

**Strategic Report, Report of the Directors and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024
for
Sustainability West Midlands**

Sustainability West Midlands

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Sustainability West Midlands

**Company Information
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

DIRECTORS:

A Bassford
D K Kalirai
T Miller
C A Pollard
H Smith
P Balu
A Bright
J R Gerrard
L H Harris
M Nazir
G O Oludotun
A Bloom

REGISTERED OFFICE:

c/o Locke Williams Associates LLP
Blackthorn House
St Pauls Square
Birmingham
West Midlands
B3 1RL

REGISTERED NUMBER:

04390508 (England and Wales)

Sustainability West Midlands
Strategic Report
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The directors present their strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2024.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND BUSINESS REVIEW

Our Vision for the West Midlands:

The West Midlands is leading in contributing to the national target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 whilst addressing health inequality and driving inclusive growth.

Our Vision for our Business

Making the West Midlands region more sustainable, fairer and greener for all.

Our Mission

SWM is the first choice in providing sustainability advice to the leaders of the West Midlands. SWM is recognised by leaders in government, businesses, the public sector and third sector as the best organisation to go to for sustainability solutions and inspiration - to create new jobs, cut costs and carbon emissions, and improve health and wellbeing.

Our Values

Business led and business like - we seek and expect others to maintain personal and professional standards.

Creative and positive - we are always learning and looking for better ways of working with others.

Respectful - we respect nature's limits and the needs of future generations, we respect each other and celebrate our diversity so that everyone can give their best.

Our Role

Innovation: Using new ideas, technologies, services and processes to make positive changes quicker and more effectively.

Leadership: Leading by example and promoting the ideas and perspectives of influencers and policymakers who can inspire and make a difference.

Collaboration: Enabling the identification of partnerships and brokering connections between sectors to develop more powerful, sustainable solutions.

Celebrating success: Sharing good practice and promoting the achievements of our members and stakeholders and enabling these to be scaled up and applied elsewhere.

REVIEW OF BUSINESS 2023-24

In many ways, this has been an incredibly successful year for Sustainability West Midlands (SWM). We have significantly grown our pipeline of projects and focussed on relationship development with a view to future growth. However, it has been a financially challenging year for the organisation, as shown with the decrease in turnover from £366,477 in 2022-23 to £287,418 in 2023-24, resulting in a loss of £54,032. We go into 2024-25 confident that our hard work in 2023-24 will come to fruition and provide positive results.

We have developed our new Business Plan to 2030 with ambitious targets for growth, providing focus on our key goals, and certainty for our board, staff and volunteers.

Sustainability West Midlands

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

REVIEW OF BUSINESS 2023-24 - CONTINUED

We have developed a strong pipeline of future projects, working with both existing and new customers. We continue to diversify our customer base, working with key organisations both within and outside the West Midlands. We delivered support to national organisations including Innovate UK and the Waste & Resources Action Programme. We sit on the Board of the Midlands Net Zero Hub and the Midlands Engine Green Growth Board.

We continued to support the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) through management of their West Midlands Net Zero Business Pledge, launched in partnership with the Mayor in March 2021 and now with over 120 pledged organisations. We are the low carbon lead for the West Midlands Innovation Programme. We are supporting many local authorities in the development of their approach to sustainability, including Coventry, Herefordshire and Rugby councils. We undertook our eighth annual benchmark of West Midlands local authority sustainability progress and performance. We continued to grow our support offer related to climate change adaptation and resilience. In collaboration with the Environment Agency, we published guidance for farmers and land managers on saving and making money in a changing climate and 'Adapt to Survive', a toolkit and suite of resources to help the healthcare sector develop their work on climate change risks, impacts and adaptation actions. We also supported the WMCA with an economic impact assessment of climate change on the economy of the region.

We extended the breath of our support to the education sector, working with Aston University, Coventry and Solihull colleges to support their approach to sustainability as part of their curriculum, as well as on campus. We sit on the Strategic Employer Advisory Board for University College Birmingham.

