

# BRITISH SOCIETY FOR SPONDYLOARTHRITIS

England & Wales · Charity number 1159476

## Details

---

Other names	BRITISH SOCIETY FOR SPONDYLORATHRITIS, BRITSPA
Status	Registered
Legal form	Trust
Registered	2014-12-03
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

---

**Address**  
Dept of Rheumatology  
Norfolk & Norwich Hospital  
Colney Lane  
Norwich  
Norfolk  
NR4 7UY

**Phone** 01603287119

**Email** [secretary@britspa.co.uk](mailto:secretary@britspa.co.uk)

**Website** <http://britspa.co.uk>

## Activities

---

**Objects:** THE OBJECTS ARE TO PROMOTE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC AND HEALTH CARE SPECIALISTS IN RELATION TO ALL ASPECTS OF THE SPONDYLOARTHRITIS GROUP OF DISEASES INCLUDING AXIAL SPA, PSORIATIC ARTHRITIS, REACTIVE ARTHRITIS, ARTHRITIS RELATED TO INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE AND UNDIFFERENTIATED PERIPHERAL ARTHRITIS, SHARING INFORMATION AND SKILLS AMONG DIFFERENT MEDICAL DISCIPLINES THAT SEE THESE TYPE OF CONDITIONS AND RELATED DISORDERS TO ENHANCE RESEARCH, DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF SPONDYLOARTHRITIS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THOSE SUFFERING FROM THESE CONDITIONS

**Activities:** BRITSpA is a group of professionals working in the UK with a commitment to advancing knowledge and treatment of Spondyloarthritis. BRITSpA is organised exclusively for non-profit, educational, and scientific purposes, specifically to facilitate sharing of information related to all aspects of the Spondyloarthritis group of diseases.

## Classification

---

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

---

- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

---

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£97,867	£85,369	-	-
2024-03-31	£62,550	£57,461	-	-
2023-03-31	£45,095	£65,298	-	-
2022-03-31	£20,000	£39,365	-	-
2021-03-31	£5,000	£10,187	-	-

## Trustees

---

Name	Role	Appointed
DR GAFFNEY		2014-12-03
DR MARZO-ORTEGA		2014-12-03
DR SENGUPTA		2014-12-03
DR SIEBERT		2014-12-03
Dr Dale Reginald Anthony Webb		2022-11-02

**BRITISH SOCIETY FOR SPONDYLOARTHRITIS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1159476

---

# Accounts

---

**BRITSpA**

**Charity No. 1159476**

**Trustees' Report and Unaudited Accounts**

**31 March 2025**

**BRITSpA**

**Contents**

	Pages
Trustees' Annual Report	2 to 8
Independent Examiner's Report	9
Statement of Financial Activities	10
Balance Sheet	11
Notes to the Accounts	12 to 19
Statement of Cash flows	20
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	21 to 22

**BRITSpA**

**Trustees Annual Report**

British Society For Spondyloarthritis

The trustees present their report with the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Charity No. 1159476**

**Principal Office**

C/O Professor JK Gaffney  
Dept of Rheumatology, Level 2 Outpatients  
East  
Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital  
Colney Lane, Norwich  
NR4 7UY

**Trustees**

The following trustees served during the year:

A. Bennett  
J.K. Gaffney  
H. Marzo-Ortega  
R. Sengupta  
S. Siebert  
D.R.A. Webb

**Accountants**

Andrew Parker Associates Ltd  
Unit 7  
Beech Avenue Business Park  
Beech Avenue, Taverham  
Norwich  
NR8 6HW

## **BRITSpA**

### **Trustees Annual Report**

#### OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the British Society for Spondyloarthritis (the charity) for the period ended 31 March 2025. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity'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 (FRS 102).

#### Chair's report 2025

BRITSpA-supported national research studies are under development and the charity continues to collaborate with a partner charity and academic groups to promote a range of studies. We were delighted to see the progress of the BxSIC study looking at the impact of the delay of diagnosis in the inception cohort of axSpA patients. Membership continues to increase steadily and includes the full range of health care professionals and scientists committed to the advancement of knowledge and treatment of spondyloarthritis. The 2024 Annual Scientific meeting was well-attended and attracted very positive feedback. BRITSpA continues to support Travelling Fellowships for members to facilitate sharing of best practice in axSpA. BRITSpA has also established a regular education programme for healthcare professionals in the UK.

Prof Raj Sengupta, Chair of Trustees

#### OBJECTIVES OF THE CHARITY

The objectives of the charity are to promote the education of health care specialists and the public in relation to all aspects of the spondyloarthritis group of diseases including axial spondyloarthritis, psoriatic arthritis, reactive arthritis, arthritis related to inflammatory bowel disease and undifferentiated peripheral arthritis, to share information and skills among different medical disciplines that deal with these types of conditions and related disorders and to enhance research, diagnosis and treatment of spondyloarthritis for the benefit of those suffering from these conditions.

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)'.

#### ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

The principal activities for achieving these objectives are:

- Provision of multidisciplinary educational meetings
- Establishment and advocacy of best practice for clinicians
- Sharing of information and skills among different medical disciplines
- Facilitation of research into aspects of spondyloarthritis
- Improvement of diagnosis and treatment of spondyloarthritis for benefit of those suffering from these conditions.
- Conform to GDPR regulations
- Broaden Executive Committee to reflect membership and broaden expertise
- Extend representation of BRITSpA and axSpA on professional bodies.

## **BRITSpA**

### **Trustees Annual Report**

#### MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO FURTHER THE CHARITY'S PURPOSES FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT FOR THE PERIOD 2024-25

(i) Provision of multidisciplinary educational meetings

The two-day Annual Scientific Meeting's programme is designed to benefit and be accessible to all members across their various professional roles. A further separate educational day has been established, the first of which to take place 14th May 2025 at Goodenough College, London.

(ii) Establishment and advocacy of best practice for clinicians

The Annual Scientific meeting allows the sharing of best practice. Delegates are able to interact and network with the lecturers via Q&A. The latest developments and guidelines are shared with the membership.

(iii) Sharing of skills among the different medical disciplines

Current membership continues to grow, standing currently at 207, following a revalidation exercise, with approximately equal numbers of Rheumatology Consultants and allied health professionals. The Travelling Fellowship grant is available for all members to visit other centres to share best practice.

(iv) Facilitation of research into aspects of spondyloarthritis

BRITSpA members are contacted regularly by email and website notifications regarding studies of interest.

v) Improvement of diagnosis and treatment of spondyloarthritis

All of the activities of BRITSpA are aimed at improving the recognition of SpA amongst clinicians and allied health professionals, and refining and understanding current and emerging treatment modalities, particularly with a view to reducing the delay to diagnosis. Guest speakers at the Annual Scientific Meeting share expertise from across the UK and Europe.

vi) Conform to GDPR regulations

The charity's policy is shown on the website. Members are advised regularly how to request deletion of their details. A revalidation process took place early in 2025 to update the membership and conform to GDPR.

(vii) Broaden Executive Committee to reflect membership and broaden expertise

The Executive Committee currently comprises eight Rheumatology Consultants, one scientist, and one physiotherapist. A further AHP role is being advertised.

(viii) Extend representation of BRITSpA and axSpA on professional bodies

## **BRITSpA**

### **Trustees Annual Report**

Executive committee members sit on:

- BSR Heberden Committee
- BSR PsA Treatment Guideline group
- BSR National Early inflammatory arthritis audit working project group
- BSR Research Engagement working group
- Executive Committee of Assessment of Spondyloarthritis International Society (ASAS).
- BSR Biologics Guidelines Group
- Associate editor Rheumatology (Oxford) and Clinical Therapeutics (Elsevier)
- Group for Research and Assessment of Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis (GRAPPA)
- British Psoriatic Arthritis Consortium (BritPACT) member
- British Society of Lifestyle Medicine
- Versus Arthritis Research Advisory Group for Adult Inflammatory Arthritis
- Advisory Board ASAS Executive Committee
- EULAR Advocacy Communications Subcommittee
- EULAR working party (MSK imaging)
- EULAR working parties (PsA treatment guidances, PtC transition from Pso to PsA)
- GRAPPA global steering group,
- Trustee of Brit-PACT
- Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine NIHR UK MSK Translational Research Collaboration
- ASAS MRI working group
- NASS medical advisory board;
- Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Alliance (ARMA)
- Member of ASAS Executive Committee
- Convenor EULAR working party D2M/TR PsA
- NICE TA committees on new SpA biologics / small molecules
- Member of Health Literacy UK Group (2023-)
- Fellow of the Higher Education Academy
- NRAS member- Scottish Society for Rheumatology
- Medical Advisor to ASIF
- Medical Advisor to SAA
- Executive Committee SpA International Congress
- Member of Outcome Measures in Rheumatology Equity Working Group
- American College of Rheumatology member

## **BRITSpA**

### **Trustees Annual Report**

#### Structure, governance and management CONSTITUTION

The principal objective of the charity is to promote the education of the public and health care specialists in relation to all aspects of the spondyloarthritis group of diseases, and to share information and skills among different medical disciplines. The registered charity, number 1159476, is constituted under a Trust deed dated 3rd December 2014. The British Society for Spondyloarthritis (BRITSpA) was set up as a charitable Trust by five of the current Trustees who are also founder members of the Executive Committee governing the activities of the Trust.

The Trust actively fundraises. In the first instance this is mainly through approaches to pharmaceutical companies with an interest in advancing knowledge of spondyloarthritis. There is a donate button on the charity website. The risk of potential conflicts of interest has been acknowledged from the inception of BRITSpA; there is no representation of pharmaceutical companies or other potential donors on the Executive Committee and the measures taken to ensure that all funding and expenditure are transparent and in line with the society's charitable status and objectives and set out in the financial report below.

