

# ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

England & Wales · Charity number 1088537

## Details

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Other names	ACADEMY OF LEARNED SOCIETIES FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES, THE ACADEMY, THE ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	<a href="#">03847936</a>
Registered	2001-09-24
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Phone	03003033513
Email	<a href="mailto:operations@acss.org.uk">operations@acss.org.uk</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.acss.org.uk">www.acss.org.uk</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE OBJECT OF THE ACADEMY IS TO PROMOTE SOCIAL SCIENCES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT.

**Activities:** The voice of the social sciences in the UK for the public benefit. We exist to promote the social sciences in the UK for the public benefit. We share knowledge and understanding of the social sciences and how they benefit society; we encourage evidence-led social science input to policy; and we recognise excellence through the award of Fellowship.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** UNITED KINGDOM
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£774,945	£728,208	£709,568	9
2023-12-31	£702,371	£643,681	£654,134	10
2022-12-31	£604,701	£756,863	£589,783	10
2021-12-31	£617,482	£629,631	£694,806	10
2020-12-31	£725,076	£537,511	£706,955	10

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>William Nicholas Hutton</b>	Chair	2021-06-17
Dr Heather Kathryn Rolfe		2025-06-18
Dr Megan Louise Lawson		2025-06-18
Dr Utsa Mukherjee		2024-06-19
Professor Christopher Millward		2024-06-19
Professor Ian Rivers		2022-10-06
Professor Imogen Elizabeth Tyler		2023-06-05
Professor Jackline Wahba		2025-06-18
Professor Janet Marion Boddy		2025-06-18
Professor John Peter Scott CBE		2023-06-05
Professor Kavita Vedhara		2021-01-28
Professor Linda Bauld		2024-06-19
Professor Lisa Anderson		2022-06-16
Professor Nicholas David Vaughan-Williams		2025-06-18
Professor Patricia Dodd		2024-06-19
Professor Richard Black		2021-06-17
Professor Robert Duffy		2019-11-01
Professor Sara Lindsey Carter		2025-08-01
Professor Simin Davoudi		2024-06-19
Professor Timothy John Blackman		2021-06-17

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1088537

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# Accounts

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**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**(A Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

**Company Number: 03847936**

**Registered Charity Number: 1088537**

**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

## **Legal and Administrative Information**

### **For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

#### **Directors and Trustees**

Stephen Aldridge FAcSS	Professor Simon Marginson FAcSS (rtd June 2024)
Professor Tim Allen FAcSS	Dame Jil Matheson FAcSS (rtd June 2024)
Professor Lisa Anderson FAcSS	Professor Tony McEnery FAcSS
Professor Linda Bauld FAcSS (June 2024 - )	Professor Christopher Millward FAcSS (June 2024 - )
Professor Nic Beech FAcSS (rtd June 2024)	Dr Utsa Mukherjee (June 2024 - )
Professor Richard Black FAcSS	Professor Judith Phillips OBE FAcSS
Professor Tim Blackman FAcSS	Professor Sally Power FAcSS
Professor Tony Crook CBE FAcSS (rtd June 2024)	Professor Vicky Pryce FAcSS (rtd June 2024)
Professor Simin Davoudi FAcSS (June 2024 - )	Professor Ian Rivers FAcSS
Tricia Dodd MBE (June 2024 - )	Professor John Scott CBE FAcSS
Professor Bobby Duffy FAcSS	Professor Imogen Tyler FAcSS
Professor Eileen Green FAcSS	Professor Kavita Vedhara FAcSS
Will Hutton FAcSS (President)	

#### **Company Registered Number**

03847936

#### **Charity Registered Number**

1088537

#### **Registered and Administrative Office**

c/o Knox Cropper LLP,  
65 Leadenhall Street,  
London, EC3A 2AD

#### **Secretary**

Dame Jil Matheson FAcSS (rtd June 2024)  
Professor Richard Black FAcSS (June 2024 - )

#### **Independent examiner**

James Holland-Leader FCA,  
Knox Cropper LLP,  
65 Leadenhall Street,  
London, EC3A 2AD

#### **Investment Advisors**

Evelyn Partners,  
17th Floor, 6 New Street Square,  
New Fetter Lane  
London, EC4A 3BF

#### **Bankers**

CAF Bank Ltd,  
25 Kings Hill Avenue,  
Kings Hill,  
West Malling,  
Kent, ME19 4JQ

Metro Bank  
1 Southampton Row,  
London,  
WC1B 5HA

## AcSS Directors' Report 2024

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The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

### 1. From the President

I'm delighted to introduce the Academy's Annual Report for 2024, a year marked by much contextual change with elections taking place in more than 60 countries around the world and new government administrations taking office, both in the UK and overseas. 2024 also marked the first year of activity in the Academy's new 2024-2029 strategy and the mid-point of my presidency.

With so much change taking place this past year and an increasing number of complex challenges for society to face, the value of the social sciences cannot be overstated. Notably, in their understanding and insight into socio-economic, geo-political, education and environmental issues; their innovation in identifying and developing solutions to real-world problems; and the positive contributions they make to policy focused on providing better outcomes for citizens,

The Academy's work in 2024 served to highlight this value – to those working in policy and the civil service, to the wider public, and to others beyond the social science sector. Five well-received reports were published throughout the year, underpinning our advocacy work, enhancing our visibility, engaging the media, strengthening relationships and drawing on our Fellows' research. Elsewhere, the Academy's We Society podcast continued to go from strength to strength, inviting a range of expert guests to discuss the latest research and evidence on topical issues, further demonstrating how the social sciences contribute positively to all of our lives. 2024 also saw the beginnings of a new Academy project exploring Whitehall's use of evidence to inform impactful policy, and the groundwork was laid for a new careers project which aims to showcase the many varied and impactful careers that studying social science can lead to.

Reflecting back on the past three years as President, I am heartened by the progress that the Academy has made in such a short space of time. Whether embarking on new projects and initiatives to further promote the social sciences, raising our profile with new audiences, and strengthening our networks and influence in order to be a collective voice on behalf of the social science community, we

have worked collaboratively with our communities. What has been achieved to date would not be possible without our trustees and committee members, our small but dedicated staff team, our esteemed Fellowship, our member social science societies and Campaign supporters, and our other donors and funders. I thank them all for their unwavering guidance, advice and support in all that we do to promote the social sciences for public benefit.



Will Hutton FAcSS

## 2. From the Chief Executive

2024 marks the Academy of Social Sciences' 25th anniversary year – and what a year it has been. Our foundations as an Academy exist in our member learned societies, our Fellows and our purpose. 25 years on they are stronger and more vibrant than ever and continue to underpin our work and much of our strength as an organisation.

A small number of leading member societies formed the pre-cursor organisation to the Academy, as the social sciences champion they felt was needed at the time. Today, 48 member societies, including all of the main disciplines and many of the sub-disciplines, provide a vital disciplinary complement to the Academy's social science sector remit and, alongside the Academy's Fellows, a large and powerful network of social science expertise. In 2024 the Academy and member societies worked together effectively in targeted advocacy, in furthering EDI in the sector (in partnership with ESRC (UKRI)), and in sharing knowledge and expertise and building capacity across the learned societies. We have yet to realise the full potential of the member societies and the Academy working together for public benefit, but it is growing all the time.

Our Fellows are the lifeblood of the Academy in a different and complementary way. In 2024 our Fellowship reached 1,662. All are leading experts in their fields, whether as academics, and/or in the professional practice of social sciences in the public, private and third sectors. This expertise is a tremendous resource, and the Academy continues to draw widely upon it to help shape and support our publishing, events, consultation responses, briefings, policy and other reports, grant awards, and much more both under the Campaign for Social Science's work and for wider Academy activities. In 2024, as in previous years, Fellows also led our governance as trustees and committee members, provided fantastic support and advice, and contributed the largest single source of funding for the Academy through their subscriptions.

Our purpose continues to drive the Academy as can be seen in the new strategy published in 2024. We champion the social sciences first and foremost for public benefit. We are inclusive in so doing; we see ourselves as here for the whole community. A tall order for a modestly sized organisation, but that is our ethos.

There is much to champion. Around 47% of university students in the UK graduate with a social sciences degree, and four social science disciplines are among the ten most studied subjects at A Level in England and Wales. Most companies depend on the social sciences professions, including law and accountancy, and on much more besides. The public sector employs many thousands of social scientists as specialists in analysis, policy, evidence, and evaluation, unsurprisingly as governments face challenges in economic productivity, health, social welfare, regeneration of places and regions, sustainability and so on, all of which are heavily informed by the social sciences and associated data. In terms of business, social science expertise fuels much of the services sector, which generated 80% of the UK's economic output in 2024.

Social science research receives just 10% of the total research funding pot in the UK, a remarkably consistent proportion over the past ten years and yet it produced the greatest number (2,400) of

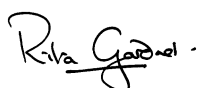
research impact case studies (REF 2021), 80% of which was recognised to be world leading or internationally excellent. Moreover, the social sciences, and in particular business management and economics Masters' programmes, contributed disproportionately to the financial wellbeing of many HE institutions, bridging the funding gap until 2024/25.

Despite those successes, the need for effective championing of the social sciences, to promote their research insights, their contributions to society, education and skills, and to public, business and third sectors, for public benefit, is as strong now as it was when the Academy was formed. The President has already mentioned some of our initiatives and activities to support that in 2024 and more follows in the body of the report.

We also act to help safeguard the health of the social sciences. In 2024, for example, we advocated successfully for the use of learned society expertise in REF 2029 and responded to selected consultations. This work is ramping up in 2025 given the challenging financial circumstances in which UK universities are now operating and which are rapidly reaching a crisis point in some. The Academy has since added its weight to the voices calling for more than just a more welcoming tone from the UK Government and from the devolved parliaments to match the significant and difficult efforts being made by the HE sector to reduce costs.

Last, but not least, in the following pages you will also read about several significant internal projects in 2024 to enhance our operations and future capabilities. Notably, commissioning and implementing a new data management system; restructuring our financial reporting to enhance accountability and clarity, with reporting linked to our strategic objectives; and a significant uplift in sustained communications work to engage wider and larger audiences with social science and to develop our core messaging.

2024 was a very productive year for the Academy and its Campaign for Social Science. I'm incredibly proud of the hard work, innovation and dedication shown by our small, committed staff team in 2024 (7.25 FTE) - and appreciative of the huge support, collaboration and contributions from our Fellows, member social science societies, Campaign supporters, other donors, trustees and other committee members. It's a great team. Warm thanks to all.



Dr Rita Gardner CBE FAcSS

### 3. About the Academy

The Academy of Social Sciences is the UK's national academy for academics, practitioners and learned societies in the social sciences. **We exist, as a charity, to promote the social sciences in the UK for public benefit.** We showcase, champion and advocate for the social sciences and their applications, raising awareness – in policy, business and with the public – of their immense value in understanding and managing our contemporary human world, and helping to secure their flourishing future.

Our distinguished Fellowship, which comprises 1,600 leading social scientists from academia, the public, private and third sectors, has expertise covering the breadth of the social sciences, and their practice and research addresses some of the major challenges facing communities, society, places and economies.

The Academy's Campaign for Social Science demonstrates how social science improves public policy, society and all our lives. It highlights the value of applied social science research and advocates for its greater use in decision-making and in government.

### **Our Vision:**

The social sciences flourish in the UK and sustain their world leading stature. They are widely valued for their contributions to society, economy, environment and well-being; and led by confident and capable communities of academics and other professionals, learned societies and students.

### **Our Mission:**

To enhance and safeguard the social sciences in research, professional practice, and education; and to champion and foster the understanding and application of social sciences in policy, business and public life.

### **Our strategic objectives for 2024-2029:**

The Academy's strategy for the period 2024-2029 is underscored by six objectives which set the medium-term framework for our work in delivering our charitable purpose.

- **Embed social science evidence and mindsets more fully across governments and decision-makers**, enhancing awareness of, demand for, and use of social science evidence and building greater parity of esteem between the social sciences and STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths).
- **Safeguard the social sciences: seeking to sustain their 'health'** in secondary education, higher education and research, and their funding, in a complex setting subject to changing political pressures.
- **Foster strong, skilled and diverse pipelines of social scientists** for the benefit of the social sciences, society, employers and individuals.
- **Grow the public image and understanding of social science** with the long-term aim of achieving parity of public recognition with science and technology.
- **Recognise and support excellence in the social sciences**, recognising that the UK is a world leader in this sector and that the social science 'ecosystem' needs nourishing.
- **Ensure a sustainable future** for the Academy and its work to 'promote social sciences in the UK for public benefit'.

The first five objectives all directly serve our purpose and provide public benefit in doing so; the sixth supports the Academy's capability to deliver its purpose now and in the future. In 2024 our work addressed all of these objectives.

## **4. Key highlights in numbers**

86 new Fellows elected

48 member social science societies

38 new comment pieces across our Campaign hubs

20+ in person and online events

141,000+ website visits

£80,000+ in funding awarded as part of our collaborative EDI Project

188,000+ downloads of articles in *Contemporary Social Science* journal published

#1 in Apple Science and Social Science podcast charts for the We Society

5 major new reports published

## 5. Embedding social science evidence and mindsets

Social science lies at the heart of many of the UK Government's priorities, exemplifying how vital the social sciences are to enhancing decision-making, society and our lives. For social science insights to more directly contribute to the UK's technological, social, economic and environmental priorities, it is vital that decision-makers understand the importance and relevance of robust and objective social science evidence and seek it out to help address many of the local, national and global challenges we face. Throughout our activities in 2024, the Academy worked to engage with policymakers, forming new relationships and building our networks, enhancing our visibility and therefore raising and re-inforcing awareness of the importance of social sciences in this arena.

### Social science policy insights in the run up to a General Election

As part of our work to showcase the value of social science research, evidence and perspectives to key policy areas, in the run up to the UK General Election, the Campaign for Social Science continued its project, [Election 24: ideas for change based on social science evidence](#), for the first half of the year. The online hub expanded with 34 new comment pieces offering constructive evidence-based policy recommendations and positive ideas for change across many of the main election issues including immigration; fiscal policy reform; housing; net zero; energy policy; education policy; ageing; social care; trust in evidence used in public debate; mental health in the workplace, and more. Six online and in-person events also took place under the project's banner, covering topical issues including welfare, AI, climate change, housing, equality in the northeast (with Newcastle University), and policy priorities in Wales (with the University of Swansea). All these events attracted a broad audience from academic, public and policy spheres.

The Campaign concluded the project in May 2024 in readiness for the UK General Election. All content related to the project is available to view on the [Election 24 hub](#) as a record of its activity between September 2023 and May 2024.

### Beyond the ballot: social science insights on eight key policy challenges

To further engage with policymakers and civic society, the outputs from the Election 24 project, comprising the evidence-led insights of over 100 social scientists, were drawn together in a new report, [Beyond the ballot: social science insights on eight key policy challenges](#), which was published jointly with Sage Publications. Launched in November, the report covers aspects of health & social care, inequalities & welfare, housing, macroeconomics, regional equity & growth, borders & migration, knowledge & technology, and energy & climate. These evidence-based contributions draw on a wide range of social science methodologies and underline the great potential of social science research, from across a very wide range of disciplines, to help inform and shape policy and practice. The launch event drew an audience of senior civil servants, influential thinktanks and key academics. In addition, a modest parliamentary launch under the umbrella of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Social Science & Policy, took place in early January 2025. The report will be an important part of our evidence base for engaging with policymakers in the future, supporting the Academy's work to showcase the breadth and relevance of social science research to contemporary policy debates.

### Engaging policymakers through our reports

The Academy launched two of its policy reports at the beginning of 2024 and used these throughout the year to engage with policymakers and the civil service, the media and to enhance our visibility. [Reimagining the Recipe for Research & Innovation: the secret sauce of social science](#), positioned the social sciences as the 'secret sauce' which helps STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) research to be applicable to the wider world, and emphasised the need for a research culture that reflects that symbiosis. The report opened up new relationships for the Academy, enabling us to further engage with more STEM-orientated organisations, and it was cited positively by Professor

Dame Angela McLean, the UK Government's Chief Scientific Adviser, in the months which followed its release.

[The SHAPE of Research Impact](#), published in collaboration with the British Academy, examined the entire set of impact case studies from REF 2021 across SHAPE (social sciences, humanities and the arts) disciplines and emphasised the ways in which SHAPE impact occurs beyond preconceived boundaries. In the months following its publication, the Academy used the report to highlight good practice examples of applied social science research across a breadth of geographical, disciplinary and institutional boundaries. The Academy has also used the report to engage with a number of policymakers, ministers and civil servants across the UK nations. Both reports will continue to be important advocacy tools for the Academy.

### **Understanding Whitehall's use of evidence to inform impactful policy**

The complex challenges facing society all relate to and have an impact on people, behaviours, place, society and economy in one form or another. Social scientists have an important role to play owing to their evidence-led insights into each of these areas. The Institute for Government (April 2023) highlighted the opportunity to harness socio-economic evidence and insights more fully across government to ensure that such evidence was being used to best effect. Against this background, in 2024, the Academy commenced a new project which aims to understand how scientific evidence – including that from the social sciences – is, and could be better, utilised in policymaking and implementation, across UK Government, to help provide better outcomes for citizens.

The Academy commissioned Jonathan Breckon FAcSS, of Breckon Consulting, working with Stephen Meek, of the University of Nottingham (working in an independent capacity), to work in close collaboration with the Academy to conduct a research and mapping exercise to gather insights into the current structures and processes through which evidence is utilised in policy and decision-making in Whitehall. In doing so, they also identified possible ways of making such systems more effective in the future. The Academy will consult on the findings and plans to publish a report with recommendations in 2025. This will focus on the potential opportunities for better harnessing social science evidence more fully, consistently and effectively within a broader evidence-led policymaking and implementation process.

## **6. Safeguarding the health of the social sciences**

With the social sciences underpinning much of our understanding of the human world, training over 47% of our graduates, and providing professional expertise essential to the running of most businesses and governments, sustaining the health of the sector across the UK, and its supporting ecosystem, is key to securing the benefits that social science provides for everyone. Throughout 2024, the Academy continued to provide evidence and advocate for decisions to support the UK in retaining its world-leading reputation across the breadth of social science research and education.

### **Documenting trends in social science research funding**

The social sciences is one of the largest of the UK higher education (HE) sectors and features, to varying extents, in almost all higher education institutions. Governments, business and charities draw heavily on social science research, including the knowledge base in universities and insights among practitioners. This documents, for example, changing socio-economic, demographic and geo-spatial contexts, it informs an understanding of inter-relationships and dependencies such as between education attainment and poverty, and it aids in policy and strategy development and implementation, innovation and business growth, and evaluation. To that end, sustained research and development funding in the social sciences is essential in underpinning social science research and its applications.

In order to provide a reference study for the documentation of change in the future and to highlight any areas of particular concern in specific social science disciplines, the Academy [published a new](#)

[report](#) summarising the scale and trends in research funding for the social sciences across UK higher education. Drawing largely on annual Higher Education Statistics Authority (HESA) research funding data for the nine academic years between 2013/14 and 2021/22, the report analyses the social sciences sector in comparison with the medical and biological sciences sector, the physical sciences, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) sector and the arts and humanities sector. It also provides insight into the quantity, distribution and change over time of research funding for the social science sector as a whole and across disciplines and discipline clusters within it. As a result, the report raises questions about what the UK wants from its social science sector research and the appetite for its funding. The Academy continues to monitor, analyse and report social science research funding data at regular intervals in the future.

### **Advocating for social science**

To be a strong collective voice for the social sciences, the Academy responded to several consultations in association with our member learned societies as part of our work to advocate for the health of the social sciences in the UK, at various levels. Submitted consultation responses included the [REF2029 Open Access](#) consultation led by the Academy's Open Access advisor Sally Hardy, the [UK Government's Curriculum and Assessment Review](#) and the former government's consultation on the [Advanced British Standard](#).

So as to ensure social science expertise was thoroughly embedded within the Research Excellence Framework (REF), the Academy took a positive, pro-active role in engaging with the REF 2029 team on behalf of the social sciences, advising on the Panel C Chair selection, and in helping to make a successful case, with our learned society members, for the REF team to make use of the independent discipline-based expertise that sits within the learned societies in advising at the Sub-panel level.

The Academy's advocacy work also extended to individual relationships with leaders and decision makers relevant to the sector.

### **Strengthening relationships**

The Academy further strengthened its relationships with our various networks in order to share information, build capacity and, where relevant, to act as a collective advocacy voice. The Academy continued to convene meetings of our member learned societies CEOs and chief officers on a termly basis to discuss various pertinent issues including Charity Commission guidance during an election year, the REF2029 panel appointment process and Open Access, and the UK Government's Curriculum and Assessment Review.

The Academy's Forum for Leaders in Social Science, chaired by Professor Nick Vaughan-Williams FAcSS, continued to meet termly to share knowledge and insights and discuss challenges being faced by the community in the higher education sector. These meetings were well attended and were positively received by those in the forum.

## **7. Fostering strong, skilled and diverse pipelines of social scientists**

In 2024, the Academy continued its work to raise awareness among decision makers, employers and students of the skills and employability of social science graduates; and to promote and share good practice in equality, inclusion and diversity (EDI) in education and higher education. The Academy's EDI partnership project, a joint programme between the Academy of Social Sciences, its member social science societies and the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC, UKRI), undertook a full programme of activity in its second year to share resources, learning and to increase the potential to effect real and positive change.

### **Supporting a second round of EDI initiatives in the higher education sector**

Following a successful first round of EDI grants being awarded in 2023, the Academy was delighted to award £81,032, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), to support eight EDI initiatives and interventions put forward competitively by the Academy's member social science societies.

In this second round of grant funding, an independent external assessment panel awarded funding to the British Academy of Management, the British Association for Applied Linguistics and UK Association for Language Testing and Assessment (joint bid), the British International Studies Association, the Development Studies Association, the Political Studies Association, the Royal Economic Society's Discover Economics programme, the Royal Statistical Society and the Society for the Advancement of Management Studies. The projects encompass a range of initiatives, aimed at specific areas of challenge in each of the discipline areas and their learnings have the capacity to be transferred and scaled up throughout the wider community, providing invaluable insight to support EDI progress across and beyond the social science community.

### **Sharing good practice through events**

To further enhance the Academy's offer in sharing good practice knowledge and learning efficiently with our member social science societies, the EDI Project commenced its training and knowledge sharing events programme. Focused on empowering social science societies to build capacity and move EDI forward in their own organisations, the events delivered in 2024 included sessions from the Royal Economic Society on both their Women's Committee Mentoring Programme and Active Bystander Programme, which they developed as part of their EDI small grants funding; two introductory sessions on EDI in the work/volunteer place; and an EDI Champions roundtable discussion with representatives from the Academy's member social science societies who act, or wish to act, as EDI champions within their own organisations.

### **Reporting on the state of EDI in the social sciences**

Following a request from the Academy's member social science societies, in 2024 the Academy published [a new report](#) which draws on 2021/22 Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) data to present a top-level summary of EDI data for the social sciences. The report includes an overview of selected protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010, and provides some socio-economic indicators, which allows for comparisons to be made between the social sciences sector and the UK's total academic staff and student populations, in addition to comparisons between disciplines within the social sciences sector.

The report was featured in an article by Research Professional upon publication, and paves the way for the Academy's member social science societies to conduct further discipline-level analyses to support their own EDI activities.

### **Promoting careers with social science**

Following some desk based research into existing careers information, as part of our work towards sustaining the pipeline of diverse social science talent, in 2024 the Academy embarked on a project to refresh our [careers in social science webpages](#) to help promote the skills, knowledge and diversity of careers available through studying social science at school and beyond.

Aimed at secondary school students choosing their GCSEs and post-16 qualifications, and university students of the social sciences, the new webpages were soft launched in January 2025. They provide a range of information including what to expect when studying social science at secondary school and beyond, the transferable skills gained, and indications of potential earnings in different careers, as well as links to useful resources from other organisations, including the Academy's member learned societies.

As part of the updated careers hub, a suite of interviews with professional social scientists working in a variety of roles across a number of sectors provides real world insight into some of the diversity of

careers studying the social sciences can lead to. The Academy will continue to add to the [I'm a social scientist profiles](#) on a regular basis, providing more inspirational insights to enthuse the next generation of social scientists.

## **8. Growing the public's understanding of social science**

The social sciences are important to us all in their applications, and so, throughout 2024, the Academy sought to further raise awareness with those outside of academic circles, especially the public and civic audiences, of the value that the social sciences provide to all of our lives - to business, society, communities, and to individual citizens.

### **Engaging the public through the We Society podcast**

Season five and six of the Academy's podcast, the We Society, saw host and Academy President, Will Hutton, invite leading social scientists, practitioners and public figures to explore, using their evidence, the stories behind the news and hear their solutions to some of society's most pressing problems. Guests included Professor Saul Becker FAcSS uncovering the hidden world of the UK's child carers, Professor Neil Chakraborti FAcSS and Professor Matthew Williams sharing their research on how to address hate crime, Dr Ella Cockbain highlighting the most current research on human trafficking and exploitation, Professor Anna Lawson FAcSS and Dr Shani Dhanda discussing how to embrace the social model of disability, and Professor Lord Richard Layard FAcSS on the social science of wellbeing. The podcast reached the top spot in both the Apple podcast science chart and the social science chart, with the total number of listens exceeding 112,000 in 2024.

### **Promoting social science through our events**

In addition to the Campaign's Election 24 project (page 7), the Campaign for Social Science offered a full programme of events in 2024. These included webinars on the topics of transport, policing and the evaluation of AI usage, the latter of which was in collaboration with the UK Evaluation Society and the Social Research Association. The Campaign also collaborated with several Campaign Supporters to deliver in-person events across the country, not only to be more inclusive and engage with the public and civic communities outside of London, but also to showcase the strength of social science research and practice throughout the UK nations and regions. Event collaborations took place with the University of Exeter on building resilience in rural communities, with the University of Stirling for an exploration of UK politics post-election as part of the ESRC Festival of Social Science, and with the University of Essex looking at how social science is helping society navigate its way through a digital age.

During the year the Campaign also collaborated once again with [Sage](#) and [The Conversation](#) to deliver three events in the *Social Science Perspectives* series. These focused on the emergence of the far right, rethinking economic growth, and the US election.

The Campaign for Social Science Annual Sage Lecture was delivered in November with 150 people registering to hear Dr Hannah White, Director and CEO of the Institute for Government, explore what the future might hold for the UK against a backdrop of a changing geopolitical landscape following a year of elections.

Our flagship event of the year, the Academy's Annual Lecture, was delivered by the Academy's President, Will Hutton FAcSS, marking both our 25th anniversary year and the mid-point of his presidency. In a wide-ranging and inspiring talk, well attended by Academy Fellows, decision-makers, leaders of sister bodies and members of the public, Will drew on over 40 years of political commentary and insights from his recently published book, *This Time No Mistakes*, to share his personal views for a new way forwards and how the social sciences can and must contribute to building a better future through the concept of a 'We Society'.

All of these events were attended by members of the public, as well as those from academic, media and policy circles, with the aim of raising awareness of the important contribution social science makes to us all.

## 9. Recognising and supporting excellence in social sciences

The Academy's networks of academic and practitioner Fellows and member learned societies remain vital to our mission, as sources of expertise, as exemplars of excellence, and as social science ambassadors. We recognise and celebrate excellence in social science research and application through these networks, which are also essential parts of the social science ecosystem.

At the close of 2024 the Academy membership comprised 1,662 Fellows and 47 member social science societies.

### Fellowship

Fellowship of the Academy is a visible sign of the importance of the social sciences and the excellence of its expert research and practitioner communities in contributing knowledge, understanding and actions in support of society, the economy, people and places. The Academy welcomed 86 new Fellows during 2024 from across academia and the public and private sectors, conferred for their eminence, impact and wider contributions to social science. All Fellowship proposals were peer reviewed by the Nominations Committee before being approved by the Council, to ensure the Academy continued to sustain excellence in its professional community. New Fellows were conferred in two rounds during the year. The Fellowship retention rate overall remained high at 93%.

Of the 86 newly conferred Fellows 22% self-identified as from ethnic communities; 42% identified as women; and 88% were from the academic sector, many of whom are actively engaged in applied social science. The number of nominees residing in England was 64%, with 20% residing in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, and 16% residing overseas.

We are grateful for the work of our Nominations Committee (chaired by Professor John Scott CBE FBA FAcSS) and our Practitioner and Academic Fellow Search Committees, chaired respectively by Andy Ross FAcSS and Professor Ian Rivers FAcSS. We also thank our Fellows and member learned societies for their nominations. Fellows are also warmly thanked for contributing their expertise to a range of the Academy's activities throughout the year, including speaking at events, submitting comment pieces to our themed Campaign hubs, as guests on the We Society podcast, featuring in our 'Meet our Fellows' series, as journal contributors, as committee members and much more.

### 2024 Public honours

We congratulate our Fellows who were recognised with public honours for their contributions to the social sciences in 2024.

- **Professor Michaela Benzeval FAcSS**, Professor of Longitudinal Research and Director of Understanding Society at the University of Essex, who received Commander of the Order of the British Empire for services to social science.
- **Professor Harriet Bulkeley FBA FAcSS**, Professor of Geography and Deputy Executive Dean, Research, Durham University, who received Officer of the Order of the British Empire for services to geography and to environmental governance.
- **Jenny Dibden FAcSS**, Director, Intervention Delivery, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, who received Companion of the Order of the Bath for public service.
- **Professor Peter Fonagy OBE FAcSS**, Head of the Division of Psychology and Language Sciences, University College London, who received Commander of the Order of the British Empire for services to mental health care for children and young people.

- **Professor Roger Goodman FAcSS**, Nissan Professor of Modern Japanese Studies and Warden, St. Antony's College at the University of Oxford, who received Commander of the Order of the British Empire for services to social science.
- **Professor Qing Gu FAcSS**, Director, University College London Centre for Educational Leadership, who received Officer of the Order of the British Empire for services to education.
- **Professor Emmanuel Ogbonna FAcSS**, Professor of Management and Organisation, Cardiff University, who received Commander of the Order of the British Empire for services to people from ethnic minority backgrounds and anti-racism.
- **Professor Henry Overman FAcSS**, Professor of Economic Geography, London School of Economics and Director, What Works Centre, who received Officer of the Order of the British Empire for services to local growth.
- **Professor Judith Petts CBE FAcSS**, Vice-Chancellor at University of Plymouth, who received Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire for services to higher education and to sustainability.
- **Professor Gareth Stansfield FAcSS**, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Executive Dean at the University of Exeter, who received Officer of the Order of the British Empire for services to UK interests in Iraq.
- **Professor Matthew Woollard FAcSS**, Professor of Data Policy and Governance, UK Data Archive, University of Essex, who received Officer of the Order of the British Empire for services to data science.

## Member Learned Societies

Learned societies and professional bodies in the social sciences are at the heart of the Academy as independent bodies affiliated to the Academy through membership, and enable us to provide a strong collective voice in support of the social sciences. The Academy actively engaged with its member learned societies throughout the year to encourage networking, knowledge sharing, capacity building and collaboration on advocacy. In 2024 we retained membership of 48 societies. These include the lead learned societies for the major social science disciplines, together with many of those representing sub-disciplines and cross-disciplinary areas. We thank them for being part of the Academy.

The CEOs and Chief Officers of the societies continued to meet on a termly basis and the Academy and its member societies continued to work closely together to help advance Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity (EDI) in the social sciences, in collaboration with the ESRC; and in collectively responding to consultations. The subgroup *Virtual Conferences Network* met monthly to exchange insights on operational challenges of running events.

### ***Our Member Learned Societies in 2024:***

Association for Psychosocial Studies (APS)  
Association of Law Teachers (ALT)  
Association of Professors of Social Work (APSW)  
Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK (ASA)  
Behavioural Science and Public Health Network (BSPHN)  
British Academy of Management (BAM)  
British Accounting and Finance Association (BAFA)  
British Association for Applied Linguistics (BAAL)  
British Association for International and Comparative Education (BAICE)  
British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES)  
British Educational Leadership, Management and Administration Society (BELMAS)  
British Educational Research Association (BERA)  
British International Studies Association (BISA)  
British Psychological Society (BPS)  
British Society for Population Studies (BSPS)  
British Society of Criminology (BSC)

British Society of Gerontology (BSG)  
British Sociological Association (BSA)  
British Universities Industrial Relations Association (BUIRA)  
Council for Hospitality Management Education (CHME)  
Development Studies Association (DSA)  
Economic History Society (EHS)  
European Academy of Occupational Health Psychology (EAOHP)  
Government Social Research Profession (GSR)  
Housing Studies Association (HSA)  
Leisure Studies Association (LSA)  
Media, Communications and Cultural Studies Association (MeCCSA)  
Political Studies Association (PSA)  
Regional Science Association International, British and Irish Section (RSAI)  
Regional Studies Association (RSA)  
Royal Anthropological Institute (RAI)  
Royal Economic Society (RES)  
Royal Geographical Society (RGS with IBG)  
Royal Statistical Society (RSS)  
Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI)  
Scottish Economic Society (SES)  
Social Policy Association (SPA)  
Social Research Association (SRA)  
Society for Research into Higher Education (SRHE)  
Society for Studies in Organizing Healthcare (SHOC)  
Society for the Advancement of Management Studies (SAMS)  
Society of Legal Scholars (SLS)  
Society of Professional Economists (SPE)  
Socio-Legal Studies Association (SLSA)  
UK Association for Language Testing and Assessment (UKALTA)  
UK Association for Public Administration (UKAPA)  
UK Evaluation Society (UKES)  
University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES)

### **Contemporary Social Science Journal**

To continue to showcase excellence in research from the social sciences community, the Academy's interdisciplinary and international journal, *Contemporary Social Science*, continued an active programme of work throughout 2024. Editor, Professor David Bailey FAcSS, published highly topical, themed issues on enabling a just transition and beyond levelling up, as well as a general issue, all of which featured papers from leading scholars across the world.

The journal has seen increasing levels of engagement throughout 2024, receiving 188,000 downloads, being ranked sixth in the social sciences in the emerging sources citation index (ESCI), and achieving a Quartile 1 ranking for both Impact Factor and Citescore for the first time. The Academy extends its thanks to publishers Taylor & Francis and to David and the editorial board.

### **10. Ensuring a sustainable future**

As the only organisation in the UK which exists solely for the promotion of social sciences for public benefit, in 2024 the Academy continued to work to ensure its future as an independent, effective and respected champion of social science in the UK, with sufficient and sustainable funding, and strong community support.

#### **Publishing a new strategy**

The Academy launched its new five-year strategy for 2024-2029 which outlines our objectives for promoting social science in the UK for public benefit. Informed by consultations with Academy Fellows, Council members, Executive Committee, our member learned societies, Academy staff and external stakeholders, our new strategy builds on our current work and guides our activities in achieving our vision to see the social sciences flourish in the UK, sustain their world leading stature and help make the world a better place. We look forward to working with our communities over the next five years in realising our ambitious plans in promoting and advocating for the social sciences in education and research, policy, business, and public life.

### **Strengthening our internal processes**

To further improve the Academy's efficiency in internal processes, 2024 saw the Academy embark on a major project to implement a new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) database. This project is already yielding significant benefits in streamlining essential administrative processes, in supporting communications, and in enabling more accurate and efficient monitoring and updating of the Academy's membership and supporter data.

The Academy also restructured the end of year financial statements to show for the first time how funds being spent map onto our strategic objectives, thus enhancing accountability and clarity for our supporters, and aiding our internal monitoring.

### **Raising our profile**

Throughout 2024, the Academy significantly increased its communications outputs through a sustained pipeline of consistent and regular content through our various channels, as well as strengthening our relationship with the media. This work has been pivotal in further building our profile with existing and new audiences; helping our various stakeholders to fully understand the extent of our activities in the promotion of the social sciences. As a result, in 2024, the Academy saw a significantly higher number of visits to our website, increased and sustained engagement with our content on social media, and a significant increase in media mentions compared to previous years.

## **11. Financial overview**

The Academy's financial statements are presented to show clearly how expenditure relates to our main areas of work in the year, which in turn relate directly to our strategy objectives. Thus, there is alignment for the reader between strategy, work accomplished, and expenditure. Thanks to strong support from those who fund our work, and to our prudent budgeting and well managed cost controls, we ended the year with a modest positive outturn on both the Academy's unrestricted operations and the Campaign's dedicated (restricted) operations. The joint EDI project with ESRC operated within budget, as did the ESSI project.

Incoming resources totalled £774,945 (2023: £702,371) split between core (unrestricted) £392,260 (2023: £373,653) and restricted £382,685 (2023: £328,718) funds. The major income sources are shown in Figure 1, with member subscriptions comprising 45% of total income and around 90% of the unrestricted income. Donations/project funding and Campaign Supporter sponsorships account for the majority of the restricted income.

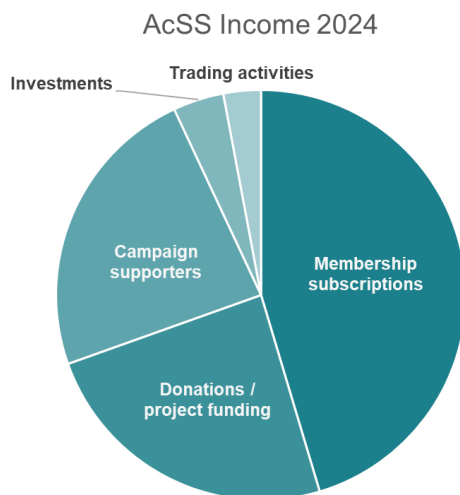


Fig. The proportions of income, by source, received by the Academy in 2024

The small increase in unrestricted income, compared with 2023, reflects a modest increase in Fellowship subscriptions (below CPI rates) and increased income from investments. The increase in restricted income largely reflects the donation to support the new ESSI programme. Once again, we had strong, sustained and very welcome support from those funding our core work: our Fellows (93% subscription renewal rate); social science society members (100% retained); and Campaign supporters and sponsors (100% renewal rate). We are immensely grateful to those who believe in what we do to promote the social sciences and we thank you all warmly.

Total expenditure in 2024 was £728,208 (2023: £643,681). Of that, the unrestricted expenditure was £382,206 (2023: £348,977) and restricted funds expenditure £346,002 (2023: £294,704). The increase in unrestricted expenditure included costs associated with the production of the podcast series the We Society. The increase in restricted expenditure included costs of the ESSI project and a new junior post to support the Campaign for Social Science activities. Staff costs across the organisation were, as usual, the single largest item of expenditure.

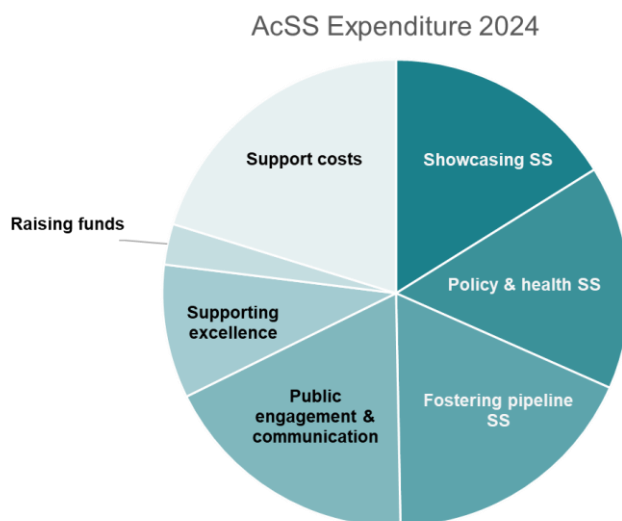


Fig. 2 The proportions of expenditure, by strategic objective and support costs, in 2024

The total expenditure is displayed across the main areas of Academy strategic and support operations in Figure 2. Broadly equal sums were expended in our work to showcase social science, on policy and advocacy for the 'health' of the social sciences, our EDI project which was the focus of work to foster a diverse and strong pipeline of social science talent, and public engagement and

communications. 2024 saw a modest increase in expenditure on fundraising activities. Remaining areas of expenditure were on the supporting excellence – predominantly on the administration of Fellowship and membership. Support costs, including IT and professional services, are distributed across these operating areas in ratio to the staff costs.

At the end of 2024, the balance sheet stood at £709,568 (2023: £654,134), of which restricted funds comprised £408,288 (2023: £367,865). The majority of the latter relates to the Campaign for Social Science (£243,703) reserves; the remainder to income received on grants and donations for specific projects that is budgeted to be spent in subsequent years. The 2024 surplus of income over expenditure in the restricted fund of £40,423 relates largely to the funds received in 2024 under the EDI and ESSI programmes of work and which are to be spent in subsequent years.

The unrestricted general fund reserves stood at £286,269 (2023: £258,255). The Academy will continue to maintain sufficient reserves (a minimum of 50% of annual expenditure) against the significant risks in its funding environment, both in general and specifically to the risks associated with the funding of the Campaign for Social Science which is supported solely by donations from Campaign Supporters, almost all of whom are universities. These risks will be heightened in the next three years or so given the financial pressures in the higher education sector.