We retained over 95% of our existing members and welcomed 56 new and exciting members with the greatest rate of growth being the private sector. We launched our new 'Supporting Member' offer and secured The Crown Estate as our first member in this category. Our cross-sector members are committed to supporting us in our vision and mission.

FORWARD LOOK FOR 2024-25

We will strengthen our financial position and build on the foundations of pipeline development to deliver many new and exciting projects across the region, focussed both on climate change mitigation and adaptation, and will grow our team to do so. We will continue to provide support to partners such as the WMCA and the Innovation Alliance for the West Midlands, as well as individual councils, education providers and businesses. We will support and increase our membership, particularly in under-represented sectors and areas. We will support young people by providing placement opportunities for students and recent graduates, and the Young Director position on our board. We will work with our External Advisory Committee, who provide independent advice, on the direction and operation of our organisation. We will build on recent work on an Equalities, Diversity & Inclusion Action Plan and work with partners to improve our approach to ensure that our operations represent the diversity of the West Midlands and recognise the value of inclusion of people of all backgrounds. We hope to inspire others to champion diversity. We will publish the latest monitoring in relation to our Sustainability Roadmap to 2030 for the West Midlands.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:



A Bright - Director

3 December 2024

Sustainability West Midlands

Report of the Directors for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The directors present their report with the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

DIRECTORS

The directors shown below have held office during the whole of the period from 1 April 2023 to the date of this report.

A Bassford
D K Kalirai
T Miller
C A Pollard
H Smith
J R Gerrard

Other changes in directors holding office are as follows:

M J Beveridge - resigned 14 July 2023
N Templeton - resigned 15 May 2023
S Thompson - resigned 6 July 2023
P Balu - appointed 15 May 2023
A Bright - appointed 17 April 2023
L H Harris - appointed 4 May 2023
M Nazir - appointed 6 April 2023
G O Oludotun - appointed 6 April 2023
A Bloom - appointed 27 November 2023

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:



C A Pollard - Director

3 December 2024

Sustainability West Midlands

**Income Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

	Notes	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
TURNOVER		287,418	366,477
Cost of sales		<u>52,422</u>	<u>93,823</u>
GROSS SURPLUS		234,996	272,654
Administrative expenses		<u>288,488</u>	<u>268,592</u>
		(53,492)	4,062
Other operating income		<u>52</u>	<u>-</u>
OPERATING (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS		(53,440)	4,062
Interest payable and similar expenses		<u>592</u>	<u>783</u>
(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS BEFORE TAXATION		(54,032)	3,279
Tax on (deficit)/surplus	4	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		<u>(54,032)</u>	<u>3,279</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Sustainability West Midlands (Registered number: 04390508)

**Balance Sheet
31 March 2024**

	Notes	31.3.24	31.3.23
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	5	4,251	6,704
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	6	36,259	35,275
Cash at bank		<u>64,079</u>	<u>132,620</u>
		100,338	167,895
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>91,750</u>	<u>99,818</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>8,588</u>	<u>68,077</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		12,839	74,781
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due after more than one year	8	<u>11,549</u>	<u>19,459</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>1,290</u>	<u>55,322</u>
RESERVES			
Income and expenditure account	9	<u>1,290</u>	<u>55,322</u>
		<u>1,290</u>	<u>55,322</u>

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 3 December 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



C A Pollard - Director

The notes form part of these financial statements

Sustainability West Midlands

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

Sustainability West Midlands is a private company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number and registered office address can be found on the Company Information page.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£).

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" including the provisions of Section 1A "Small Entities" and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Going concern

Since the balance sheet date, the directors can report the interim results for the six months to 30 September 2024 to be a surplus of £35,473, which has returned the company's reserves position to £36,763. Details of these interim accounts can be found on our website.

