

**Registered number: 7821030**  
**Charity number: 1144595**

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**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY  
AND REFLECTION IN EDUCATION**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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**UNAUDITED**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY AND REFLECTION IN  
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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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<b>Trustees</b>	Jack Langley, Chair Finia Kulmann (resigned 8 March 2024) Jeannie Cohen Christine Houghton Glory Ekong, Treasurer (resigned 8 March 2024) Dr Amanda Fulford (resigned 8 March 2024) Paul Jackson Danny Myers (resigned 15 September 2024) Rosie Wilson Tim Yorke, Vice Chair Gareth John (appointed 8 March 2024) Brian Shayanewako, Treasurer (appointed 15 July 2024)
<b>Company registered number</b>	7821030
<b>Charity registered number</b>	1144595
<b>Registered office</b>	c/o WR Partners LLP Belmont House, Sitka Drive Shrewsbury Business Park Shrewsbury SY2 6LG
<b>Director of Operations and Development</b>	Emma Swinn
<b>Director of Philosophy and Education</b>	Grace Lockrobin
<b>Accountants</b>	WR Partners Chartered Accountants Belmont House Shrewsbury Business Park Shrewsbury Shropshire SY2 6LG
<b>Bankers</b>	The Co-operative Bank Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

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**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY AND REFLECTION IN  
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**TRUSTEES' REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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The Trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Charitable Company for the year from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the Charitable Company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

**Objectives and activities**

**a. Policies and objectives**

Founded in 1992 SAPERE is the Society for the Advancement of Philosophical Reflection and Enquiry in Education – a charitable members organisation that exists to help people improve lives through philosophical enquiry. We introduce educators to the Philosophy for Children and Communities (P4C) pedagogy which helps learners to be critical, creative, caring and collaborative thinkers.

SAPERE believe that the ability to philosophise can improve people's learning, their lives and the lives of those around them and that this improvement is both a personal and public good. We exist to realise the benefits of philosophical education as widely and equitably as possible and we advocate for these benefits through research, impact measurements and outreach.

SAPERE train around 2,000 educators every year, reaching 56,000 young people through this training. This year we have established a five-year strategic plan that sets out the next stage of our development.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

**b. Our charitable objectives**

The advancement of education for the public benefit, in particular amongst those young persons up to the age of 16 years, by the promotion of the development of their skills in logical thinking and other philosophical techniques so that their personal and social lives are enriched.

We have drawn on our 30-year history and consulted with accredited trainers and members of the society to create a new vision statement and a revised mission statement. These were approved by the board in early 2023.

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**Objectives and activities (continued)**

**c. Our vision**

SAPERE exists to help people improve their learning and their lives through philosophical enquiry and our aim is to give them the skills to thrive in school and society.

Our vision is a future where everyone has the opportunity to engage philosophically in discussions and public discourse that matters to them, that motivates them to listen and to learn from others, and makes a difference to how they think, feel, speak, and act in the world. We strive to realise these benefits of philosophical education as widely and equitably as possible, and we believe that this is both a personal and public good.

**d. Our mission**

1. To establish and support spaces for philosophical reflection and enquiry, especially where young people gather and learn.
2. To champion the practice of philosophical dialogue and the positive difference it can make to personal development, lifelong learning, civic discourse and thoughtful action.
3. To develop courses, classes, conferences, methods and materials that advance philosophical thinking among learners and educators.
4. To facilitate research that informs best practice and illuminates our philosophical work and its educational impact.
5. To direct our efforts towards the philosophical education of disadvantaged learners and the people who support them.

**e. Our values**

Our educational approach develops critical, creative, caring and collaborative thinking among learners. We also strive to embody the values of criticality, creativity, collaboration and care as a community of members.

**f. Theory of change**

Output	Children, young people and adults participate in philosophical discussions in schools and other communities, with the support of a skilled facilitator.
Immediate outcome	Philosophical discussion develops the ability to think, speak and listen and deepens individual's understanding of themselves, others, and the world around them.
Longer term outcome	Philosophical development equips people to reflect on their learning and their lives and connect with their communities so they can flourish at school and in society.
Impact	Flourishing individuals think well together and for themselves and contribute to richer public discourse, healthier democracies, and a more equitable world.

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**Objectives and activities (continued)**

**g. The focus and public benefit of our work**

We review our aims, objectives and activities each year. This review looks at what we have achieved and the outcomes of our work in the previous 12 months, at the success of each key activity and at the benefits brought to those we are set up to help. The review also helps us ensure our aims, objectives and activities remained focused on our stated purposes. The Trustees are familiar with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and have taken it into account when making any decision to which the guidance is relevant. We have regard to it when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities and, in particular, the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

SAPERE regards its primary beneficiaries as the children, young people, and adults who participate in philosophical enquiry in educational, cultural and community settings, both for learning and for leisure. Its secondary beneficiaries are the teachers, educational professionals, and community leaders who receive our support to facilitate philosophy.

We help establish a collaborative, caring, critical and creative culture in the places where P4C is practised. We do this by training educators in the techniques of philosophical enquiry and by embedding sustainable P4C within schools through our programme of support which includes courses, resources, coaching, modelling and co-planning.

We also cultivate a wider community of P4C practice, nationally and internationally, through our provision of network meetings, workshops, events and conferences.

Research shows that SAPERE's P4C programmes improve reasoning, communication skills, teamwork and confidence. P4C fosters cognitive improvement, greater self-confidence and self-esteem in young people and enables them to be active agents in their own education. The Trustees also believe that the regular and consistent practice of P4C brings wider benefits to the school community and society as a whole, through the development of more engaged, thoughtful and reflective citizens better able to participate in the world around them and with the critical thinking, metacognitive and oracy skills to do so.

The Trustees think, too, that the practice of philosophical discussion is important not only because it enables participants to talk about the issues that are important to them but also because it is a satisfying and enjoyable activity for learners and for their teachers.

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**Objectives and activities (continued)**

**Achievements and performance**

**a. Training**

With the changes in our training that were introduced in this year and the phasing out of the old Level 1 course plus the introduction of the new Pathway, including modules and shorter courses our delegate numbers slightly declined this year from 1,984 to 1,786 as we could not run so many courses in this cross-over phase. With the new courses on offer and the introduction of the new Level 2 later this year we expect these numbers to increase again over the coming years.

Assuming that each of those educators implemented philosophical enquiry in just one setting with the average size of a UK classroom then around 45,911 learners experienced P4C last year facilitated by school educators trained in 2023-24.

The real number of annual beneficiaries is far higher though, as most teachers trained in philosophy for children continue the practice throughout their career. This figure of new learners each year has been building for over three decades of our work. Since 1992 we estimate that we have helped 1.6 million young people develop skills in thinking, listening and speaking through philosophical enquiry.

During 2023-2024, we ran 107 courses including closed courses for specific schools and universities, and open courses that attract philosophical educators from throughout the UK and internationally.

This provision comprised 35 old Level 1 courses and 27 new Level 1's. We were phasing out our Level 1 Tools for Thinking Together course and instead offering modules, including Experience, Extend and Embed P4C (in partnership with The Philosophy Man). We also ran our Innovate P4C courses: Thinking with Nature and Thinking Moves. This latter course is in partnership with DialogueWorks and we have set up Lead P4C in partnership with them as well for this forthcoming year.

Feedback from our new Level 1 has been analysed and actions taken where needed to make the course better for everyone, but 93% delegates rated the delivery of the course and the course overall as excellent with 94% saying they would recommend the course to others, an increase from 89% in 22-23.

Our training was also used in different heritage, arts, cultural and community settings this year in partnership with the National Trust, The Towner Art Gallery and Hertford Theatre. We plan to continue this diversification in coming years.

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
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**Achievements and performance (continued)**

**b. Awards**

Our School Awards offer a comprehensive framework for deepening practice, promoting and recognising sustainable P4C. Designed with clear objectives for students, teachers and leadership, our awards acknowledge their hard work and commitment. Since they were piloted in 2012, 310 schools have been granted an award. Schools recognise the benefit of on-going training: 17 schools have held an Award for 10 years or more – many of them practicing before the Awards started – and there are 71 schools who have been doing P4C with us for more than five years.

According to our criteria, pupil progress is determined by their ability to construct a community of philosophical enquiry, question effectively, communicate appropriately, advance their philosophical thinking, and review their own progress. Teacher practice is evaluated based on their ability to develop facilitation skills, plan lessons effectively, provide strong leadership, and review their own, and their pupils, performance. Additionally, we assess the extent to which P4C is supported by leaders across the whole school through training and evaluation. Gold Schools are distinguished by their consistent monitoring and evaluation of P4C programmes, which includes tracking the impact of P4C on learning outcomes, and the school culture, and ethos. Gold Schools are committed to involving and communicating best practices to parents and the wider community.

In the last academic year, a total of 34 schools received an award: 10 Bronze, 18 Silver and 6 Gold. This year we have increased our award holders from 77 to 86 and we now have award-holding schools across England, Wales and Scotland, including our first Welsh-speaking school. We also have two special educational needs schools; one alternative provision school; one free school, three independent schools; two international schools and one British overseas school. There are approximately 30,000 pupils within schools who currently hold an Award. This does not include number of pupils at pupil referral units, independent schools or international schools.

We are in the process of re-developing our Going for Gold Programme so that schools can more easily access the provision and be supported for whole school (or secondary department) to develop and maintain advanced practice. We currently have 21 schools working towards achieving an award or moving up to a higher award.



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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
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**Achievements and performance (continued)**

**c. Beneficiaries**

In 2024 the school census showed that 24.6% of pupils are eligible for free school meals in England – up from 23.8% the year before. Not only is the number of pupils eligible for free school meals growing, the gap between these pupils and those not on free school meals is widening. At the start of primary school children from low-income households are 4.8 months behind their peers in Early Learning goals, the gap grows to 12.2 months at the end of primary and by the time these pupils finish secondary school at 16 the gap is the widest it has been since 2012 – nearly 2 years behind their peers (22.7 months).

Research from the Education Endowment Foundation shows that interventions that focus on metacognition, oracy and collaboration, such as philosophical enquiry, can improve progress in learning for disadvantaged pupils from between 5 and 7 months.

Research into our work shows that the cognitive, social and emotional skills developed through philosophical enquiry can help close the attainment gap for disadvantaged learners, as well as supporting learning in multiple areas across multiple age groups and abilities. It is for these reasons that although SAPERE works across all schools we focus our work on schools that serve these underprivileged communities. 60% of SAPERE Award Schools have above the national average of pupils on Pupil Premium and / or Free School Meals (a measure of deprivation in England).

Out of the schools SAPERE worked with in 2023-24, 55% of them had over the national average of children on PP and 25% of our schools this year had double the national average. The average percentage of pupils on Pupil Premium across schools in England that we worked with this year was 29%, which is 5% higher than the national average.

This year we have worked with schools in every region of the United Kingdom, and we have had delegates on our courses from Australia, Belgium, Brunei, Cambodia, Greece, Jersey, Portugal, China, Qatar, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey and the UAE.

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**Achievements and performance (continued)**

**d. Working directly with beneficiaries outside schools**

This year SAPERE has also worked in universities, museums and galleries, theatres, and heritage sites.

SAPERE was commissioned by the National Trust Estate to work with staff and volunteers at their Attingham Park Estate. This work employed philosophical enquiry to explore contestable issues raised by the colonial history of Attingham's architecture and artefacts. The project's aim is to promote a culture of dialogue in the National Trust and to encourage richer discussion among staff, volunteers and visitors. Staff from Kedleston Hall joined Attingham staff in two days of bespoke training in 2023 and the project continues in 2024 with more extensive work with volunteers.

SAPERE worked with Hertford Theatre (now Beam) and Theatre-Maker Gordon Poad, to redevelop Dramatic Enquiry, a fusion of process drama and P4C. Working with partners, Trestle Theatre Company, Tangled Feet Theatre, and local primary, secondary, FE and SEND practitioners, the project explored the use of Dramatic Enquiry to develop agency, promote wellbeing and support transition. The findings of the project will be published by researchers from the University of Hertfordshire later this year.

