

TEACHER SCIENTIST NETWORK
(A company limited by guarantee)

REGISTERED CHARITY NO 1096208
COMPANY NO 4556366

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

TEACHER SCIENTIST NETWORK

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TEACHER SCIENTIST NETWORK
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees present their report and unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity name:	Teacher Scientist Network
Charity registration number:	1096208
Company registration number:	4556366
Registered office and operational address:	John Innes Centre Norwich Research Park Colney Norwich Norfolk NR4 7UH Tel: Norwich (01603) 450000
Trustees:	Prof P Nicholson (chair) Prof K Roberts OBE Dr P H Smith MBE
Directors:	Prof P Nicholson Dr P H Smith MBE
Company Secretary:	Dr P H Smith MBE
Bankers:	Barclays Bank Plc 5 – 7 Red Lion Street Norwich Norfolk NR1 3QH
Independent Examiner:	Tony Larnar Chartered Certified Accountants 23 Station Road Sheringham Norfolk NR26 8RF

TEACHER SCIENTIST NETWORK
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 8 October 2002 and registered as a charity on 25 February 2003. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. At 31 March 2024 there were 12 members, each of whom were liable to contribute a sum not exceeding £1 if required in the event of the company being wound up.

Appointment of Trustees

The current Trustees may appoint a person who is willing to act to be a Trustee, either to fill a vacancy or as an additional Trustee. There is no maximum number of Trustees set by the Memorandum and Articles of Association. A Trustee appointed in this way shall hold office only until the next following AGM when he or she must be re-appointed.

Induction and training of Trustees

On appointment to the Council, Trustees are provided with copies of:

- The charity's constitution
- The latest accounts of the Charity

and are encouraged to read Charity Commission guidance notes CC3 – "Responsibilities of Charity Trustees"

In addition, Trustees are encouraged to read Charity Commission and other newsletters and to attend courses designed to keep them abreast of their duties and responsibilities.

Risk Management

The Board understands that long-term reliance on grant funding has risks. Despite efforts to secure more stable funding, grant funding and consultancy work are our primary sources of income. The consequences of challenging times previously, have been seen in this period. The Teacher Scientist Network's (TSN) coordinator, and sole employee has been required to take a significant cut in hours and receive only part-time income since September 2023. At the time of writing, there are some signs for optimism that this decision can be reversed going forward.

Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees meets on a regular basis to monitor the progress of the Charity, to make key decisions and to see that legal requirements such as those of the Registrar of Companies, the Charity Commissioners, and other regulatory bodies are adhered to. The Board of Trustees has delegated areas of responsibility to the Steering Group, including the day-to-day running of the Charity. These meetings have been more limited in the last 12 months and have utilised online tools in the absence of face to face meetings.

During the year, the Charity was staffed by a full-time coordinator (Dr Philip H Smith) between April and August inclusive, who became part-time from September 2023 onwards.

TEACHER SCIENTIST NETWORK
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charity are to promote education in and teaching of science in schools, colleges, universities and any other educational establishments mainly, but not exclusively, within the County of Norfolk.

The TSN mission statement remains unchanged; to enhance science in schools across Norfolk:

- Through the supportive involvement of the local science community in science education.
- By encouraging activities of mutual benefit to both scientific and educational communities.
- By providing support, advice and resources to the teachers and scientists involved in the network.
- By regularly reviewing, adapting and updating activities in accordance with the changing needs of the network's members.

Public benefit

The Trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and review the position annually.

TSN works with all schools who wish to work with us. Some remain loyal supporters year-on-year but with quite high staff turnover, new staff in new schools also seek our services and are welcomed.

TSN is generously hosted by in-kind support from the John Innes Centre (JIC). We are grateful for JIC's ongoing support and the value they place in our activities.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Income and activities

In the period of this report, April 2023 – March 2024, there was a continued return to regular activities: loaning kits and running teacher CPD. Our funding continues to be a mixed portfolio of activities, with the coordinator still applying for specific project funding when appropriate calls are published. There has been some success this year with new funding applications.

A meeting with the JIC Directorate in June 2023 highlighted that a small debt to JIC (covering salary payments) had been built-up and a clear action plan for clearing the debt needed to be established. Efforts to be more administratively up to date has been a focus this year, particularly in terms of claiming back costs more promptly from core project activity such as the Amgen Biotech Experience and PSQM.

In June 2023, we also heard that our bid to the East Coast Skills Fund for £16K had been successful (ORS 2023-12195). The project entitled '*The Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Science Kit Club*' will run across the next 2 academic years, 23-24 and 24-25, is managed by Grantscape on behalf of Orsted.

As stated in our previous report, we generated interest from 3 schools (Stalham High School, Northgate High School and Alderman peel High School) to benefit from Dudgeon-funded workshops about carbon dioxide. The delivery of these workshops (and linked funding) occurred between April and July, bringing to a close this grant from the Dudgeon Fund (originally funded pre-COVID!). We are grateful to Norfolk Community Foundation for their patience and understanding throughout this time.

Phil continues as the Norfolk hub leader for the Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM) mentoring primary science subject leads through the process of achieving the award and supporting their professional development. Also funded through the University of Hertfordshire, the Amgen Biotech Experience (ABE) has now expanded to 5 hubs – with new hubs now established in Hull and Mid Kent College. Increased social media activity associated with this project has continued to raise awareness and boost interest nationally.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

We collaborated with the WT Sanger Institute on a teacher conference at the Sanger Institute in October 2023 that was open to ABE teachers and others. There have been a number of teacher training events held this year as we try to boost teacher/school participation in ABE across all hubs. TSN's coordinator is the UK CPD lead for this programme and is therefore responsible for the delivery of most of these sessions. Phil ran events in the summer term for Norwich & UH, in September (Hull) and a trial in Norwich & Cambridge of a course in the New Year.

Over the last couple of years TSN has played a significant role in the preparation for and the delivery of the practical component of the John Innes Centre, MSc Plant Genetics and Crop Improvement. This was the third year we have been involved, and again it has significantly boosted our consultancy income.

TSN has an active website helping to maintain our presence within the community and report on events and activities. The posting of our Planetarium availability on here, continues to attract interest from new schools every year, that we hope will continue to work with us in the future.

We also received an alarming contact related to our web activity. In May 2023, we were contacted both by email and post by 'picrights' in relation to the **Unlicensed Use of Agence France-Presse Imagery - Reference Number: 4507-2868-2905**.

PicRights provides copyright compliance services to third-party content owners, including Agence France-Presse. They cited our use of an image in a flyer (relating to an event in 2009), a thumbnail of which appeared on our website. At first, we were suspicious this was a hoax/spam claim for £275 but the details all appeared consistent. However, TSN has always been extremely cautious in its use of images and ensuring attribution is given, and we were able to track down our source of the image, and provide supporting evidence from ESA, that its use was legitimate, and that AFP have no right to claim copyright on that image. We will continue to be diligent in our use of images across our activities.

As the year drew to a close we received two pieces of good news. First, our bid to run a researcher online training series for the EGU Outreach Committee, a part of their 2024 Science Communication Workshop Series had been successful. This will only generate a small tranche of funding, but it all helps. Even more encouragingly, a collaborative bid, led by the SAW Trust to create a new education programme for JIC, funded by the John Innes Foundation and JIC has been given the go-ahead (February 2024). This will be good both activity wise but also has funding attached to it. TSN, now being housed within the JIC Communications team after our relocation last year, has helped boost crosstalk and a spirit of collaboration linked to this successful bid.

PERSONNEL ISSUES

TSN was only able to employ 1 person, its coordinator, Dr. Phil Smith during this reporting period (April 2023 – March 2024). Our use of volunteers has continued, and Ruaidhri, who has been working with us for over 5 years, has continued to be an adaptable and willing contributor to our activities.

STEERING GROUP ACTIVITY

Regular meetings between TSN's Chair and coordinator continue to monitor the funding challenge and a return to more regular face-to-face Steering Group meetings is anticipated in the coming year.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Within unrestricted funds, incoming resources amounted to £29,845 and expenditure £28,909, resulting in net incoming resources of £936.

TEACHER SCIENTIST NETWORK
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Investment Powers

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Trustees have the power to invest the monies of the charity not immediately required for the furtherance of its objects in or upon such investments, securities or property as may be thought fit. This is not a consideration at this time.

Reserves Policy

As this report demonstrates, TSN continue to operate a very 'hand-to-mouth' existence and whilst a policy of the Trustees to retain sufficient reserves to support the costs of operating the charity for a six-month period exists (approximately £26,000) we have, this year, moved even further from this point, by reverting to a part-time operation.

Plans for the Future

TSN's financial future has arguably shown small signs of improvement towards the end of this period. We are seeking to engage more at grass-roots level with our audiences and trying to localize our activities in areas of key need/where funding calls appear to be concentrated, notably around Norwich, Kings Lynn and Great Yarmouth. We continue to be adaptable and fluid in our outlook, trying to complement activities across multiple projects doing more with existing contacts rather than spending time trying to start new projects.

Trustees

Members of the Board of Directors, who are directors for the purpose of company law and Trustees for the purpose of charity law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 1.

By Order of the Board.



Dr P H Smith
Secretary

30 December 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF TEACHER SCIENTIST NETWORK
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

We report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to our attention

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' STATEMENT

In connection with our examination, no material matters have come to our attention which gives us cause to believe that, in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

We have no concerns 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.

Tony Larner

Tony Larner
Chartered Certified Accountants
23 Station Road
Sheringham
Norfolk
NR26 8RF

30 December 2024

TEACHER SCIENTIST NETWORK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	General Fund £	Restricted Fund £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Income from generated funds:					
Donations	4	-	-	-	5,110
Income from charitable activities:					
Grants	4	26,715	-	26,715	42,685
Membership fees		1,630	-	1,630	1,065
Planetarium hire		600	-	600	300
Biotechnology days		900	-	900	650
Total incoming resources		29,845	-	29,845	49,810
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable activities	5	28,200	-	28,200	47,991
Governance costs	5	709	-	709	673
Total resources expended		28,909	-	28,909	48,664
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		936	-	936	1,146
Total funds brought forward		(9,502)	-	(9,502)	(10,648)
Total funds carried forward		(8,566)	-	(8,566)	(9,502)

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form an integral part of these financial statements.

TEACHER SCIENTIST NETWORK
REGISTERED NUMBER 4556366

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	18,580	25,280
Cash at bank and in hand		6,212	1,924
		<hr/> 24,792	<hr/> 27,204
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(33,358)	(36,706)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Assets		<hr/> (8,566) <hr/>	<hr/> (9,502) <hr/>
 Funds	 9		
General Fund		<hr/> (8,566) <hr/>	<hr/> (9,502) <hr/>

The Trustees are satisfied that the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and that members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

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

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 30 December 2024 and are signed on their behalf by:



Dr P H Smith
Director

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form an integral part of these financial statements.

TEACHER SCIENTIST NETWORK
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and in the preceding period.

(a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

(b) Fund accounting

- Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

(c) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.
- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Incoming resources from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.
- Incoming resources from grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

(d) Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred.

- Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those of an indirect nature necessary to support them.
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include accountancy fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.
- All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource.

(e) Tangible fixed asset

The cost of kits distributed to schools is written off in the year of purchase. Individual fixed assets costing £100 or more are capitalised at cost and depreciated on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Computer equipment -	25% straight line
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TEACHER SCIENTIST NETWORK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2. Taxation

The company has no liability to corporation tax on its income and surpluses arising during the year.

3. Net Incoming Resources	2024 £	2023 £
This is stated after charging:		
Directors' remuneration	24,219	37,260

4. Grants and Donations	General Fund £	Restricted Fund £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Voluntary income:				
John Innes Centre donation	-	-	-	4,360
Arnold Clark donation	-	-	-	750
	-	-	-	5,110
Charitable activities:				
UoHerts - ABE	8,460	-	8,460	20,722
Primary Science Quality Mark	4,080	-	4,080	4,803
BIO-7015Y Msc Practical Course	7,000	-	7,000	6,300
Consultancy	857	-	857	10,590
Kit Club	35	-	35	270
ECCF Grantscape	3,600	-	3,600	-
Horizon 2020 Pherecios	2,683	-	2,683	-
	26,715	-	26,715	42,685
Total Grants and Donations	26,715	-	26,715	47,795

The Amgen Biotechnology Experience programme is a grant received via the University of Hertfordshire for the implementation of the Amgen Biotechnology Experience (formally the Amgen Bruce Wallace Molecular Biology Project).

TSN is contracted to the University of Hertfordshire to support and mentor science subject leaders in primary schools wishing to gain a Primary Science Quality Mark for their school (www.herts.ac.uk/for-business/skills/psqm).

TSN is one of 16 partners that received funding across 3 years on the H2020 PHERCLOS project. The project concluded in September 2022, with the final funds being received from Kinderburo Universitat Wien on 3 April 2023.

TEACHER SCIENTIST NETWORK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

5. Total Resources Expended	Charitable Activities £	Governance Costs £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Directors' remuneration	24,219	-	24,219	37,260
Directors' pension contributions	724	-	724	933
Directors' national insurance contributions	2,087	-	2,087	4,092
Directors' national insurance contributions (arrears)	-	-	-	2,536
Amgen expenses (excluding salaries)	622	-	622	880
Travel and subsistence	489	-	489	692
Bank charges	13	-	13	-
Accountancy	-	394	394	373
Bookkeeping	-	315	315	300
ECCF Grantscape	-	-	-	29
Consultancy expenses	-	-	-	1,560
Sundry expenses	46	-	46	9
	28,200	709	28,909	48,664

6. Staff Costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	24,219	37,260
Pension contributions	724	933
Social security costs	2,087	4,092
	27,030	42,285

The average number of full time equivalent employees during the year is 1 (2023 - 1).

There were no employees whose emoluments amounted to over £60,000 per annum in this period.

7. Debtors	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	5,394	2,723
Accrued income	13,186	22,557
	18,580	25,280

TEACHER SCIENTIST NETWORK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	31,146	31,552
Accruals and deferred income	2,212	5,154
	<u>33,358</u>	<u>36,706</u>

	Balance at 1-Apr-23 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31-Mar-24 £
9. Movement in funds				
Unrestricted funds	(9,502)	29,845	(28,909)	(8,566)
Total funds	<u>(9,502)</u>	<u>29,845</u>	<u>(28,909)</u>	<u>(8,566)</u>

	2024 £	2023 £
10. Directors emoluments		
Aggregate emoluments in respect of qualifying services	<u>24,219</u>	<u>37,260</u>

Dr P H Smith received expenses of £nil (2023 - £546) from the charity during the year.

11. Going concern

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis which is dependent upon the continued support of the company directors and host organisation The John Innes Centre.