The company continues to be reliant on revenue from project work, which is naturally variable in its size and timing. In making their assessment of going concern, the directors have reviewed the company's forecasts and project work for the coming year and, on an assessment of reasonable expectation of project work to be won, have concluded that the company will have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Turnover

Turnover is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts, rebates, value added tax and other sales taxes.

Income recognised as follows:

- a) Funding which is specifically attributable to a project is recognised in the period in which the relevant expenditure relating to that project is incurred.
- b) General core funding, which is not specifically attributable to a project, is recognised in the period in which it is received

Tangible fixed assets

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

Computer equipment - 20% on cost

All assets with a cost of over £500 are capitalised.

Sustainability West Midlands

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Financial instruments

Financial instruments are recognised in the company's balance sheet when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, bank loans, loans from fellow group companies and preference shares that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Taxation

Taxation for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the Income Statement, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity.

Current or deferred taxation assets and liabilities are not discounted.

Current tax is recognised at the amount of tax payable using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred tax

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date.

Timing differences arise from the inclusion of income and expenses in tax assessments in periods different from those in which they are recognised in financial statements. Deferred tax is measured using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the year end and that are expected to apply to the reversal of the timing difference.

Unrelieved tax losses and other deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the company to the fund in respect of the year. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in independently administered funds.

Sustainability West Midlands

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

3. EMPLOYEES AND DIRECTORS

The average number of employees during the year was 7 (2023 - 6).

4. TAXATION

Analysis of the tax charge

No liability to UK corporation tax arose for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

**Computer
equipment
£**

COST

At 1 April 2023
and 31 March 2024

12,266

DEPRECIATION

At 1 April 2023
Charge for year

5,562
2,453

At 31 March 2024

8,015

NET BOOK VALUE

At 31 March 2024

4,251

At 31 March 2023

6,704

6. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Trade debtors	35,487	34,096
Other debtors	<u>772</u>	<u>1,179</u>
	<u>36,259</u>	<u>35,275</u>

7. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	7,910	7,714
Trade creditors	12,173	4,598
Taxation and social security	14,996	23,217
Other creditors	<u>56,671</u>	<u>64,289</u>
	<u>91,750</u>	<u>99,818</u>

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Bank loans	<u>11,549</u>	<u>19,459</u>

Sustainability West Midlands

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

9. RESERVES

	Income and expenditure account £
At 1 April 2023	55,322
Deficit for the year	<u>(54,032)</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>1,290</u>

10. LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

The company is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the company in the event of liquidation

Sustainability West Midlands

Detailed Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	31.3.24		31.3.23	
	£	£	£	£
Sales		287,418		366,477
Cost of sales				
Events costs	4,725		2,021	
Design, Printing and Website	700		6,363	
Consultancy	<u>46,997</u>		<u>85,439</u>	
		<u>52,422</u>		<u>93,823</u>
GROSS SURPLUS		234,996		272,654
Other income				
Sundry receipts		<u>52</u>		<u>-</u>
		235,048		272,654
Expenditure				
Rent, rates and water	9,000		8,700	
Insurance	2,562		1,434	
Salaries and social security	241,022		219,699	
Staff pension contributions	9,527		11,829	
Travel and subsistence	5,409		2,903	
Printing, stationery and postage	206		417	
Other office administrative expenses	9,130		7,515	
Staff training	451		1,665	
Recruitment Costs	304		94	
Membership fees	768		1,305	
Sundry expenses	878		465	
Payroll & bookkeeping	1,317		1,193	
Legal & professional fees	961		1,675	
Finance Director support	4,500		7,200	
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets				
Computer equipment	2,453		2,347	
Entertainment	<u>-</u>		<u>151</u>	
		<u>288,488</u>		<u>268,592</u>
		(53,440)		4,062
Finance costs				
Bank loan interest		<u>592</u>		<u>783</u>
NET (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS		<u>(54,032)</u>		<u>3,279</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements