



Annual Report 2024 - 2025

Changing our world for the better
Project by project

FEL



Our **people**, their
communities, and
our **planet**, thriving





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Welcome from the Chair

This year, FEL Scotland has been reminded that big change begins in small moments, rooted in the strength of community. From a pupil fixing their neighbour's bike to a football team planting a tree for every goal scored, the projects we supported in 2024-25 demonstrate the power of local action to make real, lasting change.

In its fifth year, our Bike Buddies programme continues to grow in reach and impact. We distributed 350 free bikes this year – the most ever – to P7 pupils across Clackmannanshire and Falkirk, complete with helmets, locks, and lights. Beyond giving wheels to young people, Bike Buddies nurtures confidence, Active Travel habits, and community pride.

Our e-bike library is also expanding, offering more people access to clean, sustainable transport. With support from HubTiger software, we now manage our growing fleet and bookings more smoothly, and we're being held up internationally as a case study in what's possible when the right infrastructure meets community ambition. Meanwhile, in Stirling, the new Walk, Cycle, Live pathways are opening up fresh possibilities for Active Travel, connecting neighbourhoods, schools, and workplaces, and we're delighted to be providing the e-bikes, e-cargo bikes, and knowledge to ensure these routes serve local needs well.

These examples reflect exactly what FEL is all about: listening to communities, designing practical responses, and walking alongside people to turn ideas into reality. That ethos creates trust, strong partnerships across Forth Valley, and steady growth in what we can achieve together.

This year has also reminded me of the incredible resilience, generosity, and imagination within our communities. I've seen small grants seed projects that will run for years. I've seen neighbours unite around shared meals, bike repair sessions, and

orchard planting in communities across the Forth Valley. These acts matter.

To everyone who has taken part, volunteered time, shared skills, or told your stories: you have made FEL possible. Thank you. When communities lead, we truly can build healthier, greener, more connected places to live.

Looking ahead to 2025-26, I am full of hope. The challenges of climate change and inequality are real, but the creativity and determination we continue to witness give me confidence that we can meet them together. FEL remains committed to standing with you, listening, supporting, and working side-by-side to turn ambition into action.

I'd also like to express heartfelt thanks to our partners: Transport Scotland, Scottish Government's Net Zero programme, the University of Stirling's Scotland's International Environment Centre, SEStran, Tactran, Walking Scotland, NHS, and many others whose collaboration bolsters our impact.

Finally, a debt of gratitude is owed to Lynne McNaughton, from whom I took over the role of Chair in December 2024. Lynne worked tirelessly as Chair of the Board for more than four years, and under her expert hand we saw a vast shift in FEL's brand, voice, and way of working. I will endeavour to honour that legacy.

Here's to another year of growing community-powered change.

*Alan Stewart, Chairperson
FEL Scotland*



An Introduction to FEL Scotland

Our Mission

We show people how to make everyday changes that help them, their communities and the planet.

FEL Scotland is here to help people, their communities, and the planet thrive.

What we do

We're experts in helping communities live more sustainably, by showing people how to make everyday improvements that benefit them, their neighbours, and the planet.

Our role is to:

Advocate – championing climate-friendly policies, funding, and practices.

Invest – supporting early-stage ventures with big potential.

Collaborate – designing, testing, and scaling solutions in partnership with our communities.

Our Approach: Design, Test, Scale

Everything we do follows the same cycle. We work with communities to design solutions to local challenges, test what works through real-world trials, and scale for impact by expanding successful projects and sharing best practice.

Designing Solutions – listening to communities, co-creating practical responses, and ensuring alignment with local priorities and national policy.

Testing What Works – running pilots, gathering feedback and data, and refining initiatives to make sure they are effective and inclusive.

Scaling for Impact – growing proven projects to reach more people, unlocking funding, and partnering widely to accelerate change.

This design, test, scale approach runs through everything we deliver—ensuring FEL's projects are practical, effective, and built to last.