The Trustees and Executive Committee have met quarterly since the charity's inception, together with regular minuted teleconferences and e-meetings. The Executive Committee has two in-person meetings annually and 6-9 Teams meetings. Any practical changes to the charity bylaws are circulated prior to the AGM and voted upon by the attending membership. All Trustees give their time freely and no Trustee remuneration was paid in the year. Details of Trustee expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in the accounts. Neither the Trust nor any of the Trustees have interests with the pharmaceutical industry but any such interests would be disclosed. Members of the Executive Committee (EC) were affirmed. At the Trustees' meetings, the broad strategy and areas of activity for the charity and plans for research, education and links with other professional and patient groups are agreed. The day to day administration of the charity's activities is managed by the Executive Committee members, assisted by the administrator.

#### METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The management of the charity is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the charity Bylaws, which are published on the BRITSpA website.

#### ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The Executive Committee is responsible for overall policy and direction of BRITSpA, and delegates responsibility for day-to-day operations to the administrator. Sub-committees are formed for separate research projects, as applicable. All the Executive Committee will be eligible for re-election, with no more than half of the Executive Committee to be changed at one time.

#### EMPLOYEES OF THE CHARITY

BRITSpA employs a part-time administrator (appointed 7th January 2015), originally for three days a week: this role was reduced to one day a week from May 2020, then reviewed and increased to two days a week from March 2021 until the present day.

#### MEMBERSHIP AND LINKS WITH RELATED PROFESSIONAL GROUPS

Recruitment to membership of BRITSpA continues to be successful with a current membership of 209 including Rheumatologists, both Consultants and trainees, nurses, radiologists, physiotherapists and occupational therapists, scientists, Research Fellows, epidemiologists, chiropractors and general practitioners with an established interest.

We maintain our close relationship with patient-centred charity National Ankylosing Spondylitis Society (NASS), and count the CEO and three other staff among our membership. BRITSpA EC members remain as trustees and/or medical advisors to NASS.

## **BRITSpA**

### **Trustees Annual Report**

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

##### **GOING CONCERN**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, with a minimum balance of £5,000.

The Trustees have considered the Charity's position at the time of signing the financial statements, and in particular the current issues caused by the continuing Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on the Charity and the wider economy. The administrator's working hours have been temporarily reduced.

Based on this, the Trustees have concluded that they have a reasonable expectation that the Charity will have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, and the date of signing these financial statements, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing these financial statements.

##### **RESERVES POLICY**

The Treasurer continues to be successful in attracting funding for the Annual Scientific Meetings. Following discussion at the 2022 AGM, a decision was made for member delegates to make nominal contributions to the cost of the meeting by means of delegate fees.

Future options for core funding are continuously explored and are debated during the annual general meeting.

The Trustees have set a reserves policy of a minimum balance of £5,000.

Total unrestricted funds at 31 March 2025 amounted to £51,175 (2024: £36,052 ). Restricted funds amounted to £2,669 (2024: £5,294). Restricted funds are in respect of Travelling Fellowship funding to provide additional training for members, and a donation to fund medals.

##### **PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS**

The charity's main focus will be to progress and develop opportunities for members to engage in research, in order to continue share knowledge with regard to all aspects of the spondyloarthritis group of diseases. An annual Educational meeting has been established with meetings organised for May 2025 and 2026.

##### **Statement of trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements**

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Trust deed. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**BRITSpA**

**Trustees Annual Report**

The charity Trustees are responsible for preparing a Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Trust deed. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity 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 (FRS102);
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS102) 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 charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

*Dr Raj Sengupta*

R. Sengupta

Trustee

12 December 2025

**BRITSpA**

**Independent Examiners Report**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of BRITSpA**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of BRITSpA for the year ended 31 March 2025.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

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

- the accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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 financial statements to be reached.

Andrew Parker ACCA  
Andrew Parker Associates Ltd  
Unit 7  
Beech Avenue Business Park  
Beech Avenue, Taverham  
Norwich  
NR8 6HW  
12 December 2025

**BRITSpA****Statement of Financial Activities**

for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	97,567	-	97,567	62,550
Other trading activities	4	300	-	300	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>97,867</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>97,867</b>	<b>62,550</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	5	58,323	2,625	60,948	40,218
Other	6	24,421	-	24,421	17,243
<b>Total</b>		<b>82,744</b>	<b>2,625</b>	<b>85,369</b>	<b>57,461</b>
Net gains on investments		-	-	-	-
<b>Net income</b>	7	<b>15,123</b>	<b>(2,625)</b>	<b>12,498</b>	<b>5,089</b>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Net income before other gains/(losses)</b>		<b>15,123</b>	<b>(2,625)</b>	<b>12,498</b>	<b>5,089</b>
<b>Other gains and losses</b>					
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>15,123</b>	<b>(2,625)</b>	<b>12,498</b>	<b>5,089</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		36,052	5,294	41,346	36,257
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>51,175</b>	<b>2,669</b>	<b>53,844</b>	<b>41,346</b>

