

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 06771027 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1146170

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025
FOR
SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE**

McCabe Ford Williams
Chartered Accountants
Charlton House
Dour Street
DOVER
Kent
CT16 1BL

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025**

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SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025**

TRUSTEES

Dr M J Fitzpatrick
Prof P J Hardaker
Prof R H Lovell-Badge FMedSci FRS
Mr J Bruun (resigned 15.5.25)
Mr J Wren
Prof W Van Saarloos
Professor P A Garner
Professor L J Yellowlees
Mr M A Conradi
Dr M U Fonjallaz Björkstén
Ms S Bhattacharya
Mr C J Hardie (appointed 6.7.24) (resigned 30.12.24)
Ms C Guinard (appointed 23.7.25)
Dr R Tucker (appointed 22.7.25)
Professor N Grobert (appointed 22.7.25)
Mr S Denegri (appointed 1.7.25)
Mr A A Allegra (appointed 8.11.25)

COMPANY SECRETARY

Ms T Brown

REGISTERED OFFICE

41 Portland Place
London
W1B 1QH

**REGISTERED COMPANY
NUMBER**

06771027 (England and Wales)

**REGISTERED CHARITY
NUMBER**

1146170

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

McCabe Ford Williams
Chartered Accountants
Charlton House
Dour Street
DOVER
Kent
CT16 1BL

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 5 April 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charity has two main objectives:

1. To advance the education of the public in any branch of scientific research (including social science) and in particular by the dissemination of such research and useful information about such research; and
2. To promote (for the benefit of the community) the knowledge and understanding of the public of, and to stimulate interest of the public in, the creation, presentation and use of scientific research.

Significant activities

Our charitable activities:

- Provide advice on scientific matters to the media, policy makers, the general public and others.
- Produce educational materials on scientific issues for the public as well as researchers and others.
- Respond to misleading or false information by providing the public with relevant scientific evidence.
- Promote the importance of independent scientific advice for public policy.

Much of the fund generation occurs through the day to day work of the staff and volunteers. Focused fundraising activities are carried out by the development team, including grant proposals, project and programme partnerships and public appeals.

Public benefit

The trustees of the charity have had due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The charity's objectives and aims have been reviewed taking this guidance into consideration and the trustees have noted the extensive achievements of the charity and the contribution it makes to public life.

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable and fundraising activities

1. Become the public voice on evidence

Our mission is to engage and mobilise people to pursue high standards of evidence in public life, including challenging organisations and politicians to be transparent about the evidence they use and provide a clear chain of reasoning.

Evidence transparency in government

We have initiated a series of meetings with Chief Scientific Advisors (CSA) across government to reignite discussions around transparency of evidence. We delivered a seminar for senior civil servants in collaboration with the Institute for Government and plan to publish an evidence playbook to help protect analysts' publication of evidence from policy pressures.

As part of our 'Show Your Workings' campaign we conducted a snap transparency review of six recently announced policy measures. We found that only three out of the six policies met our transparency test. We are planning to continue publishing transparency reviews of newly announced policies.

AllTrials Campaign

The Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trials) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 was formally signed into law in 2025, making it a statutory requirement from 2026 for all medicinal clinical trials to register and publish a summary of results within 12 months of the end of the trial. This announcement marks a turning point for clinical trial transparency in the UK but will only be effective if enforced by the HRA and MHRA. We will continue to monitor compliance when the law comes into force.

2. Establish Evidence-Know-How as a public goal

Our goal is a research community that is willing, able and cognizant of its capacity to empower others; and recognition and increased adoption of our approach - through VoYS, public engagement partnerships and putting public empowerment at the heart of the international evidence movement.

Voice of Young Science: engaging early career researchers in public debate

The Voice of Young Science (VoYS) network is our unique network of around 6000 Early Career Researchers (ECRs) who are trained and motivated at the start of their careers to be inspired and take responsibility for the public conversation around science and evidence.