Our Story

FEL Scotland began with a simple belief: that social and environmental change happens project by project. Over the years, we've grown into a trusted partner across the Forth Valley, known for making "the environment" meaningful by making it personal. From bikes to orchards, from climate hubs to cooking workshops, our projects are driven by local priorities but designed to create wider impact. By combining deep local knowledge with strong partnerships, we've built long-standing relationships with communities, councils, and organisations. Today, FEL Scotland stands as both a practical enabler and a catalyst — helping people live well, feel good, and look after where they live.



Strategic Priorities

In 2025 we conducted an organisational-wide review and formalised our strategy for the next five years. We made significant progress towards meeting these goals in the first year.

1. Cutting Emissions

Goal: Support communities to reduce emissions by promoting Active Travel, strengthening local food networks, and enabling energy efficiency.

Progress:

Expanded **School Active Travel Hubs** into eight schools, including new hubs in Grangemouth, Larbert, and Falkirk.

Delivered **Bike Buddies**, gifting 350 new bikes to pupils, building long-term behaviour change.

Scaled the **e-bike library** with a new booking system, enabling 272 rentals – making sustainable travel more accessible.

Partnered with Falkirk Council to deliver **cooking on a budget and planet-friendly cooking workshops**, encouraging low-carbon diets and adaptation.

Created a network of knowledge sharing via our online resource library of expert speakers, in-person workshops, Leadership programmes, and **First Steps** and **Next Steps grants**.

2. Strengthening Resilience

Goal: Help communities prepare for climate and social challenges by creating opportunities for connection, skill-building, and access to support.

Progress:

Through the **Forth Valley Climate Action Hub**, secured £440,000 in additional funding for community-led climate action.

Supported **community retrofit planning** and orchard planting, building practical resilience for the future.

Provided SCQF-accredited **bike maintenance training**, giving pupils real-world skills alongside climate impact.

Delivered **community meals and cooking workshops** with partners like FDAMH and Sustainable Thinking Scotland, building social resilience through food.

3. Restoring and Protecting Nature

Goal: Increase opportunities for people to care for local green spaces, expand tree planting, and embed nature into community planning.

Progress:

Launched **Trees for Goals**, linking sports with tree planting to engage new audiences in climate action.

Distributed **200 fruit and nut trees** in Alloa and Grangemouth, targeting areas where more trees are needed.

Continued orchard planting projects, embedding food-growing and biodiversity into community life.

Focused on knowledge building with online seminars on Soil Health, Biodiversity, and other topics highlighted as vital by our members.

4. Empowering Communities

Goal: Ensure everyone has a voice in shaping climate action, with support for grassroots projects and stronger partnerships.

Progress:

Delivered £89,987 to community groups via **First Steps** and **Next Steps Climate Action Grants**, seeding multiple community-led projects.

Trialled **pop-up sessions in schools** to widen engagement and break down barriers to participation.

Provided one-to-one officer support across all Forth Valley areas, ensuring communities had a trusted local contact.

Highlighted the need for wellbeing support in the sector, recognising volunteer burnout and eco-anxiety as priorities for next year.

Contributed to local consultations.

Launched FEL membership in July 2024, growing to 158 members in our first year.

5. Building Organisational Strength

Goal: Ensure FEL Scotland remains financially resilient, evidence-led, and able to grow its impact.

Progress:

The success of the **digital bike rental system** in streamlining bike library operations increased efficiency and visibility, and has now been adopted as an international case study.

Demonstrated FEL's value by leveraging more funding and building external partnerships, for example with the Energy Saving Trust's Energy Redress Scheme, which helps to enhance our reputation as a trusted delivery partner.

Built long-standing, trusted relationships across local councils, schools, and community groups, ensuring future opportunities for scale.