## 12. Our supporters

The Academy maintained and strengthened its working relationships with Fellows, member social science societies, Campaign supporters, and other funders and supporters throughout the year. All four communities are pillars of the Academy's future and add substantially to our work. The Academy's retention levels for its Fellows, learned society members and Campaign supporters remained very strong in 2024.

In 2024, the Academy's work was supported by its Fellows, in numerous ways, including sharing their knowledge and expertise, using their contact networks, assisting us in matters of good governance and in making Fellowship nominations, ensuring our professional community is continually renewed. Their time, energy and effort are freely given and we warmly thank them for their support. Fellows' subscriptions also underpin the core funding of the Academy and its work.

The Campaign for Social Science was sponsored in 2024 by 33 UK universities from across England, Scotland and Wales, the British Sociological Association, and by lead commercial sponsor, Sage Publishing. Without this support the Campaign would not have been able to progress its activities this year to promote the social sciences; particularly in showcasing the role of social science evidence relevant to public policy. Nor would the Academy have been able to be as active in its policy work. We thank them all, particularly Sage for supporting and publishing our policy report, *Beyond the ballot: social science insights on eight key policy challenges*, and for partnering on the Campaign Annual Lecture and other Campaign events. We also extend our thanks to those Campaign supporters who partnered with us on numerous events as part of the *Election 24: ideas for change based on social science evidence* project.

The ESRC (and its parent body UKRI) is gratefully acknowledged for the £110,000 received in 2024 to support the EDI Project. The Academy matches the ESRC staff support contribution with in-kind staff and website support.

Finally, we warmly thank the donor whose gift continues to support our strategic development, and the new donor who is supporting the ESSI project. We respect their wishes to remain anonymous, in line with the approved Council policy on fundraising and donations.

***Campaign supporters in 2024:***

Sage (Campaign sponsor)  
Anglia Ruskin University (Silver supporter)  
Arden University (Silver supporter)  
British Sociological Association (Silver supporter)  
Brunel University London (Silver supporter)  
City University London (Bronze supporter)  
Durham University (Bronze supporter)  
King's College London (Silver supporter)  
Lancaster University (Silver supporter)  
Newcastle University (Gold supporter)  
Royal Holloway University of London (Bronze supporter)  
Swansea University (Silver supporter)  
The London School of Economics and Political Science (Bronze supporter)  
The Open University (Silver supporter)  
The University of Edinburgh (Silver supporter)  
The University of Manchester (Silver supporter)  
The University of Sheffield (Silver supporter)  
The University of Warwick (Silver supporter)  
UCL (Silver supporter)  
University of Aberdeen (Silver supporter)  
University of Birmingham (Silver supporter)  
University of Bristol (Silver supporter)  
University of East Anglia (Silver supporter)  
University of Essex (Bronze supporter)  
University of Exeter (Gold supporter)  
University of Glasgow (Gold supporter)  
University of Leeds (Bronze supporter)  
University of Oxford (Silver supporter)  
University of Southampton (Gold supporter)  
University of St Andrews (Silver supporter)  
University of Stirling (Gold supporter)  
University of Strathclyde (Silver supporter)  
University of Sussex (Silver supporter)  
University of the West of England (Silver supporter)  
University of York (Bronze supporter)

**13. Our people**

The Academy is governed by its Council (Board of Trustees) (p2) and supported by six specialist committees, all consisting of eminent social scientists mostly drawn from the Academy's Fellowship.

The Academy's Council has overall responsibility for the charity and its members act as Directors for the company. They have responsibility for ensuring the Academy operates within its charitable objectives, providing strategic direction and monitoring of the Academy's performance against annual workplans. The planning, organisation and delivery of the work of the Academy is delegated to the Chief Executive and her staff team. The Council is chaired by the President and comprises 21 members, one-third of whom are elected by the Fellowship, one-third by member social science societies, and one-third are appointed by the Council. Trustees serve a three-year term, renewable for one further term of three years. The Council met, as planned, on three occasions in 2024, chaired by President, Will Hutton FAcSS. The meeting in February 2024 agreed the refreshed strategy for 2024-2029 and the associated action plan, together with the workplan and budget for the year. The meeting in May approved the Annual Directors' Report and Accounts; and the meeting in October approved a new category of Fellowship; Honorary Fellowship which will commence in 2025. The Council approved new conferments for Fellowship in February and August, following careful scrutiny by the Nominations Committee.

## Committees of Council

Council was supported in its governance role by expert committees of Council, the Chairs of which are all Council members. All committee meetings took place as planned. The main committees of Council in 2024 remained unchanged:

- Audit and Risk Management Committee
- Campaign for Social Science Board
- CEOs-Chief Officers of Learned Societies Committee
- Executive Committee
- Nominations Committee
- Remunerations Committee

There were a number of changes to the membership of the Academy's committees in 2024.

At the AGM, the Academy welcomed five new trustees. Professor Linda Bauld, Professor Simin Davoudi, Tricia Dodd, Professor Chris Millward and Dr Utsa Mukherjee who were all elected in June 2024 and all of whom bring a wealth of experience with them. We also said farewell to Dame Jil Matheson (Honorary Secretary), Professor Nic Beech (Honorary Treasurer), Vicky Pryce, Professor Simon Marginson and Professor Tony Crook. We were also deeply saddened by the sudden passing of Tony Crook in November. Tony supported the Academy brilliantly and in many different, and ever thoughtful, ways over the many years he was a Fellow. He has left a strong mark on the organisation, not least as the first chair of both the Campaign and the Practitioner Fellows Search Committee. Professor Richard Black was appointed as Honorary Secretary, and Professor Judith Phillips was appointed as Honorary Treasurer for one year until June 2025. They both join the Executive Committee alongside the President and Chair of the Campaign for Social Science. There were also several changes to the Campaign Board with Professor Rob Ford, Gillian Prior, Professor Jo Swaffield, Carol McNaughton Nicholls and Jo Adetunji joining following the completion of terms for Desiree Lopez, Professor Patrick Diamond, Rachel Neaman, Professor Jonathan Portes and Dr Chris Tyler. The Audit & Risk Committee welcomed Professor Chris Millward, with Professor Tony McEnergy remaining as chair.

We thank all our committee members for their ongoing guidance, commitment and support.

## The Academy's staff

In 2024 the Academy's staff comprised an average of 9 (7.25 FTE) staff: the Chief Executive, Director of Operations and Head of Policy and Public Affairs forming the senior leadership team; Senior Campaign Manager, Senior Communications Manager, Membership and Database Manager, EDI Programme Manager, Finance Manager and until July 2024 an Events and Engagement Officer and from November 2024 a Campaign and Events Officer.

## 14. Governance

The Academy of Social Science is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 24 September 1999, and is registered as a charity. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company, and is governed by its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

There were no changes to the Academy's Memorandum and Articles of Association and Operating Rules in 2024 and all statutory reporting to Companies House, the Charity Commission and HMRC were completed on time.

Will Hutton FAcSS remained President of the Academy, entering his second term. The President's role combines that of figurehead for the Academy with active leadership including chairing the meetings of Council and of the CEOs of Learned Societies Group; overseeing the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting; representing the Academy at ceremonial occasions and at high profile external meetings and events; managing relationships with selected high profile stakeholders; and appointing the Chief Executive of the Academy, subject to approval by Council.

### **Induction and Training of new Trustees**

New Trustees are subject to a formal induction process, which includes introductions to their legal obligations under Charity and Company Law, the relevant Charity Commission's guidance, such as on public benefit and on advocacy and campaigning, the Charity's governing documents, the committee structure and decision-making processes, and recent financial performance of the charity.

Trustees are recruited based upon their skills, sector knowledge and experience and may attend relevant courses as training to enhance their knowledge and the undertaking of their role. The Trustees confirm that they have had regard for the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit when reviewing and planning activities in 2024 and for future years.

### **Key management remuneration**

The trustees receive no remuneration for their services other than the reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses. The pay of staff, including senior staff, is reviewed annually by the Remunerations Committee and normally increased to reflect inflation, taking into account CPI, the inflation increase applied to Fellows' subscriptions, and the Academy's resources as a charity. Academy salaries are benchmarked against pay and conditions data available from similar organisations of a similar size, run on a voluntary basis. Performance related increases are awarded on an individual basis, following review by line managers and consideration of the Remuneration Committee.

### **Risk management**

The trustees understand their duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. Guidance is provided to the trustees by the Audit and Risk Management Committee, of which the Chair sits on the Council.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations, reputation and finances of the company and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

### **Going Concern**

The Trustees consider that there are no uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The Board have made this assessment in respect of the period of one year from the date of approval of these financial statements, having considered the level of reserves held and the forecast results for the next 12 months.

### **Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;

Academy of Social Sciences (a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity) Directors' Report  
for the year ended 31st December 2024

- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue to operate.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with relevant legislation and the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Will Hutton FAcSS  
President

By Order of the Board pursuant to a resolution of Council  
21 May 2025

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**THE ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Academy of Social Sciences ('the Company') for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made to the Trustees, as a body, in accordance with the terms of my engagement. Our work has been undertaken so that we might carry out an Independent Examination of the financial statements in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees, as a body, for our work or for this report.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the Trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your Charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accounts in England and Wales ('ICAEW'), which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concern and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



James Holland-Leader FCA  
Knox Cropper LLP  
Chartered Accountants

65/68 Leadenhall Street  
London, EC3A 2AD

21 May 2025

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

	Notes	2024			2023		
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
<b>INCOME FROM</b>							
Donations, Legacies and Subscriptions	2	351,650	369,326	720,976	335,584	320,927	656,511
Other Trading Activities	3	22,901	-	22,901	26,868	-	26,868
Investment Income	4	17,709	13,359	31,068	11,201	7,791	18,992
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>392,260</b>	<b>382,685</b>	<b>774,945</b>	<b>373,653</b>	<b>328,718</b>	<b>702,371</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>							
Raising Funds	5	10,110	10,441	20,551	4,750	9,612	14,362
Charitable Activities	5	372,096	335,561	707,657	344,227	285,092	629,319
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>382,206</b>	<b>346,002</b>	<b>728,208</b>	<b>348,977</b>	<b>294,704</b>	<b>643,681</b>
<b>NET (LOSSES)/GAINS ON INVESTMENT ASSETS</b>	12	<b>4,957</b>	<b>3,740</b>	<b>8,697</b>	<b>3,338</b>	<b>2,323</b>	<b>5,661</b>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) AND NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>15,011</b>	<b>40,423</b>	<b>55,434</b>	<b>28,014</b>	<b>36,337</b>	<b>64,351</b>
Transfer Between Funds	15	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>15,011</b>	<b>40,423</b>	<b>55,434</b>	<b>28,014</b>	<b>36,337</b>	<b>64,351</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2024</b>		<b>286,269</b>	<b>367,865</b>	<b>654,134</b>	<b>258,255</b>	<b>331,528</b>	<b>589,783</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024</b>		<b>£301,280</b>	<b>£408,288</b>	<b>£709,568</b>	<b>£286,269</b>	<b>£367,865</b>	<b>£654,134</b>

All the activities reported above represent continuing operations.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

		<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	11		10,529		1,646
Investments	12		<u>269,220</u>		<u>258,054</u>
			279,749		259,700
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	13	14,774		7,320	
Cash at Bank		<u>471,020</u>		<u>419,246</u>	
		485,794		426,566	
<b>CREDITORS:</b> Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(55,975)</u>		<u>(32,132)</u>	
Net Current Assets			429,819		394,434
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u><u>£709,568</u></u>		<u><u>£654,134</u></u>
<b>CHARITY FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted Funds	16		301,280		286,269
Restricted Funds	15		<u>408,288</u>		<u>367,865</u>
			<u><u>£709,568</u></u>		<u><u>£654,134</u></u>

For the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and that an independent examination is needed.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The Financial statements were approved by the Directors on 21 May 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Will Hutton FAcSS, President

Registered Company Number: 03847936



Professor Judith Phillips FAcSS, Hon. Treasurer

Registered Charity Number: 1088537

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

**AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

	Notes	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		£	£
<b>NET CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	A	37,863	48,220
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from sale of investments		21,645	117,522
Purchase of investments		(19,014)	(360,871)
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(11,534)	(2,471)
Interest received		27,914	18,992
<b>TOTAL CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		<u>19,011</u>	<u>(226,828)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>		56,874	(178,608)
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR</b>		424,290	602,898
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF THE YEAR</b>		<u>£481,164</u>	<u>£424,290</u>

**A CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

Surplus/(deficit) for the year	55,434	64,351
Depreciation	2,651	1,640
Investment Income	(27,914)	(18,992)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(7,454)	30,934
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	23,843	(24,052)
Investment gains	(8,697)	(5,661)
Net cash(used in)/provided by operating activities	<u>37,863</u>	<u>48,220</u>

**COMPONENTS OF CASH**

Cash at Bank	471,020	419,246
Cash held by investment managers	10,144	5,044
	<u>£481,164</u>	<u>£424,290</u>

**B ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT**

	<b>At 1st January 2024</b>	<b>Cash Flows</b>	<b>At 31st December 2024</b>
	£	£	£
Cash	424,290	56,874	481,164
Loan	<u>(10,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(10,000)</u>
	<u>£414,290</u>	<u>£56,874</u>	<u>£471,164</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Company Status**

The Academy is a charitable company limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales. The members of the company are the Fellows and Learned Societies listed in the membership register. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company. A description of the nature of the charitable company's operations and its principal activity is disclosed in the Directors' Report. The charitable company's registered office is stated on page 1.

**Basis of Preparation and Assessment of going concern**

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. They have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective January 2019) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The accounts have been prepared to give a 'true and fair view' and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) Second Edition issued in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The Charity constitutes there are no uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

**General Funds**

General Funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

**Restricted Funds**

Restricted Funds are those funds which may only be applied to purposes specified by the donor. Details of Restricted Funds are set out in Note 15 to the financial statements.

**Income**

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably. Subscriptions from members are payable on 1 January each year and are recognised in the year in which they are received. Donations are recognised when received. Other income is recognised when received.

**Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

## **ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

##### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

###### **Allocation and apportionment of costs**

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include backoffice costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the Academy's programmes and activities. These costs have all been allocated to expenditure on charitable activities. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in notes 6 and 7.

###### **Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation**

Computer equipment is stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost or value of tangible fixed assets to their estimated residual values over their expected useful lives on a straight line basis at the following rate:

Computer Equipment:	33% Per Annum
---------------------	---------------

###### **Investments**

Investments are a form of basic financial investment and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value.

###### **Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

###### **Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

###### **Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settled the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

###### **Financial instruments**

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

**2. DONATIONS, LEGACIES & SUBSCRIPTIONS**

	<b>2024</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Donations	-	187,326	187,326
Members Subscriptions	351,650	-	351,650
Supporters Scheme	-	182,000	182,000
Exchange gain	-	-	-
	£351,650	£369,326	£720,976

	<b>2023</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Donations	-	139,761	139,761
Members Subscriptions	335,584	-	335,584
Supporters Scheme	-	181,166	181,166
Exchange gain	-	-	-
	£335,584	£320,927	£656,511

**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	<b>2024</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Royalties	7,474	-	7,474
Journal Income	15,427	-	15,427
Annual reception	-	-	-
	£22,901	£-	£22,901

	<b>2023</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Royalties	7,040	-	7,040
Journal Income	18,828	-	18,828
Annual reception	1,000	-	1,000
	£26,868	£-	£26,868

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

**4. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	<b>2024</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Bank Interest	1,798	1,356	3,154
Income from investments	15,911	12,003	27,914
	£17,709	£13,359	£31,068

	<b>2023</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Bank Interest	4,618	3,213	7,831
Income from investments	6,582	4,579	11,161
	£11,200	£7,792	£18,992

**5. TOTAL EXPENDITURE**

		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		£	£
Charitable expenses	Note 6	560,467	479,518
Support costs	7	147,190	149,801
		707,657	629,319
Raising funds		20,551	14,362
Total expenditure		£728,208	£643,681

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

**6. RESOURCES EXPENDED**

	<b><u>Charitable expenses 2024</u></b>					
	<b>Showcase Social Science</b>	<b>Policy &amp; Health Social Sciences</b>	<b>Fostering Pipeline Social Sciences</b>	<b>Public engagement and Communications</b>	<b>Supporting excellence in Social Science</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Room hire and events	8,019	-	-	-	6,772	14,791
Journal	16,275	-	-	-	-	16,275
Promotion & marketing	-	-	-	39,083	-	39,083
Research	-	-	-	-	-	-
Staff costs	91,708	75,397	47,743	76,600	57,051	348,499
Sundry	12	-	2,241	760	1,035	4,048
Donation	-	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
Subscriptions	-	3,980	-	-	-	3,980
Grants	-	-	81,032	-	-	81,032
Professional fees	-	28,200	400	10,246	1,992	40,838
Irrecoverable VAT	1,413	301	154	4,483	570	6,921
	<b>117,427</b>	<b>112,878</b>	<b>131,570</b>	<b>131,172</b>	<b>67,420</b>	<b>560,467</b>
Support costs (note 7)	38,734	31,844	20,164	32,352	24,096	147,190
	<b>£156,161</b>	<b>£144,722</b>	<b>£151,734</b>	<b>£163,524</b>	<b>£91,516</b>	<b>£707,657</b>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

**6. RESOURCES EXPENDED (continued)**

	<b><u>Charitable expenses 2023</u></b>					<b>Total</b>
	<b>Showcase Social Science</b>	<b>Policy &amp; Health Social Sciences</b>	<b>Fostering Pipeline Social Sciences</b>	<b>Public engagement and Communications</b>	<b>Supporting excellence in Social Science</b>	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Room hire and events	4,187	-		-	-	4,187
Journal	15,220	-	-	-	-	15,220
Promotion & marketing	-	12,500	-	47,500	-	60,000
Research	-	12,500	5,931	-	-	18,431
Staff costs	75,831	44,775	43,100	68,581	62,362	294,649
Sundry	-	-	-	930	383	1,313
Donation	-	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
Subscriptions	-	3,903	-	-	-	3,903
Grants	-	-	68,780	-	-	68,780
Irrecoverable VAT	1,722	1,455	526	4,297	35	8,035
	96,960	80,133	118,337	121,308	62,780	479,518
Support costs (note 7)	38,553	22,764	21,912	34,867	31,705	149,801
	£135,513	£102,897	£140,249	£156,175	£94,485	£629,319

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

**6. RESOURCES EXPENDED (continued)**

The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Royal Statistical Society	21,451	24,000
British Psychological Society	-	5,000
Royal Economic Society	6,050	24,780
Leisure Studies Association	-	5,000
Royal Town Planning Institute	-	10,000
Development Studies Association	7,200	-
British International Studies Association	13,748	-
British Association for Applied Linguistics	6,500	-
Society for the Advancement of Management Studies	5,983	-
Political Studies Association	15,000	-
British Academy of Management	5,100	-
Total expenditure	<u>£81,032</u>	<u>£68,780</u>

**7. SUPPORT COSTS**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£
Room hire and events	647	547
Salaries and wages	59,900	68,080
Recruitment and training	3,334	4,129
Storage costs	3,086	2,969
Travel costs	5,431	5,343
IT and website costs	25,291	19,538
Professional fees	3,354	-
Sundries	3,085	2,819
Bank Charges	4,060	4,074
Irrecoverable VAT	3,080	3,851
Depreciation	2,651	1,640
Investment management fee	2,018	2,339
Governance costs	31,253	34,472
	<u>£147,190</u>	<u>£149,801</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

**8. RESTRICTED FUNDS  
2024**

	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2024 Total</b>
	£	£
Staff Costs	163,172	163,172
Annual Campaign Lecture	8,053	8,053
Promotion	2,338	2,338
Donation	5,000	5,000
Website and IT	10,318	10,318
Research	3,319	3,319
Sundry expenses	9,351	9,351
<b>Campaign for Social Science</b>	<b>201,551</b>	<b>201,551</b>
Staff Costs	23,001	23,001
Sundry	3,852	3,852
Website and IT	400	400
Grants	81,032	81,032
<b>Fostering Pipeline</b>	<b>108,285</b>	<b>108,285</b>
Promotion	9,166	9,166
<b>Strategic Development</b>	<b>9,166</b>	<b>9,166</b>
Professional fees	27,000	27,000
<b>ESSI</b>	<b>27,000</b>	<b>27,000</b>
	<b>£346,002</b>	<b>£346,002</b>

**2023**

	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2023 Total</b>
	£	£
Staff Costs	126,846	126,846
Annual Campaign Lecture	4,188	4,188
Promotion	12,500	12,500
Donation	5,000	5,000
Website and IT	7,880	7,880
Research	12,500	12,500
Sundry expenses	10,464	10,464
<b>Campaign for Social Science</b>	<b>179,378</b>	<b>179,378</b>
Staff Costs	20,012	20,012
Sundry	603	603
Website and IT	5,931	5,931
Grants	68,780	68,780
<b>Fostering Pipeline</b>	<b>95,326</b>	<b>95,326</b>
Promotion	20,000	20,000
<b>Strategic Development</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>
	<b>£294,704</b>	<b>£294,704</b>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

**9. NET INCOME**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
This is stated after charging	£	£
Depreciation	£2,651	£1,640
	£2,651	£1,640

The Independent examiner's remuneration of £1,660 (2023: £1,760) related solely to the examination. Fees in respect of company secretarial amounted to £500 (2023: £500).

**10. STAFF AND CONTRACTOR COSTS AND NUMBERS**

The average number of employees during the year was 9 (7.25 FTE), 2023: 10 (8 FTE)

Key management personnel consist of the CEO, the head of administration and the head of policy and public affairs. Total employment benefits of the key management personnel were £237,878.

One employee had emoluments within the range of £90,000 - £100,000.

The Charity Trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the Charity (2023: £Nil). During the year 4 trustees (2023: 5) were reimbursed expenses for meeting attendance totalling £461 (2023: £412).

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Gross salaries	396,004	351,284
Social Security costs	36,717	37,014
Pension costs	14,579	11,204
Total Payroll Costs	£447,300	£399,502

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

11. **TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
<b>Computer equipment</b>		
Cost:		
Balance at 1st January 2024	19,134	16,663
Additions	11,534	2,471
Disposals	-	-
Balance at 31st December 2024	<b>£30,668</b>	<b>£19,134</b>
 <b>Depreciation:</b>		
Balance at 1st January 2024	17,488	15,848
Disposals	-	-
Charge for the year	2,651	1,640
Balance at 31st December 2024	<b>£20,139</b>	<b>£17,488</b>
Net Book Value At 31st December 2024	<b>£10,529</b>	<b>£1,646</b>

12. **FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Market value at 1st January 2024	253,010	4,000
Additions	19,014	360,871
Disposals	(21,645)	(117,522)
Net investment (losses)/gains	8,697	5,661
Market value at 31st December 2024	<b>259,076</b>	<b>253,010</b>
Cash held by managing agent	10,144	5,044
	<b>£269,220</b>	<b>£258,054</b>
Historical cost at 31st December 2024	<b>£245,261</b>	<b>£246,126</b>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

13. **DEBTORS**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Due within one year</b>	£	£
Trade and supporter scheme debtors	14,774	7,320
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
Other debtors	-	-
	<u>£14,774</u>	<u>£7,320</u>

14. **CREDITORS: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Loan Creditor	10,000	10,000
Prepaid Subscriptions & Event Income	1,824	2,108
Accruals	40,097	18,284
HMRC VAT Liability	4,054	1,740
	<u>£55,975</u>	<u>£32,132</u>

The loan is interest free and repayable when aggregate donations, excluding those for specific appeals, have been received totalling more than £20,000.

Deferred income reconciliation

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Balance brought forward	2,108	13,353
Amount released to Statement of Financial Activities	(2,108)	(13,353)
Amount deferred in the year	1,824	2,108
Balance carried forward	<u>£1,824</u>	<u>£2,108</u>

Member subscriptions and event income received in advance is deferred to the period to which it relates.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

**15. RESTRICTED FUNDS**

**2024**

	<b>CfSS</b>	<b>International Advisory Group</b>	<b>Making The Case</b>	<b>ESSI</b>	<b>EDI Partnership Project</b>	<b>Strategic Development</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1st January 2024	218,829	1,225	12,638	-	17,174	117,999	367,865
Income	222,685	-	-	50,000	110,000	-	382,685
Expenditure	(201,551)	-	-	(27,000)	(108,285)	(9,166)	(346,002)
Gains on Investments	3,740	--	-	-	-	-	3,740
Balance at 31st December 2024	£243,703	£1,225	£12,638	£23,000	£18,889	£108,833	£408,288

**2023**

	<b>CfSS</b>	<b>International Advisory Group</b>	<b>Making The Case</b>	<b>EU Pro Res Project</b>	<b>SPRE</b>	<b>Strategic Development</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1st January 2023	179,666	1,225	12,638	-	-	137,999	331,528
Income	216,218	-	-	-	112,500	-	328,718
Expenditure	(179,378)	-	-	-	(95,326)	(20,000)	(294,704)
End of project return (note 2)	2,323	-	-	-	-	-	2,323
Balance at 31st December 2023	£218,829	£1,225	£12,638	£-	£17,174	£117,999	£367,865

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

The restricted funds comprise the monies collected for and expended on projects and the Campaign for Social Science.

Campaign for Social Science (CfSS): This fund supports the outward-facing, advocacy voice of the Academy of Social Sciences. The Campaign works to showcase social science and to amplify the voice of social science in policy issues affecting all social science disciplines and higher education activities. This work contributes to the Showcasing Social Science and the Policy and Health of Social Sciences objective.

Embedding Social Science Infrastructure (ESSI): This fund supports research and advocacy into how to enhance outcomes and decision-making through improved use of evidence in government in the UK.

EDI Partnership Project: This project is a partnership with ESRC and the Academy's member learned societies, led by the Academy, with the aim of supporting learned societies in the social sciences in their work to embed EDI more fully in their own operations and in discipline communities. This work contributes to the Fostering Pipeline in Social Sciences objective.

International Advisory Group: This group works with Fellows, UK and international bodies in organising events, preparing briefings and supporting consultation responses on the international dimension of social science research and policy, beyond the UK. This work contributes to the Policy and Health of Social Sciences objective.

Making the Case: This fund focuses on work to exemplify social science research that has made a difference to policy or practice. This work contributes to the Policy and Health of Social Sciences objective.

SPRE (Scottish Policy and Research Exchange): aims to help policy makers and researchers in Scotland work together more effectively. With the approval of the Academy's Council, SPRE became an independent SCIO and ceased to operate as part of the Academy from 01 January 2024.

Strategic Development Fund: this represents a donation received from an individual to forward the future of the Academy. This fund is to support strategic development across all objectives.

**16. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS**

	<u>2024</u>			<u>2023</u>		
	<u>Designated Development Fund</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Designated Development Fund</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1 January 2024	18,838	267,431	286,269	18,838	239,417	258,255
Income	-	392,260	392,260	-	373,653	373,653
Expenditure	(1,200)	(381,006)	(382,206)	-	(348,977)	(348,977)
Investment gains	-	4,957	4,957	-	3,338	3,338
31 December 2024	<u>£17,638</u>	<u>£283,642</u>	<u>301,280</u>	<u>£18,838</u>	<u>£267,431</u>	<u>£286,269</u>

The Designated Development Fund has been established to support data analysis and other activities that investigate, exemplify and further the health of social sciences.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

**17. TAXATION**

The Academy is a registered charity and is not subject to UK Corporation Tax on its Charitable Activities and Investment Income.

**18. NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

	<b>2024</b>			
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Designated</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	163,984	-	115,765	279,749
Current Assets	175,633	17,638	292,523	485,794
Creditors Amounts Falling due within one Year	(55,975)	-	-	(55,975)
	£283,642	£17,638	£408,288	£709,568
	<b>2023</b>			
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Designated</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	153,898	-	105,802	259,700
Current Assets	140,136	18,838	267,592	426,566
Creditors Amounts Falling due within one Year	(26,603)	-	(5,529)	(32,132)
	£267,431	£18,838	£367,865	£654,134

**19. GOING CONCERN**

The Charitable Company's Directors believe it is appropriate to draw up these accounts on a going concern basis as they believe that adequate sources of funding will be forthcoming in the normal course of events to allow the charity to continue to operate.

In making this assessment the Directors have considered the period to June 2026.

**20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The following Related Party Transactions occurred in the year to 31 December 2024:

Professor Tim Allen (Trustee) served as Professor in Development Anthropology in the Department of International Development at the London School of Economics and Political Science. During the year AcSS received £2,400 (£1,920) in supporter scheme income from London School of Economics and Political Science.

Professor Linda Bauld (Trustee) served as Chair in Public Health at the University of Edinburgh. During the year AcSS received £6,000 (£5,000) in supporter scheme income from the University of Edinburgh.

Professor Timothy Blackman (Trustee) served as Vice Chancellor to the Open University. During the year AcSS received £6,000 (2022: £5,000) in supporter scheme income from the Open University.

Professor Anthony Crook (Trustee) is a Trustee of the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI). During the year AcSS received a membership subscription from RTPI amounting to £2,062 (2023: £2,062). Also served as Emeritus Professor of Town & Regional Planning, Sheffield University. During the year AcSS received £6,000 (£5,000) in supporter scheme income from the University of Sheffield.

Professor Simin Davoudi (Trustee) served Chair of Town Planning, School of Architecture, Planning & Landscape, Co-Director, Centre for Researching Cities at Newcastle University. During the year AcSS received £12,000 (£10,000) in supporter scheme income from Newcastle University.

Patricia Dodd (Trustee) is a Trustee of Royal Statistical Society (RSS). During the year AcSS made a grant of £21,451 to the Royal Statistical Society and received a membership subscription from RSS amounting to £850 (2023: £850)

Professor Bobby Duffy (Trustee) served as Professor of Public Policy and Director of the Policy Institute at Kings College London. During the year AcSS received £6,000 (£5,000) in supporter scheme income from the Kings College London.

Dr Rita Gardner (Chief Executive) served as a Trustee of Brunel University. During the year AcSS received £6,000 (£5,000) in supporter scheme income from Brunel University.

Professor Simon Marginson (Trustee) served as Professor of Higher Education at the University of Oxford. During the year AcSS received £6,000 (£5,000) in supporter scheme income from Oxford.

Professor Anthony McEnery (Trustee) served as Distinguished Professor of English Language and Linguistics at Lancaster University. During the year AcSS received £6,000 (£5,000) in supporter scheme income from Lancaster University.

Professor Chris Millward (Trustee) served as Professor of Practice in Education Policy, Birmingham University. During the year AcSS received £6,000 (£5,000) in supporter scheme income from Birmingham University. Also served as a Trustee for Society of Research into Higher Education (SRHE). During the year AcSS received a membership subscription amounting to £536 (2023: £536) from SRHE.

Dr Utsa Mukherjee (Trustee) served as Senior Lecturer, Education at Brunel University. During the year AcSS received £6,000 (£5,000) in supporter scheme income from Brunel University.

Professor Judith Philips (Trustee) served as Deputy Principal (Research) at the University of Stirling. During the year AcSS received £12,000 (2022: £10,000) in supporter scheme income from the University of Stirling.

Professor Sally Power (Trustee) served as a Trustee of the British Educational Research Association. During the year AcSS received a membership subscription amounting to £2,125 (2023: £2,125)

Professor Ian Rivers (Trustee) served as Associate Principal and Executive Dean of the Faculty and Humanities and Social Sciences and Professor of Education for Social Change at the University of Strathclyde. During the year AcSS received £6,000 in supporter scheme income from the University of Strathclyde.

Professor Imogen Tyler (Trustee) served as Professor of Sociology at Lancaster University. During the year AcSS received £6,000 (£5,000) in supporter scheme income from Lancaster University.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1088537

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# Accounts

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**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**(A Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

**Company Number: 03847936**

**Registered Charity Number: 1088537**

**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

## Legal and Administrative Information

For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

### Directors and Trustees

Stephen Aldridge FAcSS  
Professor Tim Allen FAcSS  
Professor Lisa Anderson  
Professor Nic Beech FAcSS  
Professor Richard Black FAcSS  
Professor Tim Blackman FAcSS  
Professor Tony Crook CBE FAcSS  
Professor Bobby Duffy FAcSS  
Professor Eileen Green FAcSS  
Will Hutton FAcSS (President)  
Lord Kerslake FAcSS (deceased July 2023)  
Professor Simon Marginson FAcSS

Dame Jil Matheson FAcSS  
Professor Tony McEnergy FAcSS  
Professor Judith Phillips OBE FAcSS  
Professor Sally Power FAcSS  
Professor Vicky Pryce FAcSS  
Professor Ian Rivers FAcSS  
Professor Sasha Roseneil FAcSS (rtd June 2023)  
Professor John Scott CBE FAcSS (June 2023 -)  
Professor Imogen Tyler FAcSS (June 2023 -)  
Professor Kavita Vedhara FAcSS

### Company Registered Number

03847936

### Charity Registered Number

1088537

### Registered and Administrative Office

c/o Knox Cropper LLP,  
65 Leadenhall Street,  
London, EC3A 2AD

### Secretary

Dame Jil Matheson FAcSS

### Independent examiner

James Holland-Leader FCA,  
Knox Cropper LLP,  
65 Leadenhall Street,  
London, EC3A 2AD

### Investment Advisors

Evelyn Partners,  
17th Floor, 6 New Street Square,  
New Fetter Lane  
London, EC4A 3BF

### Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd,  
25 Kings Hill Avenue,  
Kings Hill,  
West Malling,  
Kent, ME19 4JQ

Metro Bank  
1 Southampton Row,  
London,  
WC1B 5HA

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The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

### **1. From the President, Will Hutton FAcSS**

I'm pleased to introduce the Annual Report for 2023 - a year filled with activity which built on the momentum of previous years and advanced progress in many areas of the Academy's work.

This past year has shown growing recognition of the value that the social sciences bring to our everyday lives. Within government and policymaking, this is illustrated, for example, by the breadth of social science related topics and research fields represented in the UK Government's new Areas of Research Interest database. In education settings across England, Wales and Northern Ireland, increasing numbers of students are choosing to study social science subjects, with psychology, sociology, business studies, economics and geography ranked in the top 12 most studied subjects at A Level in 2023.

The Academy's work over the past 12 months has served to build on this wider context and has been reflected in the engagement shown with our activities. The Academy's second year of its podcast, the We Society, was most successful with over 152,000 listens across the 16 episodes and in reaching the top of the science and social science Apple pod charts. The recently published policy report, *Reimagining the recipe for research and innovation: the secret sauce of social science*, was covered by various sector media including *Wonkhe*, *Research Professional*, *Times Higher Education*, the *Financial Times*, the *LSE Impact blog* and *Nature*. While the Campaign for Social Science's events programme throughout the year attracted over 3,000 registrations.

This year has not been without its challenges, with significant changes to a small staff team, but under the excellent leadership of the Chief Executive and a renewed, motivated and highly capable team in place, the Academy has delivered strongly against its strategic objectives and laid solid foundations ahead of the next strategy cycle.

As our influence and networks grow, I am reminded that it is our community who makes the work of the Academy possible. I thank our trustees and committee members for their guidance and governance of the Academy, the dedicated staff team for ensuring we continue to deliver against our mission, and our Fellows, member social science societies and Campaign supporters for their ongoing support in all that we do.

## **2. Introduction by the Chief Executive – Dr Rita Gardner CBE FAcSS**

2023 was the final year in our current strategy cycle (2020-2023). The past three years has seen the Academy grow its scope of work, its external profile and reputation; and its core income. The Academy has also modernised its visual identity; professionalised its operations; developed its fundraising and new partnerships; managed the risks arising from Covid-19; built its staff team; and created a sustainable platform for future growth in its work and the organisation.

It was a year of three distinct parts. The first was in refreshing our strategy for the next five years (2024-2029). Led by the Executive Committee, consultations were held widely with Academy committees, Fellows, learned society members, staff and other stakeholders. The outcome is a progression from the former strategy, ambitious in its scope, with a new addition to our six objectives which recognises the importance of enhancing the public's engagement with the social sciences.

Secondly, we saw a significant change in our staff. We appointed to three posts vacated through job changes, career shifts into research, and retirement; and to two newly funded posts. We used the opportunity to restructure some roles and the new team members, who mostly started in the first half of the year, got off to a great start. We also warmly thank those team members who left the Academy for their many contributions over the years. We end 2023 with the decision to remain a virtual organisation for the foreseeable future and with a staff team of nine, the majority of whom work full time and deliver core activities.

Thirdly, the summer and autumn in particular was the focus of much externally-facing activity. Part of this was in bringing to successful fruition initiatives that had been agreed, and funded, in very late 2022, and which required new ways of working, new areas of work and new partnership collaborations. Three stand out and are described more fully in the succeeding sections of this report: the EDI strategic partnership with ESRC (UKRI) and learned society members; and the two major policy reports on social science research. The latter used data-driven approaches to evidence the substantial contributions and impacts of the social sciences collectively, and in association with STEM.

Both reports launched in January 2024, attracting excellent media coverage and both will underpin the Academy's advocacy for the social sciences in 2024 and beyond. These three projects also mark important milestones: a strategic partnership and associated funding from the ESRC; and the first major collaboration between the Academy of Social Sciences and the British Academy (BA). Professor James Wilsdon FAcSS, the team at Digital Science and Professor Melinda Mills FBA FAcSS and her team are warmly thanked for their work on the policy projects, as are Academy staff and colleagues at the BA.

There were other step changes in the Academy's work too, notably in the We Society podcast series, hosted by President, Will Hutton; in the launch of a new Campaign for Social Science hub and UK-wide events programme entitled 'Election 24'; in the standing of our academic journal, *Contemporary Social Science*; and in our communications activities. All promote the

social sciences in different ways; to public audiences, to decision-makers, to the academic community, and in expanding our social media and web presence generally.

None of this could have happened without the vital contributions of trustees, committee chairs and members, the many Fellows who brought expertise and time, and our staff team, not least those who ensure our operations, including the high-profile conferment of Fellowship and membership, run smoothly and professionally. Finally, the Academy also ended the year well financially with a modest operating surplus and some helpful returns on our invested reserves. Warm thanks to all involved.

### 3. About the Academy

The Academy of Social Sciences is the UK's national academy for academics, practitioners and learned societies in the social sciences. **We exist, as a charity, to promote the social sciences in the UK for public benefit.** We showcase, champion and advocate for the social sciences and their applications, raising awareness – in policy, business and with the public – of their immense value in understanding and managing our contemporary human world, and helping to secure their flourishing future.

Our distinguished Fellowship of over 1,500 leading social scientists from academia, the public, private and third sectors, has expertise covering the breadth of the social sciences, and their practice and research addresses some of the major challenges facing communities, society, places and economies.

The Academy's Campaign for Social Science demonstrates how social science improves public policy, society and all our lives. It highlights the value of applied social science research and advocates for its greater use in decision-making and in government.

#### ***Our Vision:***

The social sciences flourish in the UK and sustain their world leading stature. They are widely valued for their contributions to society, economy, environment and well-being; and led by confident and capable communities of academics and other professionals, learned societies and students.

#### ***Our Mission:***

To enhance and safeguard the social sciences in research, professional practice, and education; and to champion and foster the understanding and application of social sciences in policy, business and public life.

#### ***Our strategic objectives for 2020-2023:***

The Academy's strategy for the period 2020-2023 was underscored by six objectives which set the medium-term framework for our work in delivering our charitable purpose.

- **To champion the social sciences:** promoting the vital role of social science in improving decision-making, society and lives.
- **To sustain the health of the social sciences in research and education:** enabling a thriving and confident community.
- **To recognise excellence in social science:** with an expert and engaged Fellowship.
- **To widen participation and skills in the social sciences:** recognising the importance of social mobility, diversity and employability to people and society.

- **To foster innovation and application of the social sciences:** informing and helping to address challenges of our time.
- **To ensure a sustainable future for the Academy of Social Sciences:** as the only body that exists solely to represent social sciences in the UK.

The first five objectives all directly serve our purpose and provide public benefit in doing so; the sixth supports the Academy's capability to deliver its purpose now and in the future. In 2023 our work addressed five of the objectives.

#### **4. 2023 highlights in numbers**

- 2 major new policy reports completed
- 12 partnered and co-badged events held
- 32 new comment pieces written across the Campaign hubs
- 100% retention of our 48 member social science societies
- 103 new Fellows elected
- 3,000+ people registered for Campaign for Social Science events
- 4,000+ REF Impact Case Studies analysed collaboratively
- 100,000+ website visits recorded
- £68,780 in funding awarded through the collaborative EDI Project
- 152,000 articles downloaded from *Contemporary Social Science* journal
- 152,381 recorded listens to We Society podcast episodes

#### **5. Championing the social sciences**

Throughout 2023, the Academy has continued to champion the social sciences in the UK. Primarily through its Campaign for Social Science, the Academy has worked to demonstrate the contribution of social science research and practice to addressing key challenges and opportunities facing the UK and the wider world, so that what they contribute to society is better understood, valued and used by a wide range of audiences, including policymakers and the wider public.

##### ***Engaging the public through the We Society podcast***

Season three and four of the Academy's podcast, the We Society, saw host, Will Hutton, invite leading social scientists, practitioners and thought leaders to discuss some of the most pressing challenges confronting the UK and our world at this time. Guests included Professor Heaven Crawley discussing how migration can drive development, Polly Neate FAcSS exploring how we perceive housing in the UK, Kenan Malik on the history of racism, Professor Daniel Susskind discussing how livelihoods are set to change in the face of artificial intelligence, Minette Batters on whether farming can reach net zero, and Vivienne Stern MBE on the future of universities. The podcast reached the top spot in both the Apple podcast science chart and the social science chart, with the total number of listens exceeding 152,000 in 2023.

##### ***Social science policy insights ahead of a General Election***

As part of our work to champion the social sciences and promote the vital role they play in improving decision-making, society and lives, the Campaign for Social Science launched *Election 24: ideas for change based on social science evidence*. Ahead of a likely UK General

Election in 2024, this new project draws on the expertise of distinguished social scientists, many of whom are Fellows of the Academy, to identify evidence-led, positive and constructive policy suggestions on key policy areas including the cost-of-living crisis; climate change and living standards; health and social care; immigration; and higher education, amongst others.

Alongside a new hub on our website hosting 20 comment pieces, in 2023 we hosted two webinars discussing health inequalities and migration policy, and joined forces with Cardiff University at the Festival of Social Science to celebrate lifelong wellbeing in Wales, the University of Glasgow to explore the challenges of climate policy, the University of Southampton to discuss the possibilities of sustainable growth, and the University of Birmingham to examine wealth inequalities.

The project is ongoing, with further events, comment pieces and video recordings planned through 2024.

### ***Promoting social science through the Campaign***

In addition to the Election 24 project, the Campaign for Social Science offered a full programme of events in 2023.

The Campaign's flagship event, the Campaign for Social Science Annual Sage Lecture was delivered by journalist and broadcaster, Professor Gary Younge FAcSS, on *Political 'Realism' in an Election Year*. In the online lecture, Gary drew on research evidence to consider the changing nature of political discourse and electoral culture, spotlighting some of the policy areas covered by the Election 24 project. Professor Jane Green FAcSS provided a response to Gary's lecture, which was watched live by over 500 people, the majority drawn from public audiences. The networking reception that followed featured Will Hutton and Gary Younge in conversation on the state of British politics and political culture today.

The Campaign collaborated with its corporate sponsor, Sage Publications, to deliver three events in the Social Science Perspectives series, on gender in UK politics, the impact of AI across society, and migration and environmental displacement. The Campaign also collaborated on events with its university supporters at King's College London; University of the West of England Bristol; and Anglia Ruskin University.

As well as the many new comment pieces provided for the Election 24 project, the Campaign further enriched its website content with an additional 12 comment and analysis pieces across its other online hubs that provide social science insights and perspectives on Covid-19, living standards and levelling up, and climate and sustainability.

A 'Supporters in Action' case study collection comprising exemplars of applied social science research impact from across all the Campaign's 34 supporting higher education institutions was also launched in 2023.

### ***Championing social science in research and innovation: The secret sauce of social science***

While the UK's talent pool has significant strengths in the social sciences, current UK Government initiatives have placed a strong priority on new technologies and STEM related research and innovation. During 2023, the Academy worked in close collaboration with Digital Science and Professor James Wilsdon FAcSS to publish a report emphasising the vitally important, yet often poorly understood, role of the social sciences to the UK's current research, development and innovation system.

'*Reimagining the recipe for research and innovation: the secret sauce of social science*', sets out four distinct ingredients the social sciences contribute to helping STEM research to be applicable to the wider world, and emphasises the need for a research culture and funding that reflects that symbiosis.

The report presents four themes that the social sciences contribute to the UK's research and innovation system which are summarised as:

1. Social sciences enable whole-systems thinking.
2. Social sciences are critical for good policy development.
3. Social sciences underpin smart and responsible innovation.
4. Social sciences are essential to international collaboration and tackling shared global challenges.

The report, published by the Academy's Campaign for Social Science and Sage Publishing, was launched at a roundtable event in early 2024 with senior figures from ESRC, UK Government, Higher Education and broader civil society in attendance. Following the launch, the report was covered by various sector media including *Wonkhe*, *Research Professional*, *Times Higher Education*, the *Financial Times*, the *LSE Impact blog* and *Nature*. An accompanying policy briefing was produced and shared with key parliamentarians and ministers to highlight the key findings of the report to inform future decision making in this space.

## **6. Sustaining the health of the social sciences**

The Academy is a leading advocate for the social sciences in the UK and works to influence governments and other decision-makers on matters of policy, funding and infrastructure that underpin the 'health' of the social sciences. Where appropriate we advocate collaboratively with our learned society members. In 2023 a key focus was in gathering evidence to underpin our advocacy.

### ***The SHAPE of research impact***

At the end of 2022, the Academy, in its first major collaboration with the British Academy, commissioned researchers at the Leverhulme Centre for Demographic Science to assess the value of research in the social sciences, humanities and arts (SHAPE) disciplines and its global societal impact. Led by Professor Melinda Mills FAcSS FBA the programme of work analysed the REF2021 Impact Case Study dataset to establish a robust evidence base for the Academies, higher education sector and policymakers to explore and articulate the value of SHAPE research both in the UK and around the world. The work was done throughout 2023.

The resulting report, '*The SHAPE of research impact*', uses a range of powerful examples to demonstrate the ways in which social sciences, arts and humanities research is an investment in innovation, in people and in places, with diverse impacts across a range of policy areas. Some of these emphasise SHAPE's world-leading impact across the globe, spreading knowledge, improving lives and bolstering the UK's position and global status.

"The SHAPE of Research Impact" demonstrates how research in the social sciences, arts and humanities is:

- Bolstering UK expertise and strength in areas of competitive advantage
- Tackling societal challenges

- Helping to understand people and empower communities here in the UK
- Spreading beyond traditional disciplinary boundaries to create impact
- A smart investment, with impact providing value for money

The report was launched in January 2024 with a webinar hosted by author and journalist Dr Gillian Tett OBE FAcSS and was attended by over 100 individuals from the higher education and policy sectors. Media coverage was secured in *Research Professional*, with further articles from the Academy focused on how university-based social science research is contributing to tackling societal challenges published at *Times Higher Education* and the Higher Education Policy Institute's blog.

The Academy worked with the British Academy to develop accompanying messaging documents to share with policymakers focused on the report's key messages, plus an additional briefing document specifically highlighting the value of social science research impact to the UK.

### ***Advocating for social science with government***

Throughout 2023, the Academy developed a suite of briefings setting out our position on a number of key policy issues, including international students, employability of social scientists, numeracy and the social sciences, and ensuring a thriving social science research community in a challenging research and development landscape. Member learned society inputs also helped inform our response to key policy announcements during the year on research fellowships, Horizon Europe association and the UK's net zero plans.

As part of our advocacy work in 2023, the Academy responded to consultations on plans for REF 2028 and how population statistics are compiled, in addition to widening our public affairs network through correspondence with Ministers, civil servants and parliamentarians about policy related to the health of social science.

To encourage and help facilitate our wider communities to engage with social science inputs into policy work, the Academy continued to publish a monthly policy monitor, which lists the consultations and inquiries from the UK's four legislatures and governments that require social science evidence. A monthly policy update on recent news in the policy sphere which related to or impacted the social sciences in the UK was widely shared with and beyond the Fellowship.

### ***Building relationships***

Following the establishment of the Forum for Leaders in Social Science in 2022, which offers a knowledge sharing and discussion space for those with executive and lead responsibilities for the social sciences in universities, 2023 saw Professor Nick Vaughan-Williams FAcSS succeed Professor Richard Black FAcSS as Chair. Meetings throughout the year continued to be well attended and offered the opportunity for members to discuss a range of topical issues being faced by the community.

In addition, the Academy continued to build upon its strategic relationships and alliances with other UK organisations and international sister bodies in support of the social sciences. It also further developed its wider networks in support of the promotion of and advocacy for the social sciences with policy and decisionmakers.

## 7. Recognising excellence in the social sciences

The Academy recognises and celebrates excellence in social science research and application through its highly regarded Fellowship. It also works closely with, and supports where possible, the strong community of learned and professional societies in the social sciences, most of whom are affiliated member societies.

At the close of 2023 the Academy membership comprised 1528 paid Fellows and 48 member social science (learned) societies.

### ***Fellowship***

The Academy welcomed 103 new Fellows during 2023 from across academia and the public and private sectors, conferred for their eminence, impact and wider contributions to social science. All Fellowships were peer reviewed to ensure the Academy continued to sustain excellence in its professional community and were conferred in two rounds during the year. The retention rate remained high at 93%.

22% of new Fellows self-identified as from ethnic communities; 40% identified as women; and 85% were from the academic sector. The latter underrepresents the extent of Fellows' involvement in 'practice' as many academic Fellows are engaged in applied social sciences. The number of nominees residing in England was 73%, and 20% were from Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

We are grateful for the work of our Nominations Committee (chaired by Professor John Scott CBE FBA FAcSS) and our Practitioner and Academic Fellow Search Committees, chaired respectively by Andy Ross FAcSS and Professor Ian Rivers FAcSS. We also thank our Fellows and member learned societies for their nominations. Fellows are warmly thanked for contributing their expertise to a range of the Academy's activities throughout the year, including speaking at events, submitting comment pieces to our themed Campaign hubs, as guests on the We Society podcast, featuring in our 'Meet our Fellows' series, as committee members and much more. In particular, 242 (16%) contributed insights to our online strategy consultation, a figure well above sector industry standards.

### ***2023 Public honours***

We congratulate our Fellows who were recognised with public honours for their contributions to the social sciences in 2023.

- **Professor Sir Vernon Bogdanor CBE FBA FAcSS** Professor of Government, King's College London, who was awarded a Knighthood for services to political science.
- **Professor Dame Diane Coyle FAcSS**, Bennett Professor of Public Policy at the University of Cambridge, who received Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire for services to economics.
- **Dr Kevin Daly FAcSS**, Co-Head of Central and Eastern Europe, Middle East and Africa Economics at Goldman Sachs' Global Macro Research, who received an OBE for services to economics.
- **Professor Jane Falkingham OBE FAcSS** Professor of Demography and International Social Policy, University of Southampton, who received a CBE for services to demographic research.
- **Professor Becky Francis FBA FAcSS** Chief Executive Officer, Education Endowment Foundation, who received a CBE for services to education.

- **Andrew Haldane FAcSS FRS FRSA**, Chief Executive of the Royal Society of Arts, who received a CBE for services to the economy and public policy.
- **Professor David Halpern FAcSS** Chief Executive, The Behavioural Insights Team, who received a CBE for public service.
- **Professor Kate Pickett FRSA FFPH FAcSS** Professor of Epidemiology, University of York, who received an OBE for services to Societal Equality.
- **Professor Tim Vorley FAcSS** Pro Vice-Chancellor and Dean, Oxford Brookes Business School, who received an OBE for services to enterprise, entrepreneurship and innovation.

### ***Member Learned Societies***

Learned societies and professional bodies in the social sciences are at the heart of the Academy as independent bodies affiliated to the Academy through membership. They represent distinct disciplines, interdisciplinary areas, and professional communities, and bring subject specific depth to complement the Academy's social science sector-wide breadth of excellence. Collectively, the Academy and member societies are a large and robust pan-community voice for the social sciences and social scientists.

The Academy actively engaged with its member learned societies throughout the year to encourage networking, knowledge sharing, capacity building and collaboration on advocacy. In 2023 we retained 100% membership of our 48 societies. These include the lead learned societies for the major social science disciplines, together with many of those representing sub-disciplines and cross-disciplinary areas. We thank them for being part of the Academy.

The CEOs and Chief Officers of the societies met, as usual, on a termly basis to discuss topics ranging from Charity Commission updates to the ACCESS programme of social science leadership in climate and environmental challenges. In particular, the Academy and its member societies worked ever more closely together to help advance Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity (EDI) in the social sciences, in collaboration with the ESRC (see section 8). The subgroup *Virtual Conferences Network* met monthly to exchange insights on operational challenges of running events.

### ***Our Member Learned Societies in 2023:***

Association for Psychosocial Studies (APS)  
Association of Law Teachers (ALT)  
Association of Professors of Social Work (APSW)  
Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK (ASA)  
Behavioural Science and Public Health Network (BSPHN)  
British Academy of Management (BAM)  
British Accounting and Finance Association (BAFA)  
British Association for Applied Linguistics (BAAL)  
British Association for International and Comparative Education (BAICE)  
British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES)  
British Educational Leadership, Management and Administration Society (BELMAS)  
British Educational Research Association (BERA)  
British International Studies Association (BISA)  
British Psychological Society (BPS)  
British Society for Population Studies (BSPS)  
British Society of Criminology (BSC)

British Society of Gerontology (BSG)  
British Sociological Association (BSA)  
British Universities Industrial Relations Association (BUIRA)  
Council for Hospitality Management Education (CHME)  
Development Studies Association (DSA)  
Economic History Society (EHS)  
European Academy of Occupational Health Psychology (EAOHP)  
Government Social Research Profession (GSR)  
Housing Studies Association (HSA)  
Joint University Council of the Applied Social Sciences (JUC)  
Leisure Studies Association (LSA)  
Media, Communications and Cultural Studies Association (MeCCSA)  
Political Studies Association (PSA)  
Regional Science Association International, British and Irish Section (RSAI)  
Regional Studies Association (RSA)  
Royal Anthropological Institute (RAI)  
Royal Economic Society (RES)  
Royal Geographical Society (RGS with IBG)  
Royal Statistical Society (RSS)  
Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI)  
Scottish Economic Society (SES)  
Social Policy Association (SPA)  
Social Research Association (SRA)  
Society for Research into Higher Education (SRHE)  
Society for Studies in Organizing Healthcare (SHOC)  
Society for the Advancement of Management Studies (SAMS)  
Society of Legal Scholars (SLS)  
Society of Professional Economists (SPE)  
Socio-Legal Studies Association (SLSA)  
UK Association for Language Testing and Assessment (UKALTA)  
UK Evaluation Society (UKES)  
University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES)

### ***Annual Lecture***

Our flagship event of the year, the Academy's Annual Lecture, was delivered by Professor Lucie Cluver FAcSS, who explored the role of social science in protecting us against future global threats. Attended by Academy Fellows and members of the public, Lucie drew on her policy-focused research on the vulnerabilities faced by children and adolescents in sub-Saharan Africa to discuss the questions, challenges and possible solutions that have begun to emerge in the face of shared threats to society.

### ***Contemporary Social Science Journal***

The Academy's interdisciplinary and international journal, *Contemporary Social Science*, continued an active programme of work. During the year, Editor, Professor David Bailey FAcSS published highly topical, themed issues on Covid-19, sport and society; People, places and policies beyond Brexit; and Levelling up or down? Regional inequalities in the UK. A general issue involved a mix of early career researchers and well-established names.

For the first time, the journal has a two-year impact factor (IF) of 2.4, and it was ranked sixth in social sciences in the emerging sources citation index (ESCI). In 2023, the journal sustained

its upwards trajectory, receiving 152,000 downloads, a growing social media presence and high altimetric scores on many recent papers.

Warm thanks are extended to publishers Taylor & Francis (T&F), and in particular to Jonathan Manley who retired in December 2023.

## **8. Widening participation and skills in the social sciences**

The Academy supports widening participation and skills in the social sciences in principle and in practice. It raises awareness among decision makers, employers and students of the skills and employability of social science graduates; and it promotes and shares good practice in equality, inclusion and diversity (EDI) in education and higher education.

Furthermore, the study, research and understanding of equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) is, in different ways, an inherent part of many social science subjects. EDI issues in this context include ethnicity, racial diversity and inclusion, gender equality, and socio-economic inequalities affecting various groups and places throughout time.

As part of our work to widen participation and skills in the social sciences, this year, the Academy launched its EDI partnership project, a joint programme between the Academy of Social Sciences, its member social science societies and the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC, UKRI). The project aims to encourage and facilitate greater awareness of, and actions to support, EDI across member social science societies and disciplines, by working together to share resources, learning and to increase the potential to effect real and positive change.

### ***Sharing good practice***

To share knowledge efficiently with our member learned societies, the Academy launched an EDI resource hub which drew together free good practice EDI guidance – more than 100 resources - from across the Academy, our member societies and other organisations. Specifically, it focused in 2023 on how to embed and prioritise EDI across six areas: governance and leadership, funding, membership, events, publishing, and research groups and networking communities. It also features resources related to accessible design and inclusive language.

### ***Supporting EDI initiatives in the higher education sector***

As part of our EDI Project, the Academy in partnership with ESRC awarded just under £69,000 in small grants to support five EDI initiatives and interventions by the Academy's member social science societies. After a competitive round of bids from over 40% of the learned societies in the Academy's network and careful consideration, an independent external assessment panel awarded funding to the Royal Statistical Society, the Royal Economic Society, the Royal Town Planning Institute, the Leisure Studies Association, and the British Psychological Society and the British Educational Research Association (joint bid).

The projects encompass a range of initiatives, aimed at specific areas of challenge in each of the discipline areas. The learning from these has the capacity to be transferred and scaled across the wider learned society network, providing invaluable insight to support EDI progress across social science communities and beyond.

### ***Reporting on the state of EDI in the social sciences***

Following a request from member learned societies, the Academy procured and commissioned analyses of Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and POLAR IV data. The purpose is to provide systematic insights on the state of EDI in higher education within the social sciences as a whole and in individual social science disciplines. The resulting summary data report, published in 2024, provides top level analysis of how the social sciences are faring across EDI characteristics. It paves the way for societies to interrogate and analyse data on their specific disciplines, to help inform their ongoing EDI work.

## **9. A sustainable future for the Academy**

As the only body in the UK that exists solely to represent the social sciences, in 2023 the Academy continued to work to ensure its future as an independent, effective and respected champion of social science, with sufficient and sustainable funding, and strong community support, was maintained.

### ***Refreshing the strategy***

A key area of work throughout the past year has been the formulation of the Academy's next five-year strategy which outlines our objectives for promoting social science in the UK for public benefit between 2024 and 2029. The process was led by the Executive Committee and informed by consultations with Academy Fellows, Council members, Executive Committee, Campaign Board, our member learned societies, Academy staff and other stakeholders. This activity allowed us to engage with our communities to understand what they see as priorities for the Academy's work and for ensuring its future.

This refreshed strategy has six strategic objectives:

1. **Embed social science evidence and mindsets more fully across governments and decision-makers**, enhancing awareness of, demand for, and use of social science evidence and building greater parity of esteem between social science and STEM.
2. **Safeguard the social sciences**: seeking to sustain their 'health' in secondary education, higher education and research, and their funding, in a complex setting subject to changing political pressures.
3. **Foster strong, skilled and diverse pipelines of social scientists** for the benefit of the social sciences, society, employers and individuals.
4. **Grow the public image and understanding of social science** with the long-term aim of achieving parity of public recognition with science and technology.
5. **Recognise and support excellence in social sciences**, recognising that the UK is a world leader in this sector and that the social science 'ecosystem' needs nourishing.
6. **Ensure a sustainable future for the Academy** and its work to 'promote social sciences in the UK for public benefit'.

We look forward to working with all of our communities over the next five years in delivering the strategy.

### ***Raising our profile***

The Academy's communications activities throughout 2023 built on its previous success by establishing consistent and regular communications activity on social media, through our website and via our monthly e-newsletter, to further raise our profile. 2023 saw the Academy establish its presence on LinkedIn for the first time to reach new audiences and increase

awareness of the Academy's work. In addition, the website has been further developed providing opportunities to celebrate new Fellows and share the Academy's activities, and news from the social sciences sector more widely, with our audiences.

### **Retaining support**

Strong working relationships with the Academy's Fellows, member social science societies, Campaign supporters, and other funders and supporters were maintained and strengthened in 2023. All four communities are pillars of the Academy's future and add substantially to our work. The Academy's retention levels for its Fellows, learned society members and Campaign supporters remained very strong in 2023, with a further three universities joining the Campaign for Social Science and expanding our supporter base. ESRC (UKRI) are warmly thanked for funding the new EDI partnership project.

## **10. Financial overview**

The Academy's financial statements are presented in a new format from 2023 that shows more clearly how expenditure relates to our main areas of work in the year, which in turn relate directly to our strategy objectives. Thus, there is alignment for the reader between strategy, work accomplished, and expenditure.

Thanks to strong support from those who fund our work, and to our prudent budgeting and well managed cost controls, we ended the year with a modest positive outturn on both the Academy's unrestricted operations and the Campaign's dedicated (restricted) operations. The new EDI project operated for its first year in 2023 within budget.

Incoming resources totalled £702,371 (2022: £466,642) split between core (unrestricted) £373,653 (2022: £341,682) and restricted £328,718 (2022: £124,960) funds. The major income sources are shown in Figure 1, with member subscriptions comprising almost 50% of total income and around 90% of the unrestricted income. Donations/project funding and Campaign supporter sponsorships account for the majority of the restricted income.

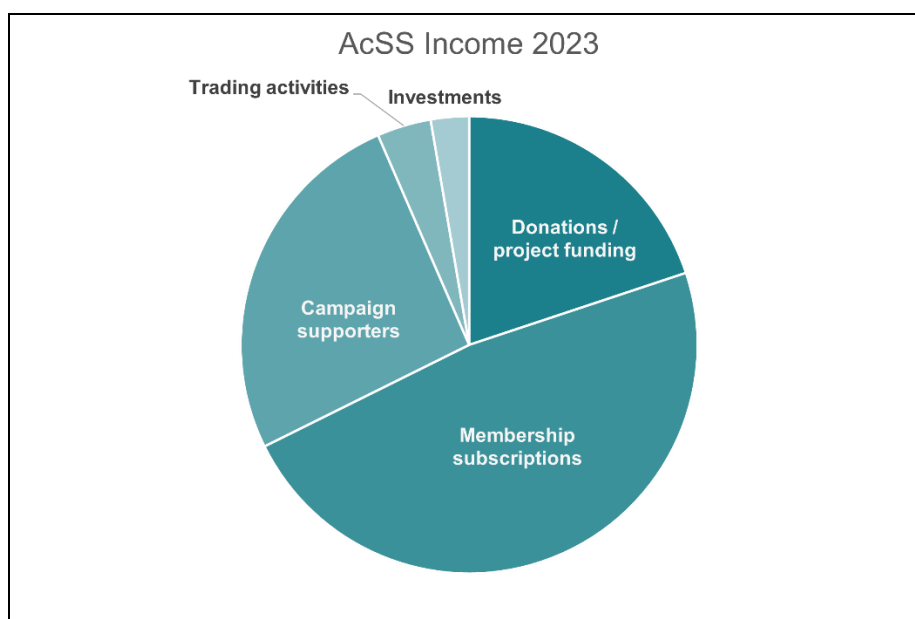


Fig. 1 A graph to show the proportions of income received by the Academy in 2023

The increase in unrestricted income, compared with 2022, reflects a combination of inflation increases applied to Fellows subscriptions in January 2023 (6%) plus increased income from investments. The increase in restricted income represents growth in the number of Campaign supporters (income of £216,218 in 2023 c/w £174,405 in 2022) and funding for the new EDI partnership project in 2023 (£112,500). [Please note that the restricted income in 2022 is a net figure after subtracting end of project return funds.]

Once again, we had strong, sustained and very welcome support from those funding our core work: our Fellows (93% subscription renewal rate); social science society members (100% renewal rate); and Campaign supporters and sponsors (100% renewal rate). We are immensely grateful to those who believe in what we do to promote the social sciences and we thank you all warmly.

Total expenditure in 2023 was £643,681 (2022: £618,804). Of that, the unrestricted expenditure was £348,977 (2022: £303,566) and restricted funds expenditure £294,704 (2022: £315,238). The increase in unrestricted expenditure also reflected a contribution to the SHAPE of Impact project in association with the British Academy and an increase in staff costs. The largest single component of restricted expenditure was on the Campaign for Social Science activities, of £179,378 (2022: £160,283). The slight drop in restricted expenditure overall reflected the changing balance of work across other projects. Staff costs across the organisation were, as usual, the single largest item of expenditure.

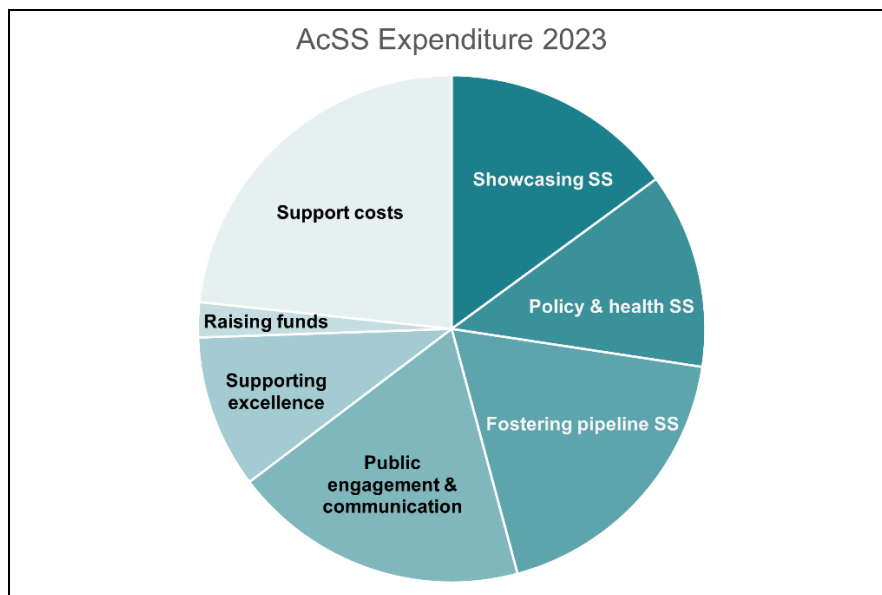


Fig. 2 A graph to show the proportions of expenditure under the Academy's charitable activities in 2023

The total expenditure is displayed across the main areas of Academy operations in Figure 2. Broadly equal sums were expended in our work to showcase social science, on policy and advocacy for the 'health' of the social sciences, and in our new EDI project which was the focus of work to foster a diverse and strong pipeline of social science talent. A slightly higher proportion went on public engagement and communications, which reflects the costs of production of the podcast series in addition to the developing our communications activities. Remaining areas of expenditure were on the administration of Fellowship and membership and a modest sum spent directly on raising funds. Support and governance costs are distributed across these operating areas in ratio to the staff costs.

At the end of 2023, the balance sheet stood at £654,134 (2022: £589,783), of which restricted funds comprised £367,865 (2022: £331,528). The majority of the latter relates to two programmes – the Campaign for Social Science (£218,829), and strategic development (£117,999). The unrestricted

general fund reserves stood at £285,269 (2022: £258,255). The Academy is thus well placed to invest modestly over the coming years in new initiatives in support of its Strategy, 2024-29, while retaining sufficient reserves (a minimum of 50% of annual expenditure) against the significant risks in its funding environment.

## **Our supporters**

In 2023, the Academy's work was supported by its Fellows, in many different ways, including sharing their knowledge and expertise, using their contact networks, assisting us in matters of good governance and in making Fellowship nominations, ensuring our professional community is continually renewed. Their time, energy and effort are freely given and they are very warmly thanked for their support. Fellows' subscriptions also underpin the core funding of the Academy and its work.

The Campaign for Social Science was sponsored in 2023 by 34 UK universities from across England, Scotland and Wales, the British Sociological Association, and by lead commercial sponsor, Sage Publishing. Without this support the Campaign would not have been able to progress this year with new activities to promote the social sciences and in particular to showcase the role of social science evidence relevant to public policy. Nor would the Academy have been able to be as active in its policy work to support the standing of the social sciences. We thank them all, and we particularly thank Sage for enabling us to commission data analyses that helped inform our policy report, *Reimagining the recipe for research and innovation: the secret sauce of social science*, and for partnering on, and providing technical assistance for, the Campaign Annual Lecture and other Campaign events. We also extend our thanks to those Campaign supporters who partnered with us on numerous events as part of the *Election 24: ideas for change based on social science evidence* project.

The ESRC (and its parent body UKRI) is gratefully acknowledged for the £112,500 received in 2023 to support the EDI Project. The Academy matches the ESRC staff support contribution with in-kind staff and website support.

Finally, we thank the major UK donor whose donation of £200,000 continues to be used to help our strategic development. We respect his wish to remain anonymous.

### **Campaign supporters in 2023:**

Sage (Campaign sponsor)  
Anglia Ruskin University (Silver supporter)  
Arden University (Silver supporter)  
British Sociological Association (Silver supporter)  
Brunel University London (Silver supporter)  
City University London (Bronze supporter)  
Durham University (Bronze supporter)  
King's College London (Silver supporter)  
Lancaster University (Silver supporter)  
Newcastle University (Gold supporter)  
Queen Mary University of London (Silver supporter)  
Royal Holloway University of London (Bronze supporter)  
Swansea University (Silver supporter)  
The London School of Economics and Political Science (Bronze supporter)  
The Open University (Silver supporter)  
The University of Edinburgh (Silver supporter)  
The University of Manchester (Silver supporter)

The University of Sheffield (Silver supporter)  
The University of Warwick (Silver supporter)  
UCL (Silver supporter)  
University of Aberdeen (Silver supporter)  
University of Birmingham (Silver supporter)  
University of Bristol (Silver supporter)  
University of East Anglia (Silver supporter)  
University of Essex (Gold supporter)  
University of Exeter (Gold supporter)  
University of Glasgow (Gold supporter)  
University of Leeds (Bronze supporter)  
University of Oxford (Silver supporter)  
University of Southampton (Gold supporter)  
University of St Andrews (Silver supporter)  
University of Stirling (Gold supporter)  
University of Strathclyde (Silver supporter)  
University of Sussex (Silver supporter)  
University of the West of England (Silver supporter)  
University of York (Bronze supporter)

## **11. People and governance**

### ***Staff team***

In the first half of 2023 we completed the major changes in our staff team that commenced in Autumn 2022. We have re-shaped our Campaign, policy and public affairs team, integrating the Campaign and policy work more fully and increasing advocacy capacity. Staff resources were doubled to 3 FTEs and the team is now led by the new role of Head of Policy and Public Affairs (Dr Ed Bridges) and supported by a new post of Events and Engagement Officer (Theresa Flach).

Funding from ESRC (UKRI) for the EDI partnership project has enabled the appointment of a part-time EDI Manager (Dr Lizzie Norman-Sargent). A change in Membership Manager (Annie Hogan) led to a timely review of our CRM and our database needs for the future and supported the Fellows' survey in Autumn 2023. Re-instatement of a full time Senior Communications Manager (Amy Williams) has led to a step change in our media and social media presence, our profile and reach, and website content in the nine months since starting in post in May 2023.

Particular thanks to Dr Sarah Jones (Director of Operations) and Dr Rita Gardner FAcSS (Chief Executive) for managing this period of transition while sustaining the core work of the Academy, and to Steve Grundy for sterling work as Campaign Manager throughout. Ian Williams and David Wilson kindly provided book-keeping and professional accountancy support, respectively.

We ended the year with an integrated, productive and forward-looking staff team, keen to start work on the 2024-2029 strategy.

We decided to continue to operate as a virtual organisation, having reviewed the options again at the start of the year. We continued to be aware of, and to mitigate, the potential risks to staff welfare and integration of this style of working by being open and caring as an organisation, by meeting regularly as a 'virtual' team, in work-related subgroups, and in face-to-face meeting. We also ensured all staff have appropriate equipment, advice and ready access to IT support.

Activities were further supported by external services suppliers and professional advisors, most notably for specialist IT, payroll and pensions, technical website development, and accountancy and audit.

During the year we also engaged external contractors to produce and help market the We Society podcasts (Whistledown Studios); to provide data analytics for one of the policy reports (Digital Science) and also for EDI data analysis and visualisations (Paul Graves).

### **Council**

The Academy is governed by its Council (Board of Trustees) and supported by six specialist committees, all consisting of eminent social scientists mostly drawn from the Academy's Fellowship.

The Academy's Council has overall responsibility for the charity and its members act as Directors for the company. They have responsibility for ensuring the Academy operates within its charitable objectives, providing strategic direction and monitoring of the Academy's performance against annual workplans. The planning, organisation and delivery of the work of the Academy is delegated to the Chief Executive and her staff team. The Council is chaired by the President and comprises 21 members, one-third of whom are elected by the Fellowship, one-third by member social science societies, and one-third are appointed by the Council. Trustees serve a three-year term, renewable for one further term of three years.

The Council met, as planned, on three occasions in 2023, chaired by President, Will Hutton FAcSS. The meeting in February 2023 agreed the workplan and budget for the year. The meeting in May, approved the Annual Directors' Report and Accounts; and the meeting in October approved the refreshed strategy for 2024-2029. The Council approved new conferments to Fellowship in February and August, following careful scrutiny by the Nominations Committee.

Council was supported in its governance role by expert committees of Council, the Chairs of which sit on the Council. The main committees of Council in 2023 remained unchanged: the Audit and Risk Management Committee, Campaign Board, CEOs of Learned Societies Group, Executive Committee, Nominations Committee and Remunerations Committee.

Throughout the year, these groups were involved in consultation and decision-making on the strategy refresh project, which was led by the Executive Committee of senior trustees and the Chief Executive. The Executive Committee met regularly each month to advise the CEO and deal with any urgent governance matters between Council meetings.

During 2023 one Council member retired on completion of her term (Professor Sasha Roseneil FAcSS) and one sadly passed away (Lord Bob Kerslake FAcSS). Two new members were elected onto the Council, Professor John Scott FAcSS and Professor Imogen Tyler FAcSS. Prof Nic Beech FAcSS remained as Honorary Treasurer, Prof Jil Matheson FAcSS as Honorary Secretary, Prof Bobby Duffy FAcSS as Chair of the Campaign Board, and Prof Tony McEnery FAcSS as Chair of the Audit and Risk Management Committee. Prof John Scott CBE FAcSS was appointed Chair of the Nominations Committee. All committees met as planned and meetings were a mix of virtual and in person.

### **Governance**

The Academy of Social Science is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 24 September 1999, and is registered as a charity. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company, and is governed by its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Will Hutton FAcSS remained President of the Academy, in the third year of his term. The President's role combines that of figurehead for the Academy with active leadership including chairing the

meetings of Council and of the CEOs of Learned Societies Group; overseeing the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting; representing the Academy at ceremonial occasions and at high profile external meetings and events; managing relationships with selected high profile stakeholders; and appointing the Chief Executive of the Academy, subject to approval by Council.

### ***Induction and Training of new Trustees***

New Trustees are subject to a formal induction process, which includes introductions to their legal obligations under Charity and Company Law, the relevant Charity Commission's guidance, such as on public benefit and on advocacy and campaigning, the Charity's governing documents, the committee structure and decision-making processes, and recent financial performance of the charity.

Trustees are recruited based upon their skills, sector knowledge and experience and may attend relevant courses as training to enhance their knowledge and the undertaking of their role. The Trustees confirm that they have had regard for the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit when reviewing and planning activities in 2023 and for future years.

### ***Key management remuneration***

The trustees receive no remuneration for their services other than the reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses. The pay of staff, including senior staff, is reviewed annually by the Remunerations Committee and normally increased to reflect inflation, taking into account CPI, the inflation increase applied to Fellows' subscriptions, and the Academy's resources as a charity. Academy salaries are benchmarked against pay and conditions data available from similar organisations of a similar size, run on a voluntary basis. Performance related increases are awarded on an individual basis, following review by line managers and consideration of the Remuneration Committee.

### ***Risk management***

The trustees understand their duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. Guidance is provided to the trustees by the Audit and Risk Management Committee, of which the Chair sits on the Council.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations, reputation and finances of the company and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

### ***Going Concern***

The Trustees consider that there are no uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The Board have made this assessment in respect of the period of one year from the date of approval of these financial statements, having considered the level of reserves held and the forecast results for the next 12 months.

## **12. Looking ahead to 2024**

We look ahead to 2024 as the start of our next strategy period with a renewed sense of focus in promoting the social sciences for public benefit in the UK. Our refreshed, outward-looking strategy to 2029 outlines a number of ambitious areas of activity, including work to embed social science evidence and mindsets more fully across governments and decision-makers. In addition, the Academy's team will align further our work to showcase and advocate for social sciences and build on existing work to grow the public image and understanding of social science, safeguard its health in secondary education, higher education and research, and seek to enhance EDI across the social sciences and to foster diverse and flourishing future generations of social scientists.

The UK is facing major challenges, from accelerating environmental change to economic productivity, housing provision, and an NHS under severe pressure, to name but a few. These are multi-dimensional issues that transcend departmental structures. The new government will require cross-disciplinary evidence to help in formulating and implementing policy, including much social science evidence. In 2024 one of our foci will be a major new research-led project to explore if, and how, the UK government's evidence infrastructure could be developed so as to deliver better outcomes.

Working with our communities, we look forward to implementing this and other elements of our action plan for 2024 as a step towards our vision to see the social sciences widely valued for their contributions to society, the economy, environment and wellbeing, supported by capable and inclusive communities of academics and other professionals, learned societies and students.

### **13. Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue to operate.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with relevant legislation and the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Will Hutton FAcSS  
President

By Order of the Board pursuant to a resolution of Council  
15 May 2024

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**THE ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Academy of Social Sciences ('the Company') for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made to the Trustees, as a body, in accordance with the terms of my engagement. Our work has been undertaken so that we might carry out an Independent Examination of the financial statements in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees, as a body, for our work or for this report.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the Trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your Charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accounts in England and Wales ('ICAEW'), which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concern and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



James Holland-Leader FCA  
Knox Cropper LLP  
Chartered Accountants

65/68 Leadenhall Street  
London, EC3A 2AD

15 May 2024

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

	Notes	2023			2022		
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
<b>INCOME FROM</b>							
Donations, Legacies and Subscriptions	2	335,584	320,927	656,511	315,927	124,730	440,657
Other Trading Activities	3	26,868	-	26,868	23,779	-	23,779
Investment Income	4	11,201	7,791	18,992	1,976	230	2,206
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>373,653</b>	<b>328,718</b>	<b>702,371</b>	<b>341,682</b>	<b>124,960</b>	<b>466,642</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>							
Raising Funds	5	4,750	9,612	14,362	4,334	12,066	16,400
Charitable Activities	5	344,227	285,092	629,319	299,232	303,172	602,404
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>348,977</b>	<b>294,704</b>	<b>643,681</b>	<b>303,566</b>	<b>315,238</b>	<b>618,804</b>
<b>NET (LOSSES)/GAINS ON INVESTMENT ASSETS</b>	12	3,338	2,323	5,661	-	-	-
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) AND NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		28,014	36,337	64,351	38,116	(190,278)	(152,162)
Transfer Between Funds	15	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>28,014</b>	<b>36,337</b>	<b>64,351</b>	<b>38,116</b>	<b>(190,278)</b>	<b>(152,162)</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2023</b>		<b>258,255</b>	<b>331,528</b>	<b>589,783</b>	<b>220,139</b>	<b>521,806</b>	<b>741,945</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023</b>		<b>£286,269</b>	<b>£367,865</b>	<b>£654,134</b>	<b>£258,255</b>	<b>£331,528</b>	<b>£589,783</b>

All the activities reported above represent continuing operations.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

		<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	11		1,646		815
Investments	12		258,054		265,274
			<u>259,700</u>		<u>266,089</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	13	7,320		38,254	
Cash at Bank		419,246		341,624	
		<u>426,566</u>		<u>379,878</u>	
<b>CREDITORS:</b> Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(32,132)</u>		<u>(56,184)</u>	
Net Current Assets			394,434		323,694
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u>£654,134</u>		<u>£589,783</u>
<b>CHARITY FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted Funds	16		286,269		258,255
Restricted Funds	15		367,865		331,528
			<u>£654,134</u>		<u>£589,783</u>

For the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and that an independent examination is needed.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The Financial statements were approved by the Directors on 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Will Hutton FAcSS, President



Professor Nic Beech FAcSS, Hon. Treasurer

Registered Company Number: 03847936

Registered Charity Number: 1088537

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

**AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

	Notes	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		£	£
<b>NET CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	A	48,220	(129,737)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from sale of investments		117,522	-
Purchase of investments		(360,871)	-
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(2,471)	-
Interest Received		18,992	2,206
<b>TOTAL CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		<u>(226,828)</u>	<u>2,206</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>		(178,608)	(127,531)
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR</b>		602,898	730,429
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF THE YEAR</b>		<u>£424,290</u>	<u>£602,898</u>
<b>A CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		64,351	(152,162)
Depreciation		1,640	1,976
Investment Income		(18,992)	(2,206)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors		30,934	22,716
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors		(24,052)	(61)
Investment gains		(5,661)	-
Net cash(used in)/provided by operating activities		<u>48,220</u>	<u>(129,737)</u>
<b>COMPONENTS OF CASH</b>			
Cash at Bank		419,246	341,624
Cash held by investment managers		5,044	261,274
		<u>£424,290</u>	<u>£602,898</u>

**B ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT**

	At 1st January 2023	Cash Flows	At 31st December 2023
	£	£	£
Cash	602,898	(178,608)	424,290
Loan	<u>(10,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(10,000)</u>
	<u>£592,898</u>	<u>£(178,608)</u>	<u>£414,290</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Company Status**

The Academy is a charitable company limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales. The members of the company are the Fellows and Learned Societies listed in the membership register. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company. A description of the nature of the charitable company's operations and its principal activity is disclosed in the Directors' Report. The charitable company's registered office is stated on page 1.

**Basis of Preparation and Assessment of going concern**

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. They have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective January 2019) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The accounts have been prepared to give a 'true and fair view' and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) Second Edition issued in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The Charity constitutes there are no uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

**General Funds**

General Funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

**Restricted Funds**

Restricted Funds are those funds which may only be applied to purposes specified by the donor. Details of Restricted Funds are set out in Note 15 to the financial statements.

**Income**

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably. Subscriptions from members are payable on 1 January each year and are recognised in the year in which they are received. Donations are recognised when received. Other income is recognised when received.

**Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

## **ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

##### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

###### **Allocation and apportionment of costs**

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include backoffice costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the Academy's programmes and activities. These costs have all been allocated to expenditure on charitable activities. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in notes 6 and 7.

###### **Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation**

Computer equipment is stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost or value of tangible fixed assets to their estimated residual values over their expected useful lives on a straight line basis at the following rate:

Computer Equipment:	33% Per Annum
---------------------	---------------

###### **Investments**

Investments are a form of basic financial investment and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value.

###### **Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

###### **Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

###### **Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

###### **Financial instruments**

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**2. DONATIONS, LEGACIES & SUBSCRIPTIONS**

	<b>2023</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Donations	-	139,761	139,761
Members Subscriptions	335,584	-	335,584
Supporters Scheme	-	181,166	181,166
Exchange gain	-	-	-
	£335,584	£320,927	£656,511

	<b>2022</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Donations	2,676	113,910	116,586
Members Subscriptions	312,587	-	312,587
Supporters Scheme	-	146,166	146,166
End of project return		(138,059)	(138,059)
Exchange gain	664	2,713	3,377
	£315,927	£124,730	£440,657

End of project return refers to the balance on restricted donations income that was returned to Scottish Policy Research Exchange (£97,349) following its transfer to an independent SCIO at the end of 2022, and to the EU in respect of unspent restricted grant funding by the Pro Res Project (£40,710) at the project completion.

**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	<b>2023</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Royalties	7,040	-	7,040
Journal Income	18,828	-	18,828
Annual reception	1,000	-	1,000
	£26,868	£-	£26,868

**4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	<b>2022</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Event Income			-
Journal Income	17,591	-	17,591
Annual reception	6,188	-	6,188
	£23,779	£-	£23,779

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**4. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	<b>2023</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Bank Interest	4,618	3,213	7,831
Income from investments	6,582	4,579	11,161
	£11,200	£7,792	£18,992

	<b>2022</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Bank Interest	1,976	230	2,206
Income from investments	-	-	-
	£1,976	£230	£2,206

**5. TOTAL EXPENDITURE**

		<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		£	£
Charitable expenses	Note 6	479,518	429,528
Support costs	7	149,801	172,876
		629,319	602,404
Raising funds		14,362	16,400
Total expenditure		£643,681	£618,804

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**6. RESOURCES EXPENDED**

	<b><u>Charitable expenses 2023</u></b>					
	<b>Showcase Social Science</b>	<b>Policy &amp; Health Social Sciences</b>	<b>Fostering Pipeline Social Sciences</b>	<b>Public engagement and Communications</b>	<b>Supporting excellence in Social Science</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Room hire and events	4,187	-	-	-	-	4,187
Journal	15,220	-	-	-	-	15,220
Promotion & marketing	-	12,500	-	47,500	-	60,000
Research	-	12,500	5,931	-	-	18,431
Staff costs	75,831	44,775	43,100	68,581	62,362	294,649
Printing, postage & stationery	-	-	-	930	383	1,313
Donation	-	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
Subscriptions	-	3,903	-	-	-	3,903
Grants	-	-	68,780	-	-	68,780
Irrecoverable VAT	1,722	1,455	526	4,297	35	8,035
	96,960	80,133	118,337	121,308	62,780	479,518
Support costs (note 7)	38,553	22,764	21,912	34,867	31,705	149,801
	£135,513	£102,897	£140,249	£156,175	£94,485	£629,319

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**6. RESOURCES EXPENDED (continued)**

	<b><u>Charitable expenses 2022</u></b>				
	<b>Showcase Social Science</b>	<b>Policy &amp; Health Social Sciences</b>	<b>Public engagement and Communications</b>	<b>Supporting excellence in Social Science</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
Room hire and events	3,593	-	-	2,806	6,399
Journal	14,516	-	-	-	14,516
Promotion & marketing	-	-	30,959	-	30,959
Staff costs	63,987	106,771	95,977	71,839	338,574
Printing, postage & stationery	-	-	-	1,560	1,560
Professional fees	-	27,600	-	1,567	29,167
Subscriptions	-	3,831	-	-	3,831
Irrecoverable VAT	946	1,641	1,625	310	4,522
	<hr/> 83,042	<hr/> 139,843	<hr/> 128,561	<hr/> 78,082	<hr/> 429,528
Support costs (note 7)	32,672	54,517	49,006	36,681	172,876
	<hr/> <hr/> £115,714	<hr/> <hr/> £194,360	<hr/> <hr/> £177,567	<hr/> <hr/> £114,763	<hr/> <hr/> £602,404

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**6. RESOURCES EXPENDED (continued)**

The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£	£
Royal Statistical Society	24,000	-
British Psychological Society	5,000	-
Royal Economic Society	24,780	-
Leisure Studies Association	5,000	-
Royal Town Planning Institute	10,000	-
Total expenditure	<u>£68,780</u>	<u>£-</u>

**7. SUPPORT COSTS**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£
Room hire and events	547	2,658
Salaries and wages	68,080	71,558
Recruitment and training	4,129	8,600
Storage costs	2,969	2,757
Travel costs	5,343	3,453
IT and website costs	19,538	27,133
Professional fees	-	6,563
Sundries	2,819	3,362
Bank Charges	4,074	3,156
Irrecoverable VAT	3,851	3,245
Depreciation	1,640	1,975
Investment management fee	2,339	2,488
Governance costs	34,472	35,928
	<u>£149,801</u>	<u>£172,876</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**8. RESTRICTED FUNDS**

<b>2023</b>	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2023 Total</b>
	£	£
Staff Costs	126,846	126,846
Annual Campaign Lecture	4,188	4,188
Promotion	12,500	12,500
Donation	5,000	5,000
Website and IT	7,880	7,880
Research	12,500	12,500
Sundry expenses	10,464	10,464
<b>Campaign for Social Science</b>	<u>179,378</u>	<u>179,378</u>
Staff Costs	20,012	20,012
Sundry	603	603
Website and IT	5,931	5,931
Grants	68,780	68,780
<b>Fostering Pipeline</b>	<u>95,326</u>	<u>95,326</u>
Promotion	20,000	20,000
<b>Strategic Development</b>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>
	<u>£294,704</u>	<u>£294,704</u>
<b>2022</b>	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2022 Total</b>
	£	£
Staff Costs	121,721	121,721
Annual Campaign Lecture	4,593	4,593
Professional and consultancy	25,900	25,900
Website and IT	4,120	4,120
Sundry expenses	3,949	3,949
<b>Campaign for Social Science</b>	<u>160,283</u>	<u>160,283</u>
Sundry	5,814	5,814
<b>Pro Res Eu</b>	<u>5,814</u>	<u>5,814</u>
Staff Costs	97,075	97,075
Sundry	2,819	2,819
Website and IT	15,580	15,580
Travelling	3,246	3,246
Meetings	2,658	2,658
Legal	2,100	2,100
Professional and Consultancy	5,663	5,663
<b>SPRE</b>	<u>129,141</u>	<u>129,141</u>
Promotion	20,000	20,000
<b>Strategic Development</b>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>
	<u>£315,238</u>	<u>£315,238</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**9. NET INCOME**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
This is stated after charging	£	£
Depreciation	£1,640	£1,976

The Independent examiner's remuneration of £1,660 (2022: £1,760) related solely to the examination. Fees in respect of company secretarial amounted to £500 (2022: £500).

**10. STAFF AND CONTRACTOR COSTS AND NUMBERS**

The average number of employees during the year was 10 (8 FTE), 2022: 10 (8 FTE)

Key management personnel consist of the CEO, the head of administration and the head of policy and public affairs. Total employment benefits of the key management personnel were £209,418.

One employee had emoluments within the range of £90,000 - £100,000.

The Charity Trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the Charity (2022: £Nil). During the year 5 Trustees (2022: 4) were reimbursed expenses for meeting attendance totalling £472 (2022: £214).

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£	£
Gross salaries	351,284	395,467
Social Security costs	37,014	38,975
Pension costs	11,204	14,518
Total Payroll Costs	<u>£399,502</u>	<u>£448,960</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

11. **TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£	£
<b>Computer equipment</b>		
Cost:		
Balance at 1st January 2023	16,663	17,412
Additions	2,471	-
Disposals	-	(749)
Balance at 31st December 2023	£19,134	£16,663
 <b>Depreciation:</b>		
Balance at 1st January 2023	15,848	14,621
Disposals	-	(749)
Charge for the year	1,640	1,976
Balance at 31st December 2023	£17,488	15,848
Net Book Value At 31st December 2023	£1,646	£815

12. **FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£	£
Market value at 1 January 2023	4,000	4,000
Additions	360,871	-
Disposals	(117,522)	-
Net investment (losses)/gains	5,661	-
Market value at 31 December 2023	253,010	4,000
Cash held by managing agent	5,044	261,274
	£258,054	£265,274
Historical cost at 31 December 2023	£246,126	£4,000

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

13. **DEBTORS**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Due within one year</b>	£	£
Trade and supporter scheme debtors	7,320	17,814
Prepayments and accrued income	-	1,440
Other debtors	-	19,000
	<u>£7,320</u>	<u>£38,254</u>

14. **CREDITORS: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£	£
Loan Creditor	10,000	10,000
Prepaid Subscriptions & Event Income	2,108	13,353
Accruals	18,284	25,770
HMRC VAT Liability	1,740	7,061
	<u>£32,132</u>	<u>£56,184</u>

The loan is interest free and repayable when aggregate donations, excluding those for specific appeals, have been received totalling more than £20,000.

Deferred income reconciliation

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£	£
Balance brought forward	13,353	12,124
Amount released to Statement of Financial Activities	(13,353)	(12,124)
Amount deferred in the year	2,108	13,353
Balance carried forward	<u>£2,108</u>	<u>£13,353</u>

Member subscriptions and event income received in advance is deferred to the period to which it relates.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**15. RESTRICTED FUNDS**

**2023**

	<b>CfSS</b>	<b>International Advisory Group</b>	<b>Making The Case</b>	<b>EU Pro Res Project</b>	<b>EDI Partnership Project</b>	<b>Strategic Development</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1st January 2023	179,666	1,225	12,638	-	-	137,999	331,528
Income	216,218	-	-	-	112,500	-	328,718
Expenditure	(179,378)	-	-	-	(95,326)	(20,000)	(294,704)
Gains on Investments	2,323	-	-	-	-	-	2,323
Balance at 31st December 2023	£218,829	£1,225	£12,638	£-	£17,174	£117,999	£367,865

**2022**

	<b>CfSS</b>	<b>International Advisory Group</b>	<b>Making The Case</b>	<b>EU Pro Res Project</b>	<b>SPRE</b>	<b>Strategic Development</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1st January 2022	165,544	1,225	12,638	44,333	140,067	157,999	521,806
Income	174,405	-	-	2,191	86,423	-	263,019
Expenditure	(160,283)	-	-	(5,814)	(129,141)	(20,000)	(315,238)
End of project return (note 2)	-	-	-	(40,710)	(97,349)	-	(138,059)
Balance at 31st December 2022	£179,666	£1,225	£12,638	£-	£-	£137,999	£331,528

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

The restricted funds comprise the monies collected for and expended on projects and the Campaign for Social Science.

Campaign for Social Science: This fund supports the outward-facing, advocacy voice of the Academy of Social Sciences. The Campaign works to showcase social science and to amplify the voice of social science in policy issues affecting all social science disciplines and higher education activities. This work contributes to the Showcasing Social Science and the Policy and Health of Social Sciences objective.

EDI Partnership Project: This project is a partnership with ESRC and the Academy's member learned societies, led by the Academy, with the aim of supporting learned societies in the social sciences in their work to embed EDI more fully in their own operations and in discipline communities. This work contributes to the Fostering Pipeline in Social Sciences objective.

International Advisory Group: This group works with Fellows, UK and international bodies in organising events, preparing briefings and supporting consultation responses on the international dimension of social science research and policy, beyond the UK. This work contributes to the Policy and Health of Social Sciences objective.

Making the Case: This fund focuses on work to exemplify social science research that has made a difference to policy or practice. This work contributes to the Policy and Health of Social Sciences objective.

Pro Res Fund: This was a fixed term, EU-funded project that aimed to promote ethics and integrity in non-medical research. The EU Pro Res Project was completed in 2022.

SPRE (Scottish Policy and Research Exchange): aims to help policy makers and researchers in Scotland work together more effectively. With the approval of the Academy's Council, SPRE became an independent SCIO and ceased to operate as part of the Academy from 01 January 2023.

Strategic Development Fund: this represents a donation received from an individual to forward the future of the Academy. This fund is available to support strategic development across all objectives.

**16. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS**

	<b>2023</b>			<b>2022</b>		
	<b>Designated Development Fund</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Designated Development Fund</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1 January 2023	18,838	239,417	258,255	16,162	203,977	220,139
Income	-	373,653	373,653	2,676	339,006	341,682
Expenditure	-	(348,977)	(348,977)	-	(303,566)	(303,566)
Investment gains	-	3,338	3,338	-	-	-
31 December 2023	£18,838	£267,431	£286,269	£18,838	£239,417	£258,255

The Designated Development Fund has been established to support data analysis and other activities that investigate, exemplify and further the health of social sciences.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**17. TAXATION**

The Academy is a registered charity and is not subject to UK Corporation Tax on its Charitable Activities and Investment Income.

**18. NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

	<b>2023</b>			
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Designated</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	153,898	-	105,802	259,700
Current Assets	140,136	18,838	267,592	426,566
Creditors Amounts Falling due within one Year	(26,603)	-	(5,529)	(32,132)
	<b>£267,431</b>	<b>£18,838</b>	<b>£367,865</b>	<b>£654,134</b>

	<b>2022</b>			
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Designated</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	148,948	-	117,141	266,089
Current Assets	135,374	18,838	225,666	379,878
Creditors Amounts Falling due within one Year	(44,905)	-	(11,279)	(56,184)
	<b>£239,417</b>	<b>£18,838</b>	<b>£331,528</b>	<b>£589,783</b>

**19. GOING CONCERN**

The Charitable Company's Directors believe it is appropriate to draw up these accounts on a going concern basis as they believe that adequate sources of funding will be forthcoming in the normal course of events to allow the charity to continue to operate.

In making this assessment the Directors have considered the period to June 2025.

**20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The following Related Party Transactions occurred in the year to 31 December 2023:

Professor Richard Black (Trustee) served as Pro Vice Chancellor to the University of Birmingham until September 2023. During the year AcSS received £6,000 (£5,000) in supporter scheme income from the University of Birmingham.

Professor Timothy Blackman (Trustee) served as Vice Chancellor to the Open University. During the year AcSS received £6,000 (2022: £5,000) in supporter scheme income from the Open University.

Professor Anthony Crook (Trustee) is a Trustee of the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI). During the year AcSS made a grant of £10,000 to RTPI. AcSS also received a membership subscription from RTPI amounting to £2,062 (2022: £2,062).

Professor Bobby Duffy (Trustee) served as Professor of Public Policy and Director of the Policy Institute at Kings College London. During the year AcSS received £6,000 (2022: £5,000) in supporter scheme income from the Kings College London.

Dr Rita Gardner (Chief Executive) served as a Trustee of Brunel University. During the year AcSS received £6,000 (£5,000) in supporter scheme income from Brunel University.

Professor Judith Philips (Trustee) served as Deputy Principal (Research) at the University of Stirling. During the year AcSS received £12,000 (2022: £10,000) in supporter scheme income from the University of Stirling.

Professor Ian Rivers (Trustee) served as Associate Principal and Executive Dean of the Faculty and Humanities and Social Sciences and Professor of Education for Social Change at the University of Strathclyde. During the year AcSS received £6,000 in supporter scheme income from the University of Strathclyde.

Professor Nic Beech (Trustee) previously also served as a Trustee of the British Academy of Management (Registered charity number 1117999). He retired from that Board on 22 December 2022. During the year ended 31 December 2022, The British Academy of Management paid a membership subscription to the Academy of Social Sciences amounting to £1,700.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1088537

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# Accounts

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**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**(A Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

**Company Number: 03847936**  
**Registered Charity Number: 1088537**

**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

# **ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**(A Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

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**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

**Legal and Administrative Information**

**For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

**Directors and Trustees**

Stephen Aldridge FAcSS  
Professor Tim Allen FAcSS  
Professor Lisa Anderson (appointed 16 June 2022)  
Professor Nic Beech FAcSS  
Professor Richard Black FAcSS  
Professor Tim Blackman FAcSS  
Chris Caswill FAcSS (retired 6 June 2022)  
Professor Tony Crook CBE FAcSS  
Professor Bobby Duffy FAcSS  
Professor Eileen Green FAcSS  
Will Hutton (President)  
Lord Kerslake FAcSS

Professor Simon Marginson FAcSS  
Dame Jil Matheson FAcSS  
Professor Tony McEney FAcSS  
Professor Judith Phillips OBE FAcSS  
Professor Sally Power (appointed 16 June 2022)  
Professor Vicky Pryce FAcSS  
Professor Ian Rivers FAcSS (appointed 6 October 2022)  
Professor Sasha Roseneil FAcSS  
Professor Gill Valentine FAcSS (retired 10 October 2022)  
Professor Kavita Vedhara

**Company Registered Number**

03847936

**Charity Registered Number**

1088537

**Registered and Administrative Office**

c/o Knox Cropper LLP,  
65 Leadenhall Street,  
London, EC3A 2AD

**Secretary**

Dame Jil Matheson FAcSS

**Independent examiner**

James Holland-Leader FCA,  
Knox Cropper LLP,  
65 Leadenhall Street,  
London, EC3A 2AD

**Bankers**

CAF Bank Ltd,  
25 Kings Hill Avenue,  
Kings Hill,  
West Malling,  
Kent, ME19 4JQ

Metro Bank  
1 Southampton Row,  
London,  
WC1B 5HA

**Investment Advisors**

Tilney Investment Management,  
17th Floor, 6 New Street Square,  
New Fetter Lane  
London, EC4A 3BF

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
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**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

**From the President, Will Hutton FAcSS**

The Academy of Social Sciences' aim and ambition are to advance the cause of social science on every front – academically, its public reputation and standing, its impact on policy and its attractiveness to students and to teachers and lecturers. Under the outstanding leadership of our CEO and team, over 2022 we have made progress on all fronts – especially important at a time in our national life when social science is under pressure.

Our fellowship continues to grow sustainably and our retention rate remains astonishingly high: leading academics and practitioners alike are delighted to associate with us. If that reflects our academic standing, I am pleased at the unfolding strength of the Campaign for Social Science with its radically improved digital hubs, range of events and blogs. The We Society Podcast series has recently registered as the number one social science and science podcast – a tribute to the interest social science subjects can achieve and an essential ingredient in spreading the message. The research completed in the Social Sciences in a Time of Change project furthers understanding of the impact of the pandemic and Brexit on the social sciences in higher education. And our work in association with the British Academy analysing the REF2021 Impact Case Studies promises to be an important contribution to understanding the nature of the impact social science can have.

This is vital work for all our community and stakeholders. Evidence based policy has recently been under siege, and the continued hiatus over membership of the EU Horizon programme impacts on Social Science as well. The UK urgently needs the best analysis, data and consequent policy given the scale of our multiple economic and social challenges. The Academy will continue to use its growing convening power, research and policy capacity and voice to make as much of that a reality as possible. A good year – but much more to do.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**(a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**(Continued)**

**I. Introduction by the Chief Executive – Dr Rita Gardner CBE FAcSS**

It's a pleasure to thank colleagues, trustees, Fellows and members for their work and support in 2022, which was a busy year with the completion and commencement of projects to help promote the social sciences. Our work was guided throughout the year by the Academy's strategy.

We sustained our momentum, building on the developments in 2020 and 2021. Our work to champion the social sciences was taken forwards through the activities of the Campaign for Social Science, including a new third Campaign hub, and a new podcast series hosted by President, Will Hutton. Our work to understand and advocate for the health of the social sciences in higher education focused on the completion of the 'Social Sciences in a Time of Change' project, led jointly by the Academy and Lancaster University, and associated knowledge exchange and development activities. We commenced two important new pieces of research to underpin our championing and advocacy work in 2023 and beyond, one in association with the British Academy. Our work to recognise excellence in social sciences centred on the nomination and election of new distinguished social scientists – both academics and practitioners – into the Fellowship of the Academy and major improvements in our public online directory of Fellows' expertise. Our work to widen participation and skills was boosted by the formalisation and funding of the partnership with the ESRC to further Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in the social sciences, specifically through working collaboratively with the Academy's learned society members.

In 2022 we also sustained the robust, professional foundations developed in recent years, making good use of the new data systems, website and visual identity created in 2020 and 2021 and enabled by a strong administrative team. An outstanding new editor was appointed to lead our journal, published quarterly, and the e-bulletin and policy monitor were published monthly. We had successes in fundraising, exceeding our target for the year. We secured an additional nine institutional supporters for the Campaign, bringing the total to 35 from January 2023 and paving the way for additional staff to be appointed in 2023.

Retention among Fellows and social science society members remained very high, at 96% and 100%, respectively. Net Fellowship numbers increased by 50 over the year, while 31 Fellows transferred from full Fellow to retired Fellow subscriptions. We were pleased to see 7 Fellows being recognised for their work in the Queen's New Year and Birthday Honours lists.

Governance activities, which are vital to the organisation as a charity, proceeded well including planned committee meetings, the AGM, and the Academy and Campaign annual lectures. During the year a Remuneration Committee was established and the Academy's governing documents were updated to reflect this and other administrative changes approved by the Council. At the year end, and with the approval and good wishes of the Academy's Council, the SPRE project that the Academy had hosted for four years, became an independent Scottish-based SCIO (charity).

Retiring members of Council on completion of terms were Chris Caswill FAcSS and Professor Gill Valentine FAcSS. Two newly elected and one appointed Council member took up their roles as trustees in June: Professor Lisa Anderson FAcSS, Professor Ian Rivers FAcSS, and Professor Sally Power, FAcSS. We also welcomed four new members to the Campaign Board, from the universities of Cardiff, East Anglia, Glasgow, and York.

We continued to operate as a virtual organization following an internal review and in line with staff preferences. Three staff resignations in the last quarter of 2022, for reasons of retirement, career change and PhD funding, reduced our capacity over several months while new team members were appointed. Finances were well managed throughout and we ended the year with a modest operating surplus on our accounts.

Dr Rita Gardner CBE FAcSS

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
(a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)

**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**  
(Continued)

## 2. Academy vision, mission and objectives

**Charitable purpose:** The promotion of social sciences in the UK for public benefit.

**Vision:** The social sciences flourish in the UK and sustain their world leading stature. They are widely valued for their contributions to society, economy, environment and well-being; and led by confident and capable communities of academics and other professionals, learned societies and students.

**Mission:** To enhance and safeguard the social sciences in research, professional practice, and education; and to champion and foster the understanding and application of social sciences in policy, business and public life.

**Objectives:** The Academy of Social Sciences published a [new strategy](#) in 2020. The six objectives set the medium-term framework for our work in delivering our charitable purpose.

- **To champion the social sciences:** promoting the vital role of social science in improving decision-making, society and lives
- **To sustain the health of the social sciences in research and education:** enabling a thriving and confident community
- **To recognise excellence in social science:** with an expert and engaged Fellowship
- **To widen participation and skills in the social sciences:** recognising the importance of social mobility, diversity and employability to people and society
- **To foster innovation and application of the social sciences:** informing and helping to address challenges of our time
- **To ensure a sustainable future for the Academy of Social Sciences:** as the National Academy of Academics, Learned Societies and Practitioners in the Social Sciences and a professional body established by the UK social sciences community.

**The first five objectives all directly serve our purpose and provide public benefit in doing so; the sixth supports the organisation's capabilities to deliver its purpose now and in the future.**

A three-year operations plan informs detailed implementation of the objectives in the short term. In 2022 the Academy's work focused on five of its objectives.

## 3. Championing the social sciences

**The primary way in which the Academy champions the social sciences for public benefit is through the work of its Campaign for Social Science. The Campaign extended its work during the year with a new hub on Climate and Sustainability and a larger events programme. The Academy also started the topical We Society podcast series to help raise the understanding of evidence-led 'social science' beyond academia.**

The Campaign continued the development of its thematic hubs to showcase social science research and applications. The new [Climate and Sustainability hub](#) focuses on the social science roles in addressing the climate change and sustainability challenges. It complements the other two hubs launched in 2020 and 2021, respectively, on [COVID-19](#) and [Living Standards and Levelling Up](#). The Campaign's work building its online hubs continues to demonstrate to policymakers and the public the extensive contributions that social science is making, and can continue to make, towards addressing some of the biggest current challenges facing the UK and globally.

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**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**(Continued)**

In total 20 new comment pieces were commissioned and added during the year from leading social scientists many of whom are Academy Fellows, with a further 30 pieces in the pipeline at year end. The 'Climate and Sustainability' hub also acts as a 'hub of hubs' with more than 70 links through to other substantive sources of social science content/research on climate change. This is a rich public resource.

Two new, specially commissioned, guest features were also added to the Campaign web pages. George Magnus has written on China's uncertain future and what this might mean globally. John Brewer focused on the tensions and forces that could determine Northern Ireland's post-Brexit future and outlined the important role that social science can and should play in the debate.

The Campaign hosted a lively and well-attended events programme in autumn 2022. It helped to raise the profile of the Academy, the Campaign, and the social sciences, and has visibly connected all three to the public debate on key topical agendas. In total, in 2022, 2,374 people attended Campaign-led events or, where available, downloaded recordings and listened later. The data does not include co-branded events.

[A Hot Topic: Exploring the social dimensions of the climate crisis](#), focused on climate change to tie in with our new hub. The panel for this event comprised Patrick Devine-Wright (Director of 'Advancing Capacity in Climate and Environment Social Science' programme); Lord Deben (Chairman of the UK Climate Change Committee); Lorraine Whitmarsh (Director of the Centre for Climate Change and Social Transformations); Shaun Spiers (Executive Director, Green Alliance); and Lord Adair Turner (Chair of the Energy Transitions Commission).

We collaborated with SAGE Publishing and The Conversation to create a new series of in-person networking events called *Social Science Perspectives*. Guest speakers included Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman (Emeritus Professor of War Studies, King's College London) on the war in Ukraine, and Carl Miller (Research Director, Centre for the Analysis of Social Media) on state influenced disinformation on social media.

The [Campaign for Social Science Annual SAGE Lecture](#) was delivered by Torsten Bell (Chief Executive, Resolution Foundation). The lecture focused on the cost-of-living crisis, its causes and likely impacts, the growing inequalities in our society, and explored the role of social science in supporting our understanding of the economic challenges we face and how we might best address them. Shreya Nanda (Chief Economist, Social Market Foundation) and Arun Advani (Associate Professor of Economics, University of Warwick) provided responses as discussants. A VIP dinner was held as a follow-up to the online lecture. In addition, collaborative, co-branded events were held with a number of Campaign supporters including University of Essex, University of Glasgow, and King's College London, showcasing social science research and its value to society.

The Campaign's work publicly showcases the breadth and depth of relevant research evidence alongside the applications and ideas arising from the social sciences. This in turn increases awareness amongst policymakers and beyond of the vital roles of social science. Ultimately the intended outcome is that social science will be an increasingly key part of informing and implementing evidence-led policy for the benefit of everyone.

In 2022 the Academy also launched a completely new venture, [The We Society](#), a free social science podcast series that draws on the conversational skills and knowledge of the President as host and on the subject knowledge and informed insights of leading social scientists and users of social science as guests. Many guests are Academy Fellows. The podcasts focus on 'ideas to shape the way we live' and are designed to raise informed, evidence-based public awareness of topical issue, while promoting the social sciences in the process.

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**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**(Continued)**

International guests included Hilary Clinton and Ai Weiwei. UK guests spoke on topics relating to the war in Ukraine, energy supplies, future of cities, the economy, employment, education, inequality, ethnicity and the NHS, among many others. The We Society developed a significant following in its first seven months. By year end, 16 podcasts had aired in two series, and had attracted more than 50,000 downloads. Produced in partnership with Whistledown Productions, a second year is planned for 2023.

#### **4. Sustaining the health of the social sciences**

**The primary way in which the Academy helps to sustain the health of the social sciences for public benefit is through its policy and advocacy work, supported by data gathering and, at times, independent commissioned research. 2022 was a busy year for Academy and Campaign projects in addition to 'business-as-usual' activities.**

The Academy and its Campaign engaged in three substantive and complementary research projects in 2022, each at different stages, and continued to host the SPRE (Scottish Policy and Research Exchange) project for its fourth year.

The Academy's important strategic research project **Social Sciences in a Time of Change** was grant-funded by ESRC (ES/V012118/1) in 2020 to monitor the health of social sciences in real time following the turbulence introduced by Covid, Brexit and changing HE policy. A joint project with Lancaster University (specific thanks to Professor Tony McEnery FAcSS as project Co-PI, the last phase of consultation and data analysis was completed in early 2022 and a final, comprehensive [report was published in July](#). The findings, while supporting many of the generic points identified in other studies, identified a number of intersections where the social sciences were particularly affected, not least among early career researchers, and made recommendations accordingly. It also pointed ahead to the future funding challenges for the social sciences in the context of the withdrawal by the government of much of the Global Challenges Research Funding programme and the very worrying uncertainties around access to EU Horizon funding. We are most grateful for ESRC in leading knowledge exchange activities within the UKRI family, while the Academy supported KE activities with wider stakeholders. We thank the many universities who contributed time and expertise.

Immediate outcomes from the project in 2022 included the formation of the Academy's **Forum for Leaders in Social Sciences** (FLSS), which offers a knowledge sharing and discussion space for those with executive and lead responsibilities for the social sciences in universities. The first meeting of the Forum was well attended in November 2022, and chaired by Academy trustee Professor Richard Black FAcSS. The Academy has long collected data on the 'health' of social sciences as background context to its advocacy, and it has decided following this project to undertake more detailed and regular analysis than previously.

Work commenced during the year on the annual **SAGE Campaign policy report**. It explores areas of collaboration between social science and STEM research and it pivoted during the year towards a digital analytic approach supported by case studies. Work on the project is continuing into 2023 owing to staff resource limitations referred to below. The context for this project is the strong focus within Whitehall in particular on STEM research underpinning economic growth. We are exploring the evidence for social science contributions to selected topics.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
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**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**  
(Continued)

**Understanding the impact of social science research.** Towards the year end, the [Academy joined forces with the British Academy](#) in commissioning a major research programme on the impact of research in the social sciences, humanities and arts as evidenced primarily through the REF 2021 Impact Case Study data. A team of researchers led by AcSS and BA Fellow Professor Melinda Mills at the Leverhulme Centre for Demographic Science, University of Oxford, have been commissioned to undertake the programme of work, following a competitive tender process. The analysis will consider both the SHAPE (Social sciences, Humanities and Arts for People and the Economy) disciplines as a whole and the two sectors of social science and arts and humanities separately.

The project will provide a robust evidence base on which the higher education sector and policymakers can build to articulate the value of research and its impact on society in the UK, and around the world. This work will serve as a starting point for the SHAPE community to expand the scope and reach of the evidence base and as a robust underpinning for advocacy by both organisations and others.

**SPRE** work continued successfully in Scotland throughout 2022 on facilitating connections and dialogue across the research and policy communities, and on increasing capacity through training, tools and resources in digital and real space to help embed scholarly research into policy. <https://spre.scot/> SPRE also completed all the necessary steps to establish itself as an independent Scottish charity (SCIO) with the full approval of the Academy's Council (see section 8.3).

The monthly [Policy Monitor](#) and [policy update](#) were both made freely available to public users and Fellows and members on our website throughout the year. The former aims to stimulate more social science expert submissions to relevant government and parliamentary consultations. In contrast, policy update pieces are written as useful background information, in particular for social science societies to help inform their disciplinary advocacy.

The Academy's response to policy consultations was somewhat limited during the year by staff illness and the pressure that placed on our resources. In March we responded in detail to the Office for Students consultation on [Regulating Student Outcomes](#) raising our concerns on both points of principle and proposed technical approaches, focusing on the proposals for regulating graduate employment outcomes. In May we responded to the Department for Education consultation on [Higher Education Reform](#). Our response here focussed on the issue of Student Number Controls (SNCs), which we oppose. We framed it largely around the wider economic impacts and the consequences for individual students and less-well off areas of the country, as that was the evidence we hoped government might listen to. We argued against both SNCs in general and DfE consultation proposals to impose them by subject or institution, again linking to evidence. We also noted the importance of the issue of student funding and the changes made to the terms of student loans.

## **5. Recognising excellence in social science**

**The Academy recognises and celebrates excellence in social sciences research and application through its highly regarded Fellowships. It also works closely with, and supports where possible, the strong community of learned and professional societies in the social sciences, most of whom are affiliated member societies.**

At the close of 2022 the Academy membership comprised 1550 paid Fellows and 48 member social science (learned) societies. This is a net increase of 50 Fellows and one society compared with 2021. Together, this collective of organisations includes some 90,000 social scientists across academia and the public and private sectors in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and the wider world. A strong and independent society sector is vital to disciplinary health and to that of the academic ecosystem.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
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**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**(Continued)**

**Fellowship**

The Academy welcomed 87 new Fellows in 2022, conferred for their eminence, impact and wider contributions to social science. They were drawn from academia and from professional sectors, where social scientists hold leading roles and social sciences are widely used. All Fellowships were peer reviewed to ensure the Academy continued to sustain excellence in its professional community, and were conferred, as usual, in two rounds during the year. The retention rate for Fellows remained high at over 96%.

In 2022 we continued to encourage, in particular, the nomination of Fellows from ethnic minority and ethnic groups. Conferments from these groups rose to 37% of the total, up from 20% in 2021, and was the highest ever recorded in the Academy's history. This compares favourably with HESA benchmark data (11% of the UK social science professoriat was from Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities, HESA 2020/21). 40% of successful nominees identified as men and 55% as women; 74% were from the academic sector and 12% were employed in the public, private and third sectors (14% left this blank). This figure underrepresents the extent of Fellows' involvement in 'practice' as many academic Fellows are engaged in applied social sciences. The number of nominees residing in England was 73%, and 12% were from Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

In line with established practice, the Nominations committee considered nominations for new Fellows from member learned societies, existing Fellows, the Academic Fellow Search Committee (AFSC) and the Practitioner Fellow Search Committee (PFSC). Professors John Scott CBE FBA FAcSS and Andy Ross FAcSS continued as chairs of the AFSC and PFSC, respectively and are warmly thanked for their work in 2022. Professor Gill Valentine FBA FAcSS, completed her three year term as Nominations committee chair in June 2022.

Fellows were active in contributing their expertise to Academy events, the new podcast series, our Campaign activities, and much more. The prime event of the year, our Annual Lecture, was delivered by in our events calen230 people, of which 130 were Fellows, attended the Annual Lecture by Prof Sir Geoff Mulgan FAcSS on the topic of 'Possibility space: the role of the social sciences in understanding, mapping and shaping the future'. It was attended by some 230 people, of which 130 were Fellows. 90 Fellows attended the President's Lunch at St Antony's College in Oxford, the first Academy event in person for several years.

Fellows are warmly thanked for the commitment, time and expertise they give to supporting the Academy in its charitable activities; whether as Trustees charged with the governance of the Academy; as committee chairs and members helping to guide and facilitate our work; in the provision of expert knowledge to inform and advance our policy-facing and Campaign activities; or in more generally helping to raise the profile of social science and the Academy. All contributions play an essential role in the Academy delivering its purpose of promoting social science in the UK for public benefit.

We are delighted that a number of Academy Fellows received public honours in 2022.

**2022 New Year Honours**

Professor Martin Knapp FAcSS, Professor of Health and Social Care Policy, London School of Economics and Political Science. Awarded a CBE for services to social care research.

Professor Jonathan Michie FAcSS, President, Kellogg College. Awarded an OBE for services to education.

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**(a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**(Continued)**

### **2022 Birthday Honours**

Kelly Beaver FAcSS, Chief Executive Officer UK and Ireland, Ipsos. Awarded an MBE for services to academia, to research and the Covid-19 response.

Professor Joanne Hughes FAcSS, Director of the Centre for Shared Education, Queen's University Belfast. Awarded an MBE for services to education and to the community in Northern Ireland.

Clare Lombardelli FAcSS, Chief Economic Advisor, HM Treasury. Awarded a CB for public service.

Professor Jill Manthorpe FAcSS, Professor of Social Work, King's College London. Awarded a CBE for services to social work and social care research.

Professor Louise Richardson FAcSS, Vice-Chancellor and Professor of International Relations, University of Oxford. Awarded a Damehood for services to higher education.

### **Fellows Directory**

The Academy achieved a long held ambition in 2022, to render the Fellows database into a publicly useful, searchable directory of excellence in the social sciences. We achieved this through a significant improvement to the quality of Fellowship data held on the Academy database which is integral to the development of the enhanced Fellows Directory. The new enhanced directory, launched in October 2022, provides a unique resource which allows both the Academy and others such as policy-makers or media to find subject experts, widening our reach, and helping us advocate more effectively for our Fellows' expertise and for social science.

### **Member Social Science Societies**

Learned societies and professional bodies in the social sciences are at the heart of the Academy as independent bodies affiliated to the Academy through membership. Instrumental in forming the Academy, the learned societies represent distinct discipline, interdisciplinary areas, and professional communities, and bring subject specific depth to complement the Academy's breadth of excellence in its academic and practitioner Fellows. Collectively, the Academy and member societies are a robust pan-community voice for the social sciences and social scientists.

As of 31 December 2022, society membership numbers stood at 48. We welcomed one new society to the Academy in the year, University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES), and retained the support of all others. Given the ongoing challenges to funding that many charities face, this was a welcome commitment of support and an excellent measure of engagement and shared endeavour. All the major disciplines are represented and many of the sub-disciplines and cross-disciplinary areas.

Our regular termly meetings for the CEOs and chief officers of learned societies and professional bodies in the social sciences continued, with a mix of in-person and online meetings. These meetings play an important role in effecting liaison, building capacity, widening knowledge and encouraging interchange between societies for the benefit of the societies' work, the social sciences sector and the HE ecosystem. Collaborative work with member societies focused on knowledge sharing and advocacy. The working groups on 'virtual events and conferences' and on 'equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI)' were both very active during the year. The latter is reported in section 4.

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**Contemporary Social Science Journal**

The Academy's journal, Contemporary Social Science, continued an active programme of publishing in 2022, with editions available both in print and online. The journal reflects the Academy's scope across the social sciences and in the application of social science. In 2022 the 17th annual volume was published, containing four themed issues plus a fifth online only, open access issue. The journal sustained its upwards trajectory, receiving 152,000 full text article downloads. Over the past five years downloads have more than doubled, from c. 72,000 in 2018.

During the year, Prof David Bailey FAcSS was appointed Editor of the Journal, and embarked enthusiastically on commissioning a number of highly topical, themed issues. He succeeded Professor Jacqueline Barnes FAcSS and Professor John Conolly who completed their term as co-editors. The Journal continued to be published by Taylor & Francis and warm thanks are extended to them for their support in 2022, and to Jacqueline and John for their success in raising the journal profile.

**6. Widening participation and skills in the social sciences**

**The Academy supports widening participation and skills in the social sciences in principle and in practice. It raises awareness among decision makers, employers and students of the skills and employability of social science graduates; and it promotes and shares good practice in equity, inclusion and diversity (EDI).**

The focus of the Academy's work in 2022 was in developing the collaborative partnership with ESRC on EDI that was agreed in principle in late 2021. By the end of 2022 the partnership and programme were formalised in an MoU, the budget and work plan agreed for 2023-2025, and the project manager appointed. The programme is inclusive of the Academy's 47 member learned societies and its main purpose is to share and enhance good practice, and support innovation and capacity building among the learned society community in their engagement with EDI.

The Academy and learned society members collectively defined the scope of the programme, informed by a survey to identify needs, and led by the programme's core working group. The resulting work plan has four strands: the analysis and provision of data; documenting and sharing of good practice; training activities; and small grants to pilot new interventions and facilitate innovation and development. The programme recognises the learned societies are at different stages in their EDI journey, both in terms of their own operations and in supporting EDI within their discipline communities.

The programme draws on the Academy's well-established and longstanding learned society member network, the origins of which lie in a core group of societies that stimulated the establishment of the Academy – originally named the Association of Learned Societies in the Social Sciences - in the mid 1990s.

**In 2022 we built on the major developments in 2021 that delivered a new visual identity and an integrated and user-friendly Academy website, with further enhancements including the creation of a public-facing Fellows' expertise resource; and we successfully completed planned fundraising activities.**

In the second year of implementing our new strategy, it was important to make good use of, and build on, the communication tools we developed in 2021 that were designed to improve our public presence, visibility and reach. This was achieved in three ways.

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## **7. A Sustainable Future**

First, by regularly updating and driving more traffic to our website and by growing our social media following. In 2022, the website received over 61,000 visits and supplied more than 5,000 downloads (data excludes the journal article downloads from the Taylor & Francis portal). Our twitter following grew to 13,400.

Secondly, by undertaking the second and final phase of our Fellows' Directory, adding discipline, region, and free-text expertise fields. As stated above, this rendered the Directory a fully searchable, public resource for identifying and contacting UK social science expertise, across the breadth of the social sciences and including academics and practitioners. It was a massive administrative task that involved substantially updating c. 1500 Fellows' records over the summer and we thank the 750 Fellows who assisted this process which was led by our administration and membership team. At the same time, all pre-existing data in Fellows' records was checked and updated where necessary, ensuring the membership database was in excellent shape. The new directory is an essential underpinning to the Academy's activities and its sustainable future.

Thirdly, by adding new sections to the website, most notably the new Campaign hub on Sustainability and Climate Change and a new Health of Social Sciences section; and in facilitating access to new activities, most notably the podcast series.

With our Senior Communications Manager working part time from October, in parallel with commencing a research degree, we were unable to develop the web content and our social media presence as much as we hoped, and this will be carried forward as an action to 2023 for the new communications manager.

The fundraising focus in 2022 was to attract at least four new Campaign supporters and to fund one major new programme of work. By the year end we had succeeded in gaining nine new Campaign supporters, indeed all of those we approached. We also agreed a funding profile of close to £300,000 for the ESRC-AcSS EDI partnership project over the period 2023-2025, including contributions from the Academy in cash and kind in managing the programme.

We continued strong working relationships with Social Science Society members, Campaign supporters and Fellows through the year. All three communities are fundamental pillars of Academy and Campaign sustainability, in different ways, and all add greatly to our work. An annual report to the Council on Fellows' involvement in the Academy and its work, was instituted from 2022. For example, 73% of the 57 expert comment and analysis pieces on the Campaign web pages were authored by Fellows and 59% were provided by contributors from institutions that support the Campaign; and 13 of the 16 podcast guests in 2022 were Fellows of the Academy. All were sharing their knowledge to help the Academy promote the social sciences for public benefit. It was also a pleasure to see the Academy being approached by external organisations to partner in activities; in 2022 this included, for example, the ESRC-funded ACCESS project led by Professor Partick Devine-Wright FAcSS, and an ESRC programme bid led by the University of Nottingham.

Finally, all aspects of the Academy's governance, risk management and administration, including all statutory reporting, was completed on time and to a high professional standard as required by law and to underpin the Academy's sustainability.

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## 8. Finances

### 8.1 Overview

With the pandemic past its 2020/21 peak, the main risk to the Academy in 2022 was the steadily rising costs of inflation. The Audit and Risk Management committee paid particular attention to ensure these were factored in across the risk register as it was updated over the year.

Thanks to our prudent budgeting and well managed cost controls, we ended the year with a modest positive outturn on both the Academy's unrestricted operations and the Campaign's dedicated (restricted) operations. This was aided by the decision taken collectively by staff and trustees for the staff team to continue working virtually, while ensuring that events activities and committee meetings were held in a mix of virtual and face to face settings.

Once again, we had strong, sustained and very welcome support from our Fellows (96% renewal rate), social science society members (100% renewal rate) and Campaign supporters and sponsors (100% renewal rate from existing supporters). We are immensely grateful to those who believe in what we do to promote the social sciences and we thank you all warmly.

Incoming resources totalled £604,701 (2021: £650,621) split between unrestricted £341,682 (2021: £325,988) and restricted £263,019 (2021: £324,633) funds. The increase over 2021 in unrestricted income mostly reflects a combination of CPI inflation increases (1.7%) applied to subscriptions in January 2022 plus the modest net increase in number of Fellows.

The total restricted income in 2022 of £263,019 mainly comprised: £174,405 (2021: £151,631) of Campaign supporter sponsorships and £86,423 (2021: £111,639) of SPRE income received. The decrease in restricted income reflects the fact that in 2021 we received the final tranche of the initial funds raised to support strategic development and the higher SPRE income (which simply reflects timing differences in receipt of donations).

Total expenditure in 2022 was £756,863, significantly up from that of 2021 (£625,631). Of that, the unrestricted general funds expenditure was £303,566 (2021: £258,605) and restricted funds expenditure £453,297 (2021: £367,026). Within the restricted funds, SPRE expenditure (£226,490) was significantly more than in 2021 (£121,700), for the reasons set out in the SPRE section below.

The c. 17% rise in unrestricted expenditure, compared with 2021, reflects the full year costs of an additional staff member appointed in late 2021, staff salary inflation adjustments, and marketing and promotion for the podcast series.

On our core (unrestricted) Academy operations, we ended 2022 with an operating surplus of £38,116 (2021: £67,383) which equates to 11% of income in the year. As in 2021, there were no losses or gains on investments as the reserves continued to be held in cash for the year, a decision taken by the Society's Council in the face of volatility and risk levels in investment markets. (A review in early 2023 resulted in the decision to reinvest cautiously, guided by our professional advisors.)

On our restricted funds, we recorded a net deficit in 2022 of -£190,278 and, as in 2021 (-£42,393), this reflected expenditure on projects (see note on SPRE below), and expenditure on strategic developments for which income had been raised and received in prior years. Expenditure was in line with the strategy, annual work plan and project grant agreements.

Total expenditure on raising funds in 2022 was £25,218 (2021: £17,244) calculated as the direct costs of staff time involved in raising restricted funds for projects and stewarding donors, plus a proportional allocation of support costs. The increase reflects additional time put into successful fundraising for the Campaign.

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At the 2022 year end, the balance sheet stood at £589,783 (2021: £741,945), of which restricted funds comprised £331,528 (2021: £521,806). The majority of the latter, the relates to two programmes – the Campaign for Social Science (£179,666), and strategic development (£137,999, of which £20k has been committed). The unrestricted general fund reserves stood at £258,255 (2021: £220,139).

In summary, as in 2021, with prudent management and a strong and growing supporter base the Academy's finances in 2022 were resilient. They withstood the first year of the new emerging challenge of inflation and remained in positive balance, supported by reserves that meet our reserves policy of 50% of annual expenditure. That is a healthy position to end the year on, especially given the likely pressures of ongoing inflation in 2023, the challenging contexts for social sciences in research and higher education, and as great a need as ever for the Academy to promote the social sciences for public benefit.

### 8.2 Campaign for Social Science (CfSS)

The Campaign for Social Science successfully raised a total of £174,405 in 2022 (2021: £151,631) (note 14) to fund its promotional and policy-related activities. The year-on-year increase owes to 100% retention of existing supporters plus several new Campaign supporters joining from the university sector. At the same time, the higher activity and engagement levels in the Campaign, commenced in 2020, and sustained through 2021, were continued in 2022 with the launch of the third Campaign hub.

Campaign expenditure in 2022 was £160,283 (2021: (£133,027), reflecting an increase in staff and consultancy expenditure with the commissioning of external research on 'STEM and Social Science' in 2022 to support Campaign advocacy activities in 2023. The Campaign ended the year with a surplus income over expenditure of c. £14k and this will contribute to funding Campaign policy activities in 2023.

### 8.3 Major projects

The SPRE project had a full operating year in 2022 with two project staff. As noted in the Directors' Report of 2021, the Academy 's Council had agreed a proposal in principle from the SPRE director to reconfigure SPRE as an independent Scottish charity. This process was completed legally in late 2022, including the TUPE transfer of staff, with the SPRE SCIO (SC051809) having been registered in June. As a result, the Academy paid over to the SPRE SCIO the balance of restricted funds from previous years that had been raised to fund the SPRE project. The total expenditure relating to SPRE in 2022 was 226,490, which comprised the annual operating costs for 2022 plus the balance of restricted funds, as confirmed by the audit inspection of the 2022 accounts. The Academy has been pleased to offer the SPRE project a supportive home during its critical initial development and growth and we look forward to working with SPRE SCIO in the coming years.

A commitment was made during 2022 for expenditure of £40,000 to support the Academy's strategic development, from the restricted strategic development fund. Of this, £20,000 was paid in 2022, with the remaining half due in 2023. The uncommitted balance in the fund is £117,999.

Also as noted in the Directors' Report of 2021, the three-year PRO-RES ethics project activities were completed on time on 31 October 2021, the Academy team of consultants having successfully delivered their components of the EU-funded programme. During 2022, the programme report and financial statements were reviewed and approved by the EU and final account settlements made. The Academy returned Euro 45,061 of unspent funding from the allocated funds of Euro 305,000.

The Academy entered into two new project agreements, with the British Academy and with the ESRC, in the last quarter of 2022. There was no income or expenditure on either in 2022.

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## **9. Our supporters**

The Academy's work in 2022 was supported by its Fellows, as usual in many different ways, including sharing their knowledge and expertise, using their contact networks, assisting us in matters of good governance, supporting us on social media and in making Fellowship nominations thereby ensuring our professional community is continually renewed. Their time, energy and effort are freely given and they are very warmly thanked for their support. Fellows' subscriptions also underpin the core funding of the Academy and its work.

Our charitable work also benefited greatly from other vital support:

- The Campaign for Social Science was sponsored in 2022 by 27 UK universities from across England, Scotland and Wales, the British Sociological Association, and by lead commercial sponsor, Sage Publishing. Without this support the Campaign would not have been able to progress this year with new activities to promote the social sciences and in particular to showcase the role of social science in the understanding, mitigation and management of climate change and its societal impacts. Nor would the Academy have been able to be active in its policy work to support the standing of the social sciences. We thank them all, and we particularly thank SAGE publishing for sponsoring our work on STEM and social science collaboration, the Campaign Annual Lecture and for partnering on, and providing technical assistance for, Campaign events.
- The ESRC (and its parent body UKRI) is gratefully acknowledged for the Grant Award that funded the 'Social Sciences in a Time of Change' project, which was completed in July 2022. It is vital that we have an understanding of how the social sciences and social scientists are faring across the HE sector in these continuing turbulent times.
- Finally, we thank the major UK donor whose donation of £200,000 continues to be used to help establish our new strategy. We respect his wish to remain anonymous.

## **10. People and governance**

### **Staff team**

Our staff team showed great productivity and commitment in 2022 as we worked to add further improvements to our new website and to pursue a number of other new projects and activities as well as sustain excellence in our administration. They delivered well a challenging work flow across all areas.

We decided to continue to operate as a virtual organisation, having reviewed the options at the start of the year. We continued to be aware of, and to mitigate, the potential risks to staff welfare and integration of this style of working by being open and caring as an organisation, by meeting regularly as a 'virtual' team and in work-related subgroups, and by ensuring staff have appropriate equipment and ready access to IT support.

In the Autumn, three staff resigned their posts for reasons of retirement, change of career and to take up a fully funded PhD opportunity. They are all warmly thanked for their contributions over their three to five years on the team. We have taken the opportunity to review staff skills required for the next stage of our development and re-shape posts accordingly prior to recruitment which was phased between November 2022 and March 2023.

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At the end of 2022, the team comprised Dr Rita Gardner CBE FAcSS (Chief Executive); Sharon Witherspoon MBE FAcSS (Head of Policy; retired 31 December 2022); Dr Sarah Jones (Head of Administration); Chizom Ekeh (Senior Communications Manager; leaving in March 2023); Steve Grundy (Senior Campaign Manager); Ian Williams (Finance Manager); Sophia Cole (Administrative Assistant). The Membership and Database Manager position had been accepted by Annie Hogan (to start 02 January 2023); and the new Head of Policy and Public Affairs position accepted by Dr Ed Bridges (to start in late March 2023). Nick Bibby (Director) led the staff team of two on the SPRE project until the year end when SPRE was formally constituted as an independent SCIO in Scotland. Dr David Vernon, employed through Lancaster University, was the Research Officer on the joint project 'Social Sciences in a Time of Change' until the project ended on 30 June. David Wilson provided independent professional finance support.

**Council**

The Council met, as planned, on three occasions in 2022, chaired by President, Will Hutton FAcSS. The meeting in February 2022 agreed the workplan and budget for the year.

Council was supported in its governance role by expert committees of Council, the Chairs of which sit on the Council. The main committees of Council in 2022 remained unchanged: the Audit and Risk Management Committee, Campaign Board and Nominations Committee. The CEOs of Learned Societies Group also met three times. A new Remunerations Committee was established by the Council during the year and met once.

There were changes to the Council (trustees) as terms of office were completed. Two positions were elected by the learned societies constituency: Professors Lisa Anderson and Sally Powers, and Professor Ian Rivers was appointed by the Council as a trustee. Chris Caswell and Prof Gill Valentine completed their terms and rotated off the Council. Prof Nic Beech remained as Honorary Treasurer, Prof Jil Matheson as Honorary Secretary, Prof Bobby Duffy as Chair of the Campaign Board, and Prof Tony McEnery as Chair of the Audit and Risk Management Committee. Prof Gill Valentine chaired her final Nominations Committee in July 2022. All committees met as planned and meetings were a mix of virtual and in person. The Council also formally approved that the Annual General Meeting be held virtually on 16 June 2022.

**Governance**

The Academy of Social Science is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 24 September 1999, and is registered as a charity. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company, and is governed by its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Will Hutton FAcSS remained President of the Academy, in the second year of his term. The President's role combines that of figurehead for the Academy with active leadership including chairing the meetings of Council and of the CEOs of Learned Societies Group; overseeing the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting and President's Lunch; representing the Academy at ceremonial occasions and at high profile external meetings and events; managing relationships with selected high profile stakeholders; and appointing the Chief Executive of the Academy, subject to approval by Council.

During the year the Academy updated aspects of its Memorandum and Articles of Association in accordance with resolutions passed by the Council. These constituted administrative changes and thus did not require prior approval of the Charity Commission or Company's House; both have been subsequently notified and the documentation they hold updated accordingly.

**Induction and Training of new Trustees**

New Trustees are informed of their legal obligations under Charity and Company Law, the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, the Charity's governing document, the committee and decision-making processes, and recent financial performance of the charity.

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Trustees are recruited based upon their skills, sector knowledge and experience and may attend relevant courses as training to enhance their knowledge and the undertaking of their role. The Trustees confirm that they have had regard for the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit when reviewing and planning activities in 2022 and for future years.

**Key management remuneration**

The trustees receive no remuneration for their services other than the reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses. The pay of staff, including senior staff, is reviewed annually by the Remunerations Committee and normally increased to reflect inflation, taking into account CPI, the inflation increase applied to Fellows' subscriptions, and the Academy's resources as a charity. Academy salaries are benchmarked against pay and conditions data available from similar organisations of a similar size, run on a voluntary basis. Performance related increases are awarded on an individual basis, following review by line managers and consideration of the Remuneration Committee.

**Risk management**

The trustees understand their duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. Guidance is provided to the trustees by the Audit and Risk Management Committee, of which the Chair sits on the Council.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations, reputation and finances of the company and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

**Going Concern**

The Trustees consider that there are no uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The Board has taken account of the impact of Covid-19 on the short and long-term health of the Charity and is content that the measures taken, and level of reserves held, are sufficient to enable the Charity to continue operations for a period in excess of 12 months from the date of this report.

**11. Looking ahead to 2023**

We look ahead to 2023 as the final year of our Action Plan for 2020-2023 and in the knowledge that refreshing the plan for the following three years, 2024-2026, will be both exciting and time consuming. This refresh will be led by the Executive Committee, approved by the Council, and involve a wide range of stakeholders.

We will start our second Action Plan in – hopefully - a different setting from the first, which commenced shortly after the initial pandemic lockdown with the aim being growth in a period of unprecedented upheaval and uncertainty. That we will have achieved; the question will be how best to sustain further growth and effectiveness in 2024-26 in delivering our purpose of promoting social sciences for public benefit.

We will be inducting new members into our team, as described in section 10, to take work forwards in 2023 and to help shape the future plan. This includes a new senior role of Head of Policy and Public Affairs and a new Senior Communications Manager. With additional staff time committed to these re-shaped roles we anticipate seeing growth in our outward-facing policy and public affairs activities and in our communications outreach.

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The plans for 2023 see us bringing to fruition three projects to underpin our advocacy work for the social sciences, and extending our advocacy footprint. Our Campaign activities will benefit from closer alignment with policy work, and a higher budget as a result of fundraising in 2022 and 2023. In communications, we plan to extend our reach and deepen our profile, while making the best of our website capabilities. We aim to make a success of the first year of the EDI project, culminating in a round of grant giving to support pilot projects and new avenues of EDI work by learned society members. Our podcast series will air for its second year, intent on building on a great start in 2022. We hope to continue to involve Fellows further in our work, including revisiting the idea of regional chapters. Undoubtedly, there will be more too as the Academy punched well above its weight in 2021 and 2022, and plans to do so again in 2023!

## **12. Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue to operate.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with relevant legislation and the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Will Hutton FAcSS  
President

By Order of the Board pursuant to a resolution of Council

17 May 2023

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**THE ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Academy of Social Sciences ('the Company') for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made to the Trustees, as a body, in accordance with the terms of my engagement. Our work has been undertaken so that we might carry out an Independent Examination of the financial statements in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees, as a body, for our work or for this report.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the Trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your Charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

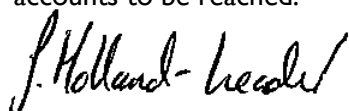
### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accounts in England and Wales ('ICAEW'), which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concern and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



James Holland-Leader FCA  
Knox Cropper LLP  
Chartered Accountants

65/68 Leadenhall Street, London,  
EC3A 2AD

17 May 2023

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

	Notes	2022			2021 – As Restated		
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
		£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME FROM</b>							
Donations, Legacies and Subscriptions	2	315,927	262,789	578,716	295,787	324,592	620,379
Other Trading Activities	3	23,779	-	23,779	30,124	-	30,124
Investment Income	4	1,976	230	2,206	77	41	118
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>341,682</b>	<b>263,019</b>	<b>604,701</b>	<b>325,988</b>	<b>324,633</b>	<b>650,621</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>							
Raising Funds	5	14,579	10,639	25,218	10,567	6,677	17,244
Charitable Activities	5	288,987	442,658	731,645	248,038	360,349	608,387
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>303,566</b>	<b>453,297</b>	<b>756,863</b>	<b>258,605</b>	<b>367,026</b>	<b>625,631</b>
<b>NET (LOSSES)/GAINS</b>							
<b>ON INVESTMENT ASSETS</b>	11	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>							
<b>AND NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		38,116	(190,278)	(152,162)	67,383	(42,393)	24,990
<b>Transfer Between Funds</b>	14	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>38,116</b>	<b>(190,278)</b>	<b>(152,162)</b>	<b>67,383</b>	<b>(42,393)</b>	<b>24,990</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD</b>							
<b>AT 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2022</b>		206,139	488,667	694,806	142,756	564,199	706,955
<b>PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENT</b>	20	14,000	33,139	47,139	10,000	-	10,000
<b>AS RESTATED</b>		<b>220,139</b>	<b>521,806</b>	<b>741,945</b>	<b>152,756</b>	<b>564,199</b>	<b>716,955</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD</b>							
<b>AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022</b>		<b>£258,255</b>	<b>£331,528</b>	<b>£589,783</b>	<b>£220,139</b>	<b>£521,806</b>	<b>£741,945</b>

All the activities reported above represent continuing operations.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****BALANCE SHEET****AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

	Notes	2022		2021 – As Restated	
		£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	10		815		2,791
Investments	11		265,274		267,237
			<u>266,089</u>		<u>270,028</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	12	38,254		60,970	
Cash at Bank		341,624		467,192	
		<u>379,878</u>		<u>528,162</u>	
<b>CREDITORS:</b> Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(56,184)</u>		<u>(56,245)</u>	
Net Current Assets			323,694		471,917
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u>£589,783</u>		<u>£741,945</u>
<b>CHARITY FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted Funds	15		258,255		220,139
Restricted Funds	14		331,528		521,806
			<u>£589,783</u>		<u>£741,945</u>

For the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and that an independent examination is needed.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The Financial statements were approved by the Directors on 17 May 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Will Hutton FAcSS, President



\_\_\_\_\_  
Professor Nic Beech FAcSS, Hon. Treasurer

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS****AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

	Notes	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
		£	As Restated £
<b>NET CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	A	(129,737)	16,171
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from sale of investments		-	-
Purchase of investments		-	-
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(2,448)
Interest Received		2,206	118
<b>TOTAL CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		<u>2,206</u>	<u>(2,330)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>		(127,531)	13,841
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR</b>		<u>730,429</u>	<u>716,588</u>
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF THE YEAR</b>		<u>£602,898</u>	<u>£730,429</u>
<b>A CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(152,162)	34,990
Depreciation		1,976	1,976
Investment Income		(2,206)	(118)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors		22,716	(16,814)
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors		(61)	(3,863)
Net cash(used in)/provided by operating activities		<u>(129,737)</u>	<u>16,171</u>
<b>COMPONENTS OF CASH</b>			
Cash at Bank		341,624	467,192
Cash held by investment managers		261,274	263,237
		<u>£602,898</u>	<u>£730,429</u>

<b>B ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT</b>	<b>At 1st January 2022</b>	<b>Cash Flows</b>	<b>At 31st December 2022</b>
	£	£	£
Cash	730,429	(127,531)	602,898
Loan	<u>(10,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(10,000)</u>
	<u>£720,429</u>	<u>£(127,531)</u>	<u>£592,898</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022****1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES****Company Status**

The Academy is a charitable company limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales. The members of the company are the Fellows and Learned Societies listed in the membership register. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company.

A description of the nature of the charitable company's operations and its principal activity is disclosed in the Directors' Report.

The charitable company's registered office is stated on page 1.

**Basis of Preparation and Assessment of going concern**

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. They have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective January 2019) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Trustees consider that there are no uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

**General Funds**

General Funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

**Restricted Funds**

Restricted Funds are those funds which may only be applied to purposes specified by the donor. Details of Restricted Funds are set out in Note 14 to the financial statements.

**Income**

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably. Subscriptions from members are payable on 1 January each year and are recognised in the year in which they are received. Donations are recognised when received. Other income is recognised when received.

**Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022****1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)****Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation**

Computer equipment is stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost or value of tangible fixed assets to their estimated residual values over their expected useful lives on a straight line basis at the following rate:

Computer Equipment:	33% Per Annum
---------------------	---------------

**Investments**

Investments are a form of basic financial investment and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value.

**Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

**Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**Financial instruments**

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022****2. DONATIONS, LEGACIES & SUBSCRIPTIONS**

	<b>2022</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Donations	2,676	113,910	116,586
Members Subscriptions	312,587	-	312,587
Supporters Scheme	-	146,166	146,166
Exchange gain	664	2,713	3,377
	<u>£315,927</u>	<u>£262,789</u>	<u>£578,716</u>

	<b>2021 – As Restated</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Donations	16,235	200,592	216,827
Members Subscriptions	279,552	-	279,552
Supporters Scheme	-	124,000	124,000
Exchange gain	-	-	-
	<u>£295,787</u>	<u>£324,592</u>	<u>£620,379</u>

**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	<b>2022</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Event Income	-	-	-
Journal Income	17,591	-	17,591
President's Lunch	6,188	-	6,188
	<u>£23,779</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£23,779</u>

	<b>2021 – As Restated</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Event Income	-	-	-
Journal Income	30,124	-	30,124
President's Lunch	-	-	-
	<u>£30,124</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£30,124</u>

**4. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	<b>2022</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Bank Interest	1,976	230	2,206
Income from investments	-	-	-
	<u>£1,976</u>	<u>£230</u>	<u>£2,206</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**4. INVESTMENT INCOME (Continued)**

	2021 – As Restated		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Bank Interest	35	-	35
Income from investments	42	41	83
	£77	£41	£118

**5. RESOURCES EXPENDED**

2022	Raising Funds	Charitable Activities	2022 Total
	£	£	£
<b>Activities Undertaken Directly</b>			
Campaign for Social Science (Note 7)	10,639	149,644	160,283
Pro Res Eu	-	46,524	46,524
Spre	-	226,490	226,490
Strategic Development	-	20,000	20,000
Council Member Expenses	-	213	213
Journal costs	-	14,516	14,516
President's Lunch	-	3,608	3,608
	10,639	460,995	471,634
<b>Support Costs (Note 6)</b>	14,579	270,650	285,229
	£25,218	£731,645	£756,863
Unrestricted	14,579	288,987	303,566
Restricted (Note 7)	10,639	442,658	453,297
	£25,218	£731,645	£756,863
2021 – As Restated	Raising Funds	Charitable Activities	2021 Total
	£	£	£
Campaign for Social Science (Note 7)	6,677	126,350	133,027
Pro Res Eu	-	71,435	71,435
Spre	-	121,700	121,700
Strategic Development	-	40,864	40,864
Council Member Expenses	-	87	87
Journal costs	-	13,416	13,416
	6,677	373,852	380,529
<b>Support Costs (Note 6)</b>	10,567	234,535	245,102
	£17,244	£608,387	£625,631
Unrestricted	10,567	248,038	258,605
Restricted (Note 7)	6,677	360,349	367,026
	£17,244	£608,387	£625,631

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**6. SUPPORT COSTS  
2022**

	<b>Raising Funds</b>	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2022 Total</b>
	£	£	£
Staff and Contractor Costs	11,471	212,942	224,413
Property Costs	141	2,616	2,757
Marketing and promotion	568	10,549	11,117
Insurance	90	1,678	1,768
Postage & Printing	99	1,837	1,936
Web-site / IT	380	7,052	7,432
Accountancy Fees	231	4,294	4,525
Meetings	100	1,858	1,958
Professional and Consultancy	213	3,955	4,168
Bank Charges	158	2,935	3,093
Recruitment & Training	371	6,886	7,257
Sundry Expenses	277	5,141	5,418
Depreciation	49	909	958
VAT	431	7,998	8,429
	<u>£14,579</u>	<u>£270,650</u>	<u>£285,229</u>

**2021 – As Restated**

	<b>Raising Funds</b>	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2021 Total</b>
	£	£	£
Staff and Contractor Costs	8,644	191,100	199,744
Property Costs	110	2,485	2,595
Telephone	5	115	120
Insurance	73	1,645	1,718
Postage & Printing	59	1,338	1,397
Web-site / IT	564	12,737	13,301
Accountancy Fees	116	2,614	2,730
Professional and Consultancy	(18)	(399)	(417)
Bank Charges	157	3,548	3,705
Recruitment & Training	327	7,383	7,710
Sundry Expenses	158	3,565	3,723
Depreciation	41	922	963
VAT	331	7,482	7,813
	<u>£10,567</u>	<u>£234,535</u>	<u>£245,102</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022****7. RESTRICTED FUNDS**

<b>2022</b>	<b>Raising Funds</b>	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2022 Total</b>
	£	£	£
Staff and Contractor Costs	10,639	111,082	121,721
Annual Campaign Lecture	-	4,593	4,593
Professional and consultancy	-	25,900	25,900
Website and IT	-	4,120	4,120
Sundry expenses	-	3,949	3,949
<b>Campaign for Social Science</b>	<b>10,639</b>	<b>149,644</b>	<b>160,283</b>
Payment to funder	-	40,710	40,710
Sundry	-	5,814	5,814
<b>Pro Res Eu</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>46,524</b>	<b>46,524</b>
Staff and Contractor Costs	-	97,075	97,075
Sundry	-	2,819	2,819
Website and IT	-	15,580	15,580
Travelling	-	3,246	3,246
Meetings	-	2,658	2,658
Legal	-	2,100	2,100
Balance transfer to SPRE SCIO	-	97,349	97,349
Professional and Consultancy	-	5,663	5,663
<b>SPRE</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>226,490</b>	<b>226,490</b>
Promotion	-	20,000	20,000
<b>Strategic Development</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>
	<b>£10,639</b>	<b>£442,658</b>	<b>£453,297</b>
<b>2021 – As Restated</b>			
	<b>Raising Funds</b>	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2021 Total</b>
	£	£	£
Staff and Contractor Costs	6,677	102,777	109,454
Annual Campaign Lecture	-	3,227	3,227
Professional and consultancy	-	12,592	12,592
Sundry expenses	-	7,754	7,754
<b>Campaign for Social Science</b>	<b>6,677</b>	<b>126,350</b>	<b>133,027</b>
Staff and Contractor Costs	-	12,390	12,390
Professional and consultancy	-	39,491	39,491
Sundry	-	6,699	6,699
Printing	-	12,855	12,855
<b>Pro Res Eu</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>71,435</b>	<b>71,435</b>
Staff and Contractor Costs	-	105,725	105,725
Sundry	-	487	487
Website and IT	-	13,495	13,495
Travelling	-	1,156	1,156
Professional and Consultancy	-	837	837
<b>SPRE</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>121,700</b>	<b>121,700</b>
Website and IT	-	40,864	40,864
<b>Strategic Development</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>40,864</b>	<b>40,864</b>
	<b>£6,677</b>	<b>£360,349</b>	<b>£367,026</b>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022****8. NET INCOME**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b> <b>As Restated</b>
This is stated after charging	£	£
Depreciation	<u>£1,976</u>	<u>£1,976</u>

During the year, no Directors received any remuneration (2021 - £Nil)

During the year, no Directors received any benefits in kind (2021 - £Nil)

4 Directors received a reimbursement of expenses amounting to £214 in the current year (2021 - £319).

The Independent examiner's remuneration of £1,760 (2021: £1,650) related solely to the examination. Fees in respect of company secretarial amounted to £500 (2021: £500).

**9. STAFF AND CONTRACTOR COSTS AND NUMBERS**

The average number of employees during the year was 10 (8 FTE), 2021: 10 (8 FTE)

Key management personnel consist of the CEO, the head of administration and the head of policy. Total employment benefits of the key management personnel were £187,317.

One employee had emoluments within the range of £80,000 - £90,000.

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b> <b>As Restated</b>
	£	£
Gross salaries	395,467	379,293
Social Security costs	38,975	36,159
Pension costs	14,518	12,024
Total Payroll Costs	<u>£448,960</u>	<u>£427,476</u>

**10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b> <b>As Restated</b>
	£	£
<b>Computer equipment</b>		
Cost:		
Balance at 1st January 2022	17,412	14,964
Additions	-	2,448
Disposals	(749)	-
Balance at 31st December 2022	<u>16,663</u>	<u>17,412</u>
<b>Depreciation:</b>		
Balance at 1st January 2022	14,621	12,645
Disposals	(749)	-
Charge for the year	1,976	1,976
Balance at 31st December 2022	<u>15,848</u>	<u>14,621</u>
Net Book Value		
At 31st December 2022	<u>£815</u>	<u>£2,791</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b> <b>As Restated</b>
	£	£
Market value at 1 January 2022	4,000	4,000
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
Net investment (losses)/gains	-	-
Market value at 31 December 2022	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>
Cash held by managing agent	<u>261,274</u>	<u>263,237</u>
	<u>£265,274</u>	<u>£267,237</u>
Historical cost at 31 December 2022	<u>£4000</u>	<u>£4,000</u>

**12. DEBTORS**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b> <b>As Restated</b>
	£	£
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Trade and supporter scheme debtors	17,814	12,391
Prepayments and accrued income	1,440	34,579
Other debtors	19,000	14,000
	<u>£38,254</u>	<u>£60,970</u>

**13. CREDITORS: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b> <b>As Restated</b>
	£	£
Loan Creditor	10,000	10,000
Prepaid Subscriptions & Event Income	13,353	12,124
Accruals	25,770	22,573
HMRC VAT Liability	7,061	11,548
	<u>£56,184</u>	<u>£56,245</u>

The loan is interest free and repayable when aggregate donations, excluding those for specific appeals, have been received totalling more than £20,000.

**Deferred income reconciliation**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b> <b>As Restated</b>
	£	£
Balance brought forward	12,124	10,096
Amount released to Statement of Financial Activities	(12,124)	(10,096)
Amount deferred in the year	13,353	12,124
Balance carried forward	<u>£13,353</u>	<u>£12,124</u>

Member subscriptions and event income received in advance is deferred to the period to which it relates.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**14. RESTRICTED FUNDS  
2022**

	<b>CfSS</b>	<b>International Advisory Group</b>	<b>Making the Case</b>	<b>EU Pro Res Project</b>	<b>Spre</b>	<b>Strategic Develop- ment</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1st January 2022 (as restated)	165,544	1,225	12,638	44,333	140,067	157,999	521,806
Income	174,405	-	-	2,191	86,423	-	263,019
Expenditure	(160,283)	-	-	(46,524)	(226,490)	(20,000)	(453,297)
Gains on Investments							
Transfers							
<b>Balance at 31st December 2022</b>	<b>£179,666</b>	<b>£1,225</b>	<b>£12,638</b>	<b>£-</b>	<b>£-</b>	<b>£137,999</b>	<b>£331,528</b>

**2021 – As Restated**

	<b>CfSS</b>	<b>International Advisory Group</b>	<b>Making the Case</b>	<b>EU Pro Res Project</b>	<b>Spre</b>	<b>Strategic Development</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1st January 2021	146,940	1,225	12,638	115,768	150,128	137,500	564,199
Income	151,631	-	-	-	111,639	61,363	324,633
Expenditure	(133,027)	-	-	(71,435)	(121,700)	(40,864)	(367,026)
Gains on Investments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Balance at 31st December 2021</b>	<b>£165,544</b>	<b>£1,225</b>	<b>£12,638</b>	<b>£44,333</b>	<b>£140,067</b>	<b>£157,999</b>	<b>£521,806</b>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

Restricted Funds comprise the monies collected for and expended on the *Campaign for Social Science*, the SPRE project, the EU Pro Res Project, the International Advisory Group project, the Making the Case Project and to support strategic development of the Academy.

Campaign for Social Sciences: This fund represents the outward-facing, advocacy voice of the Academy of Social Sciences. The campaign works to amplify the voice of social sciences in policy issues affecting all social science disciplines and higher education institutes.

International Advisory Group works with UK and international bodies in organising events, publications and consultations on the international dimension of social science research and policy.

Making the case: This fund focusses on providing examples of important social science research which has made a difference to policy or practice.

Pro Res Fund: This is an EU funded project that aims to promote ethics and integrity in non-medical research.

SPRE (Scottish Policy and research exchange) aims to help researchers and policymakers in Scotland work with each other more effectively. The Academy is working with other partners, including the Scottish Parliament to consolidate the success of SPRE in Scotland. The Academy's Council has approved that SPRE becomes an independent Scottish charity (SCIO) during 2022.

Strategic Development fund: This represents a donation received by an individual to forward the future strategy of the Academy.

**15. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS**

	<b>2022</b>			<b>2021 – As Restated</b>		
	<b>Designated Pipeline Fund</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Designated Funds</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1 January 2022	16,162	203,977	220,139	-	152,756	152,756
Income	2,676	339,006	341,682	16,235	309,753	325,988
Expenditure	-	(303,566)	(303,566)	(73)	(258,532)	(258,605)
31 December 2022	<b>£18,838</b>	<b>£239,417</b>	<b>£258,255</b>	<b>£16,162</b>	<b>£203,977</b>	<b>£220,139</b>

The Pipeline Fund has been established to help pump prime, new activities and developments in support of social science.

**16. TAXATION**

The Academy is a registered charity and is not subject to UK Corporation Tax on its Charitable Activities and Investment Income.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022****17. NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

	<b>2022</b>			
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Designated</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	148,948	-	117,141	266,089
Current Assets	135,374	18,838	225,666	379,878
Creditors Amounts Falling due within one Year	(44,905)	-	(11,279)	(56,184)
	<b>£239,4178</b>	<b>£18,838</b>	<b>£331,528</b>	<b>£589,783</b>
	<b>2021 – As Restated</b>			
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Designated</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	153,638	-	116,390	270,028
Current Assets	86,896	16,162	425,104	528,162
Creditors Amounts Falling due within one Year	(36,557)	-	(19,688)	(56,245)
	<b>£203,977</b>	<b>£16,162</b>	<b>£521,806</b>	<b>£741,945</b>

**18. GOING CONCERN**

The Charitable Company's Directors believe it is appropriate to draw up these accounts on a going concern basis as they believe that adequate sources of funding will be forthcoming in the normal course of events to allow the charity to continue to operate.

In making this assessment the Directors have considered the period to June 2024.

**19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Professor P N H Beech, Trustee, is also a trustee of the British Academy of Management (Registered charity number 1117999). During the year The British Academy of Management paid a membership subscription to the Academy of Social Sciences amounting to £1,700 (2021: £1,700).

**20. PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENT**

Prior period errors which have been corrected in the financial statements resulted from the understatement of debtors amounting to £47,139. These were in respect of income which had not been accrued of £33,139 and prior period employment allowance claims due of £14,000.

The impact is that debtors at 31 December 2021 have increased by £47,139, with sales increasing by £33,139, expenditure decreasing by £4,000, and brought forward reserves decreasing by £10,000. Overall, unrestricted funds have increased by £14,000 and restricted funds by £33,139 at 31 December 2021 to £220,139 and £521,806 respectively.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1088537

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# Accounts

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**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**(A Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

**Company Number: 03847936**  
**Registered Charity Number: 1088537**

**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021**

# **ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**(A Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

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**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

**Legal and Administrative Information**

**For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

**Directors and Trustees**

Professor Cara Aitchison FAcSS  
Stephen Aldridge FAcSS  
Professor Tim Allen FAcSS  
Professor Nic Beech FAcSS  
Professor Richard Black FAcSS (appointed 17 June 2021)  
Professor Tim Blackman FAcSS (appointed 17 June 2021)  
Professor David Byrne FAcSS  
Chris Caswill FAcSS  
Professor Tony Crook CBE FAcSS  
Professor Bobby Duffy FAcSS  
Professor Roger Goodman FAcSS (President - retired 17 June 2021)  
Professor Eileen Green FAcSS

Will Hutton (President - appointed 17 June 2021)  
Professor Andrew Jones FAcSS  
Lord Kerslake FAcSS  
Professor Simon Marginson FAcSS  
Dame Jil Matheson FAcSS  
Professor Tony McEney FAcSS  
Professor Judith Phillips OBE FAcSS  
Professor Vicky Pryce FAcSS  
Professor Sasha Roseneil FAcSS  
Professor Gill Valentine FAcSS  
Professor Kavita Vedhara FAcSS

**Company Registered Number**

03847936

**Charity Registered Number**

1088537

**Registered and Administrative Office**

c/o Knox Cropper LLP,  
65 Leadenhall Street,  
London, EC3A 2AD

**Secretary**

Dame Jil Matheson FAcSS

**Independent examiner**

James Holland-Leader FCA,  
Knox Cropper LLP,  
65 Leadenhall Street,  
London, EC3A 2AD

**Bankers**

CAF Bank Ltd,  
25 Kings Hill Avenue,  
Kings Hill,  
West Malling,  
Kent, ME19 4JQ

Metro Bank  
1 Southampton Row,  
London,  
WC1B 5HA

**Investment Advisors**

Tilney Investment Management,  
17th Floor, 6 New Street Square,  
New Fetter Lane  
London, EC4A 3BF

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**(a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021**

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

**The President, Will Hutton FAcSS**

It was a great pleasure to be appointed President in 2021 and to succeed Prof Roger Goodman FAcSS in leading the Academy. I look forward to this role as a way of 'giving back' to social science, which has underpinned my career and my writing for decades. I wholly support the Academy's purpose, its strategy and the fact that we embrace both the breadth of social sciences disciplines and the academic, public and private sectors. The Academy has come a long way in 23 years and has great potential for future growth in the service of social science. I look forward to working with trustees, committees, Fellows and the staff team to shape and realise its ambitions more fully.