Over this year we delivered six Standing up for Science workshops with four in-person workshops held in London, Norwich, Nottingham and Edinburgh and two online workshops. At these sessions, ECRs heard from panels of more experienced researchers as well as expert journalists, academics, and policymakers on how to engage in the public discussion around science and research.

Over 200 ECRs participated in VoYS workshops across our programme in 2024. We also delivered a bespoke Standing up for Science workshop for doctoral researchers from the Trials Research Methodology Doctoral Training Programme based at the University of Liverpool.

Bespoke policy engagement training was delivered to researchers from the Central England NERC Training Alliance (CENTA), the South and East Network of Social Sciences (SeNSS) and the Cambridge Biosciences Doctoral Training Programmes.

Confidence in research

We continued our partnership with Elsevier to develop a series of training resources to support ECRs be able to communicate confidently about research evidence and research practice with the public, policy and media. These resources, including videos and slides, cover topics from explaining uncertainty to understanding how to communicate the quality and reliability of evidence to dealing with the rough and tumble of communicating in practice will be hosted on Elsevier's Researcher Academy platform. To launch the resources, we will deliver three webinars featuring expert speakers to a global audience of researchers.

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

Public engagement partnerships

Making sense of drug policy for incurable cancer

In collaboration with researchers at King's College London, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Queen's University, Canada we cocreated a briefing paper for the public and policy makers which explains how cancer drugs are evaluated and approved, highlighting the importance of transparency and the need for rich data that reflects patient experiences for those with advanced disease.

Gastric bypass surgery

In partnership with researchers from the University of Bristol we cocreated a briefing paper intended to communicate the evidence of a large, randomised control study about the safety and cost-effectiveness of gastric bypass for people living with severe obesity. The partners were able to present their insights and its implications for NHS service planning to MPs and Peers at Evidence Week.

Risk Know-How

We have continued our partnership with Lloyd's Register Foundation to develop understanding of 'Risk Know-How' focused on supporting communities to make sense of risk. Our Risk Know-How platform, framework and training, is now a unique international resource on actionable risk information, achieving recognition in discussions from the UN to the UK parliament, and making an impact with diverse audience from Mexican journalists to Spanish floods. We are beginning a campaign of approaches to major risk information providers, looking for their adoption of the framework.

The formal launch of the Risk know-how MOOC with the Institute for the Public Understanding of Risk in Singapore on "Understanding and Communicating Risk" saw an increase in registration by 100%.

The curated bank of over 100 resources on the platform, covering key sectors, topics and themes from leading organisations eg World Bank, UNICEF and the European Space Agency is being used and shared widely. We have supplemented this resource bank with bespoke resources, requested by communities, including how to interpret and understand average climate temperature (developed with Rothamsted), a series on AI and misinformation (developed with Maldita, a leading Spanish misinformation organisation) and a video series on the risk of accident at work (in collaboration with SafetyKnot).

We have delivered training in the framework to Spain's National Office for Science Advice's new scientific advisers, European, Geosciences Union's policy taskforce and UK Parliamentarian staff at Evidence Week. This resulted in Victoria Collins MP advocating for the framework to be included in Government's evaluation of risk communication of flooding to the Minister of Flooding.

We estimate that including expert contributions, resources and intern support we have leveraged over £295,400 of support for the Risk Know-How project

Evidence Week in UK parliament

Sense about Science and the Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST) organised Evidence Week 2024 in partnership with the House of Commons Library, the House of Lords Library, the UK Statistics Authority, Ipsos, Full Fact, MumsNet, MoneySavingExpert, Shout Out UK, Imperial College London and research institutions across the UK.

Five days of training sessions for parliamentary staff and two days of policy briefings in Westminster for MPs and Peers, were opened by the first livestreamed Reverse Select Committee, with committee chairs and national experts being in the witness stand, responding to voters who came to Parliament from across the UK to ask for evidence. Hundreds of people submitted questions, and hundreds more watched online, reminding politicians that 74% of the public think it is important that the government shares all the evidence used to make important policy decisions. Topics ranged from paternity leave and restorative justice to child poverty and transport spending.

Evidence Week 2024 welcomed more researchers than ever before into Parliament to deliver short policy briefings to MPs, Peers and Parliamentary staff on their new evidence and insights on emerging policy issues. Topics covered included briefings on school attendance, dealing with climate uncertainties, handling patient complaints in the NHS, and electrifying air travel. Over the two days of briefings, more than 300 new connections were made between parliamentarians and researchers wanting to bring their evidence into policymaking, engaging with the offices of over 80 MPs and 14 Peers.

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

Responsible Handover

Artificial intelligence (AI) and data science tools are emerging all around us, with applications ranging from medical to agricultural, financial to defence. At every level in society there is justified concern about bad decisions resulting from AI if organisations misunderstand how to use them, or don't properly assess the strengths and weaknesses of outputs before implementing them.

Responsible Handover, launched in September 2024, is a universal framework that covers the governance gap in the adoption of AI and advanced data tools and tech. Wellcome supported our creation of it following the publication of our data science guide and people contacting us whistle blowing on the applications that are bypassing evidence gateways and standards in high-risk areas. The framework allows tool developers and adopters to clarify the origin, capability and limitations of AI tools, and apply it appropriately.

We are now exploring the possibility of hosting the framework on a governance-builder platform and are engaged in adoption discussions with international partners including Australia, NZ and UK governments, US funder networks and the International Science Council.

3. Cultivate frank discussion about difficult evidence

We aim to capture and communicate our ethos, insights and achievements, to increase their influence and improve support.

The John Maddox Prize: Standing up for Science

The John Maddox prize is a joint initiative of the charity **Sense about Science** and the leading international scientific journal **Nature**. The prize has been awarded annually since 2012 to individuals who stand up for sound science and evidence, advancing the public discussion of difficult topics despite challenges or hostility.

In 2024 Patrick Ball was recognised with the John Maddox Prize and Kelly Cobey with the Maddox Early Career Award, for standing up for science in the public interest.

Patrick Ball was recognised for his outstanding work in identifying, cataloguing and prosecuting war crimes using rigorous statistical and mathematical modelling. Patrick has analysed data on human rights violations and killings from Bosnia, Timor-Leste, Guatemala, Colombia, El Salvador, Peru, Syria, Kosovo, Sierra Leone, and even the USA. Notably, he served as a witness in 2021 at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia against Slobodan Milosevic, the former President of Serbia.

Kelly Cobey is the Director of the Metaresearch and Open Science Program at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. She was recognised for her work on implementing open science and advocacy for the need to reform research assessment, particularly around the rising problem of predatory journals.

A special judges' commendation goes to **Dr Shiba Subedi**, a seismologist at the Nepal Academy of Technology and Science, in recognition of his efforts to raise earthquake awareness and preparedness in Nepal.

Leveraged resources

Across all of the organisation's activities, we estimate that we have leveraged a further £192,000 of support taking into account facilities given free of charge, administrative support, expert and partner input as well as UKRI-funded internships. This is in addition to the extensive resources leveraged by the Risk Know-How project.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The charity held funds at the year end totalling £373,400 (2024 - £399,696).

Reserves policy

The Trustees actively review the policy in line with planned strategy and future commitments. The trustees aspire to hold six months fixed costs in reserve, in order to support organisational resilience and sustainability, to invest in new areas of work and maintain cashflow and continuity of business. Progress is reviewed at meetings of the Governance and Planning Committee and the amount set aside is revised in accordance with projected income and expenditure.

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Going concern

The trustees are confident that the charity has sufficient reserves and income streams to continue for the foreseeable future.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Deed gives the power to elect or co-opt individuals to the charity. Trustees serve a 4 year term followed by a possible renewable term of 3 years. The Governance and Planning Committee maintains an overview of skills and experience needs and a succession plan is maintained in consultation with the board of trustees. Trustee vacancies are advertised and potential trustees are also identified through Sense about Science's wider networks.

A trustee resource is maintained and all trustees participate in induction sessions. Policies relevant to trustees are included within the staff handbook.

Organisational structure

The charity is registered as a company limited by guarantee. The Board of Trustees meets four times a year, including a strategy session. During the year there were an average of eleven trustees.

The charity specifies that a Chair should be elected annually. In the event of no alternative nominations, the current Chair is automatically elected at the final meeting of the year.

The Governance and Planning Committee is a subcommittee of the Board which provides in depth review and challenge of policies, resources and financial planning, budgeting and reporting. It reports to the Board three times a year. Remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer is reviewed by an ad hoc group led by the Chair and the Chair of the Governance and Planning Committee.

Activities are coordinated by a small office team and supported by a wide network of organisations and volunteers from all areas of science and society.

The trustees' policy is to ensure that the charity is not dependent upon a single source of funding and receives its financial support from a diversity of funding sources: it currently receives funding from trusts and foundations, individual scientists and members of the public, learned societies, and scholarly publishers. Donations are governed by a funding policy and the charity fundraising strategy aims for diverse sources of funding. No grant or funding of any kind entitles any organisation to decision-making authority. External funding will not divert Sense about Science from its agreed aims and values.

Key management remuneration

Remuneration for the staff is agreed by the Director/Director's team, under the oversight of the Governance and Planning Committee. The Director's remuneration is agreed by the Chair in consultation with the Board of Trustees.

Risk management

The Board and, through delegated responsibility, trustees on our Governance and Planning Committee, regularly review the major risks that the organisation faces in terms of its charitable objectives, finances, governance and leadership, statutory compliance and reputation. These are updated and reviewed on an ongoing basis and a risk appetite, mapping high, medium and low risks is prepared quarterly so that trends over time can be identified.

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 22/12/2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Simon Denegri

.....
Mr S Denegri - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Sense About Science ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 5 April 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, 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 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.

Mr John Sheather BSc FCA

McCabe Ford Williams
Chartered Accountants
Charlton House
Dour Street
DOVER
Kent
CT16 1BL



Date: 22 December 2025

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	5.4.25 Total funds £	5.4.24 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	239,214	-	239,214	308,586
Charitable activities	5				
Projects		247,266	304,796	552,062	438,160
Investment income	4	4,143	-	4,143	3,482
Total		<u>490,623</u>	<u>304,796</u>	<u>795,419</u>	<u>750,228</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Fundraising projects		14,481	-	14,481	13,340
Charitable activities	6				
Projects		516,161	291,073	807,234	802,226
Total		<u>530,642</u>	<u>291,073</u>	<u>821,715</u>	<u>815,566</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(40,019)	13,723	(26,296)	(65,338)
Transfers between funds	17	4,674	(4,674)	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>(35,345)</u>	<u>9,049</u>	<u>(26,296)</u>	<u>(65,338)</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		257,544	142,152	399,696	465,034
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>222,199</u>	<u>151,201</u>	<u>373,400</u>	<u>399,696</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

BALANCE SHEET 5 APRIL 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	5.4.25 Total funds £	5.4.24 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	12	-	-	-	221
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	40,723	-	40,723	124,910
Cash at bank and in hand	14	236,083	157,214	393,297	351,201
		<u>276,806</u>	<u>157,214</u>	<u>434,020</u>	<u>476,111</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(54,607)	(6,013)	(60,620)	(76,636)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>222,199</u>	<u>151,201</u>	<u>373,400</u>	<u>399,475</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>222,199</u>	<u>151,201</u>	<u>373,400</u>	<u>399,696</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>222,199</u>	<u>151,201</u>	<u>373,400</u>	<u>399,696</u>
FUNDS	17				
Unrestricted funds				222,199	257,544
Restricted funds				<u>151,201</u>	<u>142,152</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>373,400</u>	<u>399,696</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 5 April 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 5 April 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 22/12/2025..... and were signed on its behalf by:

Simon Denegri

Mr S Denegri - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025**

	Notes	5.4.25 £	5.4.24 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	37,953	(28,235)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u>37,953</u>	<u>(28,235)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		4,143	3,482
Net cash provided by investing activities		<u>4,143</u>	<u>3,482</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>42,096</u>	<u>(24,753)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>351,201</u>	<u>375,954</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>393,297</u></u>	<u><u>351,201</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET EXPENDITURE TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	5.4.25 £	5.4.24 £
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(26,296)	(65,338)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	221	221
Interest received	(4,143)	(3,482)
Decrease in debtors	84,187	4,108
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(16,016)	36,256
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	<u>37,953</u>	<u>(28,235)</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 6.4.24 £	Cash flow £	At 5.4.25 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	351,201	42,096	393,297
	<u>351,201</u>	<u>42,096</u>	<u>393,297</u>
Total	<u>351,201</u>	<u>42,096</u>	<u>393,297</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

Sense About Science is an incorporated charity, limited by guarantee without share capital, registered in England and Wales. The charity's registered number, principal address and nature of operations can be found in the Report of the Trustees.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£).

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, 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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Goods and services donated to the charity are only recognised when they are material to the financial statements. The trustees do not consider it practical to value these goods and services.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

The charity provides for depreciation on a 20% straight line basis in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

The charity has a capitalisation policy where by tangible assets are only capitalised if they cost more than £500. Tangible assets under £500 are written to the statement of financial activities as an expense.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Foreign currencies

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the operating result.

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	5.4.25	5.4.24
	£	£
Donations (including gift aid)	<u>239,214</u>	<u>308,586</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	5.4.25	5.4.24
	£	£
Bank interest	<u>4,143</u>	<u>3,482</u>

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	5.4.25	5.4.24
	Projects	£	£
Grants		<u>552,062</u>	<u>438,160</u>

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 7)	Totals
	£	£	£
Projects	<u>792,227</u>	<u>15,007</u>	<u>807,234</u>

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs
	£
Projects	<u>15,007</u>

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

7. SUPPORT COSTS - continued

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	5.4.25	5.4.24
	Projects	Total activities
	£	£
Independent examiner's remuneration	3,988	3,500
Board of trustees' meetings	1,107	87
Trustees' expenses	1,220	1,250
Sundries	619	-
Bookkeeping and payroll	8,073	8,540
	<u>15,007</u>	<u>13,377</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	5.4.25	5.4.24
	£	£
Independent examiner's remuneration	3,988	3,500
Depreciation - owned assets	221	221
Rent	<u>48,557</u>	<u>68,745</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 5 April 2025 nor for the year ended 5 April 2024.

Trustees' expenses

In the year ended 5 April 2025, £1,220 (2024 - £1,250) was reimbursed to two trustees.

10. STAFF COSTS

	5.4.25	5.4.24
	£	£
Wages and salaries	554,053	524,640
Social security costs	50,094	45,152
Other pension costs	17,411	16,280
	<u>621,558</u>	<u>586,072</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	5.4.25	5.4.24
Employees	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

10. STAFF COSTS - continued

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	5.4.25	5.4.24
£60,001 - £70,000	1	2
£70,001 - £80,000	1	-
£130,001 - £140,000	1	1
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

Staff redundancy payments

During the year payments totalling £2,154 of redundancy payments were made (2024 - £nil), of which £1,077 were contractual and the remaining £1,077 were non-statutory payments.

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	308,586	-	308,586
Charitable activities			
Projects	149,350	288,810	438,160
Investment income	3,482	-	3,482
Total	<u>461,418</u>	<u>288,810</u>	<u>750,228</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Fundraising projects	13,340	-	13,340
Charitable activities			
Projects	579,032	223,194	802,226
Total	<u>592,372</u>	<u>223,194</u>	<u>815,566</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(130,954)	65,616	(65,338)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	388,498	76,536	465,034
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>257,544</u>	<u>142,152</u>	<u>399,696</u>

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Office equipment £
COST	
At 6 April 2024 and 5 April 2025	6,189
DEPRECIATION	
At 6 April 2024	5,968
Charge for year	221
At 5 April 2025	6,189
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 5 April 2025	-
At 5 April 2024	221

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	5.4.25 £	5.4.24 £
Operating debtors	39,723	86,581
Other debtors	1,000	38,329
	<u>40,723</u>	<u>124,910</u>

14. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	5.4.25	5.4.24
	Lloyds Register	
	General fund	Foundation
	£	£
Interest savings account	222,011	157,214
Bank current accounts	9,120	-
Euro account	4,951	-
	<u>236,082</u>	<u>157,214</u>
	<u>393,296</u>	<u>351,201</u>

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	5.4.25	5.4.24
	£	£
Operating creditors	34,519	50,485
Social security and other taxes	13,936	13,778
Other creditors	12,165	12,373
	<u>60,620</u>	<u>76,636</u>

16. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Total operating lease commitment at the year-end 5 April 2025 is £68,062 (2024: £122,512) due as follows:

Within one year - £54,450

In one to five years - £13,612

After five years - £nil

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 6.4.24	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 5.4.25
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	257,544	(40,019)	4,674	222,199
Restricted funds				
Peritia	4,674	-	(4,674)	-
Lloyds Register Foundation	137,478	13,723	-	151,201
	<u>142,152</u>	<u>13,723</u>	<u>(4,674)</u>	<u>151,201</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>399,696</u>	<u>(26,296)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>373,400</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	490,623	(530,642)	(40,019)
Restricted funds			
Lloyds Register Foundation	304,796	(291,073)	13,723
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>795,419</u>	<u>(821,715)</u>	<u>(26,296)</u>

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 6.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 5.4.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	388,498	(130,954)	257,544
Restricted funds			
Peritia	9,529	(4,855)	4,674
Lloyds Register Foundation	67,007	70,471	137,478
	<u>76,536</u>	<u>65,616</u>	<u>142,152</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>465,034</u>	<u>(65,338)</u>	<u>399,696</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	461,418	(592,372)	(130,954)
Restricted funds			
Peritia	-	(4,855)	(4,855)
Lloyds Register Foundation	288,810	(218,339)	70,471
	<u>288,810</u>	<u>(223,194)</u>	<u>65,616</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>750,228</u>	<u>(815,566)</u>	<u>(65,338)</u>

The Peritia restricted fund represents amounts received for citizens workshops in London in 2022 and user testing of a Trust Toolkit developed with project partners in Europe. The project has now been completed and with permission from the main donor the fund brought forward of £4,674 has been transferred to unrestricted funds in the year.

The Lloyds Register Foundation restricted fund is for the project to develop understanding of Risk Know How. The fund has a balance carried forward of £151,201 (2024: £137,478).

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025**

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year donations totalling £120 (2024 - £120) were received from the trustees.

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

	5.4.25 £	5.4.24 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations (including gift aid)	239,214	308,586
Investment income		
Bank interest	4,143	3,482
Charitable activities		
Grants	552,062	438,160
Total incoming resources	795,419	750,228
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Wages	12,714	11,694
Social security	1,321	1,232
Pensions	446	414
	14,481	13,340
Charitable activities		
Wages	541,339	512,946
Social security	48,773	43,920
Pensions	16,965	15,866
Rent, service charges, rates and electricity	48,557	68,745
Insurance	2,332	1,315
Computer and website	22,914	43,621
Telephone	505	291
Postage and stationery	3,798	5,367
Bank charges	400	435
Project related expenses	97,616	94,023
Exchange rate variances	4,673	1,043
Repairs, renewals and equipment	4,134	1,056
Office equipment depreciation	221	221
	792,227	788,849
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's remuneration	3,988	3,500
Board of trustees' meetings	1,107	87
Trustees' expenses	1,220	1,250
Sundries	619	-
Bookkeeping and payroll	8,073	8,540
	15,007	13,377
Total resources expended	821,715	815,566
Net expenditure	(26,296)	(65,338)

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