Climate



Climate Action Hub

Funders: Scottish Government;
University of Stirling's Scotland's
International Environment Centre

FEL is the custodian of the Forth Valley Climate Action Hub, part of a network of 24 regional hubs across Scotland that brings people together to turn big climate ambitions into real, local change. Our delivery projects included Trees for Goals, a pilot activity that matched a youth football team with a tree for every goal scored during the season, introducing a new demographic to the joy of climate action; we ran climate awareness sessions alongside our Climate Leadership programme; and the First Steps and Next Steps Climate Action Grants supported 55 projects across all of our communities.

By working with local councils, the Climate Action Hub network, national and local organisations, and community groups, we've helped unlock £440,000 in extra funding and built robust networks that will keep delivering impact for years to come.

We prioritised the needs of our communities and supported practical solutions, from community retrofit plans to orchard planting, and provided the skills, funding, and resources to make them happen.

When communities lead, climate action can improve lives, protect nature, and create a stronger, more resilient Forth Valley.

Key Learnings

The Climate Action Hub work provided the opportunity to draw new audiences by connecting climate action to existing community interests such as sports and local heritage, with food continuing to be an invaluable tool for bringing people together.



We saw that small grants can act as powerful catalysts, often inspiring ongoing projects well beyond the initial funding, but there is also ongoing demand for larger pots of funding to develop existing initiatives. Our First Steps and Next Steps grants started to address this, and in our next year we will offer a larger pot of funding to community groups that have a proven, consistent track record of climate action.

A challenge that will shape how we structure Climate Action Hub work in the coming year is volunteer burnout, a common difficulty across the charity sector. This highlights the need for wellbeing support and accessible ways for people to get involved. As we go into 2025-26, we will highlight eco-anxiety, volunteer burnout, and wellbeing as key themes.

Key to the success of the Forth Valley Climate Action Hub is our one-to-one officer support. Each geographic area benefits from a named contact who understands the unique difficulties and challenges of climate action in their area. Partnerships are key to success: linking local knowledge with specialist expertise not only accelerates project delivery but also opens the door to new funding and opportunities.





Key Achievements



Delivered **103** events
engaging **1,793** people.



Supported **26+** community groups
with development.



Funded **55** projects through small
grants, engaging **3,526** people.



Leveraged **£440,000**
additional funding for communities.



Trained **7** Climate Leaders through
our tailored leadership programme.



2,000 trees planted through
“Trees for Goals” campaign.



38+ groups supported
via climate awareness workshops.



20 groups received tailored
fundraising support.



158 members (individuals and
community groups) now part of
our network.

Case Study

Trees for Goals

We partnered with Forth Climate Forest, TCV, Alloa Saints, and Local Storytelling Exchange to offer Alloa Saints Football Club a tree for every goal scored during the season in this pilot project. The result was 2000 trees planted in and around Alloa, 120 young players engaged, national media coverage, and an interest for a subsequent programme from other clubs.

This is a great example of how connecting climate action to community passions like

sports can inspire engagement and lasting pride in the local area. This project is being scaled up to nine football clubs across Forth Valley in the 2025-26 year.

“The response has been incredible... to hear the Club mentioned on national radio just fills all the kids with pride.”
Paul, Alloa Saints Coach

Moving Forward

The Climate Action Hub will source more funding to continue and expand on current activity. We will look towards securing an additional **£80,000** to invest in our First Steps & Next Steps grants. In 2025-26 we will remove the upper cap for Next Steps applicants, so those who have taken climate action in the past are empowered to meet their goals, no matter how ambitious.

We hope to garner applications for projects of between **£2500** and **£10,000** or more. There is scope for impactful climate action in the Forth Valley, and FEL is well placed to help our communities meet those goals.

We will also evolve our Climate Leaders programme to allow for a more flexible,

tailored approach; we'll build our resource library with more online seminars on topics of interest to our supporters and members; and we will develop the Trees for Goals pilot project to open up to nine football teams, in partnership with TCV and Climate Forest.