SAPERE was well represented at When Thought Takes Flight – an evening of public philosophy at Sheffield's Millennium Gallery with 200 participants attending an evening of free philosophical enquiry at the gallery run by SAPERE-trained facilitators at Think Together Sheffield. The evening was funded by The Society for the Furtherance of Critical Philosophy.

We also worked with Tooled-Up Education, running webinars and blogs for parents on having philosophical conversations at home. As part of this new focus on parents, we have also facilitated philosophy sessions for parents at one of our Award Schools.

In 2023 SAPERE piloted lunchtime and after-school club provision offering three clubs for children from Y1 – Y6 in south Yorkshire. The pilot paved the way for more clubs in 2024.

All this work is part of our mission to champion the practice of philosophical dialogue and the positive difference it can make to personal development, lifelong learning, civic discourse and thoughtful action.

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**Achievements and performance (continued)**

**e. New Collaborations**

**P4C.com** – a subscriber site that is the resource hub for Philosophy for Children, was gifted to SAPERE this year to safeguard, enhance and expand the website and resources into the future. As part of SAPERE's new emphasis on collaboration we worked with the P4C co-operative to bring the resource hub under SAPERE's custodianship. Both organisations jointly believe that this is the best way to conserve and build upon the legacy of the P4C Cooperative, as well as to extend the content and broaden the reach of the library itself.

For existing subscribers, there was no interruption in availability of resources, or any adverse impact. On the contrary, we have integrated SAPERE's pre-existing resource library and from the resource collections of our partner organisations, along with brand new material – all under the existing subscription model.

From April, P4C.com became SAPERE's primary resource offer, giving both new and existing subscribers a greater range of relevant resources and offering unregistered visitors more free material. Drawing on its decades of P4C development, the expertise of trainers and practitioners, and working in particular in a new partnership with Jason Buckley and Tom Bigglestone from The Philosophy Man, SAPERE will continue to significantly expand the number and diversity of resources on offer at P4C.com, market the resource to new subscribers and incorporate it into the training and support already offered to schools.

This new arrangement will also help extend the reach and collaborative nature of P4C.com by providing training on how others can develop their own resources and submit them for inclusion on the site. It was always possible for any practitioner to submit resources to P4C.com, but we now offer a new training and free webinars to support people to submit high quality material to our editorial board for inclusion. We will maintain the high standards established by P4C.com to producing tried and tested material.

This new chapter is possible because of the thoughtful work that has gone into both the creation of resources at P4C.com over many years, and the strength of the model – under which for a low annual cost, subscribers are able to access a growing wealth of resources while ensuring resource-creators are properly compensated for their work. We would like to thank Steve Williams, Roger Sutcliffe, James Nottingham and Kay Williams for all the work they have done in maintaining P4C.com, and for them gifting this resource site to SAPERE.

We also worked with former SAPERE trainer Richard Gore on **The Building Resilience to Extremism through Enquiry (BREE) Project** which was originally initiated in Greater Manchester as a response to the murder of Jo Cox (June 2016) and the attack on the Ariana Grande concert at the Manchester Arena (May 2017). A pilot course ran during the academic year 2017/18 by a partnership group of Philosophy for Children (P4C) trainers, with complementary expertise in PSHE, citizenship, global and antiracist education, and P4C lead teachers in Greater Manchester primary and secondary schools.

The programme combines P4C methodology with the BREE teaching and learning resource to empower primary and secondary teachers to develop their pupils' critical thinking and deepen their understanding of extremism and terrorism. New versions of some of the key activities were developed in 2019/20 to ensure relevance of the resource in London and have been funded successfully in London since then as part of the Mayor's Shared Endeavour Fund. The project has been subsequently funded through this funding and this year we were able to offer this training to SAPERE schools after working with Richard to ensure the course met our quality assurance measures for the new professional learning pathway. The courses will be run in the 2024-25 academic year.

This year SAPERE re-joined the Fair Education Alliance, a coalition of nearly 300 organisations tackling inequality in education. We work with our partners at the FEA to ensure we are developing best practice and working with others to support collective action to improve learning opportunities for the most disadvantaged.

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**Achievements and performance (continued)**

**f. Review of Activities**

**Staffing and trainers**

We have in place 7 staff on 6 FTE hours and a co-Directorship model. The sharing of executive responsibilities between the co-directorship roles represents a significant strategic management decision; and while this arrangement is not the "norm" for the sector, the Trustees believe the structure is right for SAPERE, meeting our twin needs of maintaining an efficient and effective training operations for earned income and delivering on our mission of advancing philosophical enquiry in education.

In 2023-24 we reduced our staff from 8 to 7 as the communications and advocacy manager role was absorbed into the core team, with each person taking on responsibility for the website and communicating their own area of expertise. The following new roles were assigned to current staff, designed with the Charitable Company's needs and staff development in mind: Emma Leeson became Training and Resource Lead, Melanie Todd became Schools and Project Lead, and David Locke became Universities and Conference Co-ordinator. Grace Lockrobin's job title was amended to Director of Philosophy and Education.

Our pathway to become a trainer is being updated and we have started to bring some people through the process this year, although we didn't complete the registration of any new trainers in 2023-24. Some old trainers have re-engaged with us so, despite some trainers retiring, we did increase our number of registered trainers from 35 to 39.

The Trustees would like to thank all our staff and trainers, past and present, for their commitment and hard work which makes such a difference to the communities we serve.

**Our key activities**

Through our knowledge, experience, expertise, people and partners we provide the following activities:

1. Training: we provide professional development for people through our pathway of quality-assured courses, including training people to train and support others to do philosophical enquiry.
2. Experiences: expert facilitators lead regular philosophy sessions, or one-off workshops in different settings.
3. Awards: we recognise excellence in individuals and educational institutions through our Awards and Fellowships.
4. Programmes: we help educational institutions to develop a culture of philosophical conversation through our packages of sustained support for schools.
5. Partnerships: we secure the future of philosophical education through our partnerships with universities and other allied organisations.
6. Resources: we develop and provide resources that respond to the needs and interests of students and teachers.
7. Research: we facilitate research that informs best practice, innovates, and illuminates our philosophical work and its educational impact.
8. Projects: we develop and test new ideas and meet significant needs through our funded projects.
9. Communications: we raise awareness of philosophical education by publishing articles in magazines and journals, speaking at national and international events, and campaigning.
10. Networks: we build and support our community of practitioners by hosting events and network groups.
11. Fundraising: we raise funds through individual giving, membership, project work, (including Research and Development) and core funding.

