REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: SC286723 REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: SC019276

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2009
FOR
FORTH ENVIRONMENT LINK
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Macfarlane Gray Limited Chartered Accountants Macfarlane Gray House Castlecraig Business Park Springbank Road Stirling FK7 7WT



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CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Balance Sheet	8 to 9
Notes to the Financial Statements	10 to 14
Datailed Statement of Financial Activities	15 to 16

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 1985, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2009. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2005.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS Registered Company number

SC286723

Registered Charity number

SC019276

Registered office

7 Stirling Business Centre Wellgreen Stirling FK8 2DZ

Trustees

Ms S Winstone
Ms S M Walker
Mr R G Lawson
Ms C E Sankey
Mr B W Barker
Mr G T Walker
Ms J Brown

- appointed 1/8/2008

- appointed 1/4/2008
- appointed 12/8/2008

Company Secretary

Ms H Morrison

Independent Examiner

Macfarlane Gray Limited Chartered Accountants Macfarlane Gray House Castlecraig Business Park Springbank Road Stirling FK7 7WT

Bankers

Bank of Scotland 136 Buchanan Street Balfron Glasgow G63 0TG

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 1985.

Legal and administrative information:

The entire activities of the unincorporated body were transferred to the company on 1st April 2006. Membership is open to all persons aged over 18 and living locally. On 10th September 1991 the Inland Revenue in Scotland accepted it as a charity for tax purposes.

On 1st August 2008 the entire assets and undertaking of Forth Valley Food Links a charity and company limited by guarantee, were transferred to the company. The objects of the company were expanded to include awareness of health education as part of its commitment to encouraging good environmental practice.

The objects of the organisation are to advance education with particular emphasis on matters relating to the Natural World. In furtherance of these objects the organisation encourages commitment to good environmental practice by raising awareness of important issues and gathers funds by way of contributions, donations, subscriptions and grants.

The Executive Committee consists of the Trustees and the Executive Director and meets regularly to implement the policy of the organisation as outlined above. The Trustees are unpaid but determine the remuneration of the Executive Director. It is the responsibility of the Executive Director to carry out decisions of the Executive Committee and generally run the day to day affairs of the organisation.

Trustees are not subject to any special training but are expected to become familiar with the activities of the organisation.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appointed by co-option initially and subsequently by election at an Annual General Meeting.

Related parties

The charity works closely with Stirling Council and Scottish Natural Heritage, the major funders.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

There are no unusual risks that employees are exposed to and insurance is taken out to cover any possible liabilities arising. The main risk to the organisation is financial, since it is dependent on fixed-term project funding for all of its activities. Employees are subject to term contracts, which reflect the period for which funding is available.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The objectives are as defined above, namely the advancement of education in matters relating to the Natural World. The activities carried out during the year include the following:

1. Grounds for learning:

The aim is to transform school and other educational grounds into stimulating outdoor learning spaces to support all areas of the formal and informal curriculum. FEL is the local delivery mechanism for the nation-wide initiative and coordinates the Stirling Grounds for learning Partnership. FEL offers support and advice for Eco schools and Continuing Professional Development training. Environmental education with a biodiversity focus delivered to formal education establishments, youth and community groups and through teacher training in support of the 5-14 curriculum and outdoors learning.

2. Forth Valley Master Composter

The Master Composter Co-ordinator recruits and trains a team of volunteers to become Master Composters. They then go out into the local communities across Forth Valley and to encourage, educate and inform people on how to compost a large percentage of their domestic waste. This then reduces the amount of waste going to landfill and the associated transport. It also helps provide a valuable resource that can be used in domestic gardens.

3. FV Real Nappy Network

A real nappy project officer promotes the environmental and economic benefits of using real nappies rather than disposable ones. The project focuses on promotion to lower income families as there is a far lower uptake of real nappies amongst this group who have less access to relevant information. A small team of volunteers is integral to the success of the project.

4. Callendar House Walled Garden

The aim is to transform an under-used historic walled garden into a 21st Century space for education about the environment. This is being done through the creation of designs and subsequent landscaping. Forth Environment Link then delivers training of the Museum staff to ensure use of the garden as an educational resource, and the delivery of free family events, including wildlife and food demonstration gardens.