We gain so much from the support of our members and partner organisations, and we depend on the energy, expertise and commitment of those who serve on our Council and committees, those who donate to and sponsor our work, and our hard-working small staff team.

I thank everyone who has welcomed me so warmly into the Academy and the staff who do a tremendous job on the ground and to whom we largely owe the successes of 2021.

It is my pleasure to present in the following pages, the Directors' Report and Annual Accounts for 2021.

**I. Introduction by the Chief Executive – Dr Rita Gardner CBE FAcSS**

2021 was the second successive year of change in the Academy. We ended the year in a strong position, following developments in our charitable activities, public profile, staffing and administrative processes, and in visual identity and communications. We continued to operate as a virtual organisation throughout the year, given the continuing uncertainties and risks with Covid-19. We pushed forwards our charitable work in line with the 2020-2023 strategy and, thanks to loyal support from Fellows and Campaign sponsors and supporters, we returned a modest surplus on our operations. The Council has agreed this will be used to enhance reserves (underpinning risk) and support new initiatives in 2022, in equal measure.

The Academy's well-known new President, Will Hutton FAcSS, was appointed by the Council in June 2021, following an extensive and open recruitment process. Led by Dame Jil Matheson FAcSS (Honorary Secretary), as chair of the Appointments Committee, it was supported by professional recruitment consultants. Professor Roger Goodman FAcSS completed his six-year term as Chair and President and is warmly thanked for his many contributions. Other retiring members of Council on completion of terms were Professors Cara Aitchison FAcSS, David Byrne FAcSS and Andrew Jones FAcSS (Honorary Treasurer). Professor Nic Beech FAcSS was appointed Honorary Treasurer from June 2021. Two newly elected Council members took up their roles as trustees in June, Professor Richard Black FAcSS and Professor Tim Blackman FAcSS. We also welcomed some new members to the Audit and Risk Management Committee, the Nominations Committee and the Academic Fellows Search Committee.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
(a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)

**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021**  
(Continued)

**I. Introduction by the Chief Executive – Dr Rita Gardner CBE FAcSS (continued)**

We took a positive approach to the need to remain a virtual organisation. We sustained high audience numbers at events owing to enhanced access online; and we were able to recruit from a much wider UK labour market to complete our planned staff restructuring. Three excellent staff appointments were made in the year including to a new role as Head of Administration, an upgraded role of Senior Campaign Manager and to a new Administrative Assistant post. We ended the year with a full complement of able, professional and highly motivated core Academy staff (8 staff; 6.2 FTE) and project staff (2FTE), and our achievements reflect that. Throughout the year we remained sensitive to the challenges of inducting new staff members into a virtual team and of staff welfare more generally while working from home.

Our supporter base grew and the Academy saw very strong retention of Fellows, Social Science Society members, Campaign supporters and sponsors. New Fellows were elected during the year from academia, public and private sectors. This process was aided by the introduction greater clarity in the election guidelines, and a refresh of the Nominations committee under its chair Professor Gill Valentine FAcSS. Net Fellowship numbers increased by 71 over the year, while 40 Fellows transferred from full Fellow to retired Fellow subscriptions. We were pleased to see 7 Fellows being recognised for their work in the Queen's Birthday and New Year Honours lists.

Our work in 2021 to showcase the social sciences and demonstrate their vital applications to 'grand challenges' built on the successful Covid-19 hub model of our Campaign introduced in 2020. A second hub was launched in summer 2021 on the theme of 'levelling up'. An autumn, virtual event series drew on the Academy and Campaign's ability to convene across academia, policy and private sectors at the highest levels, to complement the hub content. Many events were led or chaired by incoming President, Will Hutton FAcSS, and benefited from his energy, knowledge and commitment

and that of the Campaign Chair, Professor Bobby Duffy FAcSS and the Campaign Board. Our leading policy report, 'The Place to Be', showcased the many ways in which UK universities are already engaging with local partners to facilitate and shape regional rebalancing.

The higher education sectors in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland continued to face great uncertainty, many challenges and some opportunities in 2021, arising from a combination of Covid-19, Brexit and associated governmental responses. The Academy's in-depth study of the collective impacts on the health of social sciences across the UK continued throughout 2021. ESRC is warmly thanked for grant-funding this work, which is due to complete in mid 2022. Our wider policy work, advising and responding to HE policy consultations and funding decisions, continued as normal and benefitted greatly from higher visibility, access and coherence in the new website. The Academy strongly voiced its concern, collectively with many member societies, over the cuts in ODA funding.

Strengthening existing partnerships and building new ones was an important theme in 2021. This included work with Campaign supporters, Social Science Society members, funding bodies and with individual decision-makers. In November we jointly announced a strategic partnership with ESRC on equality, diversity and inclusion, and we were delighted to have strong engagement and support for this from member societies. In addition, the two projects that we sponsor and support had good, productive years. The EU-funded Pro-Res project completed in late 2021, on time, within budget and meeting objectives. Prof Ron Iphofen FAcSS is warmly thanked for leading the UK contribution to that European project. SPRE considered its future within the year and, after three years under the Academy umbrella, it will become an independent Scottish charitable body in 2022. This is with the Academy's blessing and that of the RSE who acted, respectively, as legal parent body and Scottish base/chair of the advisory board.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**(a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021**  
**(Continued)**

**I. Introduction by the Chief Executive – Dr Rita Gardner CBE FAcSS (continued)**

The professionalism and efficiency of administration is vitally important to any well-functioning organisation. We completed the reshaping of the administrative team during 2021 and as a result saw great improvements in the use of our central database, in our capacity for tailored outreach, in subscriptions processes and much more.

We also invested considerable time, energy and money in refreshing the Academy's visual identity and in a new website. Both are essential to the way in which the Academy is perceived and to enable ready access to, and communication of, its work. The new identity and the integrated website were launched in October 2021, after nine months of work. The website reflects our strategic objectives and brings together in one place the work of the Academy and its Campaign for Social Science. It was a real pleasure to work with the digital design and development company, Praline, on this, the largest administrative project the Academy has undertaken. We also thank warmly two expert volunteers from the Campaign board – Desiree Lopez FAcSS and Rachel Neaman - for their unstinting advice, support and work throughout.

2021 was the year in which we created the professional platforms in administration, website communication and identity that were needed as an essential underpinning to the future development of the Academy and Campaign. In addition, we grew activity levels, raised our public profile and sustained momentum in our work to promote and safeguard social science. All while coping with the implications of the pandemic.

I thank everyone involved in making 2021 a success: including our supporters, our Fellows, my staff colleagues, Roger Goodman and Will Hutton (Presidents), and all other members of our Board of Trustees and committees.

Dr Rita Gardner CBE FAcSS

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
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**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021**  
(Continued)

## 2. Academy vision, mission and objectives

**Charitable purpose:** The promotion of social sciences in the UK for public benefit.

**Vision:** The social sciences flourish in the UK and sustain their world leading stature. They are widely valued for their contributions to society, economy, environment and well-being; and led by confident and capable communities of academics and other professionals, learned societies and students.

**Mission:** To enhance and safeguard the social sciences in research, professional practice, and education; and to champion and foster the understanding and application of social sciences in policy, business and public life.

**Objectives:** The Academy of Social Sciences published a [new strategy](#) in 2020. The six objectives set the medium-term framework for our work in delivering our charitable purpose.

- **To champion the social sciences:** promoting the vital role of social science in improving decision-making, society and lives
- **To sustain the health of the social sciences in research and education:** enabling a thriving and confident community
- **To recognise excellence in social science:** with an expert and engaged Fellowship
- **To widen participation and skills in the social sciences:** recognising the importance of social mobility, diversity and employability to people and society
- **To foster innovation and application of the social sciences:** informing and helping to address challenges of our time
- **To ensure a sustainable future for the Academy of Social Sciences:** as the National Academy of Academics, Learned Societies and Practitioners in the Social Sciences and a professional body established by the UK social sciences community.

**The first five objectives all directly serve our purpose and provide public benefit in doing so; the sixth supports the organisation's capabilities to deliver its purpose now and in the future.**

A three-year operations plan informs detailed implementation of the objectives in the short term. In 2021 the Academy's work focused mainly on four of its objectives and we started work on a fifth.

## 3. Championing the social sciences

**The primary way in which the Academy champions the social sciences for public benefit is through the work of its Campaign for Social Science. The Campaign sustained its growing momentum in 2021, building on approaches introduced in 2020 and commencing a new programme to showcase social science expertise and its practical applications to regional rebalancing.**

The appointment of a Senior Campaign Manager mid-year, the outstanding commitment of Campaign supporters and sponsors, the new website, and the energy and interest of the Academy's new President in the 'regional rebalancing' agenda, all helped to boost Campaign outreach, profile and influence.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**(a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021**  
**(Continued)**

### **3. Championing the social sciences (continued)**

The work the Campaign has already completed and will continue to do on its online showcase 'hubs' demonstrates to decision-makers and the public the extensive contribution that social science is making, and can continue to make, towards addressing two of the UK's biggest current challenges: Covid 19 and regional rebalancing. The autumn events series focused on the latter theme and raised the profile of the Academy, the Campaign, and the social sciences, visibly connecting all three to the public debate on the flagship 'Levelling Up' policy of the current Government. This was further reinforced by the publication of the Campaign's annual policy report, 'The Place to Be'. This kind of work enabled us to demonstrate publicly the breadth and depth of relevant research evidence, the productive multidisciplinary work and cross sector partnerships, and the creative thinking and ideas arising from the social sciences. We will continue in this vein in 2022 when we will explore ways to connect social science further with policy.

The [Covid-19 hub](#), launched in May 2020, entered a second phase in 2021, with a new focus. It was originally designed to showcase how social science understanding and applied research, from across the UKs universities, public, private and third sectors, contributed to managing and mitigating the pandemic. The focus shifted to explore how social science provides guidance and evidence-based insight to inform UK economic and social recovery post pandemic.

Future-focused commissioned think pieces considered, for example, the need for multi-disciplinary social policy analysis; the importance of language and messaging in managing our way beyond the pandemic; a transformative economic agenda as part of recovering from the financial impact of the pandemic; the role of mutual aid groups; on the growing gap between rich and poor exacerbated by the pandemic, among others.

Summer 2021 saw the launch of a new [hub on the regional rebalancing \('Levelling Up'\) agenda](#). The purpose of the hub is to showcase the role that social science is, and indeed must, play in informing the shaping, implementation and evaluation of policy to bring about a lasting impact on regional rebalancing.

14 pieces by leading social scientists – academics and practitioners - were published in 2021, each using evidence to identify up to three areas of prime policy importance for delivering outcomes. These areas included civic leadership, innovation and technology; devolved decision-making; improving infrastructure and working conditions to impact social care and health; the use of appropriate datasets to target resources effectively; progressive taxation; education reforms and social mobility; structural challenges for subnational and place-based government; community resilience and risk management; fostering entrepreneurialism; the roles of universities and city regions; the green economy and developing skills for new industries; and comparisons across England and the devolved nations, among others. The hub demonstrated the importance of expert-led social science across many facets of regional rebalancing.

In November the Academy published [The Place to Be: How social sciences are helping to improve places in the UK](#). This highlights 24 case studies of social science-led initiatives that are already making real practical contributions to 'levelling up' in their parts of the UK. The report profiled social science applied research, local cross sector partnerships and projects involving social science and STEM collaboration. In the run up to the White Paper, and widely disseminated to relevant decision-makers in Whitehall, it made a case for placing universities and their social science at the heart of the regional growth agenda.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
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**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021**  
(Continued)

### 3. Championing the social sciences (continued)

In November the Campaign presented **Levelling Up: Principles and Practice**, a well-attended, online TEDx style event. Leading speakers were drawn widely for this multidisciplinary event, bringing together policy, private and academic sectors in a way that the Academy is well positioned to do. Speakers included Neil O'Brien MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities; Lord Bob Kerslake, Chair of the UK2070 Commission; Juergen Maier, Vice-Chair of the Northern Powerhouse Partnership; Laila Page, Head of Sustainable Banking, Performance and Frameworks, NatWest; Stuart Martin, CEO, Satellite Applications Catapult; Professor Sandra McNally, Professor of Economics, University of Surrey and Director of the Centre for Vocational Education Research; Professor Adrian Pabst, Deputy Director for Social and Political Economy, National Institute of Economic and Social Research; Professor Christine Whitehead, Emeritus Professor of Housing Economics, LSE; Professor Kate Pickett, Professor of Epidemiology at University of York and co-founder of The Equality Trust. [The videos](#) of each presentation feature on the website and the Academy's YouTube channel. Ideas were further discussed at a by-invitation **networking dinner** that followed.

In December, the [Campaign Annual Lecture](#), entitled **It's Institutions Stupid: The moralisation of capitalism**, was delivered by Will Hutton, President of the Academy of Social Sciences, with a response from Baroness Minouche Shafik, Director of the LSE. The lecture brought together theory, evidence, and practice to explore the possibility of a new and more moral form of capitalism. Some 1,700 people registered for this event, with around 550 attending on the day. The video recording has since featured on the Academy website and YouTube channel and on the SAGE YouTube channel. It has been viewed several hundred times.

The purpose and the timing of all three events, prior to the publication of the 'Levelling-Up' White Paper, visibly signalled the Academy's interest in regional rebalancing and ably demonstrated that as an ambition it will require the expertise and guidance of social scientists if it is to succeed.

Finally, considerable effort in the year was also put into developing relations with Campaign supporters, including partnership events and the Strategic Leadership Forum. We were delighted that all those who support the Campaign renewed their support in 2021 and we thank them all warmly.

### 4. Sustaining the health of the social sciences

**The primary way in which the Academy helps to sustain the health of the social sciences for public benefit is through its policy and advocacy work, supported by data gathering and, at times, our own independent research.**

Our aim in 2021 was to continue our policy work plans but be clearer in evidence-based advocacy for the social sciences, streamline our processes, and be more visible, useful and proactive in engaging our Social Science Society members, our Fellows, and our supporters.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**(a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021**

**(Continued)**

#### **4. Sustaining the health of the social sciences (continued)**

The Academy responded to six substantive government consultations and budget/funding decisions during the year. As ever, with limited resources we had to focus on those with the potential greatest impact on the social sciences. [Our response](#) to the government consultation on R&D Tax Reliefs centred on a recommendation that certain forms of social science research and development should be included for the first time, in line with the position adopted in some other countries. We drew on our 2020 [Vital Business](#) case studies and technical advice from Fellows to support our submission, and gave examples where this might be important in the UK. The outcome is still unclear: while the government responded in the October Budget and R&D tax reliefs can now be given for 'data costs', it is unclear whether or not social science data will be included.

[Our response](#) to an initial consultation of the Office for Students on proposed changes to its approach to regulate 'quality' and 'standards' in higher education made four main points. These focussed in particular on the employability outcome measures: that those measures should include the category of 'associate professionals'; that while there were disciplinary differences in employment outcomes, there was not a STEM/ non-STEM divide, and the social sciences did as well, on average, as STEM disciplines; that graduate earnings would not be an appropriate measure, even though graduates in many social science disciplines earn more than those in some STEM disciplines; and that there were problems in setting a benchmark salary level that did not adversely affect disadvantaged students, institutions who focussed on those students, or regional 'levelling up' in cases where employment rates and structures were different in disadvantaged parts of the UK. The OfS has just released its final, highly technical, consultation on its approach to regulating quality and value, and AcSS will be responding; it looks as though the category of 'associate professional' will now be included as a legitimate graduate outcome.

We also posted an 'outward facing' version of [our response to the government consultation on a National Data Strategy](#), prepared with assistance from Dame Jil Matheson FAcSS. We will increasingly need to do this as more government consultations are in on-line questionnaire form.

In terms of other policy statements, the Academy made a [strong response](#) to the government announcement of cuts to Official Development Assistance (ODA) funded research, co-ordinated with and signed by a majority of our Social Science Society members. Our response both showed the importance of the international social science projects and used social science evidence to argue against the cuts. We sent it to Ministers in the Foreign and Commonwealth and Development Office, BEIS, and Treasury, as well as shadow Ministers and a large number of Parliamentarians in an extensive personalised outreach campaign. We also tabled the letter with a covering note in evidence to the House of Commons International Development Committee's inquiry into the future of UK aid. Government has not changed course, but UKRI did make some funding available for scaled-down continuation of many projects, and government has said it plans to reinstate aid funding, including with some allocation for research.

Finally, we responded to the March 2021 Budget statement, and also [to the October 2021 Budget](#).

The Academy's report [The Place to Be: How social sciences are helping to improve places in the UK](#) called for an acknowledgement of how important the social sciences are in doing things to improve place-based prospects; how this involves virtually all social science disciplines; and how funding support and incentives need to ensure that this collaborative work in universities can grow. We are grateful to SAGE Publishing for their support.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**(a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021**  
**(Continued)**

**4. Sustaining the health of the social sciences (continued)**

Following the model established in 2020, we targeted our advocacy on government ministers and departments -- especially those responsible for the, then forthcoming, White Paper on 'Levelling Up,' - opposition spokespeople, and a large number of parliamentarians and select committees in the UK parliaments. Warm acknowledgements were received, including from the Minister for Science, Research and Innovation, George Freeman, and Neil O'Brien, Minister for Levelling Up, The Union and Constitution. We have long argued for governments in the UK to recognise the anchor role that universities can play in their regions (in line with the Civic University Commission). This is an issue that the social sciences, and their allied disciplines, have a strong record in, and this demands to be better recognised. We understand the report was also useful to social scientists in internal discussions in their universities.

The Academy's important strategic research to monitor the health of social sciences following the turbulence introduced by Covid, Brexit and changing HE policy, continued throughout 2021 within the [Social Sciences in a Time of Change](#) project. Good progress was made in three of the four complementary aspects of the data gathering: in-depth interviews; structured questionnaire survey; and contextual research and literature. HESA data analysis will commence in early 2022, upon publication of the 2020/21 data. We thank the many universities who contribute and the ESRC for grant-funding this joint study by the Academy and Lancaster University.

In 2021, we streamlined internal processes to make the most of our policy resources and started work to provide more proactive and useful policy support to our Fellows, Social Science Society members, and others. In particular, we improved and streamlined our monthly Policy Monitor, which aims to stimulate more social science submissions to government and parliamentary consultations. We now have comprehensive coverage of all UK governments and parliaments and the new website has enabled improved dissemination and search. Secondly, policy update pieces are written more regularly and useful background information disseminated more fully. Our strategy here is both to support individual member societies to develop their own disciplinary advocacy and to enable more joint Academy and member society advocacy for the social sciences.

Our policy work, which underpins our advocacy in helping to sustain the health of the social sciences, is now more clearly presented on the Academy's new website. This required work over summer 2021 to tell our story more explicitly and make our advocacy more apparent. We completed our policy activities to plan despite the departure of Ashley Thomas Lenihan in the middle of 2021 to a full time academic role, and we expect to do more in 2022 with project-specific policy resource.

**SPRE**

Work continued successfully in Scotland throughout 2021 on building networks to support connections and dialogue across the research and policy communities, and on increasing capacity through training, tools and resources in digital and real space to help embed scholarly research into policy. <https://spre.scot/> SPRE also took the first steps, with the Academy's blessing, to becoming as an independent Scottish charitable body, having become established over the past three years on the policy and research landscape in Scotland.

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**4. Sustaining the health of the social sciences (continued)**

**PRO-RES**

This project completed successfully on 31 October 2021, bringing to a close over three years of collaborative work across EU partners. The outcome is a guidance framework – comprising a statement of principles, a toolbox and additional resources - that encourages and supports policymakers and their advisors to seek evidence for their decisions from research that has been conducted ethically, responsibly and with integrity. <https://prores-project.eu/> The Academy was the UK lead organisation in the partnership, supported by a number of expert Fellows who led the project delivery as freelance consultants

**5. Recognising excellence in social science**

**The Academy recognises and celebrates excellence in social sciences research and application through its highly regarded Fellowships.**

At the close of 2021 the Academy membership comprised 1500 Fellows and 47 member learned societies. Together, this collective of organisations includes some 90,000 social scientists across academia and the public and private sectors in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and the wider world.

**The Academy continued to work closely with, and support, the lively community of learned and professional societies in the social sciences, most of whom are affiliated member societies,** most of whom are affiliated member societies. A strong and independent society sector is vital to disciplinary health and to that of the sector as a whole.

**Fellowship**

The Academy welcomed 112 new Fellows in 2021, conferred for their eminence, impact and wider contribution to social science. They were drawn from academia and from professional sectors where social scientists hold leading roles and social sciences are widely used. All Fellowships were peer reviewed to ensure the Academy continued to sustain excellence in its professional community. We also sadly lost over 40 Fellows who died, resigned on retirement or lapsed for other reasons; and a significant number also changed to retirement status.

In 2021 we continued to encourage, in particular, the nomination of Fellows from diverse backgrounds. As a whole, nominations of those from Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities rose to 20%, the highest level recorded in any year to date (benchmark data 11%: HESA 2020/21 professorial status). Breaking this down further, 2.5% were from the Black community, 7.5% Asian and 10% other minority ethnic communities. Of those conferred in 2021, there was an even gender balance; 88% were salaried, UK-based Fellows and 15% were employed primarily in the public, private and third sectors. The latter definition underrepresents the extent of Fellows' involvement in 'practice' as many academic Fellows are engaged in applied social sciences.

As part of the operational improvements in 2021, the Nominations Committee was refreshed with a number of new members; induction processes were improved; guidelines benefited from further clarification and exemplification; and application processes streamlined using the new website. Led by the chair, Professor Gill Valentine FBA FAcSS, the committee considered nominations for new Fellows from member learned societies, existing Fellows, the Academic Fellow Search Committee (AFSC) and the Practitioner Fellow Search Committee (PFSC). Professors John Scott CBE FAcSS and Tony Crook CBE FAcSS continued as chairs of the AFSC and PFSC, respectively and are warmly thanked for their work in 2021. Professor Crook completed his term as Chair at the end of 2021 and, after open advertisement among the Fellows, the Council approved the appointment of Andy Ross FAcSS as the new PFSC Chair from 2022.

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**5. Recognising excellence in social science (continued)**

Fellows are warmly thanked for the commitment, time and expertise they give to supporting the Academy in its charitable activities; whether as Trustees charged with the governance of the Academy; as committee members helping to guide and facilitate our work; in the provision of expert knowledge to inform and advance our policy-facing and Campaign activities; or in more generally helping to raise the profile of social science and the Academy. All contributions play an essential role in the Academy delivering its purpose of promoting social science in the UK for public benefit.

We are delighted that a number of Academy Fellows received public honours in 2021.

Professor Linda Bauld FAcSS, Bruce and John Usher Professor of Public Health, University of Edinburgh. Awarded an OBE for services to Guiding Public Health Response to and Public Understanding of Covid-19.

Professor Dame Rachel Griffith CBE FAcSS, Research Director at Institute for Fiscal Studies and Professor of Economics at University of Manchester. Awarded a Damehood for services to Economic Policy and to Education.

Dr Gemma Harper FAcSS, Chief Executive, Joint Nature Conservation Committee. Awarded an OBE for services to the Marine Environment.

Professor Adele Jones FAcSS, Professor of Social Work, University of Huddersfield. Awarded an OBE for services to Vulnerable Women and Children

Sir John Kay CBE FAcSS, Economist. Awarded a Knighthood for services to Economics, Finance and Business.

Professor Edward Peck FAcSS, Vice-Chancellor and President, Nottingham Trent University. Awarded an CBE for services to Higher Education

Professor Dame Carol Propper CBE FAcSS, Professor of Economics, Imperial College London. Awarded a Damehood for services to Economic Policy and to Public Health.

**Member Social Science Societies**

Learned societies and professional bodies in the social sciences are at the heart of the Academy as independent bodies affiliated to the Academy through membership. Instrumental in forming the Academy, the learned societies represent distinct disciplinary and professional communities, bring subject specific depth to complement the Academy's breadth of excellence in its academic and practitioner Fellows. Collectively, the Academy and member societies are a robust pan-community voice for the social sciences and social scientists.

As of 31 December 2021, society membership numbers stood at 47. We welcomed one new society to the Academy in the year, the Media, communications and Cultural Studies Association (MeCCSA), and retained the support of all others. In a challenging year for many organisations this was a welcome commitment of support and an excellent measure of engagement and shared endeavour.

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**5. Recognising excellence in social science (continued)**

The Academy is unique in having such strong support and engagement with, and through, societies that represent single disciplines, interdisciplinary areas, and/or communities of professional practitioners, within the social sciences. All the major disciplines are represented and many of the sub-disciplines and cross-disciplinary areas.

Our regular termly meetings for the CEOs and chief officers of learned societies and professional bodies in the social sciences continued online throughout 2021. These meetings play an important role in effecting liaison, building capacity, widening knowledge and encouraging interchange between societies for the benefit of the societies' work, the social sciences sector and the HE ecosystem.

Collaborative work with member societies focused on knowledge sharing and advocacy. Partly this was to help mitigate risk and facilitate adaptation in the face of continuing Covid-19 pressure. Partly it was in response to emerging practical and policy agendas of shared importance. Two new working groups were established on 'virtual events and conferences' and on 'equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI)'. The latter relates directly to the EDI strategic partnership agreed during the year by the Academy and the ESRC. The community also came together powerfully in response to the curtailment by Whitehall of funding previously agreed for international research programmes and projects under the umbrella of the Global Challenges Research Fund (ODA funding). The impact on the social sciences was particularly heavy.

**Contemporary Social Science Journal**

The Academy's journal, Contemporary Social Science, continued an active programme of publishing in 2021, with editions available both in print and online. The journal reflects the Academy's scope across the social sciences and in the application of social science. In 2021 the 16th annual volume was published, containing four themed issues plus a fifth online only, open access issue. The latter enables the journal to publish high quality papers across a wider range of topics than the themed issues and for all the papers in that issue to be openly available.

The journal continued its upwards trajectory in 2021. It received approximately 135,000 article downloads – a 44% increase on the previous year.

Professor Jacqueline Barnes FAcSS and Professor John Connolly are thanked for the professionalism they bring as co-editors of the journal, which is published by Taylor and Francis. They complete their term in June 2022 and the Academy is in the process of appointing their successor(s).

**6. A Sustainable Future**

**We implemented major changes to improve the identity, administration processes and communications functions in the Academy in 2021. Facilitated by completion of the staff team restructuring and enabled by external strategy funding, these gave the Academy the platforms and presence it needs for the future.**

In the first full year of implementing our new strategy, it was essential that we put tools in place to improve our presence, visibility and outreach capabilities. It was equally as important that we streamlined our administration and data processes, using technology to good advantage.

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**6. A Sustainable Future (continued)**

2021 saw a step change in all these areas, delivered on time and within budget.

The largest single project was the development of a [new website](#) for the Academy. It took most of the year to plan, design, implement and test and was launched in late October. The Campaign for Social Science activities were fully integrated into the one site, thus enabling the Academy to showcase and provide access to its work for public benefit all in one place for the first time. Structured to reflect the main areas of work and hence the main objectives in the strategy, the site enables us to showcase social science and its applications; to share our work to inform and influence higher education policy and the health of the social sciences; and to engage wider audiences in understanding what social science is. It also provides enhanced 'services' for Fellows, member social science societies and for public users – from paying subscriptions, to highlighting society events, access to publications and better profiling of Fellows in the Directory, and much more besides.

At the same time, we implemented a project to define a new visual identity for the Academy, with the Campaign as a sub-brand. We sought a rebranding that reflected the status of the Academy today – combining professionalism, gravitas, humanity and inclusivity. Simplicity and elegance were essential requirements of the brief too. During the year this design was rolled out across all our work, including a more reader-friendly monthly e-bulletin.

We were delighted when both the website and the new visual identity were greeted with warmth and acclaim. That owed much to the hard work of the staff team, to the creativity and professionalism of our selected contractors, Praline, to the strong leadership of both programmes of work by the Academy Senior Communications Manager and CEO, and to pro bono expert advice and on the ground work from two Campaign Board members, Desiree Lopez FAcSS and Rachel Neaman. The result is a core communications platform that works, portrays the Academy well, is liked by users and with which Fellows and members identify. Even in the short time since launch, we have seen a significant improvement in communications outreach as a result with, for example, higher opening rates for the monthly e-bulletin, 1,000 additional followers on twitter, and greater engagement with content on the website.

Administrative systems were geared up to support the new and regularly updated database content featured by the website and to improve efficiency. Prime among those was the complete overhaul of the Fellows database to ensure it was fully up to date and to implement the new data fields for the Fellows Directory introduced in 2021 and planned for 2022. A number of other improvements greatly aid monthly reporting from the database, and efficiency of data upload. The Policy Monitor became much more accessible and searchable online and dedicated communications channels to aid society member interaction were introduced. Administrative processes were streamlined across the board thanks to a new admin team led by Dr Sarah Jones, thus enabling other staff to focus more fully on outward-facing work.

In addition to these substantial initiatives, we sustained the new approaches to outreach implemented in 2020 and continued to strengthen our engagement with Social Science Society members and with Campaign supporters. Both are important pillars of Academy and Campaign sustainability, in different ways, and both add greatly to our work. So too are Fellows, and during the year we offered more opportunities for Fellows' involvement, in events, Campaign activities, and in committee and advisory roles. It was a pleasure also to see the Academy being increasingly approached by external organisations to partner in activities.

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## 7. Financial Overview

### 7.1 Overview

2021 posed many of the same risks to the Academy as had arisen in 2020, with the onset of Covid-19, but without the disruptive shock and rapid adjustments to virtual working that had been a feature of 2020. We budgeted prudently, uncertain as to whether or not we would be returning to a London-based office during the year, the extent to which our events and meetings would continue to be virtual, and unsure of the ongoing impacts of the pandemic on the financial setting of our supporters.

The minor financial deficit of -£12,149 in 2021 reflects expenditure to deliver grant-funded project outcomes, the income having been credited in the accounts of previous years. The good outcome on the Academy unrestricted and Campaign accounts reflects prudence and good cost control, the continuation of the pandemic and virtual functioning throughout 2021, and the most welcome and strong support that our Fellows and Campaign sponsors provided, once again, to the Academy. We thank every Fellow, social science society member and Campaign sponsor for being right behind us in enabling the work that we do. Renewal rates between 95% and 100% in all these sectors is something for us all to be proud of.

A surplus of income over expenditure arose in the Academy's unrestricted operations. The Council has decided to reinvest half of the surplus into pump priming new projects in 2022 and to hold the other half in reserves as a buffer against ongoing uncertainty, both in the future course of the pandemic and in inflation rates affecting goods, services and wages.

Incoming resources totalled £617,482 (2020: £725,076) split between unrestricted £325,988 (2020: £279,592) and restricted £291,494 (2020: £445,848) funds. The reduction in restricted income compared with 2020 arises from three factors: the final PRO-RES project grant payment having been received in 2020; the timing of donation receipts in support of the Scottish Policy Research Exchange (SPRE) project, not the commitment to donate; and the receipt of the remaining one third of the donation in the strategic development fund (two thirds received in 2020).

The total restricted income in 2021 of £291,494 comprised: £151,631 of Campaign supporter sponsorships (down £5k on 2020); £78,500 of SPRE income received (down £39k on 2020); no PRO-RES income (2020: £33,353); and £61,6736 as the second part of the major donation for the strategy set-up (2020: £137,500). The increase in unrestricted income in 2021 (£325,988), over that in 2020 (£279,592) reflects the CPI inflation increase in Fellow subscriptions, exceptionally high retention rates plus a small net increase in Fellow numbers; and an increase in donations.

Total expenditure in 2021 was £629,631, significantly up from the previous year (2020: £537,511); split between unrestricted general funds of £262,605 (2020: £261,618) and restricted funds of £367,645 (2020: £275,893). The increase in expenditure from restricted funds largely reflects the final push in the completion of the PRO-RES project including the publication of two open access books; and the commencement of expenditure from the strategic development fund. SPRE expenditure was a little higher than in 2020; that of the Campaign for Social Science (CfSS) was on a par. Unrestricted expenditure in 2021 was only marginally up on that in 2020, reflecting in both years the dominance of staff expenditure in a world where activities were virtual.

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## **7. Financial Overview (continued)**

### **7.1 Overview (continued)**

On our core (unrestricted) Academy operations, we ended 2021 with an operating surplus of £63,383 (2020: £8,087). Income was some £46k higher than in 2020, whilst expenditure remained stable at just under £1k more. There were no losses or gains on investments in 2021 (2020: loss of £9k) as the reserves continued to be held in cash for the year, a decision taken by the Society's Council in the face of volatility and risk levels in investment markets.

On our restricted funds, we recorded a net deficit in 2021 of -£75,532 (2020: net surplus of £159,783). The operating deficit arose mainly from the expenditure of funds, raised and donated in prior years, on project-based activities and developments in line with the strategy, annual work plan and project grant agreements.

Expenditure on raising funds in 2021 was £17,244, calculated as the direct costs of staff time involved in raising restricted funds for projects and stewarding donors, plus a proportional allocation of support costs.

At the 2021 year end the balance sheet stood at £694,806 (2020: £706,955), the majority of which existed as restricted funds (£488,6667; 2020 £564,199) in support of three programmes and projects – the Campaign for Social Science (£165,544), strategic development (157,999), and SPRE. (£106,928). The unrestricted general fund reserves stood at £206,139 (2020: £142,756).

In summary, with prudent management and a strong supporter base the Academy's finances in 2021 were resilient. They continued to withstand the challenges of Covid-19 and remain in positive balance, supported by reserves that meet our reserves policy of 50% of annual expenditure. That is a healthy position to end the year on, especially given the new financial challenges facing universities as a result of higher education policy changes, including those institutions that sponsor our Campaign for Social Science; the escalating costs of inflation; and the ongoing uncertainties with the pandemic.

### **7.2 Campaign for Social Science (CfSS)**

The Campaign for Social Science successfully raised a total of £151,631 in 2021 (2020: £156,949) (note 14) to fund its promotional and policy-related activities. This a very good outcome, with 100% retention of university supporters and the lead commercial sponsor. At the same time, the higher activity and engagement levels in the Campaign, commenced in 2020, were sustained through 2021, and an enhanced (virtual) events programme introduced. The Campaign ended the year with a surplus income over expenditure of c. £18k and this will be used to help support activities in 2022 and beyond.

### **7.3 Major projects**

The SPRE and PRO-RES projects both had full operating years in 2021 working within budget. Expenditure on SPRE rose by £9k to £121,700 (2020: £117,500). There was an operating deficit in the year of c. £44k which largely reflects timing differences between income and expenditure. The healthy balance in the restricted SPRE project accounts at year end was £106,928. The Academy's Council has agreed a proposal from the SPRE director to reconfigure SPRE as an independent Scottish charity (SCIO) during 2022. The Academy has been pleased to oversee the establishment of SPRE and its first three years of successful operation. The transfer of SPRE restricted funds to the new charity will be shown in the Academy's 2022 accounts.

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7.3 Major Projects (continued)

PRO-RES expenditure at £71,435 was substantially up on that of 2020 (£29,606) owing to the project work cycle and significant effort and expenditure on project outputs in the final year. The Academy received an administrative fee, as part of the grant funding; and the project officially drew to a close on 31 October 2021 having successfully delivered the programme.

The strategic development project commenced drawing down the project funds in 2021 (£40,864 expenditure), in line with the project proposals.

**8. Our supporters**

The Academy's work in 2021 was supported by its Fellows in many different ways, including sharing their knowledge and expertise, using their contact networks, assisting us in matters of good governance, supporting us on social media and in making Fellowship nominations thereby ensuring our professional community is continually renewed. Their time, energy and effort are freely given and they are very warmly thanked for their support. Fellows' subscriptions also help underpin the funding of the Academy and its work.

Our charitable work also benefited greatly from a number of other vital supporters:

- The Campaign for Social Science was sponsored in 2021 by 26 UK universities from across England, Scotland and Wales and by lead commercial sponsor, SAGE Publishing. Without this support the Campaign would not have been able to push ahead this year with new activities to promote the social sciences and in particular to showcase the role of social science in the regional rebalancing agenda, and in helping the UK recover socially and economically in the longer term from the pandemic. Nor would the Academy have been able to be as active in its policy work to support the standing of the social sciences. We thank them all, and we particularly thank SAGE publishing for sponsoring our 'Place to Be' report, the Campaign Annual Lecture and for partnering on, and providing technical assistance for, our virtual Campaign events.
- The ESRC (and its parent body UKRI) is gratefully acknowledged for the Grant Award that funds the 'Social Sciences in a time of change' project. It is vital that we have an understanding of how the social sciences and social scientists are faring across the HE sector in these turbulent and opportunistic times.
- Finally, we thank the major UK donor whose donation of £200,000 over two years (2020/21) is helping to set up and establish our new strategy. We respect his wish to remain anonymous.

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## **9. People and governance**

### **Staff team**

Our staff team showed extraordinary commitment in 2021. They adjusted to new members joining virtually, delivered well a challenging workflow across all areas, and went above and beyond in coping with the major programme to redevelop our website and identity without any additional staff support. That programme involved all core staff members.

We have sought to be aware of, and to mitigate, the potential risks to staff welfare and integration of this style of working by being open and caring as an organisation, by meeting regularly as a 'virtual' team and in work-related subgroups, and by ensuring staff have appropriate equipment and ready access to IT support.

During the year there were some changes in the staff team as a result of people moving onto other roles and this enabled the planned staff restructuring to be completed. Three new staff commenced during the year, each to newly defined or upgraded posts, and two positions were upgraded with the current post holders in place.

At the end of 2021, the team comprised Dr Rita Gardner CBE FAcSS (Chief Executive); Sharon Witherspoon MBE FAcSS (Head of Policy); Dr Sarah Jones (Head of Administration; joined January 2021); Chizom Ekeh (Senior Communications Manager); Steve Grundy (Senior Campaign Manager, joined June 2021); Ian Williams (Finance Manager); Alison Blow (Membership and Database Manager); Sophia Cole (Administrative Assistant, joined October 2021). Nick Bibby (Director) led the staff team of two on the SPRE project; while Dr David Vernon, employed through Lancaster University, is the Research Officer on the joint project 'Social Sciences in a time of change'. Dr Ashley Lenihan continued to provide freelance policy support for part of the year and David Wilson provided professional finance support. A number of Fellows continued to provide freelance consultancy support to the PRO-RES project until its completion in October 2021.

### **Council**

The Council met, as planned, on three occasions in 2021, chaired twice by Professor Roger Goodman FAcSS and once by Will Hutton FAcSS in their role as President. The meeting in January 2021 agreed the workplan and budget for the year.

Council was supported in its governance role by expert committees of Council, the Chairs of which sit on the Council. The main committees of Council in 2021 were the Audit and Risk Management Committee, Campaign Board and Nominations Committee. The CEOs of Learned Societies Group also met three times.

There were other changes to the Council (trustees) as terms of office were completed. Two positions were elected unopposed, with Professors Richard Black and Tim Blackman joining Council, while Professors Cara Aitchison, David Byrne and Andrew Jones completed their terms. Prof Nic Beech was appointed as Honorary Treasurer. Prof Jil Matheson remained as Honorary Secretary, Prof Bobby Duffy remained as Chair of the Campaign Board, Prof Gill Valentine remained as Chair of the Nominations Committee, Prof Tony McEnery remained as Chair of the Audit and Risk Management Committee. All committees met as planned but due to the COVID-19 pandemic the meetings were held via Zoom throughout the year. The Council also formally approved that the Annual General Meeting be held virtually in on 17 June 2021 and attendance was high.

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**9. People and governance (continued)**

**Governance**

The Academy of Social Science is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 24 September 1999, and is registered as a charity. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company, and is governed by its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

The Academy's President changed mid year, following the AGM. Will Hutton was appointed by the Council on recommendation of an Appointments Committee specifically established to lead the process, chaired by Dame Jil Matheson FAcSS (Honorary Secretary).

Applications for the role were open to all who met the role criteria regardless of whether or not they were a current Fellow; a formal review and interview process was advised by professional recruitment advisors. Will succeeded Prof Roger Goodman FAcSS.

The President's role combines that of figurehead for the Academy with active leadership including chairing the meetings of Council and of the CEOs of Learned Societies Group; overseeing the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting and Annual Lunch (which due to the COVID-19 pandemic did not take place); representing the Academy at ceremonial occasions and at high profile external meetings and events; managing relationships with selected high profile stakeholders; and appointing the Chief Executive of the Academy, subject to approval by Council.

**Induction and Training of new Trustees**

New Trustees are informed of their legal obligations under Charity and Company Law, the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, the Charity's governing document, the committee and decision-making processes, and recent financial performance of the charity.

Trustees are recruited based upon their skills, sector knowledge and experience and may attend relevant courses as training to enhance their knowledge and the undertaking of their role. The Trustees confirm that they have had regard for the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit when reviewing and planning activities in 2021 and for future years.

**Key management remuneration**

The trustees receive no remuneration for their services other than the reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses. The pay of senior staff is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with CPI taking account of the charitable nature of the organisation. Academy salaries are benchmarked against pay and conditions available from similar organisations of a similar size, run on a voluntary basis.

**Risk management**

The trustees understand their duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. Guidance is provided to the trustees by the Audit and Risk Management Committee, of which the Chair sits on the Council.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the company and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

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**9. People and governance (continued)**

**Going Concern**

The Trustees consider that there are no uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The Board has taken account of the impact of Covid-19 on the short and long-term health of the Charity and is content that the measures taken, and level of reserves held, are sufficient to enable the Charity to continue operations for a period in excess of 12 months from the date of this report.

**10. Looking ahead to 2022**

We look ahead to 2022 in the knowledge that the fundamental elements of an effective organisation are in place: new strategy; high calibre governance; excellent workforce; capable management; good communication tools; efficient internal admin processes; sustained core financial support; professional image and higher profile; strong support from our Fellows and members; and evidence of increasing value to stakeholders. This is an excellent and necessary 'platform' from which to develop in 2022 and beyond.

The plans for 2022 build on those fundamentals and aim to continue on a trajectory of upward momentum in the promotion of the social sciences, in the Academy and Campaign profile, and in the engagement of Fellows and wider stakeholders in our work. The plans align fully with the Academy's strategy and charitable purpose. They combine important aspects of consolidation, after two very hectic years of change and risk management, with a manageable number of pilot projects / new developments. The expertise, energy, profile and contacts brought by the newly elected President in 2021, and by other 'volunteers', has added new dimensions and enhanced collective capabilities and will be drawn upon further in 2022. The Academy punched above its weight in 2021 and plans to do so again in 2022.

New activities to be piloted and developed in 2022, many in collaboration with valued partners, include an Academy social science podcast series; piloting of a rapid response task force; a new 'climate change and sustainability' hub and enhanced events programme within our Campaign for Social Science; and work with our social science society members and the ESRC to enhance and support equality, diversity and inclusion in the social sciences.

We will be sustaining our work to inform and influence higher education policy relating to the health and standing of the social sciences. We are also planning enhancements in our communications reach and profile and in the Fellows' directory. The latter will establish the Directory as an important and accessible 'social science expertise resource'.

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**I I. Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue to operate.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with relevant legislation and the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Will Hutton FAcSS  
President

By Order of the Board pursuant to a resolution of Council

17<sup>th</sup> May 2022

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**THE ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Academy of Social Sciences ('the Company') for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made to the Trustees, as a body, in accordance with the terms of my engagement. Our work has been undertaken so that we might carry out an Independent Examination of the financial statements in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees, as a body, for our work or for this report.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the Trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your Charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accounts in England and Wales ('ICAEW'), which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concern and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



James Holland-Leader FCA  
Knox Cropper LLP  
Chartered Accountants

65/68 Leadenhall Street, London,  
EC3A 2AD

17<sup>th</sup> May 2022

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

**(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021**

	Notes	2021			2020		
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
<b>INCOME FROM</b>							
Donations, Legacies and Subscriptions	2	295,787	291,453	587,240	264,729	445,074	709,803
Other Trading Activities	3	30,124	-	30,124	14,235	-	14,235
Investment Income	4	77	41	118	628	410	1,038
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<u>325,988</u>	<u>291,494</u>	<u>617,482</u>	<u>279,592</u>	<u>445,484</u>	<u>725,076</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>							
Raising Funds	5	10,567	6,677	17,244	9,856	8,184	18,040
Charitable Activities	5	252,038	360,349	612,387	251,762	267,709	519,471
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<u>262,605</u>	<u>367,026</u>	<u>629,631</u>	<u>261,618</u>	<u>275,893</u>	<u>537,511</u>
<b>NET (LOSSES)/GAINS ON INVESTMENT ASSETS</b>	11	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(9,887)</u>	<u>(9,808)</u>	<u>(19,695)</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) AND NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		63,383	(75,532)	(12,149)	8,087	159,783	167,870
<b>Transfer Between Funds</b>	14	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		63,383	(75,532)	(12,149)	8,087	159,783	167,870
<b>FUND BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2021</b>		<u>142,756</u>	<u>564,199</u>	<u>706,955</u>	<u>134,669</u>	<u>404,416</u>	<u>539,085</u>
<b>FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021</b>		<u>£206,139</u>	<u>£488,667</u>	<u>£694,806</u>	<u>£142,756</u>	<u>£564,199</u>	<u>706,955</u>

All the activities reported above represent continuing operations.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****BALANCE SHEET****AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021**

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	10		2,791		2,319
Investments	11		<u>267,237</u>		<u>269,572</u>
			270,028		271,891
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	12	13,831		44,156	
Cash at Bank		<u>467,192</u>		<u>451,016</u>	
		481,023		495,172	
<b>CREDITORS:</b> Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(56,245)</u>		<u>(60,108)</u>	
Net Current Assets			<u>424,778</u>		<u>435,064</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u><u>£694,806</u></u>		<u><u>£706,955</u></u>
<b>CHARITY FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted Funds	15		206,139		142,756
Restricted Funds	14		<u>488,667</u>		<u>564,199</u>
			<u><u>£694,806</u></u>		<u><u>£706,955</u></u>

For the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and that an independent examination is needed.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The Financial statements were approved by the Directors on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Will Hutton FAcSS, President



Professor Nic Beech FAcSS, Hon. Treasurer

Registered Company Number: 03847936

Registered Charity Number: 1088537

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS****AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021**

	Notes	<b>2021</b> £	<b>2020</b> £
<b>NET CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	A	16,171	163,498
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from sale of investments		-	279,445
Purchase of investments		-	(19,849)
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(2,448)	(3,479)
Interest Received		118	1,038
<b>TOTAL CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		<u>(2,330)</u>	<u>257,155</u>
<b>NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>		13,841	420,653
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR</b>		<u>716,588</u>	<u>295,935</u>
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF THE YEAR</b>		<u>£730,429</u>	<u>£716,588</u>
<b>A CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(12,149)	167,870
Depreciation		1,976	1,160
Investment Income		(118)	(1,038)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors		30,325	(39,155)
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors		(3,863)	14,966
(Gains)/Losses on Investments		-	19,695
		<u>16,171</u>	<u>£163,498</u>
<b>COMPONENTS OF CASH</b>			
Cash at Bank		467,192	451,016
Cash held by investment managers		<u>263,237</u>	<u>265,572</u>
		<u>£730,429</u>	<u>£716,588</u>

**B ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT**

	<b>At 1st January</b> <b>2021</b> £	<b>Cash Flows</b> £	<b>At 31st December</b> <b>2021</b> £
Cash	716,588	13,841	730,429
Loan	<u>(10,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(10,000)</u>
	<u>£706,588</u>	<u>£13,841</u>	<u>£720,429</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021****1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES****Company Status**

The Academy is a charitable company limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales. The members of the company are the Fellows and Learned Societies listed in the membership register. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company.

A description of the nature of the charitable company's operations and its principal activity is disclosed in the Directors' Report.

The charitable company's registered office is stated on page 1.

**Basis of Preparation and Assessment of going concern**

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. They have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective January 2019) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Trustees consider that there are no uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

**General Funds**

General Funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

**Restricted Funds**

Restricted Funds are those funds which may only be applied to purposes specified by the donor. Details of Restricted Funds are set out in Note 14 to the financial statements.

**Income**

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably. Subscriptions from members are payable on 1 January each year and are recognised in the year in which they are received. Donations are recognised when received. Other income is recognised when received.

**Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021****1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)****Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation**

Computer equipment is stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost or value of tangible fixed assets to their estimated residual values over their expected useful lives on a straight line basis at the following rate:

Computer Equipment:	33% Per Annum
---------------------	---------------

**Investments**

Investments are a form of basic financial investment and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value.

**Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

**Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settled the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**Financial instruments**

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021****2. DONATIONS, LEGACIES & SUBSCRIPTIONS**

	<b>2021</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Donations	16,235	167,453	183,688
Members Subscriptions	279,552	-	279,552
Supporters Scheme	-	124,000	124,000
Exchange gain			-
	<u>£295,787</u>	<u>£291,453</u>	<u>£587,240</u>

	<b>2020</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Donations	-	309,820	309,820
Members Subscriptions	264,729	-	264,729
Supporters Scheme	-	129,000	129,000
Exchange gain	-	6,254	6,254
	<u>£264,729</u>	<u>£445,074</u>	<u>£709,803</u>

**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	<b>2021</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Event Income	-	-	-
Journal Income	30,124	-	30,124
President's Lunch	-	-	-
	<u>£30,124</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£30,124</u>

	<b>2020</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Event Income	-	-	-
Journal Income	13,338	-	13,338
President's Lunch	897	-	897
	<u>£14,235</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£14,235</u>

**4. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	<b>2021</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Bank Interest	35	-	35
Income from investments	42	41	83
	<u>£77</u>	<u>£41</u>	<u>£118</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021**

**4. INVESTMENT INCOME (Continued)**

	<b>2020</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Bank Interest	216	-	216
Income from investments	412	410	822
	<u>£628</u>	<u>£410</u>	<u>£1,038</u>

**5. RESOURCES EXPENDED**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Raising Funds</b>	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2021 Total</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Activities Undertaken Directly</b>			
Campaign for Social Science (Note 7)	6,677	126,350	133,027
Pro Res Eu	-	71,435	71,435
Spre	-	121,700	121,700
Strategic Development	-	40,864	40,864
Council Member Expenses	-	87	87
Journal costs	-	13,416	13,416
President's Lunch	-	-	-
	<u>6,677</u>	<u>373,852</u>	<u>380,529</u>
<b>Support Costs (Note 6)</b>	<u>10,567</u>	<u>238,535</u>	<u>249,102</u>
	<u>£17,244</u>	<u>£612,387</u>	<u>£629,631</u>
Unrestricted	10,567	252,038	262,605
Restricted (Note 7)	6,677	360,349	367,026
	<u>£17,244</u>	<u>£612,387</u>	<u>£629,631</u>
<b>2020</b>			
	<b>Raising Funds</b>	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2020 Total</b>
	£	£	£
Campaign for Social Science (Note 7)	8,184	125,661	133,845
Pro Res Eu	-	29,606	29,606
Spre	-	112,441	112,441
Journal Costs	-	13,475	13,475
Meeting Costs	-	1,337	1,337
Council Member Expenses	-	1,094	1,094
AGM	-	-	-
President's Lunch	-	-	-
	<u>8,184</u>	<u>283,614</u>	<u>291,798</u>
<b>Support Costs (Note 6)</b>	<u>9,856</u>	<u>235,857</u>	<u>245,713</u>
	<u>£18,040</u>	<u>£519,471</u>	<u>£537,511</u>
Unrestricted	9,856	251,762	261,618
Restricted (Note 7)	8,184	267,709	275,893
	<u>£18,040</u>	<u>£519,471</u>	<u>£537,511</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021****6. SUPPORT COSTS  
2021**

	<b>Raising Funds</b>	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2021 Total</b>
	£	£	£
Staff and Contractor Costs	8,644	195,100	203,744
Property Costs	110	2,485	2,595
Telephone	5	115	120
Insurance	73	1,645	1,718
Postage & Printing	59	1,338	1,397
Web-site / IT	564	12,737	13,301
Accountancy Fees	116	2,614	2,730
Governance	-	-	-
Professional and Consultancy	(18)	(399)	(417)
Bank Charges	157	3,548	3,705
Recruitment & Training	327	7,383	7,710
Sundry Expenses	158	3,565	3,723
Depreciation	41	922	963
VAT	331	7,482	7,813
	<u>£10,567</u>	<u>£238,535</u>	<u>£249,102</u>

**2020**

	<b>Raising Funds</b>	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2020 Total</b>
	£	£	£
Staff and Contractor Costs	7,823	187,104	194,927
Property Costs	394	9,451	9,845
Telephone	6	137	143
Insurance	64	1,540	1,604
Postage & Printing	99	2,373	2,472
Web-site / IT	327	7,843	8,170
Accountancy Fees	95	2,275	2,370
Governance	64	1,536	1,600
Professional and Consultancy	34	815	849
Bank Charges	142	3,417	3,559
Recruitment & Training	447	10,723	11,170
Sundry Expenses	118	2,822	2,940
Depreciation	24	577	601
VAT	219	5,244	5,463
	<u>£9,856</u>	<u>£235,857</u>	<u>£245,713</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021****7. RESTRICTED FUNDS**

<b>2021</b>	<b>Raising Funds</b>	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2021 Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Staff and Contractor Costs	6,677	102,777	109,454
Annual Lecture	-	3,227	3,227
Professional and consultancy	-	12,592	12,592
Sundry expenses	-	7,754	7,754
<b>Campaign for Social Science</b>	<b>6,677</b>	<b>126,350</b>	<b>133,027</b>
Staff and Contractor Costs	-	12,390	12,390
Professional and consultancy	-	39,491	39,491
Sundry	-	6,699	6,699
Printing	-	12,855	12,855
<b>Pro Res Eu</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>71,435</b>	<b>71,435</b>
Staff and Contractor Costs	-	105,725	105,725
Sundry	-	487	487
Website and IT	-	13,495	13,495
Travelling	-	1,156	1,156
Professional and Consultancy	-	837	837
<b>Spre</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>121,700</b>	<b>121,700</b>
Website and IT	-	40,864	40,864
<b>Strategic Development</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>40,864</b>	<b>40,864</b>
	<b>£6,677</b>	<b>£360,349</b>	<b>£367,026</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Raising Funds</b>	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2020 Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Meetings	-	2,896	2,896
Staff and Contractor Costs	8,184	88,758	96,942
Annual Lecture	-	320	320
Professional and consultancy	-	22,638	22,638
Website and IT	-	4,726	4,726
Sundry expenses	-	6,323	6,323
<b>Campaign for Social Science</b>	<b>8,184</b>	<b>125,661</b>	<b>133,845</b>
Professional and consultancy	-	29,550	29,550
Sundry	-	56	56
<b>Pro Res Eu</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>29,606</b>	<b>29,606</b>
Staff and Contractor Costs	-	92,558	92,558
Sundry	-	1,481	1,481
Website and IT	-	9,869	9,869
Meetings	-	2,919	2,919
Research	-	1,920	1,920
Professional and Consultancy	-	3,695	3,695
<b>Spre</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>112,442</b>	<b>112,442</b>
	<b>8,184</b>	<b>267,709</b>	<b>275,893</b>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021****8. NET INCOME**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	£	£
This is stated after charging		
Depreciation	<u>£1,976</u>	<u>£1,160</u>

During the year, no Directors received any remuneration (2020 - £Nil)

During the year, no Directors received any benefits in kind (2020 - £Nil)

2 Directors received a reimbursement of expenses amounting to £319 in the current year (2020 - £1,094).

The Independent examiner's remuneration of £1,650 (2020: £1,600) related solely to the examination. Fees in respect of company secretarial amounted to £500 (2020: £500).

**9. STAFF AND CONTRACTOR COSTS AND NUMBERS**

The average number of employees during the year was 10 (8 FTE), 2020: 10 (8 FTE)

Key management personnel consist of the CEO, the head of administration and the head of policy.

Total employment benefits of the key management personnel were £184,861.

One employee had emoluments within the range of £80,000 - £90,000.

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	£	£
Gross salaries	379,293	345,705
Social Security costs	40,159	28,172
Pension costs	<u>12,024</u>	<u>10,552</u>
Total Payroll Costs	<u>£431,476</u>	<u>£384,429</u>

**10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	£	£
<b>Computer equipment</b>		
Cost:		
Balance at 1st January 2021	14,964	11,485
Additions	<u>2,448</u>	<u>3,479</u>
Balance at 31st December 2021	<u>17,412</u>	<u>14,964</u>
<b>Depreciation:</b>		
Balance at 1st January 2021	12,645	11,485
Charge for the year	<u>1,976</u>	<u>1,160</u>
Balance at 31st December 2021	<u>14,621</u>	<u>12,645</u>
Net Book Value		
At 31st December 2021	<u>£2,791</u>	<u>£2,319</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021****11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	£	£
Market value at 1 January 2021	4,000	283,291
Additions	-	19,849
Disposals	-	(279,445)
Net investment (losses)/gains	-	(19,695)
Market value at 31 December 2021	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>
Cash held by managing agent	<u>263,237</u>	<u>265,572</u>
	<u>£267,237</u>	<u>£269,572</u>
Historical cost at 31 December 2021	<u>£4,000</u>	<u>£4,000</u>

**12. DEBTORS**

	£	£
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Debtors for subscriptions, and prepayments	12,391	15,216
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>1,440</u>	<u>28,940</u>
	<u>£13,831</u>	<u>£44,156</u>

**13. CREDITORS: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	£	£
Loan Creditor	10,000	10,000
Short Term Creditors	-	666
Prepaid Subscriptions & Event Income	12,124	10,096
Accruals	22,573	24,442
HMRC VAT Liability	<u>11,548</u>	<u>14,904</u>
	<u>£56,245</u>	<u>£60,108</u>

The loan is interest free and repayable when aggregate donations, excluding those for specific appeals, have been received totalling more than £20,000.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021**

**14. RESTRICTED FUNDS  
2021**

	<b>CfSS</b>	<b>International Advisory Group</b>	<b>Making the Case</b>	<b>EU Pro Res Project</b>	<b>Spre</b>	<b>Strategic Development</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1st January 2021	146,940	1,225	12,638	115,768	150,128	137,500	564,199
Income	151,631	-	-	-	78,500	61,363	291,494
Expenditure	(133,027)	-	-	(71,435)	(121,700)	(40,864)	(367,026)
Gains on Investments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Balance at 31st December 2021</b>	<b>£165,544</b>	<b>£1,225</b>	<b>£12,638</b>	<b>£44,333</b>	<b>£106,928</b>	<b>£157,999</b>	<b>£488,667</b>

**2020**

	<b>CfSS</b>	<b>International Advisory Group</b>	<b>Making the Case</b>	<b>EU Pro Res Project</b>	<b>Spre</b>	<b>Strategic Development</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1st January 2020	133,644	1,225	12,638	111,839	145,070	-	404,416
Income	156,949	-	-	33,535	117,500	137,500	445,484
Expenditure	(133,845)	-	-	(29,606)	(112,442)	-	(275,893)
Gains on Investments	(9,808)	-	-	-	-	-	(9,808)
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Balance at 31st December 2020</b>	<b>£146,940</b>	<b>£1,225</b>	<b>£12,638</b>	<b>£115,768</b>	<b>£150,128</b>	<b>£137,500</b>	<b>£564,199</b>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021**

Restricted Funds comprise the monies collected for and expended on the *Campaign for Social Science*, the SPRE project, the EU Pro Res Project, the International Advisory Group project, the Making the Case Project and to support strategic development of the Academy.

Campaign for Social Sciences: This fund represents the outward-facing, advocacy voice of the Academy of Social Sciences. The campaign works to amplify the voice of social sciences in policy issues affecting all social science disciplines and higher education institutes.

International Advisory Group works with UK and international bodies in organising events, publications and consultations on the international dimension of social science research and policy.

Making the case: This fund focusses on providing examples of important social science research which has made a difference to policy or practice.

Pro Res Fund: This is an EU funded project that aims to promote ethics and integrity in non-medical research.

SPRE (Scottish Policy and research exchange) aims to help researchers and policymakers in Scotland work with each other more effectively. The Academy is working with other partners, including the Scottish Parliament to consolidate the success of SPRE in Scotland. The Academy's Council has approved that SPRE becomes an independent Scottish charity (SCIO) during 2022.

Strategic Development fund: This represents a donation received by an individual to forward the future strategy of the Academy.

**15. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS**

	<b>2021</b>			<b>2020</b>		
	<b>Designated Pipeline Fund</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Designated Funds</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1 January 2021	-	142,756	142,756	-	134,669	134,669
Income	16,235	309,753	325,988	-	279,592	229,592
Expenditure	(73)	(262,532)	(262,605)	-	(261,618)	(261,618)
Losses on investments	-	-	-	-	(9,887)	(9,887)
31 December 2021	£16,162	£189,977	£206,139	£ -	£142,756	£142,756

The Pipeline Fund has been established to help pump prime, new activities and developments in support of social science.

**16. TAXATION**

The Academy is a registered charity and is not subject to UK Corporation Tax on its Charitable Activities and Investment Income.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021****17. NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

	<b>2021</b>			
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Designated</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	153,638	-	116,390	270,028
Current Assets	72,896	16,162	391,965	481,023
Creditors Amounts Falling due within one Year	(36,557)	-	(19,688)	(56,245)
	<b>£189,977</b>	<b>£16,162</b>	<b>£488,667</b>	<b>£694,806</b>

	<b>2020</b>			
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Designated</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	133,291	-	138,600	271,891
Current Assets	59,338	-	438,834	495,172
Creditors Amounts Falling due within one Year	(49,873)	-	(10,235)	(60,108)
	<b>£142,756</b>	<b>£-</b>	<b>£564,199</b>	<b>£706,955</b>

**18. GOING CONCERN**

The Charitable Company's Directors believe it is appropriate to draw up these accounts on a going concern basis as they believe that adequate sources of funding will be forthcoming in the normal course of events to allow the charity to continue to operate.

In making this assessment the Directors have considered the period to June 2023.

**19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

There were no related party transactions in the year (2020: Nil).

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1088537

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# Accounts

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**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**(A Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

**Company Number: 03847936**  
**Registered Charity Number: 1088537**

**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

## **ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**(A Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

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**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

**Legal and Administrative Information**

**For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020**

**Directors and Trustees**

Professor Cara Aitchison FAcSS	Professor Eileen Green FAcSS
Stephen Aldridge FAcSS	Professor Andrew Jones FAcSS
Professor Tim Allen FAcSS	Lord Kerslake FAcSS
Professor Nic Beech FAcSS	Professor Simon Marginson FAcSS
Professor David Byrne FAcSS	Dame Jil Matheson FAcSS
Chris Caswill FAcSS	Professor Tony McEnergy FAcSS
Dr Richard Collins FAcSS (resigned 30 June 2020)	Professor Judith Phillips OBE FAcSS
Professor Tony Crook CBE FAcSS	Professor Vicky Pryce FAcSS
Professor Bobby Duffy FAcSS	Professor Sasha Roseneil FAcSS
Professor Roger Goodman FAcSS (President)	Professor Gill Valentine FAcSS
Professor Eileen Green FAcSS	

**Company Registered Number**

03847936

**Charity Registered Number**

1088537

**Registered and Administrative Office**

c/o Knox Cropper LLP,  
65 Leadenhall Street,  
London, EC3A 2AD

**Secretary**

Dame Jil Matheson FAcSS

**Independent examiner**

James Holland-Leader FCA,  
Knox Cropper LLP,  
65 Leadenhall Street,  
London, EC3A 2AD

**Bankers**

CAF Bank Ltd,  
25 Kings Hill Avenue,  
Kings Hill,  
West Malling,  
Kent, ME19 4JQ

Metro Bank  
1 Southampton Row,  
London,  
WC1B 5HA

**Investment Advisors**

Tilney Investment Management,  
17th Floor, 6 New Street Square,  
New Fetter Lane  
London, EC4A 3BF

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**(a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)**

**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2020. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

**I. Introduction by the Chief Executive – Dr Rita Gardner CBE FAcSS**

2020 was in many ways an extraordinary year of transition in the Academy. We ended up in a very different place to where we started and managed that in a planned way in an uncompromising year. It will be remembered as a year of risk and of opportunity. We managed the risks well and made the most of the opportunities on offer.

The multiple impacts of Covid-19 was the unprecedented risk to be managed. With lockdown happening suddenly in March 2020, it necessitated a whole new way of working and seriously threatened our Campaign income in particular as universities and learned societies coped with high levels of uncertainty in their own resourcing. That uncertainty was exacerbated by the fact that all the Academy and Campaign income is discretionary. We acted quickly to assess the risks, revise our budget and mitigate anticipated losses, and to bring forward new developments as part of the emerging new strategy. In this, Covid-19 offered a key opportunity, which we grasped with the Covid hub, to showcase and promote the role of the social sciences in understanding and mitigating shorter term impacts of the pandemic and informing the longer term social and economic recovery from the pandemic. Throughout 2020 it provided a valuable pilot to inform future Campaign activities and our actions sustained high levels of Campaign support. At the same time we refocused our meetings for CEOs of learned societies in part to provide a forum for sharing concerns, better understanding risks, and building knowledge of 'what works' in the new 'virtual world'. Our Fellows remained sterling supporters.

The challenges being faced by the higher education sector at the confluence of Brexit, Covid-19 and ongoing HE policy deliberations in the first half of 2020, provided the impetus for the Academy to devise and seek funding in partnership for a new programme of work to monitor in real time and to understand the impacts on the social sciences of this time of upheaval and change. This, together with the major donor funds raised to support the set-up of the Academy's new strategy, marks a shift in the capability, scale and ambition of our fundraising to support new initiatives, much more of which will be required in future years if the Academy's work is to grow significantly.

The new home-working and virtual practices we were forced to put into place at speed, required us to rethink our IT infrastructure, moving to a cloud-based system with ready access to all staff. Our IT advisors were invaluable. Working in a virtual environment threw up its own challenges and opportunities. The former being the loss of casual and fortuitous staff interaction, and a greater need to ensure a dispersed team functioned well as a healthy and productive team. This we have achieved through regular online meetings, clear work planning, shared ambitions for the future, and ensuring we all make time for each other. The two new staff members who joined our team through 2020 are especially commended for integrating superbly. Team productivity increased significantly through a combination of new staff, home working and the pressures we found ourselves under.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
(a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)

**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

**(Continued)**

**1. Introduction by the Chief Executive – Dr Rita Gardner CBE FAcSS (continued)**

By contrast, the opportunities of our new virtual 'normal' became increasingly apparent through the year as the Campaign established a high-profile series of comment pieces, online events, created more video content in more appealing and readily usable ways, and engaged much bigger audiences. Our social media presence grew significantly. Attendance was more inclusive and greater at committee meetings and the AGM too; and there started to be more opportunities for Fellows to contribute to and engage with our work.

Our increasing momentum gathered pace through the year and was further complemented by successful new approaches to communications and outreach designed to grow our audience and include a wider network of allies and senior stakeholders beyond the Fellowship. In the process our relationships with partner organisations were strengthened.

Meanwhile many of the Academy's longstanding and highly regarded activities continued to flourish, including the conferment of Fellowships and our work to inform and influence policy. The latter saw a new focus in 2020 on understanding and raising awareness of the importance of the social sciences to the private sector, work that aligned well with the emerging ESRC focus on business and the social sciences.

We found time to complete and publish our new strategy and, owing to the need to capture the opportunities above, we ended the year with several new programmes in the strategy successfully underway. The new layout in this report is aligned with the strategy objectives and enables us to report clearly against them.

Finally, we ended this most challenging year with a small surplus financially and without the need to call upon our modest reserves.

2020 is a story of an organisation pulling together in a time of need, and of leadership and energy at a number of different levels. Our success in 2020 is because we all care about our purpose of promoting social science and why it matters; we acted swiftly and effectively to mitigate risk and capitalise on opportunity; and our supporters also care and have confidence in what we do. The challenge for 2021 is to maintain and grow our enhanced momentum. I thank everyone involved in making 2020 a success: including our supporters, our Fellows, my staff colleagues, Roger Goodman (President), Andrew Jones (Honorary Treasurer), Jil Matheson (Honorary Secretary) and Bobby Duffy in driving the Campaign as its chair, and other members of our Board of Trustees.

**2. Academy vision, mission and objectives**

**Charitable purpose:** The promotion of social sciences in the UK for public benefit.

**Vision:** The social sciences flourish in the UK and sustain their world leading stature. They are widely valued for their contributions to society, economy, environment and well-being; and led by confident and capable communities of academics and other professionals, learned societies and students.

**Mission:** To enhance and safeguard the social sciences in research, professional practice, and education; and to champion and foster the understanding and application of social sciences in policy, business and public life.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
(a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity)

**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

(Continued)

## 2. Academy vision, mission and objectives (continued)

**Objectives:** The Academy of Social Sciences published a new strategy in 2020. The six objectives set the medium-term framework for our work in delivering our charitable purpose.

- **To champion the social sciences:** promoting the vital role of social science in improving decision-making, society and lives
- **To sustain the health of the social sciences in research and education:** enabling a thriving and confident community
- **To recognise excellence in social science:** with an expert and engaged Fellowship
- **To widen participation and skills in the social sciences:** recognising the importance of social mobility, diversity and employability to people and society
- **To foster innovation and application of the social sciences:** informing and helping to address challenges of our time
- **To ensure a sustainable future for the Academy of Social Sciences:** as the National Academy of Academics, Learned Societies and Practitioners in the Social Sciences and a professional body established by the UK social sciences community.

The first five objectives all directly serve our purpose and provide public benefit in doing so; the sixth supports the organisation's capabilities to deliver its purpose now and in the future. In 2020 the Academy's work focused on four of its objectives. The trustees confirm that they have had regard for the Charity Commission guidance in respect of public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and planning future activities.

## 3. Championing the social sciences

**The primary way in which the Academy champions the social sciences for public benefit is through the work of its Campaign for Social Science. The Campaign significantly increased its reach and made great strides in becoming a greater public champion of social sciences in 2020.** This resulted from a combination of the Academy's strategic planning, which included the Campaign Board's inputs, allied to an increase in momentum across our work as a whole and Professor Bobby Duffy becoming the new Campaign Chair in late 2019. Together, these brought renewed focus and energy to the Campaign, making it an exceptionally successful year.

In May 2020, just 6 weeks after the pandemic lockdown in the UK, we launched a digital hub showcasing examples of social science contributing to understanding and tackling the impacts of the pandemic. [Our Covid-19 hub](#) raised awareness of the Campaign and its work beyond our existing audiences and became a key reference source for others both in academia and widely beyond. It demonstrated the essential contribution of the social sciences to understanding and tackling short term mitigation and management as well as longer term social and economic impacts of the pandemic.

The hub brought together **illustrative examples of impactful social science research** from across disciplines. It did this in several ways. As a first point of reference – a 'hub of hubs' - it provided **more than 60 links to selected Covid-19 resource centres** created by individual universities, learned societies and research institutions. We commissioned and hosted on the hub more than 40 **comment pieces**, each informed by research evidence and expertise. Engaging **video interviews** featured social scientists from academia, and from other areas of professional practice, who were working on major, funded research studies helping inform the understanding and response to the pandemic. The latter were created in partnership with the King's Policy Institute.

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**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

(Continued)

**3. Championing the social sciences (continued)**

The Covid-19 [comment piece series](#) featured many leading social scientists, from Prof Stephen Reicher on social solidarity and social cohesion to Terra Allas CBE FAcSS on fiscal stimuli in boosting the post Covid recovery, Dr David Halpern FAcSS on innovation and experimentation in policy-making, Mark Easton on misinformation, Professors Anna Vignoles and Simon Burgess on educational inequality, and many more. Contributors were drawn from a wide range of sectors: academia, research organisations, private and third sector, public sector and media. It also included a mini-series of nine pieces exploring how What Works Centres responded to the pandemic. Forty-seven percent of the authors are female and 12% from BAME backgrounds. Extensive communications activity around the hub and updates via regular e-newsletters and Twitter (over 46,000 impressions per month) widened the public audience and increased the traffic to the Campaign's website compared with 2019 by over 173% (to over 36,000 users). Page views rose to over 108,000 (27,076 in 2019). Access was free and open to all. Taken together, the Academy and Campaign websites had nearly 72,000 users in total in 2020.

In 2020, the Campaign increased exposure of our activities by working in partnerships, most notably with SAGE Publishing, and making the focus of our dissemination and engagement activities virtual, further enhancing access. The number and range of Campaign events also increased to take advantage of virtual opportunities; all were very well attended; between 150 and 750 people attending each online event and up to 2,300 registering. In September, a discussion event on social statistics formed part of our Covid-19 programme. Chaired by **Sir Ian Diamond FAcSS**, the UK's National Statistician, the event looked at [the role of social statistics in informing the pandemic](#) and featured presentations by ESRC's Alison Park FAcSS, Urban Big Data Centre's Nick Bailey FAcSS and Angela Saini, an independent science journalist.

In November, as part of ESRC's Festival of Social Science, we held a discussion around [the launch of \*The Upswing\*](#), a new book by the renowned US political scientist **Professor Robert Putnam**, jointly with SAGE and King's College. Robert and his co-author Shaylyn Romney Garrett were joined by **Professor Jennifer Rubin FAcSS** and **Lord David Willetts FAcSS**, who explored what the trends and lessons from the US mean for the UK and other countries.

In December we held our most popular event to date, the [Campaign's 2020 Annual SAGE Lecture](#) titled '**Give me back my fact: How can social science help us survive the post-truth pandemic?**' by **Professor Trish Greenhalgh**, Professor of Primary Care in Oxford. Dr Mahlet (Milly) Zimeta, Head of Public Policy at the Open Data Institute, delivered an excellent response. Trish has been a leading voice in public health debates and the interest we received in her lecture was unprecedented. 2,572 people registered beforehand; approx. 750 people joined the live event; the recording has been viewed nearly 900 times; and tweets on the lecture saw over 150K impressions.

The Campaign's Strategic Leadership Forum held two well-attended online meetings in 2020. In June, **Jo Johnson**, the former Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation, spoke to the Forum about major issues currently facing UK universities, such as the expected decrease in international student numbers, and what policies or prospects the universities may expect going forward. Within the context set out by him, the Forum discussed ways in which social sciences could make its case effectively in the challenging months ahead.

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**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**  
(Continued)

### 3. Championing the social sciences (continued)

The Forum's December meeting focused on the **graduate employability agenda** and heard from two speakers - Rachel Hewitt, Head of Policy at the Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI), spoke about the growing importance of the graduate employability agenda to the government's HE policy, and its implications, including what the universities themselves could do; and Professor Emilia del Bono, Director of Centre for Micro Social Change (MiSoC) at University of Essex gave a presentation on what Covid-19 is likely to mean for the prospects of graduates joining the labour market since the pandemic. The Forum is an entitlement for gold and silver level Campaign supporters. More information on supporters is provided in section 8.

2020 has been a remarkable year where we were agile in developing the Covid-hub as a knowledge resource and to showcase the social sciences and increased our impact and audience engagement through partnerships and online focus. At the same time we strengthened our relationship with our supporters and the social science community. We also involved and drew more fully on the leading expertise within our high profile and highly-respected Fellowship.

### 4. Sustaining the health of the social sciences

**The primary way in which the Academy helps to sustain the health of the social sciences for public benefit is through its policy and advocacy work, supported by data gathering and, at times, our own independent research.**

There were important issues before COVID-19 and the first lockdown, but since April 2020, policy work has inevitably been carried out in the long shadow of COVID-19. While, we have been active in our work on the potential impact of COVID-19 on the social sciences in higher education, we have also been mindful that other important issues needed still to be addressed.

In February 2020, the Academy issued a [response to the government's planned points-based immigration](#) regime, pointing out its likely effects on recruitment of social scientists. This continued the work we had completed in 2019 in our [World of Talent](#) reports and our [recommendations for immigration policy](#). We continued our participation in the UKRI-led 'Global Talent Group'. Later in the year, we provided detailed empirical information to UKRI, at their request, on the numbers of non-UK origin HEI staff in the social sciences, highlighting import issues. We were the only non-STEM body invited to contribute to this evidence, prepared at government's invitation. The other invitees were the Royal Society, the Wellcome Trust and the Association of Medical Research charities. Our evidence-based policy work with UKRI also continued through 2020 as an invited participant in their COVID-19 communications working group which concerned government policy as well as research.

In March, we released our response to the [2020 Budget](#), which took place before the first COVID-19 lockdown. In it, we previewed some of the concerns about measuring service-sector Research and Development (R&D).

Our single most important output of the year in terms of sustaining the health of the social sciences was the [Vital Business](#) report. This was a report on primary qualitative research involving senior leaders in business across a wide range of sectors from fintech to the extractive industries. The findings indicated the high levels of business dependence on knowledge, methodologies and skills from the social sciences: in leadership, strategic planning, market awareness and development, innovation, understanding consumer behaviour, international supply chains, sustainability issues and more. It is an

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
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**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

(Continued)

**4. Sustaining the health of the social sciences (continued)**

important document not only in demonstrating to government policy makers the value of social sciences to business, but in also in confirming to business more widely what the social sciences are and in initiating Academy outreach to the private sector for the future.

We are grateful to SAGE Publishing for their support of this project through sponsorship. We took the opportunity to use the COVID-19 restrictions to revise our approach to dissemination of such reports, focusing not on a launch event, but instead on targeted personalised approaches to a wide range of stakeholders (including in parliament, government, think tanks, research funders and the private sector); combined with wide outreach on social media and through the Academy's extensive contact networks and a press release. This enhanced the reach of our work greatly. Three Academy-authored blogs featuring the findings were widely used and cited (the [LSE Impact blog](#); SAGE's [Social Science Space](#) and the Higher Education Policy Institute on [the implications of the report for higher education policy](#)). This work has also fed into our consultation responses during the year and highlighted the employability implications for the social sciences. Together this resulted in almost 1,000 downloads of the report and extensive uptake in the media and social media.

In autumn 2020, funded by an ESRC Grant Award, and in collaboration with the University of Lancaster, the Academy commenced the [UK Social Sciences in a Time of Change](#) project led by Dr Rita Gardner (Co-PI) and Professor Tony McEnery (Co-PI). The project responds to the unprecedented coincidence of three major events in 2020/21: Brexit, the pandemic and significant HE policy change. The aim of the project is to generate 'real time' evidence-based insight and understanding of UK higher education institutions' understandings of, responses to, and emerging impacts of these events on UK social sciences in higher education at this critical time. Autumn 2020 was largely taken up with reviewing the literature and preparing for the data collection. Qualitative and quantitative research will continue throughout 2021, culminating in a report in early 2022 and knowledge exchange activities. The Academy is taking the lead in implementation.

The Academy completed three consultation responses, one in May and two in the final quarter of 2020.

- The first was to the [UKRI consultation on Open Access Publishing](#) for which we worked closely with learned society members, sharing draft responses and ensuring key messages were aligned. Particular concerns focused on the publication outlets deemed appropriate and the potential consequences for scholar choice of publishing outlets, learned societies and the international visibility of UK research.
- The second was to the [ESRC Consultation on the Review of the PhD in the Social Sciences](#). We highlighted the issues of the length of the PhD, the balance between taught and project-based elements, and also the issues of employability and careers outside academia.
- In December, working with Dame Jil Matheson, we completed our response to the government's [National Data Strategy consultation](#). We made common cause with the Royal Society and the Royal Statistical Society, who agreed with our points about the need to link data skills with substantive knowledge and understanding, including the social sciences, and also about what social science could contribute to understanding skills teaching, and data access and governance. We took part in roundtables organised by both bodies, as well as commenting on their draft responses. Our [response to UK National Data Strategy Consultation 2020](#) was published in January 2021.

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**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**  
(Continued)

#### **4. Sustaining the health of the social sciences (continued)**

We also strengthened our links with the Royal Society and the Royal Statistical Society and gathered their support for our views on possible changes to the Office for Students stance on the **Teaching Excellence Framework**.

Our monthly **Policy Monitor**, highlighting UK Parliamentary consultations and select committee hearings where social science evidence would be especially useful, was made freely available to Member Learned Societies, Campaign Supporters, Fellows and eBulletin subscribers.

Two projects for public benefit in which the Academy is involved, and for which it holds legal and financial responsibility, also saw good outcomes in 2020 despite the pandemic.

##### **Scottish Policy & Research Exchange (SPRE)**

In the second year of this project, focused entirely on Scotland, the director, Nick Bibby, and staff increased activity across the board, strengthened networks and launched some new services. During 2020 they provided training for just over 1,500 researchers across Scotland, mainly on introductions to the policy landscape and a 'beginner's guide' to engagement. They also met with deans, other senior managers and colleagues specialising in both KEI and researcher development to help map out their own activities in this area.

The major resource created this year was the [Brokerage network](#), which was launched right at the start of the first lockdown and proved immediately helpful as a means for identifying experts who could advise the Scottish Parliament and Government on topics related to recovery and renewal. In addition, we created [a resources section of the website](#) and launched a series of online lectures for researchers. These talks focus on the practicalities of engaging with policy and have been well-received with over 100 live attendees and the recordings proving popular after the event. We also ran a series of seminars with the [Improvement Service](#) in April and May of 2020. As part of the Brokerage rollout, the team also created [the first combined listing of all calls for evidence](#) for inquiries issued by the Scottish, UK, Welsh and Northern Irish governments and legislatures.

2020 provided an opportunity to engage not just with individual HEIs but also to work with networks such as the Scottish Graduate School of Social Science and the British Ecological Society-Scottish Policy Group. It has also seen SPRE invited to join research collaborations for the first time. They are part of the successful UCL-led bid to establish an International Public Policy Observatory to track worldwide policy responses to the pandemic, providing the Scottish component.

##### **PRO-RES**

The PRO-RES project is an EU-funded project that aims to promote ethics and integrity in nonmedical research (<http://prores-project.eu/>) by constructing an ethics framework that has the same level of policy influence that the Oviedo Convention and the Helsinki Declaration have in the biomedical field. It has ambitions to meet the interests of the full range of nonmedical disciplines, professional associations, research agencies, and EU countries. 2020 spanned its second to third years. The project concludes in Autumn 2021, having been extended by six months.

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**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**  
(Continued)

#### **4. Sustaining the health of the social sciences (continued)**

##### **PRO-RES (continued)**

Planned second phase workshops had to be abandoned due to the pandemic, but this adjustment led to a series of individual online interviews which allowed a deeper relationship with stakeholders. As a result, the project developed its guidance Framework. This encourages policymakers and their advisors to seek evidence for their decisions from research that has been conducted ethically and supports the 'evidence-gatherers' (be they Research Performing Organisations or think tanks or individual researchers) with resources they can use to ensure that their research evidence has been demonstrably collected, analysed and disseminated ethically.

The three elements that comprise the Framework are the **Accord** (a statement of principles and values that could be signed up to by all stakeholders), a **Toolbox** (to help ethical evidence gathering) and a set of **resources** that can help the research process to be conducted ethically.

#### **5. Recognising excellence in social science**

**The Academy recognises and celebrates excellence in social sciences research and application through its highly regarded Fellowships.** At the close of 2020 the Academy membership comprised 1,429 Fellows and 46 member learned societies. Together, this collective of organisations includes some 90,000 social scientists across academia and the public and private sectors in England, the Devolved Nations and the wider world.

**In 2020 the Academy worked more closely with its learned societies and more widely with its Fellows than hitherto.** This included work with learned societies on the Open Access agenda in scholarly publishing and through Fellows' expertise supporting the COVID-hub and policy activities.

##### **Fellowship**

The Academy welcomed 121 new Fellows in 2020, conferred for their eminence, impact and contribution to social science. They were drawn from academia and from professional sectors where social sciences are widely used. All Fellowships were peer reviewed to ensure the Academy continued to sustain excellence in its professional community.

In 2020 the Council positively encouraged nominations of BAME Fellows which resulted in an uplift of BAME nominations to just under 11% (benchmark data 9.9%: HESA 2018/19 social science professoriate). Of those conferred in 2020, there was an even gender balance; nearly 90% were salaried, UK-based Fellows and approximately 18% did not have their primary employment at a university. (The latter definition underrepresents the extent of Fellows' involvement in 'practice' in sectors outside academia.)

The Nominations Committee, led by Professor Gill Valentine FBA FAcSS, considered nominations for new Fellows from member learned societies, existing Fellows, the Academic Fellow Search Committee (AFSC) and the Practitioner Fellow Search Committee (PFSC). Professor John Scott CBE FAcSS took up the role of Chair of the AFSC in October 2020, as Professor Fiona Devine CBE FAcSS stood down after her five-year term. Professor Tony Crook CBE FAcSS continued as Chair of the PFSC.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
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**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**  
(Continued)

**5. Recognising excellence in social science (continued)**

**Fellowship (continued)**

Fellows are warmly thanked for the commitment, time and expertise they give to supporting the Academy in its charitable activities. All contributions play an essential role in the Academy delivering its objectives: whether as Trustees charged with the governance of the Academy; as committee members helping to guide and facilitate our work; or in the provision of expert knowledge to inform our policy-facing and Campaign activities.

We are delighted that a number of Academy Fellows received public honours in 2020.

**Professor Kalwant Bhopal FAcSS** was awarded an MBE for services to Equality in Education. Kalwant Bhopal is Professor of Education and Social Justice, University of Birmingham.

**Professor Barbara Jane Elliott FAcSS** was awarded a CBE for services to the Social Sciences. Barbara Jane Elliott is Professor of Sociology, University of Exeter.

**Ms Rebecca Endean OBE FAcSS** was awarded a CBE for services to Analysis, Research and Innovation. Rebecca Endean is former Director of Strategy, UKRI.

**Professor Cathy Gormley-Heenan FAcSS** was awarded an OBE for services to Higher Education. Cathy Gormley-Heenan is Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Research and External Affairs, Ulster University.

**Professor David Hulme FAcSS** was awarded an OBE for services to Research and International Development. David Hulme is Professor of Development Studies at University of Manchester.

**Professor Adele Jones FAcSS** was awarded an OBE for services to Vulnerable Women and Children. Adele Jones is Professor of Social Work, University of Huddersfield.

**Professor Geoff Mulgan CBE FAcSS** was appointed Knight Bachelor for services to the Creative Economy. Geoff Mulgan is Professor of Collective Intelligence, Public Policy and Social Innovation at University College London.

**Professor Michael West FAcSS** was awarded a CBE for services to compassion and innovation in the NHS. Michael West is Professor of Work and Organisational Psychology, Lancaster University.

**Professor Sarah Whatmore FBA FAcSS** was awarded a DBE for services to the study of environmental policy. Sarah Whatmore is Professor of Environment and Public Policy, University of Oxford.

**Professor Lucy Yardley FAcSS** was awarded an OBE for services to the COVID-19 response. Lucy Yardley is Professor of Health Psychology, University of Bristol.

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**5. Recognising excellence in social science (continued)**

**Member Learned Societies**

Learned societies and professional bodies in the social sciences are at the heart of the Academy as independent bodies affiliated to the Academy through membership. Instrumental in forming the Academy, the learned societies represent distinct disciplinary and professional communities, bring subject specific depth to complement the Academy's breadth of excellence in its academic and practitioner Fellows. Collectively, the Academy and member learned societies are a robust pan-community voice for the social sciences and social scientists.

Our learned society membership comprised 46 members at 31 December 2020. We welcomed two new societies to the Academy in 2020, the Royal Anthropological Institute and the Association of Professors of Social Work.

The Academy is unique in having such strong support and engagement with, and through, learned societies that represent single disciplines, interdisciplinary areas, and/or communities of practitioners, within the social sciences.

Our regular termly meetings for the CEOs and chief officers of learned societies and professional bodies in the social sciences continued throughout 2020. These meetings play an important role in effecting liaison, building capacity, widening knowledge and encouraging interchange between societies for the benefit of the societies' work, the social sciences sector and the HE ecosystem. The learned societies also contributed to the Academy's strategic planning.

Much of the group's focus in 2020 was on the shared challenges and wider concerns of running a learned society in the context of Covid, Brexit and the higher education policy environment. Most notably, in terms of the latter, was a focus on advocacy in relation to open access publishing and the implications this has for scholarly access to publishing opportunities and for the business models of many learned societies.

**Contemporary Social Science Journal**

The Academy's journal, *Contemporary Social Science*, continued an active programme of publishing in 2020, with editions available both in print and online. The journal reflects the Academy's scope across the social sciences, by publishing four themed issues a year from multi-disciplinary perspectives, each with specialist guest editors.

The journal continued its upwards trajectory in 2020 with the publication of its 15<sup>th</sup> annual volume. This also included the first issue of CSS OPEN, an online open access issue, that enables the journal to publish high quality papers across a wider range of topics than the themed issues. The journal received approximately 135,000 article downloads in 2020 – a 44% increase on the previous year.

Professor Jacqueline Barnes FAcSS and Professor John Connolly continued as co-editors of the journal which is published by Taylor and Francis.

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**6. A Sustainable Future**

**2020 saw strong building blocks for the future put in place in the Academy, including its Campaign, in order to enhance its work for public benefit.** We concluded our strategy deliberations, which had started in autumn 2019 and been paused for a while in mid 2020 to evaluate the impact of the pandemic on the Academy. The six framing objectives will, we anticipate, serve the Academy well for the coming decade. Three-year action plans will be used to translate those objectives into specific activities and outcomes. The Council agreed the strategy in October 2020 and it was published shortly thereafter. The Executive Committee of Council, working with the Chief Executive, took responsibility for the strategic planning exercise, supported by input from the Council itself, other Committees including the Campaign Board, Fellows and wider stakeholders. All are warmly thanked.

During the year we started to develop activities in line with the emerging strategy, as described in earlier sections in this report. We successfully raised funds from a major donor to support the strategy set up, and a grant award from the ESRC enabled the 'Social Sciences at a time of change' project. Both have been widely welcomed by the community.

The new strategic direction for the Campaign, piloted with the Covid hub, and supported by invigorated and targeted communications including social media, was successful in widening outreach and raising the profile of both the Campaign and the contributions of UK social sciences. The continuing commitment by a great majority of our Campaign supporters to sponsor the Campaign, even in such a challenging year, was heartening testament to the new direction and energy. We were also delighted to welcome Newcastle University as a new Campaign supporter in 2020.

We strengthened our links with member learned societies, focusing our work with them in 2020 onto facilitating discussion of the issues facing learned societies in such a difficult year, and enabling the sharing of good practice in the management of challenges as well as the opportunities for new online endeavours.

A step change in our communications, and in particular in disseminating our work much more widely and in a more targeted way, also brought significant benefits in 2020. We started to create a network of our friends and allies, together with our Fellows, to support visibly and intellectually the promotion of social sciences and the Academy/Campaign. This was piloted with our Vital Business report which gave us the platform to reach out to high profile social scientists in the media, to parliamentarians and decision-makers, to those with high political and public sector profiles, and to sister bodies and funding agencies to promote the important messages in the report. Their willing participation has increased our outreach and engagement on social media and this has translated to our ongoing work and exposure offline, growing our audience significantly. These contacts are now being used to facilitate the Campaign's wider communications and outreach in a way not previously attempted.

All this has ultimately helped us expand our presence on Twitter and our accounts gained around 1,100 new followers and around 58,000 impressions each month. In total Campaign and Academy Twitter accounts now have over 11,700 followers.

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**6. A Sustainable Future (continued)**

Social media also assisted in amplifying engagement with Fellows. In early 2020 we quietly set up a pilot communications campaign to enable individuals to give voice to why social science matters and self-identify as social scientists. We started by inviting newly elected Fellows' participation. It also encouraged them to put into words their personal feelings about becoming an Academy Fellow, providing the Academy with a 'warmer' and more 'human' public face. This generated lively engagement across social media, particularly between colleagues and peers. As with much that happened in 2020, we aim to build on this activity in future years.

**7. Financial Overview**

7.1 Overview

Despite 2020 being a most challenging year, the Academy and its Campaign ended the year with small positive net incomes, without having to draw on modest reserves and after small net losses on investment assets.

The out-turn owed much to the financial risk assessment exercise carried out in April 2020 following the pandemic lockdown. This resulted in a revised 'emergency' budget approved by the Council in May 2020 and implemented with immediate effect. Difficult cost savings were made in terms of staff resources and fortuitous savings from all meeting being held virtually and in terms of premises costs as the Academy had been given notice to leave its rented premises by the landlord and thus saved on 8 months of rental charges.

The out-turn owed equally as much to sustaining our income from membership subscriptions, and to boosting the work of the Campaign for Social Science which helped to retain the support of most of our campaign sponsors.

Incoming resources totalled £725,076 (2019: £606,067) split between unrestricted (£279,592; 2019 £324,391) and restricted (£445,848; 2019 £281,676) funds. The reduction in unrestricted income compared with 2019 arises from three factors: the one-off impact of the accounting decision to accrue newly elected Fellows' income received in autumn to the following year as it includes the subscriptions payment for the following year; a small reduction in the subscription income received in the year; and the fact that the President's lunch was not held and thus incurred neither income nor costs.

The total restricted income in 2020 of £445,484 (2019: £281,676) comprised £156,949 of Campaign supporter sponsorships, down some £18k compared with 2019; £117,500 of SPRE income (up £12k on 2019), £33,535 of PRO-RES income and the £137,500 major donation for the strategy set-up. The increase in restricted income in 2020 (£445,848), over that in 2019 (£281,676), largely reflects the major donation. Raised in 2020, these funds will mainly be spent over 2021 and 2022. Receipt of the final tranche of the EU grant for the PRO-RES project accounts for much the remaining difference. All Campaign supporters and project donors are very warmly thanked for their support of our work.

Total expenditure in 2020 was £537,511 (2019: £591,182); split between unrestricted general funds (£261,618; 2019 £296,717) and restricted funds (£275,893; 2019 £294,465). The latter supported the Academy's Campaign for Social Science, and the PRO-RES and SPRE projects.

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(Continued)

## 7. Financial Overview (continued)

### 7.1 Overview (continued)

On our core (unrestricted) Academy operations, we ended 2020 with an operating surplus of £8,087. This is after net losses on investment assets of -£9,887. This performance was better than the revised 'emergency' budget owing to careful monitoring, sustained cost control and the fortuitous savings referred to above. Income was some £45k lower than in 2019 and expenditure approximately £35k lower.

Our restricted expenditure in 2020, when compared with 2019, was some £18.5k lower. This largely fell within the Campaign for Social Science project where costs were controlled in anticipation of likely reductions in sponsorship income, much of which was not received until the third or fourth quarters as universities assessed their expenditures. In the event, income held up better than expected as set out in the project finances section below.

Expenditure on raising funds in the year was £18,040, calculated as the direct costs of staff time involved in raising restricted funds for projects and stewarding donors, plus a proportional allocation of support costs.

At the 2020 year end the balance sheet stood at £706,955 (2019: £539,085), the majority of which existed as restricted funds (£564,199; 2019 £404,416) in support of four programmes and projects – the Campaign for Social Science, strategy set-up, SPRE and PRO-RES. The unrestricted general fund reserves stood at £142,756 (2019: £134,669).

In summary, the Academy's finances withstood the challenges of Covid and remain in positive balance, supported by reserves that meet our reserves policy of 50% of annual expenditure. This is all to the good given the continuing challenges the Academy faces in 2021, in common with many sister charities in the sector, arising still from the uncertainties and impacts of the Coronavirus pandemic, and other factors, on income.

### 7.2 Investment Portfolio

A very carefully-considered decision was taken in May 2020 by the Academy's Council, after consultation with our investment managers, to liquidate the investments and hold them in cash. This decision was taken for two connected reasons. First there was thought to be a good chance at the time that the Academy would have to call upon some of its reserves during the year owing to the financial risks arising out of the pandemic. Secondly, owing to the fact that our modest reserves are all the sit between the Academy existing and failing, in the volatile market conditions of the time, it was felt to be imprudent to risk our reserves to a fluctuating market.

After a net gain on investments in 2019 of £36,320; 2020 saw a net loss of £19,695 on the sale of the investments in May owing to the market downturn in early 2020. By way of context, taken over the five-year period since the decision to invest our reserves was taken, the total net return is positive and approximately equivalent to the rate of annual CPI.

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#### 7.2 Investment Portfolio (continued)

The investments were held in cash for the remainder of 2020. Their total value as at 31 December 2020 was £269,572 (2019: £291,065). Trustees are currently considering options in relation to reinvestment.

#### 7.3 Campaign for Social Science (CfSS)

The Campaign for Social Science successfully raised a total of £156,949 in 2020 (2019: £174,314) (note 14) to fund its promotional and policy-related activities. In a difficult year this is a very good outcome. At the same time, activity and engagement levels in the Campaign rose significantly, enabled by the virtual environment, new approaches to communication and dissemination, and a new strategy for the Campaign in showcasing the contributions of the social sciences. With expenditure also constrained to less than in 2019, the productivity gains are notable. The Campaign ended the year with a surplus income over expenditure of c. £23k and this has been carried forward for expenditure in the 2021 budget.

#### 7.4 Major projects

The SPRE and PRO-RES projects both had full operating years in 2020 working within budget. Expenditure on SPRE increased significantly to £117,500 (2019: £68,898) as the project took on a second staff member, and the operating surplus was just over £5k in the year. PRO-RES expenditure at £29,606 was substantially down on that of 2019 (£80,947) owing to the project work cycle. The balance in the restricted project accounts at year end was £150,128 for SPRE and £115,768 for PRO-RES. The Academy received an administrative fee, as part of the grant funding, for the PRO-RES project. The strategy set-up project will commence drawing down the project funds in 2021, in line with the project proposals.

### **8. Our supporters**

The Academy's work in 2020 was supported by its Fellows in many different ways, including sharing their knowledge and expertise, using their contact networks, assisting us in matters of good governance, and in making Fellowship nominations thereby ensuring our professional community is continually renewed. Their time, energy and effort are freely given and they are very warmly thanked for their support. Fellows' subscriptions also help underpin the funding of the Academy and its work.

Our charitable work also benefited greatly from a number of other vital supporters:

- The Campaign for Social Science was sponsored in 2020 by 26 UK universities from across England and the Devolved Nations and by lead commercial sponsor, SAGE Publishing. Without this support the Campaign would not have been able to push ahead this year with new activities to promote the social sciences at a time when they had so much to offer in understanding, mitigating and managing the pandemic and to helping the UK recover socially and economically in the longer term from its impacts. Nor would the Academy have been able to be as active in its policy work to support the standing of the social sciences.

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(Continued)

**8. Our supporters (continued)**

We thank them all, and we particularly thank SAGE publishing for sponsoring our Vital Business report, the Campaign Annual Lecture and for partnering on, and providing technical assistance for, our virtual Campaign events.

- The ESRC (and its parent body UKRI) is gratefully acknowledged for the Grant Award that funds the 'Social Sciences in a time of change' project. It is vital that we have an understanding of how the social sciences and social scientists are faring across the HE sector in these turbulent and opportunistic times.
- Finally, we thank the major UK donor whose donation of £200,000 over two years (£137k in 2020) is helping to set up and establish our new strategy. We respect his wish to remain anonymous.

**9. People and governance**

**Staff team**

Our staff team adapted speedily and effectively over the space of one week in late March 2020 from working together in an office to working apart in a virtual space. At any other time this would be regarded as a huge transition; then it was sheer necessity, in common with many other organisations. We have sought to be aware of, and to mitigate, the potential risks to staff welfare and integration of this style of working by being open and caring as an organisation, by meeting virtually regularly, and by ensuring staff have appropriate equipment and ready access to IT support.

During the year there were some changes in the staff team as a result of people moving onto other roles, a maternity cover post, and one, sadly, as a result of a redundancy owing to the need to make savings in the face of anticipated shortfalls in income arising from Covid-19. Kate Atkins is warmly thanked for her work as Chief Secretary, Helen Cadwallader in her role as Senior Operations Manager.

At the start of 2021, the team comprised Dr Rita Gardner CBE FAcSS (Chief Executive); Sharon Witherspoon MBE FAcSS (Head of Policy); Dr Sarah Jones (Head of Administration; joined January 2021); Chizom Ekeh (Senior Communications Projects Manager; joined in May 2020 as Communications Manager maternity replacement role); Aarti Basnyat (Communications Manager); Marta Kask (Campaign Manager); Ian Williams (Finance Manager); Alison Blow (Membership and Database Manager, joined April 2020). Nick Bibby (Director) and Dr Mariola Molto Tarrega (Digital Resources Coordinator) staffed the SPRE project; while Dr Kevin Burchell, employed through Lancaster University, is the Research Officer on the joint project 'Social Sciences in a time of change'. Dr Ashley Lenihan continued to provide freelance policy support and David Wilson to provide professional finance support. A number of Fellows continued to provide freelance consultancy support to the PRO-RES project.

**Council**

The Council met, as planned, on three occasions in 2020, chaired by Professor Roger Goodman FAcSS. The meeting in May 2020 focused on risk mitigation and management in response to the Covid-19 pandemic and its implications for Academy income and an emergency revised budget was approved at that meeting, having been previously scrutinised by the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

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**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

**(Continued)**

**9. People and governance (continued)**

**Council (continued)**

Council was supported in its governance role by expert committees of Council, the Chairs of which sit on the Council. The main committees of Council in 2020 were the Audit and Risk Management Committee, Campaign Board, CEOs of Learned Societies Group, and Nominations Committee. The Publications Committee and Policy Working Group held their last activities in May 2020 when the restructuring of committees was completed in line with the proposals of the governance review in 2019. Prof Malcom Johnson and Prof James Wilsden are warmly thanked for their excellent work as chairs of those committees, respectively. Prof Judith Philips and Lord Kerslake kindly agreed, from September 2020, to act as lead trustees on policy and Prof Simon Marginson as lead trustee for the Academy publications.

There were no other changes to the Council membership during 2020 as no positions came up for election. Prof Bobby Duffy remained as Chair of the Campaign Board, Prof Gill Valentine remained as Chair of the Nominations Committee, Prof Tony McEnery remained as Chair of the Audit and Risk Management Committee. All committees met as planned but due to the COVID-19 pandemic the meetings were held via Zoom from late March 2020 onwards. The Council also formally approved that the Annual General Meeting be held virtually on 30 June 2020; and attendance was higher than usual as a result.

**Governance**

Professor Roger Goodman FAcSS continued as President and will remain in the role until his term ends in June 2021. The President's role includes chairing the meetings of Council and of the CEOs of Learned Societies Group; overseeing the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting and Annual Lunch (which due to the COVID-19 pandemic did not take place); representing the Academy at ceremonial occasions and at selected external meetings and events; managing relationships with selected key stakeholders; and appointing the Chief Executive of the Academy, subject to approval by Council.

A process was put in place by the Council in October 2020 to conduct a search for the Academy's new President. The Search Committee, chaired by Dame Jil Matheson, Honorary Secretary, was made up of the Chairs of the Committees of Council, the Honorary Treasurer, Prof Andrew Jones, and the Chief Executive, Dr Rita Gardner. After consultation and interview, Gatenby Sanderson was appointed to lead the search process.

The re-organisation of the Academy's Council and committee meeting structure which was approved in late 2019 after review, was implemented from July 2020.

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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**  
(Continued)

**9. People and governance (continued)**

**The last word - from the President**

2020 demonstrated vividly the essential role that the social sciences play in informing evidence-led policy and in society at large. It equally showed that the Academy has an enormous role to play in promoting them and the knowledge within their communities of research and practice for public benefit. Our strategy sets us on the path of developing that role and we made great strides in 2020.

It also demonstrated that the Academy gains so much from the support of its members and partner organisations, and depends on the energy, expertise and commitment of those who serve on our Council and committees, those who donate to and sponsor our work, and our hard-working small staff team.

I thank everyone who helped to make 2020 a success story.

Professor Roger Goodman FAcSS

**10. Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

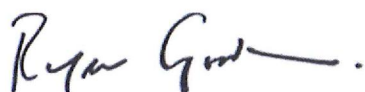
Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue to operate.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with relevant legislation and the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Professor Roger Goodman FAcSS  
President

By Order of the Board pursuant to a resolution of Council

18<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**THE ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Academy of Social Sciences ('the Company') for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made to the Trustees, as a body, in accordance with the terms of my engagement. Our work has been undertaken so that we might carry out an Independent Examination of the financial statements in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees, as a body, for our work or for this report.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the Trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your Charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales ('ICAEW'), which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concern and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



James Holland-Leader FCA  
Knox Cropper LLP  
Chartered Accountants

65/68 Leadenhall Street, London,  
EC3A 2AD

29<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

	Notes	2020			2019		
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
<b>INCOME FROM</b>							
Donations, Legacies and Subscriptions	2	264,729	445,074	709,803	295,890	280,074	575,964
Other Trading Activities	3	14,235	-	14,235	26,779	-	26,779
Investment Income	4	628	410	1,038	1,722	1,602	3,324
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>279,592</b>	<b>445,484</b>	<b>725,076</b>	<b>324,391</b>	<b>281,676</b>	<b>606,067</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>							
Raising Funds	5	9,856	8,184	18,040	34,211	15,688	49,899
Charitable Activities	5	251,762	267,709	519,471	262,506	278,777	541,283
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>261,618</b>	<b>275,893</b>	<b>537,511</b>	<b>296,717</b>	<b>294,465</b>	<b>591,182</b>
<b>NET (LOSSES)/GAINS ON INVESTMENT ASSETS</b>	11	<b>(9,887)</b>	<b>(9,808)</b>	<b>(19,695)</b>	<b>17,797</b>	<b>18,523</b>	<b>36,320</b>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) AND NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>8,087</b>	<b>159,783</b>	<b>167,870</b>	<b>45,471</b>	<b>5,734</b>	<b>51,205</b>
Transfer Between Funds	14	-	-	-	(5,000)	5,000	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>8,087</b>	<b>159,783</b>	<b>167,870</b>	<b>40,471</b>	<b>10,734</b>	<b>51,205</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2020</b>		<b>134,669</b>	<b>404,416</b>	<b>539,085</b>	<b>94,198</b>	<b>393,682</b>	<b>487,880</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020</b>		<b>£142,756</b>	<b>£564,199</b>	<b>£706,955</b>	<b>£134,669</b>	<b>£404,416</b>	<b>£539,085</b>

All the activities reported above represent continuing operations.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****BALANCE SHEET****AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

	Notes	2020		2019	
		£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	10		2,319		-
Investments	11		269,572		291,065
			<u>271,891</u>		<u>291,065</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	12	44,156		5,001	
Cash at Bank		<u>451,016</u>		<u>288,161</u>	
		495,172		293,162	
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	13	<u>(60,108)</u>		<u>(45,142)</u>	
Net Current Assets			435,064		248,020
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u>£706,955</u>		<u>£539,085</u>
<b>CHARITY FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted – General Funds			142,756		134,669
Restricted Funds	14		<u>564,199</u>		<u>404,416</u>
			<u>£706,955</u>		<u>£539,085</u>

For the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and that an independent examination is needed.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

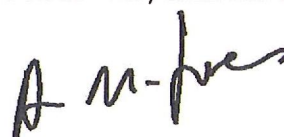
The Directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The Financial statements were approved by the Directors on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Professor Roger Goodman FAcSS, Chair of Council



Professor Andrew Jones FAcSS, Hon. Treasurer

Registered Company Number: 03847936

Registered Charity Number: 1088537

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS****AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
<b>NET CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	A	163,498	(28,759)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from sale of investments		279,445	119,086
Purchase of investments		(19,849)	(117,500)
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(3,479)	-
Interest Received		1,038	3,324
<b>TOTAL CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		<u>257,155</u>	<u>4,910</u>
<b>NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>		420,653	(23,849)
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR</b>		<u>295,935</u>	<u>319,784</u>
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF THE YEAR</b>		<u>£716,588</u>	<u>£295,935</u>
<b>A CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		167,870	51,205
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		-	-
Depreciation		1,160	568
Investment Income		(1,038)	(3,324)
Interest Payable		-	-
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors		(39,155)	9,251
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors		14,966	(50,139)
(Gains)/Losses on Investments		19,695	(36,320)
		<u>£163,498</u>	<u>£(28,759)</u>
<b>COMPONENTS OF CASH</b>			
Cash at Bank		451,016	288,161
Cash held by investment managers		265,572	7,774
		<u>£716,588</u>	<u>£295,935</u>
<b>B ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT</b>			
	<b>At 1st January</b>	<b>Cash Flows</b>	<b>At 31st December</b>
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2020</b>
	£	£	£
Cash	295,935	420,653	716,588
Loan	(10,000)	-	(10,000)
	<u>£285,935</u>	<u>£420,653</u>	<u>£706,588</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Company Status**

The Academy is a charitable company limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales. The members of the company are the Fellows and Learned Societies listed in the membership register. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company.

A description of the nature of the charitable company's operations and its principal activity is disclosed in the Directors' Report.

The charitable company's registered office is stated on page 1.

**Basis of Preparation and Assessment of going concern**

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. They have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective January 2019) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Trustees consider that there are no uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

**General Funds**

General Funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

**Restricted Funds**

Restricted Funds are those funds which may only be applied to purposes specified by the donor. Details of Restricted Funds are set out in Note 14 to the financial statements.

**Income**

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably. Subscriptions from members are payable on 1 January each year and are recognised in the year in which they are received. Donations are recognised when received. Other income is recognised when received.

**Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020****1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)****Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation**

Computer equipment is stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost or value of tangible fixed assets to their estimated residual values over their expected useful lives on a straight line basis at the following rate:

Computer Equipment:	33% Per Annum
---------------------	---------------

**Investments**

Investments are a form of basic financial investment and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value.

**Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

**Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**Financial instruments**

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**Cashflow**

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemptions available under Statement of Recommended Practice and has not produced a cashflow statement.

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

**2. DONATIONS, LEGACIES & SUBSCRIPTIONS**

	<b>2020</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Donations	-	309,820	309,820
Grant			-
Members Subscriptions	264,729	-	264,729
Supporters Scheme	-	129,000	129,000
Exchange gain	-	6,254	6,254
	<u>£264,729</u>	<u>£445,074</u>	<u>£709,803</u>

	<b>2019</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Donations	7,899	133,074	140,973
Grant	-	-	-
Members Subscriptions	287,991	-	287,991
Supporters Scheme	-	147,000	147,000
Exchange gain	-	-	-
	<u>£295,890</u>	<u>£280,074</u>	<u>£575,964</u>

**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	<b>2020</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Event Income	13,338	-	13,338
Journal Income			
President's Lunch	897	-	897
	<u>£14,235</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£14,235</u>

	<b>2019</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Event Income	800	-	800
Journal Income	15,027	-	15,027
Miscellaneous	-	-	-
President's Lunch	10,952	-	10,952
	<u>£26,779</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£26,779</u>

**4. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	<b>2020</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Bank Interest	216	-	216
Income from investments	412	410	822
	<u>£628</u>	<u>£410</u>	<u>£1,038</u>

## ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020

## 4. INVESTMENT INCOME (Continued)

	2019		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Bank Interest	182	-	182
Income from investments	1,540	1,602	3,142
	<u>£1,722</u>	<u>£1,602</u>	<u>£3,324</u>

## 5. RESOURCES EXPENDED

2020	Raising Funds	Charitable Activities	2020 Total
	£	£	£
<b>Activities Undertaken Directly</b>			
Campaign for Social Science (Note 7)	8,184	125,661	133,845
Pro Res Eu	-	29,606	29,606
Spre	-	112,441	112,441
Journal Costs	-	13,475	13,475
Meeting Costs	-	1,337	1,337
Council Member Expenses	-	1,094	1,094
AGM	-	-	-
President's Lunch	-	-	-
	<u>8,184</u>	<u>283,614</u>	<u>291,798</u>
<b>Support Costs (Note 6)</b>	<u>9,856</u>	<u>235,857</u>	<u>245,713</u>
	<u>£18,040</u>	<u>£519,471</u>	<u>£537,511</u>
Unrestricted	9,856	251,762	261,618
Restricted (Note 7)	8,184	267,709	275,893
	<u>£18,040</u>	<u>£519,471</u>	<u>£537,511</u>
<b>2019</b>	<b>Raising Funds</b>	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2019 Total</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Activities Undertaken Directly</b>			
Campaign for Social Science (Note 7)	15,688	98,932	114,620
Pipeline	-	-	-
Making the case for Social Sciences	-	-	-
Pro Res Eu	-	67,644	67,644
Spre	-	68,898	68,898
Journal Costs	-	12,700	12,700
Meeting Costs	-	4,675	4,675
Council Member Expenses	-	5,284	5,284
AGM	-	1,042	1,042
President's Lunch	-	11,207	11,207
	<u>15,688</u>	<u>270,382</u>	<u>286,070</u>
<b>Support Costs (Note 6)</b>	<u>34,211</u>	<u>270,901</u>	<u>305,112</u>
	<u>£49,899</u>	<u>£541,283</u>	<u>£591,182</u>
Unrestricted	34,211	262,506	296,717
Restricted (Note 7)	15,688	278,777	294,465
	<u>£49,899</u>	<u>£541,283</u>	<u>£591,182</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020****6. SUPPORT COSTS  
2020**

	<b>Raising Funds</b>	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2020 Total</b>
	£	£	£
Staff and Contractor Costs	7,823	187,104	194,927
Property Costs	394	9,451	9,845
Telephone	6	137	143
Insurance	64	1,540	1,604
Postage & Printing	99	2,373	2,472
Advertising & Marketing	-	-	-
Web-site / IT	327	7,843	8,170
Accountancy Fees	95	2,275	2,370
Governance	64	1,536	1,600
Professional and Consultancy	34	815	849
Bank Charges	142	3,417	3,559
Recruitment & Training	447	10,723	11,170
Sundry Expenses	118	2,822	2,940
Depreciation	24	577	601
VAT	219	5,244	5,463
	<u>£9,856</u>	<u>£235,857</u>	<u>£245,713</u>

**2019**

	<b>Raising Funds</b>	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2019 Total</b>
	£	£	£
Staff and Contractor Costs	23,114	208,027	231,141
Property Costs	4,500	25,500	30,000
Telephone	32	180	212
Insurance	349	1,975	2,324
Postage & Printing	829	4,695	5,524
Advertising & Marketing	246	1,392	1,638
Web-site / IT	1,366	7,741	9,107
Accountancy Fees	285	1,615	1,900
Governance	225	1,275	1,500
Professional and Consultancy	405	2,292	2,697
Bank Charges	606	3,434	4,040
Recruitment & Training	387	2,194	2,581
Sundry Expenses	218	1,232	1,450
Depreciation	85	484	569
VAT	1,564	8,865	10,429
	<u>£34,211</u>	<u>£270,901</u>	<u>£305,112</u>

## ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020

## 7. RESTRICTED FUNDS

2020	Raising Funds	Charitable Activities	2020 Total
	£	£	£
Meetings	-	2,896	2,896
Research	-	-	-
Staff and Contractor Costs	8,184	88,758	96,942
Annual Lecture	-	320	320
Professional and consultancy	-	22,638	22,638
Website and IT	-	4,726	4,726
Sundry expenses	-	6,323	6,323
<b>Campaign for Social Science</b>	<b>8,184</b>	<b>125,661</b>	<b>133,845</b>
Professional and consultancy	-	29,550	29,550
Exchange Loss	-	-	-
Sundry	-	56	56
<b>Pro Res Eu</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>29,606</b>	<b>29,606</b>
Staff and Contractors	-	92,558	92,558
Sundry	-	1,481	1,481
Website and IT	-	9,869	9,869
Meetings	-	2,919	2,919
Research	-	1,920	1,020
Professional and Consultancy	-	3,695	3,695
<b>Spre</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>112,442</b>	<b>112,442</b>
	<b>£8,184</b>	<b>£267,709</b>	<b>£275,893</b>
<b>2019</b>	<b>Raising Funds</b>	<b>Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2019 Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Meetings	-	-	-
Research	-	1,750	1,750
Staff and Contractor Costs	15,688	113,260	128,948
Annual Lecture	-	1,991	1,991
Professional and consultancy	-	3,309	3,309
Website and IT	-	2,881	2,881
Sundry expenses	-	5,741	5,741
<b>Campaign for Social Science</b>	<b>15,688</b>	<b>128,932</b>	<b>144,620</b>
Professional and consultancy	-	53,213	53,213
Exchange Loss	-	10,656	10,656
Sundry	-	3,775	3,775
<b>Pro Res Eu</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>67,644</b>	<b>67,644</b>
Staff and Contractors	-	66,096	66,096
Sundry	-	2,222	2,222
Website and IT	-	10,557	10,557
Meetings	-	3,326	3,326
<b>Spre</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>82,201</b>	<b>82,201</b>
	<b>£15,688</b>	<b>£278,777</b>	<b>£294,465</b>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

**8. NET INCOME**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	£	£
This is stated after charging		
Depreciation	£1,160	£568

During the year, no Directors received any remuneration (2019 - £Nil)

During the year, no Directors received any benefits in kind (2019 - £Nil)

7 Directors received reimbursement of expenses for travel amounting to £1,094 in the current year (2019 - £3,389).

The Independent examiner's remuneration of £1,600 (2019: £1,500) related solely to the examination and no additional work being undertaken (2019; £Nil).

**9. STAFF AND CONTRACTOR COSTS AND NUMBERS**

The average number of employees during the year was 10 (8 FTE), 2019: 11 (8 FTE)

Key management personnel consist of the CEO. Total employment benefits of the key management personnel were £82,442.

One employee had emoluments within the range of £70,000 - £80,000.

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	£	£
Gross salaries	345,705	319,984
Social Security costs	28,172	32,434
Pension costs	10,552	8,040
Total Payroll Costs	£384,429	£360,458

**10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	£	£
<b>Computer equipment</b>		
Cost:		
Balance at 1st January 2020	11,485	11,485
Additions	3,479	-
Balance at 31st December 2020	14,964	11,485
<b>Depreciation:</b>		
Balance at 1st January 2020	11,485	10,917
Charge for the year	1,160	568
Balance at 31st December 2020	12,645	11,485
Net Book Value		
At 31st December 2020	£2,319	£-

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020****11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	£	£
Market value at 1 January 2020	283,291	248,557
Additions	19,849	117,500
Disposals	(279,445)	(119,086)
Net investment (losses)/gains	(19,695)	36,320
Market value at 31 December 2020	4,000	283,291
Cash held by managing agent	265,572	7,774
	<u>£269,572</u>	<u>£291,065</u>
Historical cost at 31 December 2020	<u>£4,000</u>	<u>£263,115</u>

**12. DEBTORS**

	£	£
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Debtors for subscriptions, and prepayments	15,216	5,001
Prepayments and accrued income	28,940	-
	<u>£44,156</u>	<u>£5,001</u>

**13. CREDITORS: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	£	£
Loan Creditor	10,000	10,000
Short Term Creditors	666	666
Prepaid Subscriptions & Event Income	10,096	12,000
Accruals	24,442	15,494
HMRC VAT Liability	14,904	6,982
	<u>£60,108</u>	<u>£45,142</u>

The loan is interest free and repayable when aggregate donations, excluding those for specific appeals, have been received totalling more than £20,000.

ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020

14. RESTRICTED FUNDS  
2020

	CfSS £	International Advisory Group £	Making the Case £	EU Pro Res Project £	Spre £	Strategic Development £	Total £
Balance at 1st January 2020	133,644	1,225	12,638	111,839	145,070	-	404,416
Income	156,949	-	-	33,535	117,500	137,500	445,484
Expenditure	(133,845)	-	-	(29,606)	(112,442)	-	(275,893)
Gains on Investments	(9,808)	-	-	-	-	-	(9,808)
Balance at 31st December 2020	£146,940	£1,225	£12,638	£115,768	£150,128	£137,500	£564,199

2019

	CfSS £	International Advisory Group £	Making the Case £	EU Pro Res Project £	Spre £	Strategic Development £	Total £
Balance at 1st January 2019	85,427	1,225	12,638	188,924	105,468	-	393,682
Income	174,314	-	-	3,862	103,500	-	281,676
Expenditure	(144,620)	-	-	(80,947)	(68,898)	-	(294,465)
Gains on Investments	18,523	-	-	-	-	-	18,523
Transfers	-	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
Balance at 31st December 2019	£133,644	£1,225	£12,638	£111,839	£145,070	£-	£404,416

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

Restricted Funds comprise the monies collected for and expended on the *Campaign for Social Science*, the SPRE project, the EU Pro Res Project, the International Advisory Group project and the Making the Case Project.

**Campaign for Social Sciences:** This fund represents the outward-facing, advocacy voice of the Academy of Social Sciences. The campaign works to amplify the voice of social sciences in policy issues affecting all social science disciplines and higher education institutes.

**International Advisory Group** works with UK and international bodies in organising events, publications and consultations on the international dimension of social science research and policy.

**Making the case:** This fund focusses on providing examples of important social science research which has made a difference to policy or practice.

**Pro Res Fund:** This is an EU funded project that aims to promote ethics and integrity in non-medical research.

**SPRE (Scottish Policy and research exchange)** aims to help researchers and policymakers in Scotland work with each other more effectively. The Academy is working with other partners, including the Scottish Parliament to consolidate the success of SPRE in Scotland.

**Strategic Development fund:** This represents a donation received by an individual to forward the future strategy of the Academy.

**15. TAXATION**

The Academy is a registered charity and is not subject to UK Corporation Tax on its Charitable Activities and Investment Income.

**16. NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

	<b>2020</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	133,291	138,600	271,891
Current Assets	59,338	435,834	495,172
Creditors Amounts Falling due within one Year	(49,873)	(10,235)	(60,108)
	<u>£142,756</u>	<u>£564,199</u>	<u>£706,955</u>
	<b>2019</b>		
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	142,622	148,443	291,065
Current Assets	37,189	255,973	293,162
Creditors Amounts Falling due within one Year	(45,142)	-	(45,142)
	<u>£134,669</u>	<u>£404,416</u>	<u>£539,085</u>

**ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

**17. GOING CONCERN**

The Charitable Company's Directors believe it is appropriate to draw up these accounts on a going concern basis as they believe that adequate sources of funding will be forthcoming in the normal course of events to allow the charity to continue to operate.

In making this assessment the Directors have considered the period to June 2022.

**18. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

There were no related party transactions in the year (2019: Nil).