

AGAR 2025/26

Annual Governance Statements

Name of Authority: Cotswolds Conservation Board

Web address: <https://www.cotswolds-nl.org.uk>

We acknowledge, as the members of the above authority, our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2026, that:

We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements. Yes

We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness. Yes

We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this Authority to conduct its business or manage its finances. Yes

We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations. Yes

We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this Authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required. Yes

We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems. Yes

We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit. Yes

We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this Authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements. Yes

We have put in place arrangements for the effective IT and data management in accordance with proper practices during the year under review. Yes

For any statement to which the response is 'no', an explanation follows on the next page.

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a meeting of the authority on:

On this date As recorded in minute reference

Signed by the Chair and Clerk of the meeting where approval was given:

Signed by Chair Signed by Clerk

*Published web address

Accounting Statements

Name of Authority: Cotswolds Conservation Board

Key	Year ending 31 March 2025	Year ending 31 March 2026
Balances brought forward	£1,244,770	£1,330,563
Precept	£0	£0
Total other receipts	£4,240,142	£3,694,157
Staff Costs	£1,051,274	£1,101,850
Loan interest/capital repayments	£0	£0
All other payments	£3,103,075	£2,379,966
Balances carried forward	£1,330,563	£1,542,904
Total value of cash and short term investments	£2,151,579	£2,819,918
Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	£144,429	£157,405
Total borrowings	£0	£0

*The figures in bold above are restated

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2026 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval:

Signed by the Responsible Financial Officer

Date

I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

On this date

As recorded in minute reference

Signed by Chair

Restated figures

Do you need to restate figures from your previous years annual statements?

Yes