Dreel Burn

The Dreel Burn is the East Neuk's principal stream. It is 11.8km long and is tidal at its lowest reaches, alongside Dreel Halls in Anstruther. It carries water from the watershed out to the Forth Estuary: to its beaches, and shellfish and fishing grounds.

Anstruther Improvements Association (AIA) instigated the Dreel Burn project in collaboration with community representatives in Autumn 2022. The project identified the need for community action to address the decline in the natural environment and people's connection with it.

In 2023 the AIA and FCCT proposed the Dreel Burn catchment as the place-based test-case for the Facility for Investment Ready Nature in Scotland (FIRNS) programme, to develop a solution to this landscape crisis.

FCCT have the mandate from the 18 landowners in the Dreel Burn, to both access the natural capital markets and create a shared resource to respond to the agricultural reform bill. From May 2025 the Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) requires every farmer in Scotland to show they have plans to ensure future agricultural activities are sustainable.

In 2025 we are launching Nature Finance Fife (NFF), a regional delivery vehicle for blending philanthropic, public, and private finances to benefit nature and people. It comprises a natural capital producers farming co-operative, trusted project developer and environment bank.

Our goal is to deliver the first purchase of a stacked Ecosystem Restoration Code credit on the Dreel Burn. This Code exists to ensure the required high-integrity governance, measurement, reporting, and verification to help channel responsible private investment into projects that enhance ecosystems' structure, function and resilience. At the Dreel Burn this would include enabling carbon insets (implementing nature-based solutions) in a 5,000-hectare catchment of predominantly arable land and organic meat producers.

NFF is a recognised delivery programme within Fife Council's Climate Strategy, incubated by FCCT. We believe that supporting transition to regenerative systems that benefit nature, people, and the economy, will allow us to tackle local and regional environmental and social crises.



## River Leven Restoration Project

The Restoring the River Leven Project set out to revitalise a 2.5 mile stretch of the River Leven, from Cameron Bridge to Leven, to benefit both local communities and biodiversity. A key focus was to improve fish passage at the former Burn Mill and Kirkland Dams, enabling vital upstream and downstream migration for spawning species.

Beyond ecological restoration, the project also delivered broader benefits including improved blue-green space, enhanced access and amenity, health and wellbeing outcomes, natural flood management, and climate resilience. These outcomes have developed through the close collaboration with aligned initiatives including the Levenmouth Connectivity Project and The River Park Project – all part of the wider Leven Programme.

From July to October 2024, works included the construction of a 'nature-like' rock ramp at Kirkland Dam to aid fish passage and stabilise the riverbanks. At Burn Mill Dam, full removal of the structure restored the river's natural flow and created new floodplain habitats. Six wetland scrapes were created and over 4,000 native plants were planted to help boost local biodiversity.

Additional measures included riverbank rewilding, large wood and island habitat installations, and the removal of outdated infrastructure, all contributing to a healthier, more resilient river system.

FCCT were delighted to project manage this ambitious river restoration effort, funded by SEPA Water Environment Fund. Working closely with project partners Fife Council and SEPA, and our excellent contractors cbec eco-engineering, RSK Environment Ltd and McGowan Environmental, we are proud to have successfully achieved our objectives and vision for the River Leven's restoration. And all delivered on-time and on budget.

### Project Highlights

- The major construction elements were completed on time between July and October 2024 with uninterrupted public access.
- This project stands as a testament to the power of partnership collaboration in delivering transformative environmental improvements for local people and wildlife alike.
- The project was live-streamed by Dam Removal Europe at Burn Mill Dam in July.
- First Minister John Swinney launched the Scottish National Adaptation Plan at the Kirkland site in September.
- Increased upstream movement of sea trout indicates improved connectivity and habitat.



Burn Mill before



Burn Mill after



Kirkland Dam before



Kirkland Dam after





## Back Burn Restoration Project

Building on the River Leven restoration success, the Back Burn Restoration Project aims to return 5.8 km of the burn (also known locally as Conland, Coul and Balbirnie Burn) - from Rhind Hill in the Lomond Hills to Newton, north of Markinch - to a more natural and climate-resilient state. The project vision is to restore the watercourse while creating new opportunities for local people to enjoy and connect with their environment.

Restoration will bring a range of benefits, including enhanced biodiversity and habitats, natural flood management, improved resilience to climate change, and improved green spaces within an urban setting. Currently in the final design phase, construction is scheduled to begin in Summer 2025.

Key restoration works will focus around Coul Den and Balbirnie Park, with additional enhancements taking place along the burn. Activities at Coul Den, which is managed by Fife Coast and Countryside Trust, include re-establishing the original watercourse, removing artificial structures, creating step-pools, and building new bridge and boardwalk crossings to support both habitat and flood management. At Balbirnie Park, works will include weir removal, habitat enhancements, creating step-pools and eco-friendly bank stabilisation.

We are delighted to collaborate once again with cbec eco-engineering, who have been appointed to lead the technical design work, bringing valuable expertise and experience from the River Leven restoration project. Planning, permissions, and construction contractor procurement are all progressing and construction works will take place between June and October 2025, with minor works being carried out by the FCCT team to develop in-house skills in river restoration.

Community engagement is a core part of the project. We are exploring added-value opportunities such as planting, signage, conservation volunteering, and site-based activities to further enrich the space for people and wildlife.

### Timeline

- January - April 2025 - Finalise technical designs and secure planning and permissions.
- May 2025 - Tender process and appointment of construction contractor.
- June - October 2025 - Delivery and completion of major and minor restoration works.

# *Maintenance*



Three replacement bridges were installed  
at Birnie Loch



## Grounds Maintenance Team

This team is made up of 8 full-time members of staff. Its primary focus is the delivery of Fife Council's SLA (Service Level Agreement), but the team also undertakes additional project work when the opportunity arises to improve sites across Fife, sometimes supporting community groups to deliver projects.

## Litter Team

The Litter Squad is made up of 6 full-time members of staff, but this is supplemented by 3 seasonal members of staff, who join the team from April to October.

## Facilities Team

The Facilities Maintenance Team maintains the public toilets, which FCCT manage on behalf of Fife Council. The team is made up of 2 permanent posts and 3 seasonal posts. The provision of good quality public toilets is important to the visitor experience and is recognised by our continuing success in the Loo of the Year Awards.

## Parking Attendants

Our 3 Parking Attendants now manage 15 car parks across Fife with the Riverside Park, Glenrothes and Cellardyke Tidal Pool car parks being the latest to come under our management.

## Field Teams Manager

A Field Teams Manager has been recruited to support the growing remit of the Facilities Maintenance Team and the Parking Attendants.

Listed below are just a few of the projects delivered by the Operations Team over the last 12 months, demonstrating how we work to manage the many sites that come under our remit. Partnership working and developing links with communities is very much at the heart of what we do.

- A programme funded by FOTIP has seen the replacement of 200 bins across sites managed by FCCT to help reduce the volume of waste going to landfill. Going forward this will be a measurable statistic which will be reported on as part of FCCT Green Team's activities.
- Pittenweem West Braes Car Park has been resurfaced. East Neuk car parks have seen increased usage by motorhomes.
- Working with Dalgety Bay Community Woodlands Group, a 500m stretch of the Fife Coastal Path was resurfaced and additional drainage added to manage an historically wet section of the path.
- The bird hide at Birnie Loch has been refurbished and reopened to the public after a period of closure, the hide is popular with bird watchers and those keen to view the beavers' recent arrivals at Birnie Loch.
- Working in partnership with community partners in Anstruther to upgrade two bridges at Crawhill. The works were funded by Anstruther, Cellardyke & Kilrenny Community Council, with FCCT carrying out the works and contributing an in-kind contribution to support the delivery of the works.
- As part of work to prevent employees contracting Hand-arm vibration (HAVS) Lead Hands have received training using a monitoring software.
- FCCT are now working in partnership with NHS Fife to deliver grounds maintenance support at 38 sites across Fife, including hospitals, dentist, health centres, clinics. This has required the recruitment of additional staff.
- A section of the Fife Coastal Path at Pathhead Nursery, St Monans has been moved inland due to coastal erosion, the path was resurfaced with recycled road materials.
- A new toilet has been opened at Silver Sands Aberdour, the facility is open 24 hours a day, providing a service for users such as wild swimmers.



## Sweet Smell of Success Comes to Fife at the 'Washroom Oscars'

Fife Coast and Countryside Trust (FCCT) were once again recognised for their high standard of public toilets at the UK's 'Washroom Oscars.'

FCCT's facilities were declared the best local authority toilets in Scotland at the Loo of the Year Awards in Birmingham. And the toilets at Craigmead car park in the Lomond Hills were named the top eco-friendly toilets in Scotland, as well as the best car park toilets.

Aberdour Silver Sands achieved the best beach toilets in Scotland. And FCCT's base at the Pitcairn Centre on the edge of Glenrothes won the parks and gardens public toilet category.

FCCT was highly commended overall for its public toilets and its in-house cleaning team. And the Trust has retained its place in the Loo of the Year's Champions League, which recognises organisations who are maintaining a consistently high standard of management.

FCCT manages 15 public toilets on behalf of Fife Council. They are located along the 117-mile Fife Coastal Path, including the world-famous destination of St Andrews, at award-winning beaches and at inland places such as the 25 square mile Lomond Hills Regional Park.

Head of Operations Robbie Blyth said: 'We never sit back and enjoy our successes. We are always looking for ways to improve standards and make our public toilets better, so they attract locals and visitors to Fife's spectacular locations and create opportunities for economic growth.'

Councillor Linda Erskine, Fife Council's spokesperson for Communities and Leisure, commented: "I'd like to thank our colleagues at FCCT who I'm sure are 'flushed with success' following their recognition at this year's Washroom Oscars. They do a fantastic job keeping the Kingdom's public toilets clean, safe, and accessible for residents and visitors and this is a testament to their hard work."



## Dog Washing

The Operations Team has launched a new initiative with the installation of a dog washing machine at Pitcairn, Glenrothes. As well as the practical aspect of providing a service for dog owners, the dog washing hub also provides an opportunity to share information with dog owners on responsible access to the countryside.

The facility is proving popular with dog owners, while there has been interest from individuals and communities regarding siting dog washing machines in other locations across Fife.



## Glenrothes Riverside Park Car Park




Day Time Parking 07:00 - 21:00 FREE



Disabled bays are for badge holders only (valid badge must be clearly displayed in windscreen)  
Free parking 07:00 - 21:00 only.

Overnight Parking £10

Overnight parking from 21:00 is restricted to 5 vehicles only and you are required to be within bays 1 - 4 displaying a valid 24-hour ticket. Parking outwith the designated bays between the hours of 21:00 - 07:00 will result in a £100 parking charge notice.



Our staff use cameras to capture images of vehicle number plates to monitor and enforce the below terms and conditions.



Display a valid overnight ticket or permit clearly inside your windscreen. Tickets can be purchased from the on site parking meter. You are helping us to maintain visitor facilities and look after Fife's open spaces.





This land is managed by Fife Coast and Countryside Trust (FCCT). If the vehicle owner fails to adhere to the terms and conditions of this car park, they will be issued with a parking charge notice and the vehicle keeper details may be requested from the DVLA. In the event of a parking charge notice being issued to you, which remains unpaid, additional charges will be incurred if further civil action taken. For all enquiries contact FCCT Tel: 01592 656080 Email: Ask.Us@fifecountryside.co.uk



## Car Parking Provision Across Fife

Fife Coast and Countryside Trust have expanded our portfolio of managed car parks to fourteen with Cellardyke Tidal Pool and Riverside Park. The car park at Riverside will also include 5 overnight motorhome bays. As part of FCCT's Strategic Plan our long-term goal is to offer 150 managed motorhome bays across Fife, these new bays bring that total to 75 created since their instigation at Elie and Kingsbarns in 2020.

Motorhome ownership accounts for a growing segment of tourists who visit Fife and FCCT is keen to develop facilities to meet this demand, and to encourage motorhome owners to spend time and income Fife wide, rather than just the traditional tourism hotspots.

## Leven Prom Welcomes Overnight Vehicles

FCCT completed improvement works at the Leven Beach car park at the end of the promenade, just as the spotlight was thrown on the town with the arrival of the new rail link.

The creation of 10 overnight parking bays is a great new addition for motorhome and campervan users and provides an alternative to the traditionally busier locations in the East Neuk.

As part of the works timber shin rails have been installed a metre beyond the car park's stone wall. This creates a strip where grass and wildflowers will flourish, creating a wildlife habitat. The rails also encourage people to stick to paths and beach entry points. And signs discourage beach goers from treading in the dunes, to help with their stabilisation. Sand dunes are important for providing a natural barrier against coastal erosion and a habitat for plants and animals. In recent years Leven has seen well documented incidents of coastal flooding due to storm surges and high tides.

## Operations Litter Team Base Relocates

The Operations Litter Team's base has been relocated to Rail Heritage Yard, Leven, this move will allow space for expansion and development of our services. The additional space also allows for a welfare suite and the capacity for the Trust to increase our litter management and recycling capacity.



# Education

This year has marked significant growth in the education initiatives delivered by Fife Coast and Countryside Trust. In April 2024, we welcomed Rich Webster as our new Education Officer.

Our focus has been on place-based learning within Fife's communities, empowering learners and fostering social capital. Amidst global instability and a cost-of-living crisis, our services have provided vital support and stability for many.

We are also moving from focusing solely on outcomes, which can lead to short-term thinking and stress, stifling creativity and risk-taking. Instead, we are shifting to analysing our contributions and learning, fostering growth and resilience. Balancing outcomes with learning creates a healthier, more sustainable environment, encouraging innovation and long-term success.

As we move into 2025-2026, we are excited to evolve our educational offerings towards a programmatic model, centred on active project-based learning. This shift will focus on environmental sustainability, local engagement, and the celebration of heritage and culture.

## Winter Wellness Sessions

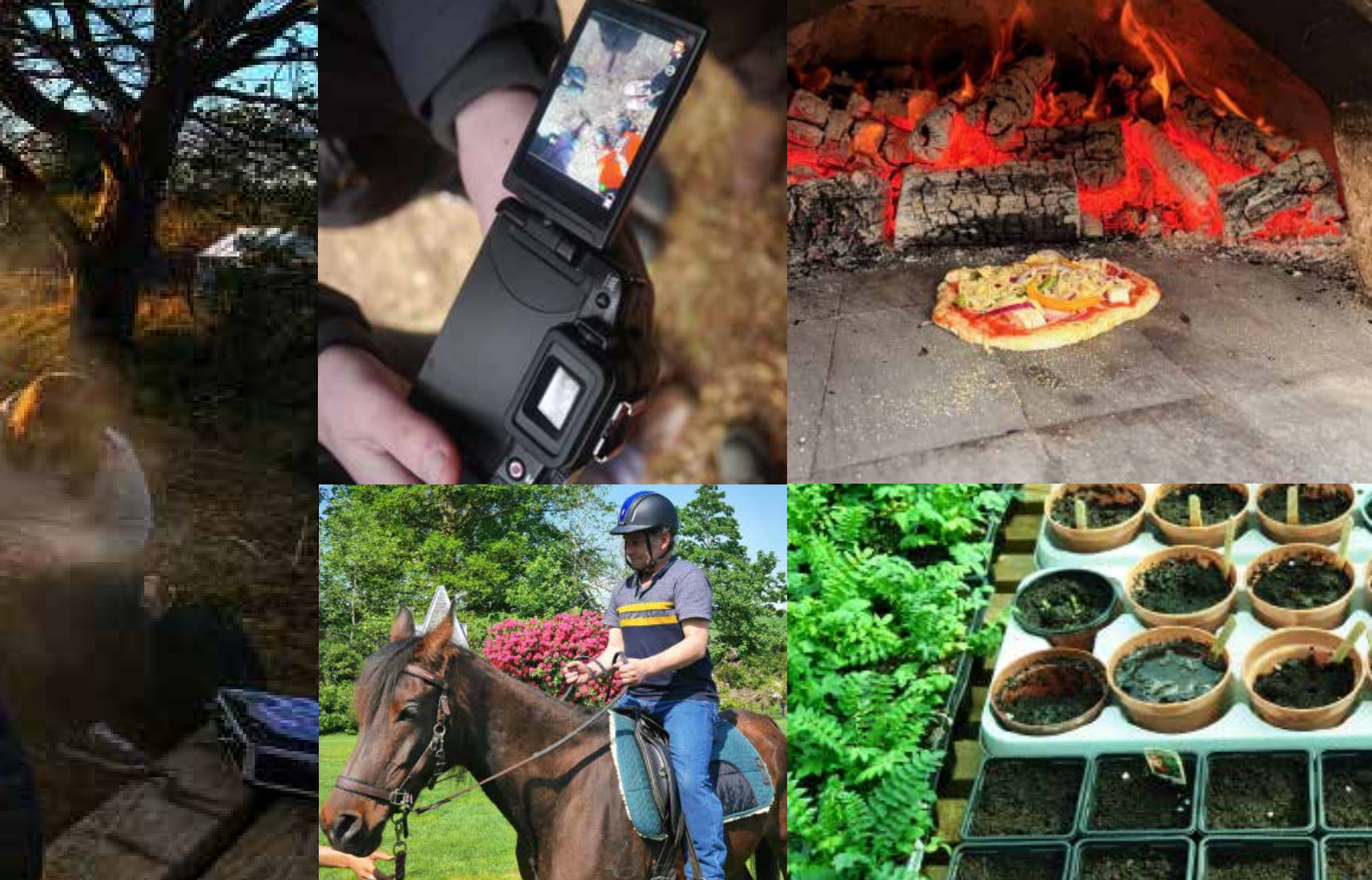
Rich launched "Mini-Branching Out" Winter Wellness Sessions across Fife, delivering sessions at the Larick Centre, Tayport; Homelands, Lundin Links; and at Balbirnie Park, Markinch. The participants enjoyed activities like safe fire lighting and bird box building. Designed for those facing wellbeing challenges, these sessions fostered connection and skill-building. Positive feedback highlighted significant improvements in confidence and wellbeing, with groups eager to continue independently.

### Participant quote:

*"I really enjoyed having the fire as the focal point each week. This is the most time I have spent outside in years, and I have really enjoyed it. Being outside has greatly improved my overall mood and anxiety."*







## Branching Out

Following the remarkable success of the pilot programme in Leven last year, the education team has delivered a very well-received second instalment at Pittencrieff Park in Dunfermline. The 75-acre site in the heart of Scotland's newest city provided a wonderful location.

Activities included:

- Photographic assignments
- Horse therapy
- Wood carving
- Bushcraft
- Foraging and cookery
- Seed propagation

Participants in Branching Out 2024 experienced remarkable benefits from sessions led by us and supported by external delivery partners. Every participant reported significant improvements in their well-being.

Continuing from last year, participants were guided in evaluating their journey from pre-course to post-course, with multiple reviews along the way. The results are compelling: every surveyed participant found immense value in the programme, and 100% confirmed that Branching Out greatly enriched their overall well-being, underlining the vital importance of spending time outdoors.

### Participant quote:

*"I haven't been able to get outside all year; Branching Out has given me the purpose to get out."*





# Conservation and Engagement Access and Recreation

## Access Role Development

In an exciting development for FCCT, in February 2025 the Access and Recreation Team formally took on the Local Authority Outdoor Access function from Fife Council. In doing so, FCCT will work alongside Fife Council departments including Planning and Legal to uphold Outdoor Access Rights across Fife. This includes dispute resolution in relation to Rights of Way and Core Paths, supporting Fife Council in relation to enforcement and legal proceedings relating to Outdoor Access. FCCT will also be inputting into consultations relating to tree felling licences and planning permission, from a perspective of upholding access rights and maintaining the integrity of established footpath networks.

We hope to improve the processes and procedures for this work. This will include sharing, on our website, guidance for the public relating to: maintenance responsibilities for Rights of Way and Core Paths; when and how paths and other areas of land can be closed; and the process for the public requesting this. This will help support our and Fife Council's work and help bring transparency to what can often be a complex subject.





## Picture This

The Access and Recreation Team have been working alongside Dmytro Paliienko, a 3rd year photography student from Napier University, to expand FCCT's image library. During a four-month work placement, Dmytro captured images of the team on their daily duties, from clearing storm damage and removing creels from beaches to site management activities. He also focused on photographing the Fife Pilgrim Way to help with future promotional activities.

This is the second year of FCCT's relationship with Napier University. We're very keen to continue providing work experience for students.

The photograph opposite is an example of Dmytro's work, as well as capturing the Fife Pilgrim Way, Fife's beaches he also created a record of the work carried out by the Access and Recreation Team.

## Partnership Working

FCCT works hard to deliver value to our communities and works closely with other public bodies to maximise our impact. The Access and Recreation Team are the Trust's eyes and ears, and we feedback, any issues encountered on the ground to internal teams as well as external bodies.

We work closely with Police Scotland and Safer Communities Fife to make them aware of issues that occasionally occur on some of our sites including illegal vehicular access, fishing and antisocial behaviour. The information we provide can be used by Police Scotland to help deter, prevent and detect crime in our communities. We attend 'Take the Lead' events which are run by Safer Communities to help educate and inform the public regarding responsible dog ownership.

We also engage with landowners and land managers who help our team manage FCCT sites effectively. We host regular Lomond Hills Regional Park meetings with landowners to help co-ordinate management of our sites, including irresponsible parking and timing the installation of advisory signage during lambing and calving.

The Fife Coastal Path passes through many golf courses as it winds its way around the coast of Fife. Following site meetings between the Access and Recreation Manager and representatives of Crail Golfing Society, it became clear that there were several issues shared by all golf courses along the route. These include dealing with the challenges of coastal erosion, fishing waste, conflict between golfers and path users, signage and duty of care towards path users in the context of golf courses and biodiversity. These partnerships have been invaluable and are creating new and exciting discussions to support site management going forward.



## On Your Bike

Members of the Access and Recreation and Education Teams attended a Mountain Bike (MTB) Trail Leader Award course at Lochore Meadows organised by Greener Kirkcaldy. The course covered how to develop cycling confidence, basic bike maintenance, navigation and health and safety.

The Access and Recreation Team have been looking to utilise bikes to carry out warden patrols, which would let them cover more ground and travel more sustainably.

FCCT has worked with Greener Kirkcaldy to deliver a series of led cycle rides along the Fife Pilgrim Way. Our three new MTB leaders will also be guiding rides along stretches of the Fife Coastal Path as part of the Beach of Dreams celebrations. There are plans to create a programme of 'Wheels with Wardens' to go alongside the 'Walks with Wardens' events, currently being delivered through FCCT's events programme.



## Warden Patrols

Our Warden Team spends much of their time out on patrol. This allows them to record any issues across our sites, and to engage with visitors and pass on information on important aspects of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

Warden Patrols 1/4/24 to 31/3/25	
People engaged	6151
Motorhomes	4653
Tents	386
Live fires/BBQs	200
Old fires/BBQs	2807
Dog (not on a lead or close control)	617
Dog fouling	3155
Bags of fishing waste (Aug 24 -31/3/25)	172
Bags of litter	681.5



# Biodiversity ● ●

At FCCT we are committed to restoring nature so that thriving natural systems support species recovery and provide resilience in the face of a changing climate. Recent Activities:

- Development of the Biodiversity Places Toolkit in partnership with Perth and Kinross Council and Tayside Biodiversity and funded by the Shared Prosperity Fund. The website toolkit is scheduled to launch in 2025 and will be continuously developed to signpost communities to activities and programmes that can be used to improve biodiversity in their localities.
- Alongside the toolkit, Fife's first Biodiversity Village will be officially unveiled as Strathmiglo in the coming weeks, with signage at the entrances to the village as a credit to the community's efforts to further biodiversity in their area.
- Support for the delivery of the Shared Prosperity Fund project at Lochore Meadows Country Park, to join the nature trail and the Lochore Nature Reserve to the rest of the park by the installation of fully off-road multi-use path. All while ensuring no detrimental impact to the nature reserve and its habitats and species, while also bringing people closer to wetland habitats.
- The Fife Biodiversity Partnership continues to develop the revised Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP). Publication is earmarked for Summer 2025 for a new action plan, expected to extend to 2045, supported by five-year delivery plans mirroring the revised approach taken by the new Scottish Biodiversity Strategy to 2045.
- Working alongside Fife Council's allotments officer on an experimental grazing by cattle or sheep of emergent Giant Hogweed, to control this harmful invasive non-native species.
- Participating in the newly reformed Local Nature Conservation Sites (LNCS) group with FCCT and Fife Council colleagues to review the processes by which LNCS are designated and monitored.
- Work as part of Fife Environment Partnership to ensure biodiversity is on the agenda, with participation at the upcoming FifeCOP in May, where our Biodiversity Coordinator is leading a biodiversity session around policy and strategy in a Fife context.
- Re-engagement with the RSPB corn bunting project in the East Neuk in February, to provide support and links to wider local drivers for the group. Looking at ways to support and grow the project in partnership with RSPB and the engaged farming community in the East Neuk and St Andrews University.
- Continuous support to Fife Council with regards to biodiversity matters, including pond management in Tayport, Duloch, and Stenton and wider maintenance of sites sensitive to biodiversity in parks, such as Pittencreeff, Townhill and Dunnikier.



Skylark, *Alauda arvensis*  
© Laurie Campbell

# Conservation and Engagement

## Conservation

### Lomond Hills Regional Park Moorland Bird Survey

A moorland bird survey was conducted in the Lomond Hills Regional Park from 1998 to 2007. This year, we have reached an agreement with landowners to reintroduce the survey. The survey aims to estimate the population of upland species and to show year-to-year changes in abundance.

Working in small groups, volunteers will record birds and their behaviour in the area around East and West Lomond. The sites will be surveyed in May and in early July. Target species are red grouse, lapwing, curlew, redshank, snipe, wheatear, whinchat, stonechat, and raptors (including owls), though other species will also be recorded.

We will use the data to estimate bird population of the study area and, over time, be able to show year-to-year changes. The information will be used as an indicator of the health of the upland habitat and will inform future conservation projects.



## All Annual Survey Activities

Surveys provide information on the health of the biodiversity of a site and set a baseline against which we can judge the success of habitat management. They also allow us to feed into nationwide surveys and conservation efforts.

In the year 2024 - 2025 we carried out the following survey activities:

- National Vegetation Classification (NVC) of our managed grassland sites at Coul Den and Guardbridge.
- Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS) at the Lomond Hills Reservoirs, Eden Estuary, Cameron Reservoir and Coul Den. WeBS is a UK-wide count of waterbirds organised by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO).
- Winter Gull Survey (WinGS) at the Eden Estuary. Focuses on monitoring wintering gull populations in the UK. It is coordinated nationwide by the BTO and targets six key gull species: Black-headed Gull, Mediterranean Gull, Common Gull, Herring Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, and Great Black-backed Gull.
- Camera trapping takes place when we want information on the presence and location of secretive species on the reserves we manage. We have used cameras this year at Birnie and Gaddon to learn about the movements of beavers and otters.
- Ad-hoc wildlife records are submitted to Fife Nature Records Centre. This Fife Council department is a hub for collecting and managing wildlife records in Fife.

## Site Management Challenges

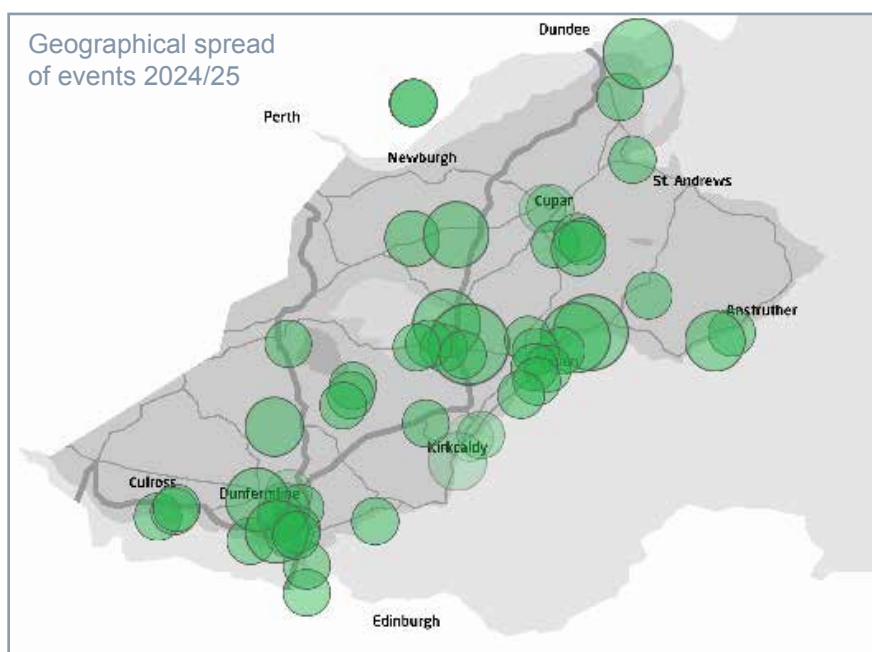
Access to outdoor spaces is so valuable for health and wellbeing, but with increased access to these spaces, does bring challenges with the management of visitor numbers and ensuring that visitors understand how to enjoy the countryside responsibly, in accordance with the guidance laid out in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

Dalbeath Marsh Local Nature Reserve (SSSI) has seen incidents of fire lighting, resulting in damage to trees with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service called to the site on one occasion. In response to these challenges the Conservation Officer responsible for the site has created a suite of events to encourage the local community to visit and learn more about this special place and ultimately to take ownership of the site. Over the summer months there will be a series of events including litter picks, and a family fun day which will include minibeast hunting, bird spotting, pond dipping and safe fire lighting.

One of FCCT's key roles is to help people enjoy our countryside responsibly. Sharing the Scottish Outdoor Access Code, and educating visitors about our sites, is an important part of the Conservation and Access Team's role.

## Community Engagement Events

Our Conservation and Engagement Team has continued to build on the success of 2023/24. A total of 93 were delivered compared to the previous year's total of 70 events. This included a diverse range of events from large scale events like the West Fife Show, guided walks, education sessions, illustrated talks and tree planting sessions. A total of 1557 individuals attended our events over the last year, an increase of 309 participants and a percentage increase of 24.7%.





## Eden Estuary Update

Unfortunately, the Eden Estuary Centre was vandalised on a few occasions throughout this reporting year, resulting in its closure from October 2024. There was an outpouring of support from the visitors to the reserve, resulting in a newly formed Eden Estuary Centre volunteer group. The Centre was refurbished and reopened in early April, and these volunteers will be a welcoming face to show any new visitors the sights.

Throughout the year we've had the support of volunteers in habitat restoration activities, predominantly scrub clearance on the sand dunes. This important work prevents the succession of shrubby species moving into the declining and specialised sand dune ecosystem, ensuring that the species that live there aren't crowded out by more competitive species.

We also continued our biodiversity improvements at the Guardbridge Park next to the Eden Estuary Centre with our meadow making. By allowing the vegetation a longer growing period it provides small mammals and invertebrates, like bees and butterflies, to make it their home. Having a longer growing period allows the plants to seed after having provided not only a home but a diverse source of nectar with all the wildflowers.

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*The highlight of the birding year was Little Egret breeding successfully at the reserve for the first time. Peak count (in this reporting period) of 36 on the 8th of September 2024.*



Little Egret, *Egretta garzetta*  
© Laurie Campbell



## Restoration Forth

Restoration Forth is a multi-organisational project spanning Fife, Edinburgh and East Lothian where an army of volunteers are helping to repopulate the Firth of Forth with the native European Flat Oyster and improve Seagrass meadows. After these efforts it is hoped that these populations will be able to self-seed and propagate naturally, benefiting the local ecosystem, improving water quality and enhancing biodiversity in the area.

Volunteers joined FCCT, Marine Conservation Society and Heriot-Watt University staff in cleaning the oysters using appropriate biosecurity measures in readiness to return them to the Forth. Overfishing had seen the oysters fished to extinction in the Forth Estuary over 100 years ago, but with these new efforts the species has returned. The deployment of the new oysters has been incredibly successful, with recent surveys on the oysterbeds showing an 85% survival rate. By re-introducing this species, the hope is that the ever-growing population increases the size of the oysterbed, which not only means more oysters filtering out the water of the Firth of Forth, but also an improvement in the reef-like habitat, which provides a home for a multitude of specialist species.

Volunteers also assisted Project Seagrass staff from Kinghorn Ecology Centre and the Scottish Seabird Centre with the sowing of seagrass seeds and surveying plants in the designated meadow plots.

Much like the oysters, the improvement of the seagrass meadows will provide a fantastic habitat for a huge number of invertebrate life along the coast of the Firth of Forth, as well as providing shelter for the young of many fish species. The seagrass meadows also build up sediment before the shoreline and the fronds cumulatively reduce wave energy, which helps in slowing down any potential damage caused by severe storms. And as a plant, they also sequester carbon from their local environment.

We also had help from the volunteers in undertaking a baseline survey on what birdlife we could see in the restoration areas. Some species actively feed on the seagrass, whereas others will take advantage of the newly created hiding places for small creatures they might eat. By monitoring the expansion of the oysterbeds and seagrass meadows, as well as all the other life they support, we can record the increase in biodiversity created by this exciting project.

## Environmental Policy Support Officer - Auditing Public Greenspaces

Greenspaces are recognised as being an essential element of healthy and vibrant local communities. Good quality greenspaces can provide opportunities for play, leisure and recreation, support health and wellbeing, help to conserve natural systems, and enhance environmental capacity.

Our Environmental Policy Support Officer Yvonne McKie has spent the past year carrying out a quality audit of all 475 public greenspaces in and around Fife's towns and villages, as part of work to update Fife's Greenspace Audit, last published in 2009.

Visiting parks, community gardens, playing fields, amenity greenspaces, woodlands, natural/ semi-natural greenspaces and nature reserves, Yvonne has been updating site descriptions and assessing the diverse range of greenspaces against a rounded set of quality criteria covering access, biodiversity, health & wellbeing, attractiveness, and community factors. The recording of additional biodiversity data, including habitat types, the presence of any invasive species, and the potential for improved site connectivity, should also prove valuable to wider project applications.

The audit work is being carried out in partnership with a Fife Council project team of Greenspace, Planning and GIS Officers and will bring together analysis of greenspace quantity and access alongside the quality data. The Greenspace Audit findings, to be published as an online Story Map, will help with the development of Fife's Open Space Strategy and proposals to increase access to quality greenspace.



## Conservation Activities at Birnie and Gaddon

- Regular wildlife surveys (wetland bird surveys, moth survey and mammal surveys using trail cameras)
- Ringing of mute swans with Lothians and Fife Swan and Goose Study Group
- Establishing a red squirrel transect.



## Birnie and Gaddon Lochs Update

It has been a busy year at Birnie and Gaddon Lochs and managing the site has not been without its challenges. Like many other nature reserves across the country, avian influenza was unfortunately detected there on two separate occasions: in a mute swan in December 2024 and in a pink-footed goose in March 2025. Several juvenile swans succumbed to the virus but thankfully two pairs of adult swans remain on each loch.

Storm Éowyn caused damage across much of Fife, and Birnie and Gaddon was no exception. Many large trees came down in the winds and have left previously well vegetated areas of the reserve deforested. Some work will need to be done using chainsaws to improve some areas along the path. Hopefully native riparian trees can be replanted in these areas.

Illegal fishing is an issue at Birnie and Gaddon Lochs and signage has been installed to remind people that fishing is prohibited and our Countryside Wardens and Conservation Officers patrol the sites engaging with visitors to make them aware of how to access these sites responsibly.

Our Maintenance Team have recently carried out repairs to the Birnie Hide which had been closed for several years, while the vegetation which obscured the views from the Gaddon Hide has been removed. Contractors have undertaken bridge improvement works and these bridges are horse safe.

Birnie and Gaddon Lochs are home to four Schedule 2 European protected mammal species, otter, beaver, Daubenton's bat and soprano pipistrelle. The iconic red squirrel, another species of conservation concern, can also be found at the reserve along with foxes, roe deer, field voles, bank voles and shrews.





# Volunteering

## FCCT Volunteering

We take the opportunity to celebrate the contribution made by FCCT's team of volunteers. More than 130 registered volunteers, corporate groups, school groups and community volunteers give their time to support the work of FCCT and make a significant contribution to the visitor experience at many of the sites managed by FCCT.

## Conservation Volunteering

Our Conservation Team works with volunteers to deliver projects across our sites; the volunteers particularly enjoy the diversity of activities they can get involved in. Some have volunteered with us for many years developing a range of practical conservation skills, passed on to them by our Conservation Team.

Last year they worked on projects at Birnie and Gaddon Lochs, Eden Estuary, Coul Den and Pitcairn. The pond at Pitcairn had silted up, a natural process, when silt deposits fill the pond. Gradually it becomes a bog and ultimately a woodland as seeds from nearby trees grow. Volunteers worked to reinstate the pond at Pitcairn ensuring it has at least 50% of open water for the pond to function well and to provide a habitat for amphibians and other pond life. Grassland management activities are annual volunteering activity, a challenging task but the volunteers never complain and come back each year to help manage 5 different sites across Fife. This work is vital to ensure that these rich grassland habitats are protected for future generations, as since the 1930's more than 97% of this unique habitat has been lost.

The tree nursery at Pitcairn needed some attention and volunteers came together to take on the challenge. The tired nursery beds were restored with new soil being wheelbarrowed in, categorised the tree, all helping to create a space to allow young trees to flourish ready for the next planting season.

After storm damage to trees in the Lomond Hills Regional Park, volunteers removed damaged trees, removed tree guards and re-installed some stakes to protect the trees from the strong winds. These trees are now established and form a natural habitat for insects, which in turn attract birds and small mammals and a whole ecosystem. These areas are so important to our wildlife and biodiversity. These areas can also help species to move around as climate change alters their areas.

## Corporate Groups

Corporate Groups contribute to the work of the Trust in many ways, it is always refreshing to see groups who come back year after year play a part in the work of the Trust. Two such organisations are Bidwells and Lloyds Bank who took on beach cleans at Pathhead Sands and Seafeld Beach. While HSBC staff walked from Aberdour to Kinghorn collecting rubbish on their way, making a huge difference to the Fife Coastal Path.

## Community Groups

Many community groups come together to clean up their local area and FCCT are delighted to assist with these events. These activities show a great sense of community and encourage people to look after their own areas. "Friends of Largo Bay" get together regularly throughout the year to clean up and engage with the community and get to know their neighbours.

**FCCT Volunteers contributed** - 1183 hours

**Community Groups contributed** - 547 hours

**Corporate Groups contributed** - 1004 hours

**Total – 2734 hours**







# Community Tree Planting

## Tree Planting Team Growing

Fife Climate Forest is a partnership project led by Fife Council, Climate Action Fife and Fife Coast and Countryside Trust. It's a shared ambition to grow the number of trees, woods and forests in Fife. And it's firmly laying down roots thanks to community tree planting made possible by UK Government funding

Funding allowed the creation of two seasonal tree planting roles at Fife Coast and Countryside Trust, to support the Community Tree Planting Officer, who is funded by the National Lottery Community Fund's Climate Action Fund through Climate Action Fife. We were delighted to welcome Robert Boughen and Ellie Oakley to the tree planting team, who did a fantastic job over the busy planting season working closely with Fife Council, community groups, schools and volunteers.

The additional funding enabled Fife Climate Forest to deliver inspiring engagement activities, including seven community outreach sessions sharing the 'Legends of the Tree of Life' theatre productions and 'Letter to the Tree' creative writing activity with the Atopon Collective. The letters are being collated into a book to help generate awareness of trees and funds raised will support the work of Fife Climate Forest.

Fife Coast and Countryside Trust's tree nursery has been upgraded to allow increased in-house tree production. And we have supplied a tree table for community growing with CLEAR Buckhaven and Methil, and Eats Rosyth.

## Challenges of Vandalism

We have experienced incidents of significant vandalism at two locations but are grateful to the communities who rallied to assist with the clear-up and re-planting of trees where possible. We will continue to work with community groups in these areas to raise funds for replacement trees and to combat vandalism.

## Fife Tree Wardens

We now have over 50 Fife Tree Wardens across Fife doing fantastic work caring for and planting trees with communities. Highlights this year include volunteer sessions to repair the tree nursery so that our community supply of trees is weed free and better protected from deer. Tree Wardens have actively been protecting trees under threat and raising awareness of the importance of trees in their communities. Many have joined tree planting events run by partners across Fife and are giving care to newly planted trees.

## Work Placement

Shannon Wilson, a third-year Napier University graphic design student, joined FCCT on placement and developed the branding for Fife Climate Forest. This can be seen on promotional items and feather flags at tree planting events.

## Tree Planting Activities

The impressive totals displayed opposite would not have been possible without the support of Woodland Trust, The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) for free tree supply and the Nature Restoration Fund for larger standard and fruit trees supplied. We are grateful, through our Fife Climate Forest partnership, for the provision of large numbers of free trees from the Woodland Trust for groups that are planting at scale including the Crail Community Partnership, CLEAR Buckhaven and Methil, and Bats Wood.

As part of Fife Climate Forest, 300 standard fruit trees have been planted across Fife. We hope to encourage community groups and individuals to adopt these trees, care for them and nurture them.

## Plans for Next Year

We will be working with communities to identify tree planting sites that will improve local green spaces and bring benefits such as homes for wildlife, fruit and growing opportunities, and help with shade and water management. We will be gearing up to another planting season supporting groups and volunteers to get permission to plant, and source all the resources they need to make it happen.

The Fife Climate Forest 'Letter to the Tree' book and poster will be available soon, and we will be launching a photo competition on the theme of people enjoying trees and woodlands.

## Tree Wardens Statistics

40 community tree planting events delivered in Kirkcaldy, Dunfermline and Cowdenbeath

5,824 trees planted since November 2024

A further 6,217 trees were planted with the support of Climate Action Fife

Planted by 300 volunteers and community members

# Future Focus



Beach of Dreams Pennants,  
West Sands St Andrews



## Beach of Dreams

We were delighted when Fife was confirmed as the Scottish location for the UK-wide coastal arts festival Beach of Dreams in 2025. This creative programme explores the unique heritage, culture, and climate future of our coastline.

Presented by Kinetika, acclaimed and emerging artists were commissioned UK-wide to create works to help local communities connect with the natural environment.

Our contribution is a 11-day journey of bikes and hikes along the Fife Coastal Path in May 2025, to be complemented by artistic events.

In Fife, artist Julie Brook is to create a tidal sculpture from locally sourced materials, inspired by walks along the Fife coastline and talks with residents and artists. She will lead workshops with local schools and community groups.

## New Fife Pilgrim Way Passport Launched

Since FCCT launched the Fife Pilgrim Way in 2019 there has been a call for the Fife Pilgrim Way Passport to allow walkers to collect stamps as they travel the route, in the style of the Camino de Santiago. With the support of Welcome to Fife and the UK Government's Shared Prosperity Scheme a new passport has been designed and will be launched on 1st July 2025.

Initially walkers will have the option to have their passport stamped at 25 locations along the route. The hope is that once the new passport is established more locations will join the scheme.

The passport was designed by Molly May, a third year Napier University student who worked with FCCT on a work placement in 2024.

## Leven Green Health Partnership

We are thrilled to announce that we have secured National Lottery funding, along with match funding, to create two new roles in our education team: Explore Outdoors Coordinator and Green Health Partnership Coordinator. This support will enable us to expand our efforts and make a greater impact on our community.

Starting in May 2025, the Explore Outdoors Coordinator will enhance outdoor learning opportunities in Levenmouth, fostering a healthier community engaged with their local greenspace. This hands-on approach promotes physical and mental well-being, reduces stress, boosts creativity, and improves problem-solving skills. The coordinator will work closely with schools to integrate outdoor learning into the curriculum, conduct audits, and develop bespoke action plans.

The Green Health Partnership Coordinator will develop green health initiatives, promoting the benefits of nature for well-being. They will strengthen referral pathways, lead community engagement efforts, and manage the monitoring and evaluation framework to track the impact of these initiatives.

These roles will ensure the sustainability and growth of our programs, making a significant impact on our community.







Fife Coast and Countryside Trust  
The Harbourmaster's House  
Hot Pot Wynd  
Dysart  
Fife  
KY1 2TQ

E: [ask.us@fifecountryside.co.uk](mailto:ask.us@fifecountryside.co.uk)  
T: 01592 656080  
W: [fifecoastandcountryside.co.uk](http://fifecoastandcountryside.co.uk)

Scottish Company No: SC216254  
Scottish Charity No: SC031247