



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
	05	03	2025		31	12	2025

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Society of Agriculture

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

1212403

Charity's principal address

The Farm Office, Redend Farm, Station Road, Pilning

Bristol

Postcode

BS35 4JW

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Richard Anthony Price	Trustee	05.03.25 – 31.12.25	Society of Agriculture
2	David Meredith	Trustee	05.03.25 - 31.12.25	Society of Agriculture
3	Wendy Jenkins	Trustee	05.03.25 - 31.12.25	Society of Agriculture
4	Simon Britton	Chair	05.03.25 - 31.12.25	Society of Agriculture
5	Mark Andrew Everett Suthern	Trustee	05.03.25 - 31.12.25	Society of Agriculture
6	Thomas Anthony Louis Brunt	Treasurer	05.03.25 - 31.12.25	Society of Agriculture
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Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Victoria Bywater

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by members

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

All current policies and rules are published on the Society's website:

<https://soc-ag.org/about-us/governance/>

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The charitable purposes of the CIO are to advance the education of the public in the subject of Agricultural Management and Operation by such charitable means as the trustees in their discretion think fit, particularly but not exclusively by:

- (a) Maintaining and improving the standards and practice of Agricultural Management and Operation;
- (b) Promoting all aspects of Agricultural Management and Operation, especially in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
- (c) Encouraging the study of Agricultural Management and Operation;

“Agricultural Management and Operation” includes but is not limited to all aspects of the science, production, conservation, amenity, economics and art of managing, marketing, consulting about and otherwise supporting the management and operation of agriculture and related rural businesses, their products and services.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity’s aims and objectives and in planning its future activities.

During the accounting period, the Charity was in its planning and establishment phase and had not yet commenced its full programme of activities. The Trustees’ work during the period focused on preparing the Charity for launch on the 1st of January 2026, including developing its membership structure, governance arrangements, planned activities and future programme of member and sector engagement.

The Trustees consider that the Charity’s planned activities will further its charitable purposes and provide public benefit by supporting the advancement of agricultural knowledge, professional standards and education across the agricultural sector.

Following launch, the Charity intends to deliver public benefit through activities including:

- structured levels of membership;
- representation of members at consultations, on national committees and in sector discussions;
- professional development and leadership training;
- organisation of national conferences;
- activities for students and early-career professionals;
- online continuing professional development opportunities;
- networking events; and
- support for local group networks.

These planned activities are intended to strengthen professional standards, promote knowledge exchange, encourage career development and support informed discussion on matters affecting agriculture and land-based industries. The Trustees are satisfied that the planning undertaken during the period was consistent with the Charity’s purposes and was directed towards delivering public benefit following launch.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D

Achievements and performance

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Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

During the accounting period, the Charity was in its planning and establishment phase and had not yet commenced its operational activities. Accordingly, there were no charitable activities delivered, and no operational achievements to report for the period.

The Trustees' work during the year focused on preparing the Charity for launch on the 1st of January, including establishing the necessary governance, planning and administrative arrangements to enable the Charity to begin delivering its charitable objectives after the period end.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Trustees have adopted a Financial Reserves Policy to support the effective financial management of the Charity once operational. The purpose of the policy is to ensure that the Charity holds appropriate reserves to manage financial risk, meet future commitments and support the delivery of its charitable objectives.

During the accounting period, the Charity was in its planning and establishment phase and had not yet commenced operational activities. As a result, the Charity had not yet built up an operating reserve during the period.

Following launch, the Trustees will keep the level of reserves under regular review, taking into account the Charity's expected income, expenditure, grant-making activity, future commitments and overall financial risk. The Trustees will seek to maintain reserves at a level considered appropriate to support the Charity's ongoing financial stability and the delivery of its charitable purposes.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Simon Britton	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	14.07.26	