5. Forth Valley Food Links

The overriding theme of this project is to encourage and educate local people about the health aspects of their food from 'farm to fork'. This has been done in various ways including, nationally piloting an education resource pack, 'Food Miles Activity Resource Pack©', encouraging people to grow their own using the 'Square Foot Garden' model, providing information e.g. Foodie newsletter and the Find it Eat Directory online.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Indicators of performance

Indicators used to assess achievements during the year include

- the number of schools visited
- number and amount of grants awarded through the Grounds for Learning grant scheme
- number of events attended and the number of visitors to those events, and
- specific project related targets

The main financial risk is that if insufficient funding is raised there will be implications on the continuing ability of the organisation to deliver our objectives on the scale that we are currently operating at.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the organisation to build up reserves by running a surplus if possible. The intention is to build up sufficient reserves to fund at least 6 month's ongoing activities.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

A high proportion of expenditure is on salaries. Project expenditure is met with specific grant funding and other forms of income generation.

Thanks go to the following for grant aid:

- WRAP
- Big Lottery, Breathing Places
- The Caram Trust
- Falkirk Environment Trust
- Falkirk Council
- NHS Forth Valley
- Scottish Natural Heritage
- Stirling Council

Funds raised in the current period include income from a service level agreement with Stirling Council which will continue until March 2009.

With the incorporation of the activities of Forth Valley Food Links, it is expected that funding from NHS Forth Valley will become available.

The majority of the funding is from Scottish Natural Heritage who require certain targets to be achieved but allow for a proportion of central costs to be borne.

Investment policy and objectives

Investment income is insignificant and no objectives were set.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Key objectives are to:

- Continue to promote sustainable living throughout the Forth Valley Area
- Expand outreach to target specific groups of people within the community
- Development of new funding streams to decrease the reliance on core funders
- Ensure the long term economic sustainability of the organisation

Factors that could affect performance are:

- Ability to secure additional funding
- Long term illness/absence of staff
- Changes in core funders' funding strategies

The board and management of FEL continue to work together in order to further the objectives of the organisation whilst minimising exposure to the above risks.

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of it's financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Companies Act 1985. 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.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

attain & Sarker

Ms C E Sankey - Trustee

30 September 2009

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF FORTH ENVIRONMENT LINK COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2009 set out on pages seven to fourteen.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity's trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under Section 44(1)(c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

Gray Ital.

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Macfarlane Gray Limited Chartered Accountants

Macfarlane Gray House

Castlecraig Business Park

Springbank Road

Stirling

FK7 7WT

30 September 2009

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

				2009	2008
	U	nrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds	funds	funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	2	75,738	-	75,738	71,034
Investment income	3	363	-	363	187
Incoming resources from charitable activities	4				
Grants		51,037	12,439	63,476	97,584
Miscellaneous income		582	-	<u>582</u>	<u>2,221</u>
Total incoming resources		127,720	12,439	140,159	171,026
RESOURCES EXPENDED Costs of generating funds Costs of generating voluntary income	5	2,195		2,195	2,792
Charitable activities					
Costs of charitable activities		103,191	12,569	115,760	136,685
Governance costs		<u>10,430</u>	-	10,430	12,300
Total resources expended		115,816	12,569	128,385	151,777
		<u></u>			
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		11,904	(130)	11,774	19,249
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		24,398	7,660	32,058	12,809
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		36,302	<u>7,530</u>	43,832	32,058

The notes form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2009

	Notes	2009 £	2008 £
FIXED ASSETS Tangible assets	9	917	1,049
CURRENT ASSETS Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	10	670 47,630	24,235 14,195
		48,300	38,430
CREDITORS Amounts falling due within one year	11	(5,385)	(7,421)
Amounts faming due within one year	11	(5,365)	(7,421)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		42,915	31,009
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		43,832	32,058
NET ASSETS		43,832	32,058
FUNDS Unrestricted funds Restricted funds	13	36,302 	24,398 7,660
TOTAL FUNDS		43,832	32,058

The notes form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED AT 31 MARCH 2009

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 249A(1) of the Companies Act 1985 for the year ended 31 March 2009.

The trustees have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2009 in accordance with Section 249B(2) of the Companies Act 1985.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Section 221 of the Companies
 Act 1985 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its income and expenditure for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Section 226 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 1985 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small charitable companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 30 September 2009 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mr R G Lawson - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007), the Companies Act 1985 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Office equipment

-25% on reducing balance

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

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

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

2. VOLUNTARY INCOME

	2009	2008
	£	£
Donations .	35,818	5,574
Grants	39,920	65,460
	75,738	71,034
Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:		
	2009	2008
	£	£
Stirling Council	36,920	33,460
Scottish Natural Heritage	•	32,000
NHS Forth Valley	_3,000	
	39,920	65,460

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

3.	INVESTMENT INCOME			
			2009	2008
			£	£
	Current account interest		363	187
	Current account interest			107
4.	INCOMING RESOURCES	FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIE	s	
			2009	2008
		Activity	£	£
	Grants	Grants	63,476	97,584
	Miscellaneous income	Miscellaneous income	582	2,221
	Wiscentificous meome	Wiscentineous meome		<u></u>
			<u>64,058</u>	99,805
	Grants received, included in the	he above, are as follows:		
			2009	2008
			£	£
	Scottish Natural Heritage		5,000	432
	Friends of Smith		•	1,000
	Falkirk Environment Trust		-	2,975
	Forth Valley Real Nappy Net	work	2,305	49,023
	Big Lottery Fund		6,750	7,135
	Scottish Environment Protecti	ion Agency	•	7,000
	Community Compost	2 ,	•	27,847
	Community Recycling Netwo	rk for Scotland	382	2,172
	Forth Valley Waste Minimisa		12,439	_,_,_
	BBC		2,600	_
	Clackmannananshire and Stirl	ing Environment Trust	4,000	_
	Waste and Resources Action		30,000	
			63,476	97,584
	These grants support the vario	us objectives set out in the report of the	trustees.	
5.	COSTS OF GENERATING	VOLUNTARY INCOME		
			2009	2008
			£	£
	Staff costs		1,655	1,787
	Property costs		355	309
	General office costs		185	696
	General office costs			
			2,195	2,792

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

	,		
6.	NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		
	Net resources are stated after charging/(crediting):		
	·	2009 £	2008 £
	Depreciation - owned assets	306	<u>350</u>
7.	TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS		
	There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 Ma 31 March 2008.	arch 2009 nor fo	r the year ended
	Trustees' Expenses There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2009 nor for	the year ended 3	1 March 2008.
8.	STAFF COSTS		
		2009	2008
	Wages and salaries	£ 87,877	£ 107,579
9.	TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS		Office
			equipment £
	COST		
	At 1 April 2008 Additions		1,522 173
	At 31 March 2009		1,695
	DEPRECIATION At 1 April 2008		472
	Charge for year		306
	At 31 March 2009		<u>778</u>
	NET BOOK VALUE At 31 March 2009		<u>917</u>
	At 31 March 2008		1,050
10.	DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
		2009	2008
	Trade debtors	£ 670	£ 24,235

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

11.	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE	WITHIN ONE	YEAR		
	Trade creditors Other creditors			2009 £ 4,991 394 5,385	2008 £ 7,421
12.	ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN	FUNDS			
	Fixed assets Current assets Current liabilities	Unrestricted funds £ 917 40,770 (5,385) 36,302	Restricted funds £	2009 Total funds £ 917 48,300 (5,385)	2008 Total funds £ 1,049 38,430 (7,421) 32,058
13.	MOVEMENT IN FUNDS				
	Unrestricted funds General fund Transfer of funds from Forth Valley Food Link	ks	At 1/4/08 £ 24,398 ————————————————————————————————————	Net movement in funds £ (20,498) 32,402 11,904	At 31/3/09 £ 3,900 32,402 36,302
	Restricted funds General fund		7,660	(130)	7,530
	TOTAL FUNDS		32,058	11,774	43,832

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds
Unrestricted funds	,		
General fund	95,318	(115,816)	(20,498)
Transfer of funds from Forth Valley Food Links	32,402		32,402
	127,720	(115,816)	11,904
Restricted funds			
General fund	12,439	(12,569)	(130)
TOTAL FUNDS	140,159	(128,385)	11,774

14. SHARE CAPITAL

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

	2009	2008
	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Voluntary income		
Donations	35,818	5,574
Grants	39,920	<u>65,460</u>
	75,738	71,034
Investment income		
Current account interest	363	187
Incoming resources from charitable activities		
Grants	63,476	97,584
Miscellaneous income	582	2,221
	64,058	99,805
m delta tue man	140,159	171,026
Total incoming resources	140,159	171,020
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Costs of generating voluntary income		
Wages	1,655	1,787
Property costs	355	309
General office costs	<u> 185</u>	696
	2,195	2,792
Charitable activities		
Wages	79,883	98,507
Advertising	806	1,240
Staff travel and other expenses Educational matters	2,174 733	5,186 1,136
Property costs	16,917	13,289
General office costs	8,370	6,133
Nappies	512	10,146
Events	<u>6,365</u>	1,048
	115,760	136,685
Governance costs		
Wages	6,339	7,285
Property costs	2.026	1,854
Accountancy Corried forward	2,925 9,264	2,008 11,147
Carried forward	7,404	11,147

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

	2009	2008
	£	£
Governance costs		
Brought forward	9,264	11,147
Advertising	69	-
Legal and professional fees	1,063	350
General office costs	34	803
		
	10,430	12,300
		
Total resources expended	128,385	151,777
•	,	
		
Net income	<u>11,774</u>	19,249

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements