

## Summer report 2024

This report gives some examples of what we have done so far in 2024. We have awarded more than £3.3m to fourteen charities.

So far this year our Donor Board, Lisbet Rausing and Sigrid Koerner, have made further grants to organizations that tackle chemical pollution, alongside renewals of our support for Citizen Zoo and Great Dixter, grants that help young people connect with and champion nature, and grants for environmental projects in Scotland. We have also renamed our programme of funding in the High Weald and launched a fellowship scheme that will run alongside it.

If you are a donor or grantmaker that would like to find out more about the organizations we support, we would be happy to speak with you. Contact <a href="mailto:Andrew.Wright@lundtrust.org.uk">Andrew.Wright@lundtrust.org.uk</a> or <a href="mailto:Olivia.Dryden@lundtrust.org.uk">Olivia.Dryden@lundtrust.org.uk</a>.

Lund Trust's vision is a UK where everyone benefits from and enjoys thriving nature.

We aim to fund transformative work that greens people's lives.

## Grants awarded so far in 2024

Grant recipient	Project	Amount	Duration
Total		£3.33m	
CHEM Trust	Towards core costs, to improve the regulation of chemicals in the UK.	£500k	Five years
Great Dixter Charitable Trust	Towards core costs, to support community and biodiversity work.	£500k	Five years
<u>Citizen Zoo</u>	Towards core costs, to support urban rewilding.	£500k	Five years
Action for Conservation	Towards core costs, to inspire future conservationists.	£300k	Three years
Wildlife & Countryside Link	Towards a policy officer to work on the chemical taskforce.	£280k	Five years
East Sussex County Council	Towards community and nature projects in the High Weald.	£264k	Ongoing
<u>Sustain</u>	Towards work to improve pesticide policy in the UK.	£250k	Five years

Grant recipient	Project	Amount	Duration
<u>Nature Friendly Farming</u> <u>Network</u>	Towards work to improve pesticide policy in the UK.	£250k	Five years
<u>UK Youth 4 Nature</u>	Towards core cost, to engage young people in campaigns against chemical pollution.	£225k	Three years
<u>Trees for Life</u>	To support tree planting in Scotland.	£225k	Five years
<u>Youngwilders</u>	Towards core costs, to support a youth-led consultancy.	£150k	Three years
Highlands & Islands Environment Foundation	To provide grants for environmental projects in Scotland.	£100k	Five years
Pesticide Action Network UK	To undertake a scoping project looking at journalism and campaigns.	£8k	One year
<u>Urban Agriculture Consortium</u>	To run a workshop on the future or urban agriculture and create a manifesto.	£6.95k	One year

We also made gifts to a range of other causes our donors especially care about. You can find information on all our grants on our <u>website</u> and <u>360 Giving</u>.

### **Highlights from 2024**

#### **CHEM Trust**

<u>CHEM Trust</u> aims to protect people and the environment from the negative effects of chemicals. It uses evidence from scientific research to advocate for better chemical regulation and policies. It focuses on hormone-disrupting chemicals found in many consumer products, including shampoos, soft furnishings, clothes, phones, and children's toys. Research has shown that exposure to these chemicals contributes to increases in incidences of neurodevelopmental, reproductive, and metabolic disorders like diabetes and obesity, as well as some cancers.

We awarded £500,000 to CHEM Trust to support its work in the UK. Part of our funding is towards its core costs and part is towards CHEM Trust's internship programme, which provides young people interested in entering the sector a chance to spend a year learning from CHEM Trust's experts. The internship helps to increase the number of experts in an under-resourced field. Progressing this type of work requires skilled staff to translate the science, influence policy and collaborate with partners.

This grant is part of our work to reduce chemical pollution in the UK. Since 2023, we have awarded six grants to organizations addressing this issue. We are particularly interested in work that reduces the use of pesticides. Our grantees include Pesticide Action Network UK, Sustain, the Nature Friendly Farming Network, Wildlife and Countryside Link and UK Youth 4 Nature. We share CHEM Trust's view that policy and regulation change is needed to reduce chemical pollution, so our grants support organizations that campaign for these changes. We know that progress in this area takes time, which is why we provide multi-year grants.

Work on chemical pollution is underfunded. The <u>Environmental Funders Network</u> found that less than 2% of funding from UK foundations goes to environmental causes, and less than 1% of that to work solely focused on toxic chemicals and pollution. We are keen to speak to any funders interested in supporting this work in the UK.

#### Young people and nature

Some of our recent grants are to organizations that strengthen young people's environmentalism.

<u>Action for Conservation</u>, <u>Youngwilders</u> and <u>UK Youth 4</u>
<u>Nature</u> all help young people to build their knowledge and skills and to turn their passion for nature into positive action in different ways.

Action for Conservation's focus is on 'building the next generation of nature conservationists'. Its work in schools, its summer camps, its ambassador programme and its intergenerational land management projects all help young people to connect with nature, giving them opportunities to embrace and act on their passion for the environment.

Youngwilders is run by and for young people aged 18 to 30. It provides a consultancy service for landowners. Young people gain knowledge and skills by taking part in rewilding projects. It currently manages 200 acres in England, with a waiting list of landowners that want to work with it. Youngwilders also runs a youth rewilding summit at Knepp Estate.

Right: Winter tree identification skills at a woodland pasture project in Essex

Photo credit: Youngwilders

UK Youth for Nature empowers young people aged 16 to 35 to campaign for political action on the nature crisis. It works with voluntary community organisers and its wider network of young people to provide opportunities for them to learn new skills, speak at conferences, attend parliamentary receptions and design and deliver campaigns. Its two main campaigns – on clean water and urban greening – both have a focus on chemical pollution, complementing our other funding in that area.



#### **High Weald Nature and Community Fund**

This year, we changed the name of our grant programme in the High Weald from Sussex Lund to the High Weald Nature and Community Fund, which better reflects the geography and scope of its work.

The <u>High Weald Nature and Community Fund</u> supports work that benefits people and the environment across the High Weald, in parts of Surrey, East Sussex, West Sussex and Kent. This includes the villages and towns in and around the High Weald, such as Heathfield, Crowborough, Battle, Horsham, Crawley, East Grinstead, Haywards Heath, Uckfield, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge, Tenterden, Rye and Hastings. The High Weald National Landscape team runs the fund.

In 2024, with the High Weald National Landscape team, we launched the <u>Lund Fellowship</u>, which will help people with a connection to the High Weald to gain knowledge and skills that benefit the community and landscape. We will award one or two fellowships a year. Recipients can use the funding for a range of activities, including going to conferences, visiting organizations doing interesting work and attending training courses. At the end of the fellowship, we will ask participants to share what they have learned to inform and inspire others.

Right: Tree planting at Columns Wood, Robertsbridge

#### Internships

Each year, our summer interns research areas of interest to us. Their research helps guide our future grant-making and keeps us informed about issues that are important to us.

We have recruited two interns this year. Varun Bhattacharyya is doing a dual MSc in Environmental Management and Economics and Climate change at Peking University and the London School of Economics. He will look at the divergence of EU and UK environmental policy and its potential impact on UK nature. Charlotte Boggon, who is doing a BA in Geography at Newnham College, Cambridge, will look at urban greening using the area around our London office as a case study.

You can read reports by our past interns on our website.



# Find out more on our website.

