

27nd February, 2025

Statement on AWT income for services delivered to States of Alderney, 2024

Service Level Agreement

Since its founding in 2002 the AWT has made every effort to support the objectives of the States of Alderney (SoA), where they are relevant to its charitable aims and objectives.

As part of this support the AWT originally received a grant of £15,000 p.a, to provide services that the SoA no longer had the resources to deliver or required environmental specialists. This work included maintaining SoA footpaths. In 2020 this grant was formalized under a Service Level Agreement with the SoA. The level of services delivered was the same as that in 2002 (approximately 1,000hrs), with the value of the works being increased to £16,000 (equivalent to just 1% of the Public Works Budget in 2024).

In 2023 the SLA was reviewed at the request of the General Services Committee Chair, Mrs. Lin Maurice. This review established that the value of services provided had not kept pace with inflation. As no further funding was available GSC approved an increase in the valuation of the AWT's time, setting it at approximately 60% that of SoA staff costs.

In 2024 the AWT undertook approximately 720hrs work, including providing 96hrs of tractor work. The primary areas of the SLA were:

1. maintaining over 20km of footpaths for public access, including maintenance of steps, information points, bird hides, nature reserves and signage.
2. providing support to the SoA's Public Works Department including monitoring and responding to the threat of invasive species on the island which threaten native species.
3. providing support to the SoA's Planning Department.

The SLA meets the SoA's strategic priority of protecting, enhancing and promoting the environment as well as its declared priorities, namely "*employment for local people, delivering direct benefit to residents, encouraging tourism and involving people in improving island life*".

Alderney Community Woodland (ACW)

Up until 2023 the SoA provided a grant of £1,000p.a. towards tree planting and aftercare for the ACW. Since the late 1990s the SoA has not carried out any significant tree planting. Alongside the SoA's tree planting grant the AWT was able to raise additional funds to allow for the clearing of the ACW area, creation of public facilities (including the woodland trail, signage, woodland bunker, children's area etc) and the planting of more than 15,000 trees. The ACW has more than doubled the area of native trees on Alderney since it was created.

In 2023 GSC did not process the ACW grant application submitted, and the AWT was unable to secure a slot to speak to the Committee about the reasoning for this. The AWT now covers all the costs of tree planting, on SoA land, from its charitable funds.

Ramsar Budget

The SoA established a budget for its Internationally important marine wetland site in 2007. This site was designated under the Ramsar Convention, in 2005, and it subsequently took 2 years for the SoA to publish

its first Alderney Ramsar Strategy (ARS). This budget is shown as a grant in States accounts; however, **all parties** that actively participate in the SoA's ARS plans can request cost recovery for materials and travel etc related to SoA **approved works** which they undertake within the Ramsar site.

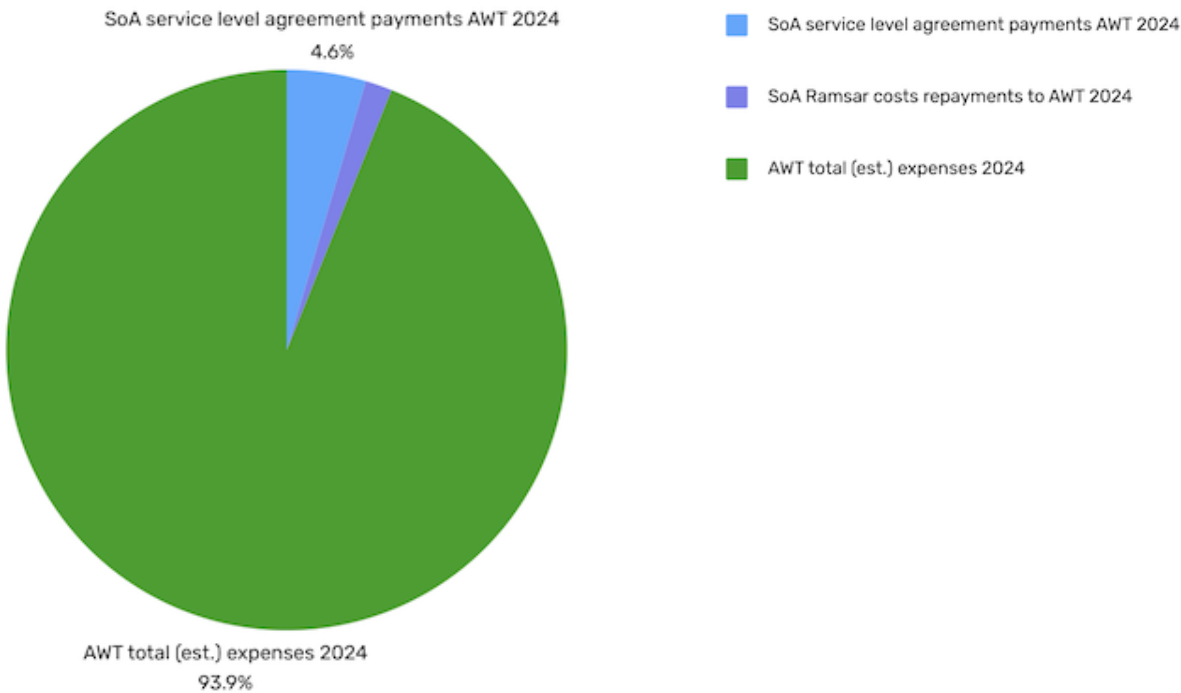
- In 2024 the AWT recovered £5,440 in costs from the SoA, 1.5% of its total costs in the same year (see fig 1.). This included cost of the boat crew and fuel for Ramsar specific work, as well as materials, and a contribution to the accommodation of visiting volunteers.
- the AWT's 2024 internal Ramsar costs included:
 - o 300hrs + of pro-bono support to the States of Alderney in the administration of the site. This time given free of charge is worth £18,000 of lost earnings to the AWT's professional consultancy. The AWT's consultant provides this service directly to the SoA's Operations Team and the General Services Committee.
 - o Over 1,600hrs of staff ecologist time in the monitoring of the site's wildlife, direct action including clearance of rubbish, production of public reports and publication of records (valued at £27,000)
 - o The maintenance of a commercial coded work boat (Sula of Braye). The costs of operating Sula in 2024 were approximately £17,500 (2024 accounts pending finalization).

In 2024 the AWT provided services valued at over £60K for a recovery of costs of just £5,440 a 1:11 ratio of benefit in services to the SoA. The AWT's contribution was paid for through charitable funds and the efforts of staff and volunteers.

Other Grants

The AWT occasionally applies for one-off grants for other projects which are often match funded. No such grants were sought in 2024.

Fig 1. States of Alderney payments for services/materials to AWT as a percentage of the AWT's expenses in 2024



AWT costs calculated prior to completion and certification of 2024 accounts and based on the best data available on 01.02.2025

Conclusion

The AWT received no other funding from the States of Alderney in 2024. All other AWT funding is generated by the AWT, including consultancy and other contract work, grants from other charitable bodies and public donations. The AWT publishes its approved accounts and reporting via its website for the public record.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Heath". The script is cursive and fluid.

Brian Heath, MBE
Chair, Alderney Wildlife Trust
(Digital signature)