

Climate Action Strathaven CHAIR'S REPORT 2025

Les Hoggan, July 2026

INTRODUCTION

Climate change remains a challenge with little evidence of Government's commitment to net zero. With increasing changes to weather patterns and evidence of more extreme weather causing wildfires and other weather emergencies there is a greater requirement to raise awareness of the need for action.

At Climate Action Strathaven we are focused on raising awareness, but also in enabling people to understand how they can contribute to mitigating the impact of climate change through delivering projects and initiatives that make a difference. It is important to get the message across that small changes can make a big difference.

In 2025 we took a new look at our Manifesto which was created in 2019. We reviewed our goals then, and what we'd achieved. Our goals remain the same which is to make Strathaven a leader in Environmental Sustainability!

Over the last six years, our charity has created an award-winning, highly successful and sustainable express bus service, the 3C, which remains our jewel in the crown. The effort taken to grow this not-for-profit business has been significant, especially while at the same time introducing and maintaining our other projects. Our charity would not be where it is without the dedication, commitment and generosity of our management team, project workers, volunteers and trustees, past and present.

Our Manifesto was refreshed to look forward to 2026 and beyond, introducing some changes and focus areas. In 2025 we took a conscious decision to consolidate on the projects that were already in place



and specifically projects that were a success. We held a strategy meeting in July 2025 and summarised the projects that would be our priority. Our projects are making a difference, whether that is reducing the number of non EV cars on the road, reducing car journeys, increasing the use of EVs, increasing awareness of the benefits of cycling, reducing food waste going to landfill, improving recycling rates for difficult items such as spectacles, ink cartridges and blister packs, and increasing the rates of reusing containers for household goods. The 3C is actively contributing to reducing the number of car journeys from Strathaven and Stonehouse, which was the main aim in starting the service in the first place.

We listen to our community and try to deliver projects that the community can and will support. We also strengthened our relationships with other organisations and charities across Lanarkshire and beyond, encouraging other communities to look at our successful projects and adopt them locally in their own way.

Many challenges remain, both in terms of the need for action on climate change, but also the threat of bus franchising across the SPT area. This could have a major impact on the 3C service. There have also been challenges due to the level of roadworks on the A71 (for a variety of different reasons) throughout 2025 causing delays to service timings, with a resulting impact on passenger numbers. Roadworks on the A71 have continued into 2026, and the impact of increases in fuel and energy costs plus the increases in minimum/living wages are factors we will continue to manage in the coming year.

Climate Action Strathaven is now one of the biggest employers in the Strathaven area, contributing to the economy of the community as well as raising awareness of climate change and running initiatives and projects to help tackle climate change.



3C BUS SERVICE STRATHAVEN TO GLASGOW



During 2025 we strengthened our bus fleet. We upgraded one of our 59 seater coaches and added to our fleet to be more resilient by bringing in a 22 seater minibus to ensure that all 3C services could operate effectively and on schedule.

**63% of tickets issued
were via a concession fare -
enabling passengers young, old
and disabled to travel free on the 3C**



**It is estimated, we removed around
2 million car miles
from the roads by having
the 3C service running**



Bus franchising remains on the table following a review and consultation process. With Andy Burnham now Prime Minister at Westminster, there is the potential for a drive to bring in the Manchester model earlier than anticipated.

PLASTIC RECYCLING PROJECTS



During the year we also launched more plastic recycling projects, allowing us to engage with more people within our community: We introduced collection points for medication blister packs, used ink cartridges and spectacles.

**73.5kg of blister packs
were collected and recycled
in 2025.**



**10.4kg of ink cartridges
recycled in 2025**



**9.5kg of
spectacles were
recycled in 2025**

Our spectacle recycling saw us working in collaboration with our local opticians John Coll.