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
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**Achievements and performance (continued)**

**g. Plans for future periods**

Our aim is to give everyone the opportunity to develop, through philosophy, their ability to think well for themselves and with others, improving their learning, their lives in school and society, helping to create a more equitable world.

Founded in 1992, we are now reaching the end of the strategic plan that was set out post-covid taking us from 2022-2025 which aimed to:

1. **Make SAPERE sustainable through sales and marketing, re-assessing course delivery, developing new P4C models, and devising an income strategy to include fundraising, partnerships and fuller range of P4C services.**

*2023-24 Update:* Marketing and sales have been difficult with cuts in education, but we are making progress, our courses have been, and will continue to be re-developed, we now have a fundraising strategy to build on and are delivering a range of P4C services in different sectors with new and old partners.

2. **Build a collegiate SAPERE P4C community through re-building trainer relationships, creating and growing school networks, (re) engaging with ITE partners and providers, re-establishing and growing SAPERE membership and donations, developing a Fellowship Scheme, and ensuring the SAPERE community is diverse and inclusive.**

*2023-24 Update:* Trainer relationships have been re-built and work to re-establish and grow relationships in Higher Education is well underway. Our schools' network is also growing. However, our memberships and donations have not developed as we would like, we also need to continue to work hard to ensure our community is diverse and inclusive and to trial the Fellowship Scheme.

3. **Raise SAPERE's profile and improve P4C advocacy through articulating benefits of P4C, agreeing key advocacy messages, mobilising the community, participating in wider networks, and identifying and recruiting influencers.**

*2023-24 Update:* We have articulated a new vision, mission and aims, produced our first impact report, written a new theory of change, developed web pages and marketing materials that articulate our new messages, products and services, and we have re-connected with all Patrons and key stakeholders. We have been present at major conferences within P4C and beyond and we are more active in oracy circles. There is still work to do to develop our influence in wider networks and to identify influencers.

We are now looking at a longer-term strategy over five years which has three overarching strategic priorities that work together to create a *sustainable, established and forward-looking organisation that works in new ways and with new partners*.

These three priorities overlap and support each other, interlinking and driving sustainability and change.

1. **Strengthen**

To ensure our financial efficiency and long-term sustainability, we need to consolidate what we do operationally, by implementing better technology; systems; and fundraising and marketing strategies. We also need to ensure that our offer is of the highest quality, which means completing the redevelopment of our new professional learning pathway, fellowship schemes and awards and seeking external accreditation. Crucially, we need to be an organisation that more people recognise and trust. This requires a rebrand and the implementation of policies that will make us more equitable, diverse and

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**Achievements and performance (continued)**

inclusive.

**2. Collaborate**

Having made good progress on rebuilding trust within the trainer community and reconnecting with allied organisations, we now need to collaborate more effectively to support our advocacy, marketing, fundraising, research and development, while avoiding wasteful competition. Most importantly, collaboration will help us reach more beneficiaries, particularly the most disadvantaged. To achieve this, we must forge new strategic relationships with organisations that share our aims, attract new patrons that reflect SAPERE's diversity and ambition and involve more contributors in resource-creation. With the aspiration of becoming an umbrella organisation for P4C, we should also facilitate collaboration between members of our schools and universities networks. And as members of a much larger community of practice, we need to work closely with partners to help us lobby for philosophical education at the highest level via an All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG).

**3. Innovate**

We need to think ambitiously about new services and new audiences for our work, repositioning SAPERE as a solution to urgent needs, especially for disadvantaged groups. We must encourage the team, trustees and trainers to innovate with us both in schools and beyond schools. Innovation is required operationally too, we must explore new streams of revenue-generating activity such as coaching and resource-creation and new working relationships with individuals and institutions including roles for P4C Practitioners, Fellows and Consultants as well as Trainers. Finally, SAPERE must drive innovation in the practices of philosophical education, adopting pluralistic and evidence-based and approaches that are driven by the desire to achieve our charitable mission.

**Financial review**

**a. Going concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charitable Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**b. Surplus, income and expenditure**

The finances of the Charitable Company have remained steady this year.

In the year to 31 August 2024, the Charitable Company is reporting a deficit of £12,995 with total funds carried forward at 31 August 2024 of £110,246. Total income increased slightly over the previous year from £416,195 to £430,529. Direct costs were slightly reduced from £143,038 to £140,622 and overheads were increased from £270,191, to £302,902, less than budgeted with a decrease in employment and marketing costs but increases in administration and finance costs. Total expenditure was therefore increased from £413,229 to £443,524.

Income from donations is £105,173 which includes donations received as part of conference ticket sales to date, Ecclesiastical Insurance, All Souls College, and donations to our new Wonder Wander campaign set up in July 2024. These donations also include a legacy from Barbara Robson who passed away in early 2023 of £103,006.

Former President and one of SAPERE's founding members, Roger Sutcliffe says,

"Barbara was one of SAPERE's earliest and staunchest supporters. She was retired when the Society was founded, having been born in 1930. We think she was a social worker by profession, but saw very clearly the value of, and need for, philosophical inquiry and dialogue in society at large. She was a regular attendee at SAPERE conferences through the 1990s and had a gentle but persistent and positive manner about her. I was very sorry to hear of her passing."

We know people have a lot of choices when it comes to donating and we are very grateful for all donations received which help sustain the organisation and the communities we serve

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**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY AND REFLECTION IN  
EDUCATION**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**c. The principal sources of funding**

The Charitable Company has the following sources of funding:

- training delivered to schools and individuals on a self-funded basis;
- training delivered to schools within a project funded at least in part by a third party (schools generally fund at least part of the cost) with the third-party funding restricted to the purposes defined by the particular grant agreement;
- unrestricted donations;
- core funding from Trusts and Foundations;
- working directly within community or school settings, paid for through funding or schools / individuals;
- membership of P4C.com our resource library.

The Peter Cundill Foundation has supported SAPERE in the past and this year granted us £50,000 unrestricted funding per annum for the next three years. We are extremely grateful for this unrestricted funding.

A grant of £3,000 was given by the Philosophical Education Society of Great Britain which was put towards our Annual Conference, this year held at Bristol University on Saturday November 18th.

A number of restricted income funded projects completed this year including £3,629 funding from Peter Sowerby and £44,026 from our Thinking Together in Science and RE Templeton World project.

Restricted income this year also included £5,519 funding from the Arts Council England, via Hertford Theatre for our Dramatic Enquiry project, and Ireland's Department for Foreign Affairs' Reconciliation Fund via Guth Gafa awarded us £4,000 for the 'Thinking Changes' project – where we worked with The Philosophy Foundation on resources to accompany the film Young Plato.

**d. Investment policy**

As of 31 August 2024, the Charitable Company had £120,112 in cash, which represents both the Charitable Company's funds and income received in advance. Cash is spread across a number of UK regulated banks to minimise risk. The cash is available on demand from these banks. With the focus on minimising risk and making sure this cash is available, investment returns are relatively low, and no target is set for investment return.



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**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY AND REFLECTION IN  
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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**e. Reserves policy**

SAPERE's financial position has remained steady over the last couple of years, with total funds on the balance sheet (capital and reserves) currently standing at £110,246 in the year ended 31 August 2024 after a loss was made in this financial year.

The Trustees' policy since the 2015-16 financial year has been that unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the Charitable Company should be sufficient at all times to discharge fully the Charitable Company's liabilities and allow an orderly wind down.

In addition, in 2017-18 the Trustees refined the policy to include also a further amount of 5% of budgeted turnover in order to protect against predicted and actual risk of future funding difficulties.

The reserves policy is therefore to hold unrestricted reserves in 2023-2024 of £99,366 made up of £78,611 for the orderly wind down and £20,755 for the additional 5%.

The current total funds shown in the balance sheet amount to £110,246. Tangible and intangible fixed assets amount to £5,842, giving us reserves of £104,404. This means the unrestricted reserves cover our wind down and salary costs for 3.5 months.

The reserves will need to be maintained around their current level of 3.5 months as we anticipate the reserves requirement increasing in future years.

There are enough unrestricted reserves to meet our current wind down needs which has been factored into assessing the Charitable Company as a going concern.

**f. Financial risks and uncertainties**

The most significant ongoing risk for the forthcoming year is the financial pressure on schools' budgets and teachers having little time to undertake training due to workload demands. Schools continue to face a financial squeeze and monies for staff members' continuing professional development (CPD) are often cut to pay for other essential spend. Schools are our main source of income. We continue to invest in customer services, advocacy and research to ensure that we are making the case for high-quality sustainable P4C.

The Trustees confirm that, in view of the forecast future performance and further actions available to the trustees, the Charitable Company is a going concern for at least twelve months from the date of approval of the accounts.

**Structure, governance and management**

**a. Constitution**

The Charitable Company is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee. The governing documents are the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

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**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY AND REFLECTION IN  
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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**Structure, governance and management (continued)**

**b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees**

The management of the Charitable Company is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Trust deed. At the AGM on Friday 8th March 2024 members voted on updating the details on Quorums at AGMs so that voting can be held online as well as in person. This followed the guidelines from the Charity Commission on how to allow remote attendance at General Meetings.

Members also updated the Quorum from 25 members or 20% of the membership (whichever is the lesser) in line with the calling of a general meeting from members.

A special resolution to change articles – requires a majority of 75%.

On Friday 8th March at the AGM we had 13 members present and 18 proxy votes, taking the total to 31 votes. All were in favour, except 1 abstention, meaning a special resolution majority Quorum vote was passed.

The Charitable Company has a board of up to ten trustees/directors who meet a minimum of four times per year and are responsible for the strategic direction, policy and oversight of the Charitable Company. The Trustees have a variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the Charitable Company.

There are also a number of standing subcommittees, formed of trustees and staff, covering Finance, Risk and Governance; Fundraising and Communications; Personnel; and P4C, Trainers and Training. Ad hoc subcommittees are also formed as necessary to address specific issues.

Trustees must retire and stand for re-election every three years. The Articles of Association provide for at least seven trustees to be elected at the AGM, and a further three trustees to be appointed, if appropriate, by the Trustees. Trustees elected at the AGM must be recommended for election by the Trustees or nominated by two members.

In 2024 we had new trustees come on Board and resignations that were not expected. Going forward we have staggered trustees joining and resigning dates from the Board so that it is able to support and guide the Charitable Company well into the future.

Our longest standing trustee Jeannie Cohen is to remain in place until mid 2024-25 whilst we find a suitable replacement. Jack Langley is our next longest standing Trustee, having joined the board in 2018, and will remain in place until 2027 as Chair. All other trustees have joined the board at various times since 2019.

We have put in place a Trustee Leaving Questionnaire to help monitor and guide Trustees on supporting their fellow Board Members. We have also adopted the use of Advisors to the Board, this will be a place for former Board Members to be able to offer their services on an ad-hoc basis when their skills are needed, without the formal commitment of being a Board Member. It will also be a place where future Board Members can sit to find out more about the Charitable Company and the way it is run.

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**Structure, governance and management (continued)**

**c. Governance aims**

The Trustees have had a number of key governance aims during this period:

- To review and manage the financial impacts on the Charitable Company during the challenging operating circumstances over the year.
- To continually review and plan for the future, taking into account potential risks and uncertainty with a particular focus on ensuring the Charitable Company remains a going concern.
- To ensure that the Charitable Company follows all elements of applicable laws and charity regulation.
- To continue to oversee the updating of SAPERE's administration, management information, website, and accounting systems and practices.
- To assist the flow of information and pursuit of the Board's strategy including by attendance of trustees at events such as conferences, events, consultation meetings and committee meetings, as well as new offers, such as our new pathway of courses.
- To increase inclusion and diversity throughout the organisation.
- To monitor the composition and practices of the Board of Trustees and ensure that they are in line with current legislation and best practice.
- To monitor and assess the risk register on an annual basis.
- To continue to improve the organisation's safeguarding practices.

We believe that the current board has a good balance and range of skills and experience and that this supports the Charitable Company effectively.

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**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY AND REFLECTION IN  
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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**Structure, governance and management (continued)**

**d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees**

This year we appointed two new trustees with the skills to be able to continue to support the Charitable Company, and had three resignations.

In March, Glory Ekong, Amanda Fulford and Finia Kuhlmann left the Board and qualified solicitor Gareth John was appointed all at our AGM. Brian Shayanewako joined the Board as Treasurer in July.

All new trustees are required to meet with the co-Directors, the Chair and existing trustees to understand the ethos of the Charitable Company and their responsibilities, to learn about the aims and objectives of the Charitable Company and to have an opportunity to ask questions. All new trustees are also invited to meet the staff and to attend courses and conferences run by the Charitable Company.

The Chair and Directors of the Charitable Company ensure that all new trustees are furnished with key governance documents, including the Articles of Association, annual report, financial policies, and other relevant documents. These are supplemented with booklets from the Charity Commission that outline general trustee responsibilities.

In addition, if any trustee has any specific responsibilities, they are supported by the Chair, existing trustees and staff to ensure they have sufficient knowledge, skills and information to fulfil those responsibilities.

The Trustees who served during the year were as follows:

Jeannie Cohen

Glory Ekong, Treasurer until March 2024

Amanda Fulford until March 2024

Chris Houghton

Paul Jackson

Gareth John from March 2024

Finia Kuhlmann until March 2024

Jack Langley, Chair

Danny Myers

Brian Shayanewako appointed Treasurer July 2024

Rosie Wilson

Tim Yorke, Vice chair from May 2024

We would like to thank trustees who have left the board this year for their years of service and support to SAPERE.

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**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY AND REFLECTION IN  
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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**Structure, governance and management (continued)**

**e. Risk management**

The Trustees and Operations Director have prepared a risk register of the major risks to all areas of the Charitable Company and this is reviewed and updated each year. Mitigations to these risks are identified and implemented; these mitigations include updated procedures, systems, processes and controls. Management updates include key risks which are discussed at board meetings. Discussions about risks took place at every trustee meeting.

The Trustees and the officers of the Charitable Company have continued to ensure that financial controls are in place. We reviewed these areas as part of the preparation for and process of the independent examination.

The most significant ongoing risk for the forthcoming year is the lack of funding in schools. The development of our online offer, new sales and courses, diversification of our income streams, our fundraising efforts and our careful financial management are all part of our financial risk management.

The Charitable Company relies on projects and grants or donations to help cover overheads, and the expected future income from these sources is considered carefully when reviewing overhead levels and commitments. This income is considered sufficient for the next financial year and a Going Concern plan has been prepared to support the Charitable Company through at least the next 12 months.

The Charitable Company has a safeguarding policy that is reviewed and circulated annually to all trainers and staff. The Director of Operations and Development is responsible for the maintenance of this policy, and one trustee (Jack Langley) is the lead safeguarding trustee. All trainers and staff who have direct contact with children are required to have up-to-date Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks.

In 2023-24 the Trustees agreed that all new Board members should have an up-to-date DBS check.

The health and safety policy was reviewed and updated.

**f. Management and staff**

A scheme of delegation is in place and day-to-day responsibility for the provision of the services rests with the senior management, supported by the staff of the Charitable Company. Our two co-Directors are tasked with delivering our services and ensuring that our key performance indicators are met, and for providing comprehensive reports for each board meeting.

**g. Financial risk management**

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

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**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY AND REFLECTION IN  
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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**Structure, governance and management (continued)**

**h. Key management personnel remuneration**

The Trustees consider the board of trustees, the Director of Philosophy and Education and the Director of Operations and Development as comprising the key management personnel of the Charitable Company in charge of directing and controlling the Charitable Company and running and operating the Charitable Company on a day-to-day basis.

All trustees give of their time freely and no trustee remuneration was paid in the year for acting as a trustee. One trustee is an active trainer and has been remunerated for their work as a trainer in accordance with SAPERE's terms and conditions applicable to all trainers. The Articles of SAPERE permit trustees to enter into a contract for the provision of services under certain circumstances provided for in the Articles. The Trustees have considered the issue of having trainers as trustees and were satisfied that it would be in the best interests of the Charitable Company for the services to be provided by those trainers who are also trustees, because it is of great benefit to the Charitable Company to have trustees who are directly involved in the delivery of training and who can bring that expertise to the board. The Trustees are satisfied that the arrangements comply with sections 185–188 of the Charities Act 2011.

Details of trustee expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in note 10 to the accounts.

Trustees are required to disclose all relevant interests and register them with the officers of the Charitable Company and, in accordance with SAPERE's constitution and policy, must, and do, withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises.

The pay of the Charitable Company's directors is reviewed annually. Their remuneration has been benchmarked with that paid by charities of a similar size and activity to ensure that it is fair and not out of line with that generally paid for similar roles.

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**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY AND REFLECTION IN  
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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**Structure, governance and management (continued)**

**Statement of Trustees' responsibilities**

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charitable Company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charitable Company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charitable Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charitable Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charitable Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

*Jack Langley*

.....  
**Jack Langley**  
(Chair of Trustees)

Date: 24/02/2025

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**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY AND REFLECTION IN  
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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Society for the Advancement of  
Philosophical Enquiry and Reflection in Education ('the Company')**

I report to the Charitable Company Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charitable Company for the year ended 31 August 2024.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As the Trustees of the Charitable Company (and 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 Charitable Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Charitable Company's accounts 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.



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**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY AND REFLECTION IN  
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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**Independent Examiner's Statement**

Since the Charitable 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 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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charitable Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of 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
4. 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 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.

This report is made solely to the Charitable Company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charitable Company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Charitable Company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed:

*S J Tweedie*

Dated:

*27 February 2025*

S J Tweedie

BSc FCA DChA

WR Partners  
Belmont House  
Shrewsbury Business Park  
Shrewsbury  
SY2 6LG

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY AND REFLECTION IN  
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**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	-	105,173	105,173	25,412
Charitable activities	4	57,174	266,075	323,249	388,445
Investments	5	-	2,107	2,107	2,338
<b>Total income</b>		<b>57,174</b>	<b>373,355</b>	<b>430,529</b>	<b>416,195</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	6	53,327	390,197	443,524	413,229
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>53,327</b>	<b>390,197</b>	<b>443,524</b>	<b>413,229</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>3,847</b>	<b>(16,842)</b>	<b>(12,995)</b>	<b>2,966</b>
Transfers between funds	16	(3,847)	3,847	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>(12,995)</b>	<b>(12,995)</b>	<b>2,966</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		-	123,241	123,241	120,275
Net movement in funds		-	(12,995)	(12,995)	2,966
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>110,246</b>	<b>110,246</b>	<b>123,241</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 27 to 41 form part of these financial statements.

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY AND REFLECTION IN  
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(A company limited by guarantee)  
REGISTERED NUMBER: 7821030

**BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Intangible assets	11	3,150	7,907
Tangible assets	12	2,692	2,351
		<u>5,842</u>	<u>10,258</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	13	126,203	31,239
Cash at bank and in hand		120,112	307,413
		<u>246,315</u>	<u>338,652</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(108,516)	(202,549)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>137,799</u>	<u>136,103</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>143,641</u>	<u>146,361</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15	(33,395)	(23,120)
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u><u>110,246</u></u>	<u><u>123,241</u></u>

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY AND REFLECTION IN  
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**(A company limited by guarantee)  
REGISTERED NUMBER: 7821030**

**BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)  
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Charity funds</b>			
Restricted funds	16	-	-
Unrestricted funds	16	<b>110,246</b>	<b>123,241</b>
<b>Total funds</b>		<b>110,246</b>	<b>123,241</b>

The Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

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

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

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

*Jack Langley*

.....  
**Jack Langley**  
(Chair of Trustees)

Date: 24/02/2025

The notes on pages 27 to 41 form part of these financial statements.

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**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY AND REFLECTION IN  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**1. General information**

The Charitable Company is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. the address of the registered office is WR Partners, Belmont House, Shrewsbury Business Park, Shrewsbury, England, SY2 6LG.

**2. Accounting policies**

**2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

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

The Society for the Advancement of Philosophical Enquiry and Reflection in Education meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

**2.2 Going concern**

After making enquires, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charitable Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Charitable Company therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

**2.3 Income**

All income is recognised once the Charitable Company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

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**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY AND REFLECTION IN  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.4 Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charitable Company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

**2.5 Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charitable Company; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

**2.6 Intangible assets and amortisation**

Intangible assets costing £500 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable, and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, intangible assets are measured at cost less any accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation is provided on intangible assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life.

Amortisation is provided on the following basis:

Website & Database	- 25 %
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**2.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets costing £500 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

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**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY AND REFLECTION IN  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation (continued)**

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Equipment	-	25%
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**2.8 Debtors**

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

**2.9 Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and 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.

**2.10 Liabilities and provisions**

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charitable Company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

**2.11 Financial instruments**

The Charitable Company 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.

**2.12 Pensions**

The Charitable Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charitable Company to the fund in respect of the year.

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**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.13 Fund accounting**

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

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charitable Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.



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**3. Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations	105,173	105,173	25,412
<i>Total 2023</i>	<i>25,412</i>	<i>25,412</i>	

**4. Income from charitable activities**

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Training and Education	57,174	256,921	314,095	380,414
Income from charitable activities - Other income	-	177	177	113
Income from charitable activities - Memberships	-	8,977	8,977	7,918
	57,174	266,075	323,249	388,445
<i>Total 2023</i>	<i>79,499</i>	<i>308,946</i>	<i>388,445</i>	

**5. Investment income**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Investment income - Bank interest receivable	2,107	2,107	2,338
<i>Total 2023</i>	<i>2,338</i>	<i>2,338</i>	

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**6. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities**

**Summary by fund type**

	<b>Restricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
Training and education	53,327	390,197	<b>443,524</b>	413,229
<i>Total 2023</i>	<i>2,150</i>	<i>411,079</i>	<i>413,229</i>	

**Summary by expenditure type**

	<b>Staff costs 2024 £</b>	<b>Depreciation 2024 £</b>	<b>Other costs 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
Training and education	233,065	5,836	204,623	<b>443,524</b>	413,229
<i>Total 2023</i>	<i>199,221</i>	<i>6,340</i>	<i>207,668</i>	<i>413,229</i>	

**7. Analysis of expenditure by activities**

	<b>Activities undertaken directly 2024 £</b>	<b>Support costs 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>
Direct costs	140,622	302,902	<b>443,524</b>	413,229
<i>Total 2023</i>	<i>143,038</i>	<i>270,191</i>	<i>413,229</i>	

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**7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)**

**Analysis of direct costs**

	<b>Activities 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>
Trainer costs	39,238	39,238	35,986
Venue costs	12,174	12,174	18,798
Project costs	49,674	49,674	30,895
Other costs	39,536	39,536	61,376
General office costs	-	-	(4,017)
	<u>140,622</u>	<u>140,622</u>	<u>143,038</u>
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>143,038</u>	<u>143,038</u>	

**Analysis of support costs**

	<b>Activities 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>
Staff costs	233,065	233,065	199,221
Depreciation	5,836	5,836	6,340
General office costs	58,126	58,126	58,582
Governance costs	5,875	5,875	6,048
	<u>302,902</u>	<u>302,902</u>	<u>270,191</u>
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>270,191</u>	<u>270,191</u>	

**8. Independent examiner's remuneration**

The independent examiner's remuneration amounts to an independent examiner fee of £1,400 (2023 - £3,744), and accounts preparation of £1,400 (2023 - £ -).

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**9. Staff costs**

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	212,745	185,999
Social security costs	14,631	8,642
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	5,689	4,580
	<u>233,065</u>	<u>199,221</u>

The average number of persons employed by the Charitable Company during the year was as follows:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Average number of employees	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
number of staff	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

The remuneration paid to key Management personnel during the year amounted to £95,704 (2023: £80,834)

**10. Trustees' remuneration and expenses**

All trustees give their time freely and no trustee remuneration was paid in the year for acting as a Trustee. Two Trustees are also trainers and both have been remunerated for their work as trainers in accordance with SAPERE's terms and conditions applicable to all trainers. The amounts paid during the year are £13,336 (2023: £950). The articles of SAPERE permit trustees to enter into a contract for the provision of services under certain circumstances provided for in the articles. The Trustees have considered the issue of having trainers as trustees and are satisfied that it would be in the best interest of the Charitable Company for the services to be provided by those trainers who are also trustees, because it is of great benefit to the Charitable Company to have trustees who are directly involved in the delivery of training and can bring that expertise to the board. The Trustees are satisfied that the arrangements comply with sections 185-188 of the Charities Act 2011

During the year ended 31 August 2024, expenses totalling £165 were reimbursed or paid directly to 2 Trustees (2023 - £84 to 3 Trustees) for travel expenses.

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**11. Intangible assets**

	<b>Computer software £</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 September 2023	62,826
Disposals	(42,786)
At 31 August 2024	<u>20,040</u>
<b>Amortisation</b>	
At 1 September 2023	54,919
Charge for the year	4,757
On disposals	(42,786)
At 31 August 2024	<u>16,890</u>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 August 2024	<u><u>3,150</u></u>
At 31 August 2023	<u><u>7,907</u></u>

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**12. Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Office equipment £</b>
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 September 2023	8,379
Additions	1,420
At 31 August 2024	<u>9,799</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 September 2023	6,028
Charge for the year	1,079
At 31 August 2024	<u>7,107</u>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 August 2024	<u><u>2,692</u></u>
At 31 August 2023	<u><u>2,351</u></u>

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**13. Debtors**

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Trade debtors	13,235	15,803
Other debtors	-	108
Prepayments and accrued income	112,968	15,328
	<u>126,203</u>	<u>31,239</u>

**14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	4,727	36,478
Other taxation and social security	4,261	7,198
Other creditors	3,126	637
Accruals and deferred income	96,402	158,236
	<u>108,516</u>	<u>202,549</u>

Deferred income includes £83,436 in relation to income received for training and conferences to be held in 2023-24 within amounts falling due within one year and £33,395 in respect of future years shown as amounts falling due after more than one year (Note 15)

Of the total deferred income of £116,832 (2023: £177,640), £115,872 (2023: £129,985) is unrestricted and £960 (2023: £47,655) is restricted.

**15. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year**

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals and deferred income	<u>33,395</u>	<u>23,120</u>

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**16. Statement of funds**

**Statement of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General Funds - all funds	123,241	373,355	(390,197)	3,847	110,246
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Peter Sowerby Project	-	3,629	(385)	(3,244)	-
Templeton World Foundation	-	44,026	(44,162)	136	-
ACE (Dramatic Enquiry)	-	5,519	(4,857)	(662)	-
Hertford Theatre	-	5,519	(4,857)	(662)	-
Young Plato	-	4,000	(3,923)	(77)	-
	-	57,174	(53,327)	(3,847)	-
<b>Total of funds</b>	123,241	430,529	(443,524)	-	110,246

The Peter Sowerby project part-funds 12 schools in North Yorkshire doing the Going for Gold programme.

Templeton World Charity Foundation project is funding 6 secondary schools to support P4C in RE and Science and aims to build deep connections between these concepts that underpin these subjects.

ACE Dramatic Enquiry Project

Young Plato working to develop resources to accompany the film young Plato.

For further detail, please see the Trustees' Annual Report.



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**16. Statement of funds (continued)**

**Statement of funds - prior year**

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2022 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2023 £</i>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General Funds - all funds	120,275	327,553	(355,072)	30,485	123,241
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
EEF Project	-	34,749	(1,745)	(33,004)	-
Bleaneau Gwent Borough Council (BGBC)	-	31,818	(24,497)	(7,321)	-
Templeton World Charity Foundation project	-	17,575	(27,870)	10,295	-
The PLACE project	-	4,500	(4,045)	(455)	-
	-	88,642	(58,157)	(30,485)	-
<b>Total of funds</b>	120,275	416,195	(413,229)	-	123,241

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**17. Summary of funds**

**Summary of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
General funds	123,241	373,355	(390,197)	3,847	110,246
Restricted funds	-	57,174	(53,327)	(3,847)	-
	<u>123,241</u>	<u>430,529</u>	<u>(443,524)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>110,246</u>

**Summary of funds - prior year**

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
General funds	120,275	327,553	(355,072)	30,485	123,241
Restricted funds	-	88,642	(58,157)	(30,485)	-
	<u>120,275</u>	<u>416,195</u>	<u>(413,229)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>123,241</u>

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**18. Analysis of net assets between funds**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - current period**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>
Tangible fixed assets	2,692	<b>2,692</b>
Intangible fixed assets	3,150	<b>3,150</b>
Current assets	246,315	<b>246,315</b>
Creditors due within one year	(141,911)	<b>(141,911)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>110,246</b>	<b>110,246</b>

**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period**

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2023 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	2,351	2,351
Intangible fixed assets	7,907	7,907
Current assets	338,652	338,652
Creditors due within one year	(202,549)	(202,549)
Creditors due in more than one year	(23,120)	(23,120)
<b>Total</b>	<b>123,241</b>	<b>123,241</b>

**19. Pension commitments**

The group operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the group in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the group to the fund and amounted to £836 (2023 - £637) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

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**20. Related party transactions**

During the year, there were two related party transactions relating to reimbursement for preparing and delivering training courses. Innovate and Create Ltd received £5,193, Paul Jackson (Trustee) is a Director and Rosie Wilson (Trustee) received £8,144. For further details see note 10. There were no other related party transactions in the year.