Active Travel



School Active Travel Hubs

Funders: Walking Scotland (previously Paths for All); Tactran; SEStran; Cycling Scotland

In the fifth year of our School Active Travel Hubs programme, we were embedded in eight high schools across Stirling, Clackmannanshire, and Falkirk. These long-term hubs provide consistent, engaging support for pupils to develop confidence, skills, and awareness around sustainable travel.

This year we introduced map-reading sessions to Route Planning, SCQF-accredited Bike Maintenance, and Active Travel Taster sessions which include rollerblading and geocaching. All delivery was aligned with the Curriculum for Excellence and Learning for Sustainability, ensuring learning was encoded within wider educational outcomes.

A key highlight was the launch of the Balfron Bike Repair Shop, co-designed and built by pupils with support from their FEL Active Schools Officer. The shop provides low-cost bike repairs for the local community while developing real world skills and capacity within the school. It represents a powerful example of how youth-led projects can respond directly to local needs while building long-term impact. The pupils taking part in the Repair Shop earned an SCQF Level 4 certificate in Bicycle Maintenance. We are keen to expand this project model to our other school hubs in the next academic period.

Key Learnings

Engagement was initially dictated by administration at the schools, especially in our new hubs, Grangemouth, Larbert, and Falkirk High Schools.

The focus began with classes timetabled for Wider Achievement, targeted year groups, or pupils referred by staff. While this approach allowed us to deliver tailored, high-quality sessions, it limited the number of pupils who had direct contact with the FEL Active Schools Officer.

To address this, we trialled pop-up sessions during lunch breaks, open to the whole school community. These informal, drop-in activities included quick skills challenges, route-mapping and try-a-bike opportunities, and were a low barrier introduction to Active Travel. They also allowed us to meet pupils who might not sign up for structured sessions but who were curious about getting involved. This wider visibility and pupil contact was greatly beneficial and allowed us to expand our offerings across each of our hubs.



Key Achievements



1,398 hours of delivery and over **15,000** engagements through the school hubs.



28 bikes repaired by pupils at Balfron Bike Repair Shop.



5 pupils trained in SCQF Level 4 Bike Maintenance at Balfron Bike Shop.



Cross school engagement through national campaigns including Bike to School Week and Walk to School Week.



643 pupils took part in the Step Count Challenge.



Our baseline and end-of-year survey received over **2000** responses each. These surveys showed that when pupils take part in our activities, they are more likely to travel actively to school than those who don't take part.

Case Study

Confidence on two wheels at Grangemouth High School

At Grangemouth High School, a group of S1 ASN pupils began the school year unable to ride a bike. Many were shy, lacked access to bikes, and had never had the chance to cycle before. Thanks to the patient support of FEL's integrated Active Travel Officers, these young people progressed step by step, gaining confidence, coordination, and pride in their achievements.

Starting with balance bikes and growing their skills over time, every pupil in the group reached the milestone of cycling with pedals. Even more impressively, the

pupils found the confidence to talk about their journey and showcase their new abilities in front of the Scottish Transport Secretary.

This transformation highlights the real impact of person-centred, integrated Active Travel support. FEL Scotland doesn't just teach Active Travel skills, we help build independence, self-belief, and social confidence. It's a full-circle success that shows how inclusive, tailored approaches can make a lasting difference in young people's lives.

A selection of feedback from pupils on this programme:

“I love getting outdoors and hearing the wind and birds, because it's too cold to get out when I'm home.”; “This is so fun, can we do this every day?”; “I love doing cycling races, it's the most fun thing in school.”

Moving Forward

A key change for 2025-26 will be designing and testing a new model for delivering Active Schools Hubs: we want to build resilience and ability in wider school communities, and one way in which we will work on doing so is by partnering with a local community group or organisation.

We will train them in our Active Schools programme, working together to meet the specific needs of the school in question, with the aim of transferring ownership of the hub to the partner after a set number of years.

Our pilot for this new approach is Linlithgow High School, and we will be

working with Linlithgow Community Development Trust to develop the relationship and programme beginning with the autumn school term in 2025. We hope to be able to facilitate an Active School Hub within each secondary institution in the whole geographic area under this model.





Community Active Travel

Funders: Walking Scotland (previously Paths for All); SEStran; Tactran; NHS Forth Valley; NHS Charities Together

Encouraging behaviour change and an embrace of Active Travel in the wider community is a cornerstone of our activity at FEL. In this period we worked with community groups and support services throughout the year on one-off activity days, or to provide information and assistance, or attend events to answer questions. We delivered Dr Bike free maintenance sessions as required, often working with familiar groups such as Safer Communities Youth Action in Tamfourhill, which provides children aged 8 to 18 with a safe environment in which to meet and play on Friday evenings.

Our e-bike library grew exponentially this year after the implementation of a new booking system. We installed new software that allows users to check which bikes are available on their preferred dates and make a selection that's right for them, without excessive communication with the workshop team. We streamlined processes making loans more transparent for our customers and much easier to manage in-house. Our e-bike library provided free access to high-quality electric bikes and e-cargo bikes as a response to rising transport poverty and the need for accessible, sustainable personal transport.

Our flagship Bike Buddies project also grew this year, gifting 350 new bikes complete with helmets and lights to Primary 7 pupils in Clackmannanshire and Falkirk. Bike Buddies is more than a one-time intervention: it's an investment in future health, opportunity, and social connection, rooted in our belief that understanding need, delivering practical solutions, and working collaboratively can create lasting, transformative change.



Key Learnings

The single biggest challenge to managing our bike library was the process required for getting customers matched with the correct bicycle for their needs, arranging a time and date to pick up and drop off, and answering questions about how to charge and store the bicycles.

In 2023 we addressed this challenge by implementing the new software system, and the results have been undeniable. This is proof that a great idea that isn't getting traction might benefit from a problem-solving solution, even one that has an initial outlay. We have been so successful in our implementation of this software system that FEL Scotland is now used as a case study to show bike shops and rental services around the world what can be achieved. In 2024-25, community rentals rose to 272 — more than triple the 86 recorded the year before.



Key Achievements

e-Bike Public Library



272 rentals

13,294 rentals days up **3,999** on the previous 12 months.



4x models of cargo bike within top **10** most rented bikes.



Top **10** most rented bikes made up **20%** of total rentals.



High demand on the service saw an average lead time of 5 weeks for rentals.



Added an additional **35** e-bikes and **3** cargo bikes across all our 'fleets' to meet demand.

Bike Buddies 24/25 School Year



Worked with **35** primary schools across Clackmannanshire and Falkirk to deliver over **350** new bikes to pupils, an increase of almost double vs the previous year.



Every school offered a Dr. Bike to service and repair the bikes of pupils not eligible for a new bike.



And (weather allowing) a led ride between the primary school and the secondary school the pupils would be attending come August.

Case Study

Cycling for Connection with Barnardo's

In partnership with Barnardo's, we co-designed a cycling programme for young people aged 16–24 facing instability, social isolation, and a lack of structured weekly activity. Many participants had limited opportunities to build confidence, routine, and social connections.

Our response combined practical cycle skills training with led rides and group activities, creating a safe, supportive environment where young people could develop both technical ability and self-esteem.

By embedding youth voices throughout, the programme was tailored to their needs and aspirations.

Each group concluded with a celebratory ride around Loch Katrine, including a steamship trip, and every participant received a bicycle with a full accessories bundle—ensuring lasting impact beyond the programme.

The project demonstrated how thoughtful design and strong partnerships can empower young people to improve wellbeing, build connections, and embrace active lifestyles.

“I got a brand-new bike from the Barnardo's Gearing Up programme and since getting my new bike I'm getting out of the house each day. I have really bad anxiety and don't get out of the house that much at all. Now I'm out every day visiting people, seeing friends, it's one of the best things I've got. I use the bike every day and I think it really benefits young people. The Loch Katrine trip was great as well!” – Kieran, a Gearing Up participant.