SCHOOLS LIAISON

Liaising with local schools is a priority for Climate Action Strathaven. Each school has an eco committee and it is important to CAS that we contribute to the climate agenda within our schools. Climate Action Strathaven had a presence at the Academy when Keep Scotland Beautiful presented a climate award in 2025. We also had a presence at the annual Green event in Strathaven Academy. Our staff and volunteers also carried out several environmental school talks, including sustainable transport talks at Wester Overton and Kirklandpark. Our project worker attended the Strathaven Academy Young Enterprise class.



The winner was Luca, with a poster for World Dolphin Day 2025.

We held a drawing competition and engaged with primary schools in Strathaven and surrounding villages. This competition had well over a hundred entries to mark World Dolphin Day 2025.

LOCAL INITIATIVES

In 2025 CAS supported a few local initiatives including two run by the Rotary Club of Strathaven. For the Rotary 'Empty Shelves Mean Empty Stomachs' campaign supporting Strathaven Foodbank and Loaves and Fishes. We were also a collection point for the 2025 Rotary Wrap Up Lanarkshire winter jackets campaign.

We further developed our relationships with other charities and organisations across Lanarkshire and worked closely with South Lanarkshire Council on a number of projects and initiatives, including assessing traffic and transport issues and priorities within Strathaven Town Centre.

CAR HIRE



We took the decision to make our car hire fleet fully electric, meaning we now only have Electric Vehicles for hire.

1,260 days
of car hires in 2025



RETROFIT

Retrofit was a success with 36 homes completed by February 2025. A decision was taken to focus on other projects and to pause retrofit to assess options for taking it forward with a different model. We continue to highlight energy efficiency on our social media and in our eco hub.

OUR HUB

Our upper hub saw community groups using our space for fairtrade group meetings, language classes, art classes as well as hosting a high school class of budding reporters that came and interviewed CAS on everything environmental that was happening within our community.

CAS opened its door to over 10 third sector charities who wanted to come and visit our eco and upper hub. We are proud to have an open door policy within CAS and hub visits and walkthroughs enable us to showcase what we have achieved. Sharing good practise or indeed sharing the challenges we faced in 2025 enables us to continue to get the message across.

We attended The Gathering at the EICC in February 2025, an event where various organisations presented on a number of climate related topics. We presented to over 100 delegates.



EVENTS

We were invited to the Scottish Parliament with the Community Transport Association and attend an event in October 2025

The event also offered CTA members the opportunity to promote their work in the very heart of Scotland's democracy and engage with senior elected representatives on the issues which matter most to them. We were delighted to be joined by Jim Fairlie MSP, Minister for Agriculture and Connectivity, who has responsibility for Community Transport within the Scottish Government. During the event we had the opportunity to discuss various issues and concerns with the minister.

CAS was nominated for a VASLan award in November 2025. We were a finalist in the Enterprise and Sustainability Award at the ceremony in the Holiday Inn in East Kilbride. This was another example of CAS being recognised for what it does and how it promotes the need for awareness of climate change.

Visit to the Scottish Parliament



TRUSTEES

As well as the Manifesto update, our Trustee team at CAS saw some changes where we said goodbye to our founding Trustees Tom Barbour our former Chair, and Alastair Brown who was our Secretary. These two powerhouses were part of a team who led the 3C vision and saw it successfully delivered. CAS will remain forever grateful for their commitment and dedication. As Tom and Alistair stepped down in 2025, I was delighted to take over as Chair of Climate Action Strathaven. I will be bringing to CAS my personal and professional organisational network as well as media and presentation experience. We also welcomed Iain McSeveny as a new trustee bringing to the CAS board table deep expertise from other charities including Greenpeace, which is focused on the environment and climate change. Both our new Chair and Trustee will help us deliver one of our key goals which is to establish new strategic partnerships and collaborations going forward. I would like to thank Tom and Alastair for their enormous contributions to our charity and to helping raise awareness of climate change and its impact and I wish them well for the future.

COMMUNITY FRIDGE

Our Community Fridge project continues to go from strength to strength supported by our project worker and a team of dedicated volunteers. Collections are made from local supermarkets with the goods then made available to members of the public. The main objective is to increase sustainability and to reduce food waste going to landfill. All remaining food is supplied for animal feed.

11,708kg
of food collected in 2025



10,464kg
of food distributed via
the Community Fridge



1,244kg
used for animal feed



BIKE REPAIR/SALES/HIRE



During 2025 we increased the staffing for our bike repair service by adding a new part time bike mechanic. This enabled us to increase the service we could offer, and meant that we were able to provide local access to bikes for sale for our community, all at an economic and affordable price. We continue to provide a bike repair service as well as bike sales, and our e-bike hire remains popular.

Over 160 donated bikes were refurbished and sold, with over 300 bikes donated in total and saved from landfill. Some of the bikes were used for spare parts for other bikes.

Over 380 bikes
were repaired or serviced
in 2025.



1,260 days
of e-bike hire in 2025!



OTHER SERVICES



We continued to work with South Lanarkshire Council and remained a pick-up point in 2025 for the **period positive scheme**. Free period and sanitary products are on display and accessible 6 days a week in our Eco Hub.

Strathaven Refill: This enables customers to reuse bottles and to buy household goods economically and also reducing plastic waste.

Tool Shed: Tools are available for customers to borrow to carry out household tasks.

Little Book Shop: Customers can take a book and leave one for others to read.

The **Monday Movers walking club** was run by CAS from March - October 2025

CAS provided a **free Saturday shuttle bus service**, fully funded by CAS for 12 weeks

CAS delivered the **Cycling Sisters service** during 2025.

CAS also managed the **planting of over 600 trees** during 2025.

OTHER ACTIVITIES



BBC Scotland was filming in Sandford, with some of the CAS team acting as extras riding bikes in a scene. As part of the filming, BBC Scotland bought seven recycled bikes from our bike shop that were featured throughout filming. BBC then donated the bikes back to CAS. The BBC also featured the 3C bus service on BBC1 in January 2025.

VOLUNTEERS

We have a dedicated team of programme manager, project workers, support staff, bus drivers



Our team/volunteers

and bike mechanics. In addition, we could not continue to operate without our volunteers who collect food from supermarkets, run the community fridge, take part in tree planting and litter picks. Volunteers also help serve in our Eco Hub. We are grateful to all our volunteers for all they contribute to the success of Climate Action Strathaven.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND PROMOTION

The website was completely redeveloped during 2025 providing us with a better platform for promoting our activities and projects.

CAS branding of 'Let's Cool It' was fully launched by the start of 2025 and we continued to work on our branding. Our social media presence excelled in 2025. Our Facebook, Instagram and TikTok platforms have seen an increase in followers.



Climate Action Strathaven
Summary Financial Statements
For the year ended
31 December 2025

Climate Action Strathaven

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2025

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Climate Action Strathaven

Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
Income and endowments				
Donations and legacies	8,735	100,056	108,791	208,540
Charitable activities	849,514	—	849,514	780,032
Other trading activities	3,075	—	3,075	3,581
Investment income	2,552	—	2,552	3,780
Other income	8,323	—	8,323	4,413
Total income	<u>872,199</u>	<u>100,056</u>	<u>972,255</u>	<u>1,000,346</u>
Expenditure				
Expenditure on charitable activities	<u>851,369</u>	<u>104,207</u>	<u>955,576</u>	<u>794,393</u>
Total expenditure	<u>851,369</u>	<u>104,207</u>	<u>955,576</u>	<u>794,393</u>
Net income and net movement in funds	<u>20,830</u>	<u>(4,151)</u>	<u>16,679</u>	<u>205,953</u>
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward	<u>400,914</u>	<u>8,846</u>	<u>409,760</u>	<u>203,808</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u>421,744</u>	<u>4,695</u>	<u>426,439</u>	<u>409,760</u>

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

Climate Action Strathaven

Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets		
Tangible fixed assets	50,139	70,241
Current assets		
Debtors	60,802	147,883
Cash at bank and in hand	369,047	248,034
	<u>429,849</u>	<u>395,917</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	<u>53,549</u>	<u>56,397</u>
Net current assets	<u>376,300</u>	<u>339,520</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	<u>426,439</u>	<u>409,761</u>
Net assets	<u>426,439</u>	<u>409,761</u>
Funds of the charity		
Restricted funds	4,695	8,846
Unrestricted funds	<u>421,744</u>	<u>400,914</u>
Total charity funds	<u>426,439</u>	<u>409,760</u>

Climate Action Strathaven

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 December 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Income and endowments		
Donations and legacies		
General donations	6,425	7,233
Grants receivable	102,366	189,196
Grants released for fixed asset	—	12,111
	<u>108,791</u>	<u>208,540</u>
 Charitable activities		
Ecohub	4,039	3,476
Bus	754,085	668,302
Bicycle repair shop	23,262	15,499
Car Club	7,707	7,642
Retrofit Strathaven	1,749	46,974
eBike rental	1,498	3,118
Bus grants	57,174	35,021
	<u>849,514</u>	<u>780,032</u>
 Other trading activities		
Room Rental	<u>3,075</u>	<u>3,581</u>
 Investment income		
Bank interest receivable	2,547	2,126
Other interest receivable	5	1,654
	<u>2,552</u>	<u>3,780</u>
 Other income		
Gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets held for charity's own use	861	1,086
Other income	<u>7,462</u>	<u>3,327</u>
	<u>8,323</u>	<u>4,413</u>
 Total income	<u><u>972,255</u></u>	<u><u>1,000,346</u></u>

Climate Action Strathaven

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Expenditure		
Expenditure on charitable activities		
Purchases	7,221	18,435
Wages and salaries	363,071	337,809
Employer's NIC	29,478	23,077
Pension costs	6,861	6,572
Rent	18,000	18,001
Rates and water	210	303
Light and heat	6,239	4,812
Repairs and maintenance	3,130	2,522
Insurance	48,493	35,569
Other establishment	10,603	10,075
Motor vehicle expenses	73,850	51,653
Vehicle leasing/hire	187,800	122,303
Other motor/travel costs	134,741	101,577
Legal and professional fees	7,929	7,199
Telephone	1,518	1,196
Other office costs	1,650	1,155
Depreciation	24,379	30,880
Advertising	1,385	3,600
Staff training	2,587	2,165
Travel and other expenses	10,932	7,886
Sundry expenses	4,542	4,067
Subscriptions and donations	10,957	1,849
Staff clothing	—	1,688
	<u>955,576</u>	<u>794,393</u>
Total expenditure	<u>955,576</u>	<u>794,393</u>
Net income	<u>16,679</u>	<u>205,953</u>

Climate Action Strathaven

Notes to the Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 December 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Expenditure on charitable activities		
<i>Activities undertaken directly</i>		
Purchases	7,221	18,435
Wages and salaries	363,071	337,809
Employer's NIC	29,478	23,077
Pension costs	6,861	6,572
Rent	18,000	18,001
Rates & water	210	303
Light & heat	6,239	4,812
Repairs & maintenance	3,130	2,522
Insurance	48,493	35,569
Accountancy fees	10,603	10,075
Motor vehicle expenses	73,850	51,653
Vehicle leasing	187,800	122,303
Fuel	134,741	101,577
Bike servicing and repairs	4,427	3,701
Telephone	1,518	1,196
Legal and professional fees	1,650	1,155
Depreciation	24,379	30,880
Advertising	1,385	3,600
Staff training	2,587	2,165
Travel and other expenses	10,932	7,886
Sundry expenses	4,542	4,067
Subscriptions and donations	10,957	1,849
Staff clothing	—	1,688
	<u>952,074</u>	<u>790,895</u>
Governance costs		
Governance costs - audit fees	<u>3,502</u>	<u>3,498</u>
	<u>955,576</u>	<u>794,393</u>