Moving Forward

The success of our e-bike library has bolstered our commitment to providing options for those wishing to cycle, whether for work or leisure. In 2025-26 we will move to a paid model for e-bike loans, on a sliding scale and prioritising free loans for those facing the greatest fuel poverty in our regions.

In this way we will be able to put income directly back into management of the e-bike library, securing more options, offering longer-term loans of up to six months, and encouraging behaviour change that will lead to a greater use of Stirling's Walk, Cycle, Live pathways.

We will also focus on building our fleet of adaptive bikes and working with both existing and new partners to ensure disabled children and adults can all access a bike and a solution that works for their specific criteria, to enable even more people to experience the convenience and carbon-saving of travelling actively, and the joy of cycling.





Food and Growing



Food and Growing

Funders: Falkirk Council – Shared Prosperity Fund; Forth Climate Forest

Working in partnership with Falkirk Council, and with funding from UK Shared Prosperity Fund, we completed a two-year project that primarily sought to increase community resilience through the delivery of a programme of cooking skills initiatives. By working with community groups, we established skills, knowledge and confidence around cooking from scratch, cooking on a budget, and planet friendly cooking. Workshops with Falkirk's Mental Health Association (FDAMH) made pizzas with foraged ingredients, marrying an outdoor activity with cooking knowledge; we made healthier waffles with Rainbow Muslim Women's Group; and a request for help led to 'fakeaway' cooking workshops for adults at Tamfourhill Community Hub.

We also hosted a number of community meals in partnership with FDAMH, Sustainable Thinking Scotland, and GEM in Grangemouth. By listening to what our communities were asking for, we also sourced funding from Forth Climate Forest to distribute 200 fruit and nut trees in Alloa and Grangemouth, for free, where the tree equity score identified highest need.

As we move into planning for our next year, we will focus more on capacity building our community group contacts to deliver their own food workshops by providing our resources and toolkits, and will turn our attentions to assisting growing projects across Falkirk, Clackmannanshire, and Stirling.

Key Learnings:

A key challenge in our project delivery this year has been the closure of community spaces, particularly in Falkirk. As they prepare for transition to closure or community ownership, we have found hired kitchen spaces increasingly lack the equipment needed or become unavailable entirely with little notice. This has sometimes led to finding an alternative space or date at short notice.

We also struggled with high sign-up numbers and low in-person attendance, coupled with difficulty in collecting valuable, and required, signatures of attendance and survey responses. With these challenges in mind, and with no clear means to addressing them, we will focus on the growing aspect of our theme in the coming year and instead of delivering cooking workshops ourselves, will instead build capacity in group leaders to feel confident delivering these workshops themselves, using our resources and toolkits.

Forth Climate Forest 
Communities • Canopy • Connectivity • Carbon


Falkirk Council





Key Achievements



404

people engaged overall.



3

network gatherings.



14

cooking workshops.



6

community meals.



9

partnership meetings.



3

growing workshops.



3

talks & presentations.



5

Garden Buddies events & training sessions.

Case Study

Affordable Cooking & Nutrition Workshop

As part of our series of interactive, skills-based workshops, we delivered a session focused on affordable cooking and nutrition awareness for patients and staff. Designed to build confidence and practical skills, the workshop gave participants a choice of two simple, healthy recipes: a nourishing soup and a two-ingredient banana ice cream. With ingredients pre-prepared, the group engaged in a hands-on cooking experience that emphasised low-cost, nutritious meals.

Tasty, easy-to-follow recipes not only encourage healthier habits but also spark open conversations around food, helping to

increase skills, confidence, and wellbeing. Beyond equipping participants with new skills, the workshop also supported staff to feel more confident in leading similar cooking activities independently in the future.

One participant reflected: “I now feel more confident in how to eat healthy. It has been fantastic for my anxiety and low mood. I eat a lot more healthy snacks.”

Moving Forward

As community groups and their participants gain more knowledge and understanding of issues surrounding food and the climate, we can see a growing interest in orchards and other climate-friendly agricultural methods.

We will deepen understanding of orchards in Falkirk, and offer a one-on-one mentorship experience between our orchardists, other

experts, and community groups keen for this knowledge.

As part of this change, we'll also develop a brand-new Growing Leadership programme to sit alongside our Climate Action Hub Climate Leaders offering, allowing our community members to approach learning in a flexible, tailored way which fits their needs exactly. Our goal for the future is to support our communities in achieving the goals they set for themselves.



A man wearing a blue jacket, a helmet, and sunglasses is riding a black cargo bike on a paved path. The bike has a large black storage box on the back. The path is surrounded by lush green grass and trees with yellow and green foliage. In the background, there are more trees and a building. The sky is blue with some clouds.

Looking to the Future

FEL Scotland's next chapter is shaped by scale, ambition, and a clear commitment to national priorities.

Building on a year of practical delivery in 2024-25, FEL is ready to deepen its role in supporting Scotland's transition to a fairer, greener future. From school-based repair hubs and food workshops to local grants and green spaces, we have seen how community-led action can deliver real results. In 2025-26, we will build on these foundations to deliver broader impact across energy, climate, wellbeing and inclusion.

Our work is aligned with FEL's Strategic Plan to 2030, and rooted in our Three Steps to Sustainability: designing solutions, testing what works, and scaling for impact. With this approach, we will continue to support local ambition while contributing to wider policy goals across climate, health, economy and equity.

Our Priorities for 2025–26:

Energy

In early 2025 we were successful in securing funding from Energy Saving's Trust Energy Redress Scheme to launch our new Energy programme, focused on tackling fuel poverty and embedding retrofit support into everyday community life. This project began in earnest in February 2025 with research and fact-finding, and as we move further into 2025 we will bring in an experienced team of energy advisors, as well as seconding a renewables expert to assist with retrofit and upgrades in community spaces, in partnership with Community Energy Scotland.

This work will help both households and vital community groups cut costs and reduce emissions, addressing both the climate emergency and the rising cost of living. It will also support Scotland's wider ambitions on just transition and heat decarbonisation.

Active Travel

We will scale our cycling initiatives by expanding Bike Buddies with mentoring and family support, growing the e-bike library network, and rolling out pupil-led repair shops to more schools. This will improve transport access, reduce emissions, and support healthier lifestyles, particularly in communities with limited mobility options.

Skills and Community Resilience

We will create clearer routes into green jobs, through internships, accredited training, and volunteering. A new round of larger grants will support experienced community groups to strengthen and scale their climate action, linking local innovation with long-term economic opportunity.



Nature and Climate

FEL will expand nature-based programmes, including the roll-out of Trees for Goals to nine football clubs and integrating orchard planting into local food security efforts. We will continue to promote the role of green spaces in health, wellbeing and community resilience.

Wellbeing and Inclusion

We will design support that places wellbeing at the centre of climate action. This includes work to address eco-anxiety, prevent volunteer burnout, and ensure that people feel valued, connected and supported in their contribution to change.

Organisational Strength and Investment

FEL will continue to build a strong and sustainable organisation. We will secure long-term investment across our core areas of Food and Growing, Climate, Active Travel, and Energy, strengthen our evidence base, and grow our role as a trusted national delivery partner.

Across everything we do, we will remain focused on what works: practical action, meaningful collaboration, and long-term impact. Through our tested approach and strategic focus, FEL is ready to help shape the next phase of community-led climate action in Scotland.



Financial Summary

FEL Scotland ended the financial year to 31 March 2025 in a strong and stable position, recording a modest surplus and an increase in reserves.

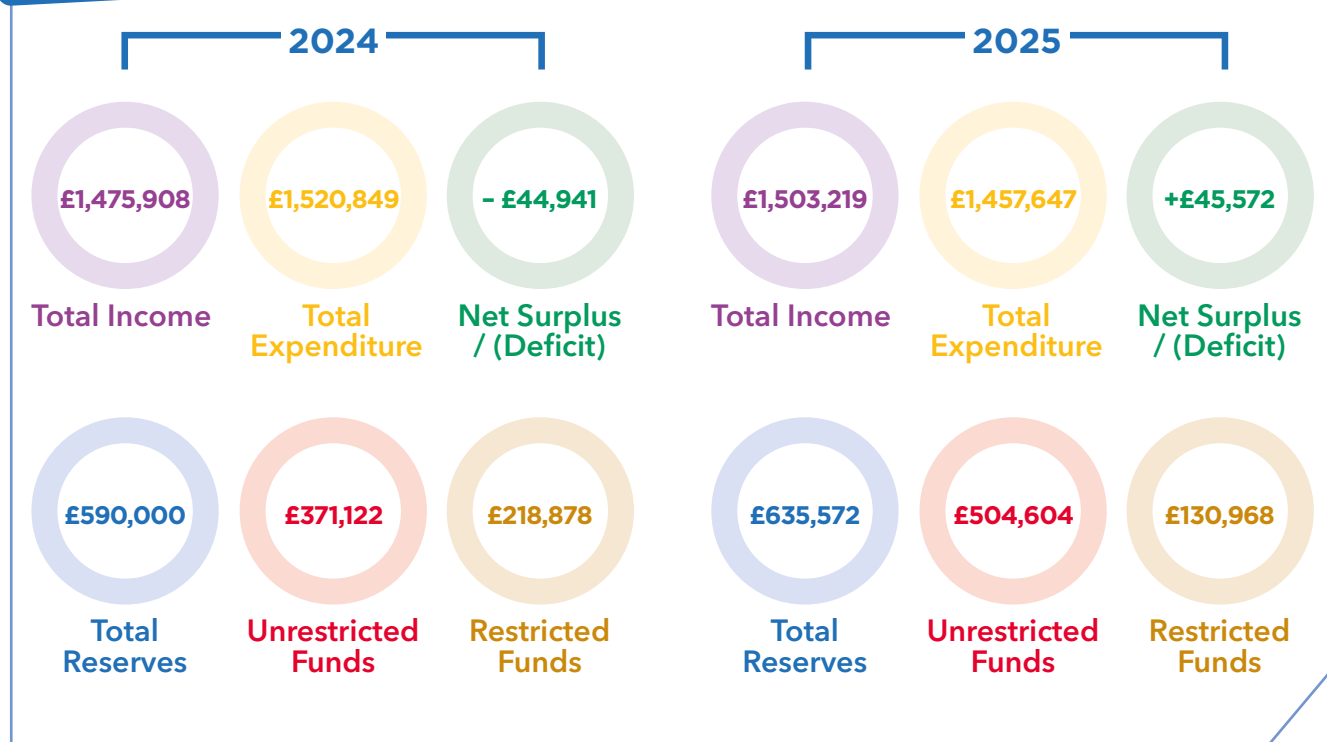
Total income for the year was just over **£1.5 million**, with expenditure of around **£1.46 million**, reflecting effective financial management and sustainable delivery across our core programmes.

Our main funders included the Scottish Government, Paths for All (Walking Scotland), SEStran and Tactran, Falkirk, Stirling and Clackmannanshire Councils, Cycling Scotland, Energy Saving Trust, NHS Forth Valley, and the University of Stirling.

At year end, total reserves stood at **£635,572**, providing a solid foundation to deliver our Strategic Plan to 2030 and continue supporting community-led climate action across Scotland.

At a Glance

(Year Ended 31 March)







Changing our world for the better
Project by project

FEL 

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