**BRITSpA****Balance Sheet**at **31 March 2025**

Charity No. 1159476

		<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	9	633	144
		<u>633</u>	<u>144</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	10	179	792
Cash at bank and in hand		54,530	41,538
		<u>54,709</u>	<u>42,330</u>
<b>Creditors: Amount falling due within one year</b>	11	(1,498)	(1,128)
<b>Net current assets</b>		53,211	41,202
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		53,844	41,346
<b>Net assets excluding pension asset or liability</b>		53,844	41,346
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u><u>53,844</u></u>	<u><u>41,346</u></u>
<b>The funds of the charity</b>			
<b>Restricted funds</b>	12		
Restricted income funds		2,669	5,294
		<u>2,669</u>	<u>5,294</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	12		
General funds		51,175	36,052
		<u>51,175</u>	<u>36,052</u>
<b>Reserves</b>	12		
<b>Total funds</b>		<u><u>53,844</u></u>	<u><u>41,346</u></u>

Approved by the trustees on 12 December 2025

And signed on their behalf by:

*Dr Raj Sengupta*  
R. Sengupta  
Trustee  
12 December 2025

**BRITSpA****Notes to the Accounts****for the year ended 31 March 2025****1 Accounting policies****Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

**Change in basis of accounting or to previous accounts**

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and method of accounting) since last year and no changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds	These are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.
Designated funds	These are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.
Revaluation funds	These are unrestricted funds which include a revaluation reserve representing the restatement of investment assets at their market values.
Restricted funds	These are available for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

**Income**

Recognition of income	Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to, and virtually certain to receive, the income and the amount of the income can be measured with sufficient reliability.
Income with related expenditure	Where income has related expenditure the income and related expenditure is reported gross in the SoFA.
Donations and legacies	Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the the SoFA when receivable and only when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Income from tax reclaims is included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift/donation to which it relates.
Donated services and facilities	These are only included in income (with an equivalent amount in expenditure) where the benefit to the Charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material.
Volunteer help	The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts.
Investment income	This is included in the accounts when receivable.
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	This includes any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.
Gains/(losses) on investment assets	This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments.

**BRITSpA****Notes to the Accounts****Expenditure**

Recognition of expenditure	Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.
Expenditure on raising funds	These comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income, fundraising trading costs and investment management costs.
Expenditure on charitable activities	These comprise the costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services in the furtherance of its objects, including the making of grants and governance costs.
Grants payable	All grant expenditure is accounted for on an actual paid basis plus an accrual for grants that have been approved by the trustees at the end of the year but not yet paid.
Governance costs	These include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity, including any audit/independent examination fees, costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity, together with a share of other administration costs.
Other expenditure	These are support costs not allocated to a particular activity.

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

**Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

Office equipment	25% Reducing balance
------------------	----------------------

**Freehold investment property**

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value at each balance sheet date and are not depreciated. All gains or losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise.

**Stocks**

Stock is included at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Donated items of stock are recognised at fair value which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay for the items on the open market.

**Trade and other debtors**

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

**Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. In the statement of financial position, bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings or current liabilities. In the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the company's cash management.

## **BRITSpA**

### **Notes to the Accounts**

#### **Trade and other creditors**

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

#### **Research and development**

Expenditure on research and development is written off in the year in which it is incurred.

#### **Foreign currencies**

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are translated at the rates of exchange prevailing at the end of the reporting period.

Transactions in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are recorded at the rate of exchange on the date that the transaction occurred.

All exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at net income/expenditure.

#### **Leased assets**

Where the charity enters into a lease which entails taking substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of an asset, the lease is treated as a finance lease.

Leases which do not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to charity are classified as operating leases.

Assets held under finance leases are initially recognised as assets of the charity at their fair value at the inception of the lease or, if lower, at the present value of the minimum lease payments. The corresponding liability to the lessor is included in the balance sheet date as a finance lease obligation.

Lease payments are apportioned between finance expenses and reduction of the lease obligation so as to achieve a constant rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability. Finance expenses are recognised immediately, unless they are directly attributable to qualifying assets, in which case they are capitalised in accordance with the charity's policy on borrowing costs.

Assets held under finance leases are depreciated in the same way as owned assets.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

In the event that lease incentives are received to enter into operating leases, such incentives are recognised as a liability. The aggregate benefit of incentives is recognised as a reduction of rental expense on a straight-line basis.

#### **Pension costs**

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the charity pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the charity has no further payments obligations. The contributions are recognised as expenses when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals in the balance sheet.

The assets of the plan are held separately from the charity in independently administered funds.

#### **Receipt of donated goods, facilities and services**

All donated goods, facilities and services received are recognised within incoming resources and expenditure at an estimate of the value to the charity.

**BRITSpA**

**Notes to the Accounts**

**2 Statement of Financial Activities - prior year**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	52,550	10,000	62,550
<b>Total</b>	<u>52,550</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>62,550</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities	37,167	2,971	40,138
Other	3,597	13,726	17,323
<b>Total</b>	<u>40,764</u>	<u>16,697</u>	<u>57,461</u>
<b>Net income</b>	<u>11,786</u>	<u>(6,697)</u>	<u>5,089</u>
<b>Net income before other gains/(losses)</b>	11,786	(6,697)	5,089
<b>Other gains and losses:</b>			
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<u>11,786</u>	<u>(6,697)</u>	<u>5,089</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>			
Total funds brought forward	24,266	11,991	36,257
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<u><u>36,052</u></u>	<u><u>5,294</u></u>	<u><u>41,346</u></u>

**3 Income from donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted £</b>	<b>Total 2025 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>
Donations & sponsorship	97,567	97,567	62,550
	<u>97,567</u>	<u>97,567</u>	<u>62,550</u>

**4 Income from other trading activities**

	<b>Unrestricted £</b>	<b>Total 2025 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>
Sundry income	300	300	-
	<u>300</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>-</u>

**BRITSpA****Notes to the Accounts****5 Expenditure on charitable activities**

	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
			<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>				
Event organisation	58,323	-	58,323	37,167
Travelling	-	2,625	2,625	2,971
<i>Governance costs</i>				
	-	-	-	80
	<u>58,323</u>	<u>2,625</u>	<u>60,948</u>	<u>40,218</u>

**6 Other expenditure**

	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
		<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Employee costs	14,736	14,736	13,730
Motor and travel costs	1,881	1,881	958
Premises costs	521	521	259
Amortisation, depreciation, impairment, profit/loss on disposal of fixed assets	211	211	202
General administrative costs	5,549	5,549	316
Legal and professional costs	1,523	1,523	1,778
	<u>24,421</u>	<u>24,421</u>	<u>17,243</u>

**7 Net income before transfers**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	211	48

**8 Staff costs**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
Salaries and wages	14,176	13,086
Pension costs	560	560
	<u>14,736</u>	<u>13,646</u>

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

**BRITSpA****Notes to the Accounts****9 Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Office equipment</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cost or revaluation</b>		
At 1 April 2024	539	539
Additions	700	700
At 31 March 2025	<u>1,239</u>	<u>1,239</u>
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>		
At 1 April 2024	395	395
Depreciation charge for the year	211	211
At 31 March 2025	<u>606</u>	<u>606</u>
<b>Net book values</b>		
At 31 March 2025	<u>633</u>	<u>633</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>144</u>	<u>144</u>

**10 Debtors**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other debtors	179	792
	<u>179</u>	<u>792</u>

**11 Creditors:**

amounts falling due within one year

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other taxes and social security	370	-
Accruals	1,128	1,128
	<u>1,498</u>	<u>1,128</u>

**BRITSpA****Notes to the Accounts****12 Movement in funds**

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources (including other gains/losses ) £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2025 £
<b>Restricted funds:</b>				
<b>Restricted income funds:</b>				
	5,427	-	(2,758)	2,669
	(133)	-	133	-
<i>Total</i>	<u>5,294</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,625)</u>	<u>2,669</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>				
<b>General funds</b>	36,052	97,867	(82,744)	51,175
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>41,346</u>	<u>97,867</u>	<u>(85,369)</u>	<u>53,844</u>

**13 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	633	633
Net current assets	53,211	53,211
	<u>53,844</u>	<u>53,844</u>

**14 Reconciliation of net debt**

	At 1 April 2024 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2025 £
Cash and cash equivalents	41,538	12,992	54,530
	<u>41,538</u>	<u>12,992</u>	<u>54,530</u>
Net debt	<u>41,538</u>	<u>12,992</u>	<u>54,530</u>

**BRITSpA**

**Notes to the Accounts**

**15 Commitments**

***Operating lease commitments***

Annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>Land and buildings</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Land and buildings</b>	<b>Other</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>

Operating leases with expiry date:

***Pension commitments***

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
The pension cost charge to the charity amounted to:	<u>560</u>	<u>560</u>

**BRITSpA****Statement of Cash flows**

for the year ended 31 March 2025

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
<b>Net income per Statement of Financial Activities</b>	12,498	5,089
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	211	48
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	154
Decrease in trade and other receivables	613	2,411
Increase in trade and other payables	370	156
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<u>13,692</u>	<u>7,858</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(700)	-
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>	<u>(700)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net cash from financing activities</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	12,992	7,858
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year</b>	41,538	33,680
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	<u>54,530</u>	<u>41,538</u>
<b>Components of cash and cash equivalents</b>		
Cash and bank balances	54,530	41,538
	<u>54,530</u>	<u>41,538</u>

**BRITSpA****Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**

for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>				
Donations and legacies				
Donations & sponsorship	97,567	-	97,567	62,550
	<u>97,567</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>97,567</u>	<u>62,550</u>
Other trading activities				
Sundry income	300	-	300	-
	<u>300</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total income and endowments</b>	<b>97,867</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>97,867</b>	<b>62,550</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities				
Event organisation	58,323	-	58,323	37,167
Travelling	-	2,625	2,625	2,971
	<u>58,323</u>	<u>2,625</u>	<u>60,948</u>	<u>40,138</u>
Governance costs				
	-	-	-	80
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>80</u>
<b>Total of expenditure on charitable activities</b>	<b>58,323</b>	<b>2,625</b>	<b>60,948</b>	<b>40,218</b>
Employee costs				
Salaries/wages	14,176	-	14,176	13,086
Pension costs	560	-	560	560
Staff welfare	-	-	-	84
	<u>14,736</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,736</u>	<u>13,730</u>
Motor and travel costs				
Travel and subsistence	1,881	-	1,881	958
	<u>1,881</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,881</u>	<u>958</u>
Premises costs				
Rent	521	-	521	259
	<u>521</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>521</u>	<u>259</u>
General administrative costs, including depreciation and amortisation				
Depreciation of Office equipment	211	-	211	48
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	154
Bank charges	103	-	103	105
Software, IT support and related costs	334	-	334	200

**BRITSpA****Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**

Stationery and printing	4,395	-	4,395	11
Subscriptions	180	-	180	-
Sundry expenses	537	-	537	-
	<u>5,760</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,760</u>	<u>518</u>
Legal and professional costs				
Accountancy and bookkeeping	1,523	-	1,523	1,778
	<u>1,523</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,523</u>	<u>1,778</u>
<b>Total of expenditure of other costs</b>	<u>24,421</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,421</u>	<u>17,243</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	82,744	2,625	85,369	57,461
Net gains on investments	-	-	-	-
	<u>15,123</u>	<u>(2,625)</u>	<u>12,498</u>	<u>5,089</u>
<b>Net income</b>				
<b>Net income before other gains/(losses)</b>	<u>15,123</u>	<u>(2,625)</u>	<u>12,498</u>	<u>5,089</u>
Other Gains	-	-	-	-
	<u>15,123</u>	<u>(2,625)</u>	<u>12,498</u>	<u>5,089</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>				
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>				
Total funds brought forward	36,052	5,294	41,346	36,257
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<u>51,175</u>	<u>2,669</u>	<u>53,844</u>	<u>41,346</u>

**BRITISH SOCIETY FOR SPONDYLOARTHRITIS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1159476

---

# Accounts

---

**BRITSpA**

**Charity No. 1159476**

**Trustees' Report and Unaudited Accounts**

**31 March 2024**

**BRITSpA**  
**Contents**

	Pages
Trustees' Annual Report	2 to 7
Independent Examiner's Report	8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10
Statement of Cash flows	18
Notes to the Accounts	11 to 17
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	19 to 20

**BRITSpA**  
**Trustees Annual Report**

British Society For Spondyloarthritis

The trustees present their report with the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Charity No. 1159476**

**Principal Office**

C/O Professor JK Gaffney  
Dept of Rheumatology, Level 2 Outpatients  
East  
Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital  
Colney Lane, Norwich  
NR4 7UY

**Trustees**

The following trustees served during the year:

A. Bennett  
J.K. Gaffney  
H. Marzo-Ortega  
R. Sengupta  
S. Siebert  
D.R.A. Webb

**Accountants**

Andrew Parker Associates Ltd  
Unit 7  
Beech Avenue Business Park  
Beech Avenue, Taverham  
Norwich  
NR8 6HW

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the British Society for Spondyloarthritis (the charity) for the period ended 31 March 2024. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity'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 (FRS 102).

Chair's report 2024

BRITSpA-supported national research studies are under development and the charity continues to collaborate with a partner charity and academic groups to promote a range of studies. The Chair of the Executive Committee reached the end of her term of office and a new Chair was voted in at the charity's AGM. The BxSIC study, by our colleagues at NASS, is progressing well and to target. Membership increases steadily and includes the full range of health care professionals and scientists committed to the advancement of knowledge and treatment of spondyloarthritis. The 2023 Annual Scientific meeting, held at a new venue to BRITSpA, was extremely successful and well-attended, attracting unanimously positive feedback. The BRITSpA Travelling Fellowship supported a further four applications for members to facilitate sharing of best practice in axSpA. Prof Raj Sengupta, Chair of Trustees

Prof Raj Sengupta, Chair of Trustees

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**OBJECTIVES OF THE CHARITY**

The objectives of the charity are to promote the education of health care specialists and the public in relation to all aspects of the spondyloarthritis group of diseases including axial spondyloarthritis, psoriatic arthritis, reactive arthritis, arthritis related to inflammatory bowel disease and undifferentiated peripheral arthritis, to share information and skills among different medical disciplines that deal with these types of conditions and related disorders and to enhance research, diagnosis and treatment of spondyloarthritis for the benefit of those suffering from these conditions.

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)'.

**ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES**

The principal activities for achieving these objectives are:

- Provision of multidisciplinary educational meetings
- Establishment and advocacy of best practice for clinicians
- Sharing of information and skills among different medical disciplines
- Facilitation of research into aspects of spondyloarthritis
- Improvement of diagnosis and treatment of spondyloarthritis for benefit of those suffering from these conditions.
- Conform to GDPR regulations
- Broaden Executive Committee to reflect membership and broaden expertise
- Extend representation of BRITSpA and axSpA on professional bodies.

MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO FURTHER THE CHARITY'S PURPOSES FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT FOR THE PERIOD 2023-24

(i) Provision of multidisciplinary educational meetings

The two-day Annual Scientific Meeting's programme is designed to benefit and be accessible to all members across their various professional roles. A further separate educational day is under development.

(ii) Establishment and advocacy of best practice for clinicians

The Annual Scientific meeting allows the sharing of best practice. Delegates are able to interact and network with the lecturers via Q&A. The latest developments and guidelines are shared with the membership.

(iii) Sharing of skills among the different medical disciplines

Current membership continues to grow, standing currently at 232, with approximately equal numbers of Rheumatology Consultants and allied health professionals.

(iv) Facilitation of research into aspects of spondyloarthritis

BRITSpA members are contacted regularly by email and website notifications regarding studies of interest.

v) Improvement of diagnosis and treatment of spondyloarthritis

All of the activities of BRITSpA are aimed at improving the recognition of SpA amongst clinicians and allied health professionals, and refining and understanding current and emerging treatment modalities, particularly with a view to reducing the delay to diagnosis. The launch of the BxSIC study addresses this issue.

vi) Conform to GDPR regulations

The charity's policy is shown on the website. Members are advised regularly how to request deletion of their details.

(vii) Broaden Executive Committee to reflect membership and broaden expertise

The Executive Committee currently comprises six Rheumatology Consultants, an academic, a clinical lecturer and an epidemiologist. A vacancy was advertised for an AHP EC member but there were no applications. This will be a matter of importance for the following year.

(viii) Extend representation of BRITSpA and axSpA on professional bodies

## **BRITSpA**

### **Trustees Annual Report**

Executive committee members sit on:

- British Society for Rheumatology's Heberden Committee
- British Society for Rheumatology's PsA Treatment Guideline group
- British Society for Rheumatology National Early inflammatory arthritis audit working project group
- British Society for Rheumatology Research Engagement working group
- Executive Committee of Assessment of Spondyloarthritis International Society (ASAS)
- British Society of Lifestyle Medicine
- Versus Arthritis Research Advisory Group for Adult Inflammatory Arthritis
- GRAPPA global steering group
- Trustee of Brit-PACT and member of ASAS member
- ASAS MRI working group member
- NASS medical advisory board
- Member of ASAS Executive Committee
- Member of ASAS Executive Committee
- NASS Medical Advisory Board NASS
- EULAR working parties (PsA treatment guidelines, MSK imaging)
- NICE TA committees on new SpA biologics /small molecules
- NIHR UK Musculoskeletal Translational Research Collaboration
- Scottish Society for Rheumatology

#### Structure, governance and management CONSTITUTION

The principal objective of the charity is to promote the education of the public and health care specialists in relation to all aspects of the spondyloarthritis group of diseases, and to share information and skills among different medical disciplines. The registered charity, number 1159476, is constituted under a Trust deed dated 3rd December 2014. The British Society for Spondyloarthritis (BRITSpA) was set up as a charitable Trust by the current Trustees who are also founder members of the Executive Committee governing the activities of the Trust. The Trust actively fundraises. In the first instance this is mainly through approaches to pharmaceutical companies with an interest in advancing knowledge of spondyloarthritis. The risk of potential conflicts of interest has been acknowledged from the inception of BRITSpA; there is no representation of pharmaceutical companies or other potential donors on the Executive Committee and the measures taken to ensure that all funding and expenditure are transparent and in line with the society's charitable status and objectives and set out in the financial report below. The Trustees and Executive Committee have met biannually since the charity's inception, together with regular minuted online meetings. Any practical changes to the charity bylaws are circulated prior to the AGM and voted upon by the attending membership. All Trustees give their time freely and no Trustee remuneration was paid in the year. Details of Trustee expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in the accounts. Neither the Trust nor any of the Trustees have interests with the pharmaceutical industry but any such interests would be disclosed. Members of the Executive Committee (EC) were affirmed. At the Trustees' meetings, the broad strategy and areas of activity for the charity and plans for research, education and links with other professional and patient groups are agreed. The day to day administration of the charity's activities is managed by the Executive Committee members, assisted by the administrator.

#### METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The management of the charity is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the charity Bylaws, which are published on the BRITSpA website.

## **BRITSpA**

### **Trustees Annual Report**

#### **ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING**

The Executive Committee is responsible for overall policy and direction of BRITSpA, and delegates responsibility for day-to-day operations to the administrator. Sub-committees are formed for separate research projects, as applicable. All the Executive Committee will be eligible for re-election, with no more than half of the Executive Committee to be changed at one time.

#### **EMPLOYEES OF THE CHARITY**

BRITSpA employs a part-time administrator (appointed 7th January 2015), for two days per week.

#### **MEMBERSHIP AND LINKS WITH RELATED PROFESSIONAL GROUPS**

Recruitment to membership of BRITSpA continues to be successful with a current membership of 232 including Rheumatologists, both Consultants and trainees, nurses, radiologists, physiotherapists and occupational therapists, scientists, Research Fellows, epidemiologists, chiropractors and general practitioners with extended roles.

We maintain our close relationship with patient-focused charity National Ankylosing Spondylitis Society (NASS), and count the CEO is a fellow Trustee, and three other staff among our membership. BRITSpA EC members remain as Trustees and/or medical advisors to NASS.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

#### **GOING CONCERN**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, with a minimum balance of £5,000.

The Trustees have considered the Charity's position at the time of signing the financial statements. The Trustees have concluded that they have a reasonable expectation that the Charity will have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, and at the date of signing these financial statements, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing these financial statements.

#### **RESERVES POLICY**

The Treasurer continues to be successful in attracting funding for the Annual Scientific Meetings. Future options for core funding are continuously explored and are debated during the annual general meeting.

The Trustees have set a reserves policy of a minimum balance of £5,000.

Total unrestricted funds at 31 March 2024 amounted to £22,406 (2023: £24,266 ). Restricted funds amounted to £18,940 (2023: £11,991). Restricted funds are in respect of Travelling Fellowship funding to provide additional training for members, and a donation to fund medals with reference to the Andrew Keat lecture.

#### **PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS**

The charity's main focus will be to progress and develop opportunities for members to engage in research, in order to continue to share knowledge with regard to all aspects of the spondyloarthritis group of diseases.

#### **Statement of trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements**

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

**Trustees Annual Report**

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Trust deed. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The charity Trustees are responsible for preparing a Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Trust deed. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity 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 (FRS102);
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS102) 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 charity will continue in business.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

R. Sengupta

Trustee

23 December 2024

**Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of BRITSpA**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of BRITSpA for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

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

- the accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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 financial statements to be reached.

Andrew Parker ACCA  
Andrew Parker Associates Ltd  
Unit 7  
Beech Avenue Business Park  
Beech Avenue, Taverham  
Norwich  
NR8 6HW  
23 December 2024

## Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	52,550	10,000	62,550	45,095
<b>Total</b>		52,550	10,000	62,550	45,095
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	4	37,167	2,971	40,138	48,040
Other	5	17,243	80	17,323	17,258
<b>Total</b>		54,410	3,051	57,461	65,298
Net gains on investments		-	-	-	-
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	6	(1,860)	6,949	5,089	(20,203)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before other gains/(losses)</b>		(1,860)	6,949	5,089	(20,203)
<b>Other gains and losses</b>					
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(1,860)	6,949	5,089	(20,203)
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		24,266	11,991	36,257	56,460
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		22,406	18,940	41,346	36,257

**BRITSpA****Balance Sheet**at **31 March 2024**

Charity No. 1159476

		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	8	144	346
		<u>144</u>	<u>346</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	9	792	3,203
Cash at bank and in hand		41,538	33,680
		<u>42,330</u>	<u>36,883</u>
<b>Creditors: Amount falling due within one year</b>	10	(1,128)	(972)
<b>Net current assets</b>		41,202	35,911
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		41,346	36,257
<b>Net assets excluding pension asset or liability</b>		41,346	36,257
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u>41,346</u>	<u>36,257</u>
<b>The funds of the charity</b>			
<b>Restricted funds</b>	11		
Restricted income funds		18,940	11,991
		<u>18,940</u>	<u>11,991</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	11		
General funds		22,406	24,266
		<u>22,406</u>	<u>24,266</u>
<b>Reserves</b>	11		
<b>Total funds</b>		<u>41,346</u>	<u>36,257</u>

Approved by the trustees on 23 December 2024

And signed on their behalf by:

R. Sengupta

Trustee

23 December 2024

**1 Accounting policies****Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

**Change in basis of accounting or to previous accounts**

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and method of accounting) since last year and no changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds	These are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.
Designated funds	These are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.
Revaluation funds	These are unrestricted funds which include a revaluation reserve representing the restatement of investment assets at their market values.
Restricted funds	These are available for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

**Income**

Recognition of income	Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to, and virtually certain to receive, the income and the amount of the income can be measured with sufficient reliability.
Income with related expenditure	Where income has related expenditure the income and related expenditure is reported gross in the SoFA.
Donations and legacies	Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the the SoFA when receivable and only when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Income from tax reclaims is included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift/donation to which it relates.
Donated services and facilities	These are only included in income (with an equivalent amount in expenditure) where the benefit to the Charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material.
Volunteer help	The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts.
Investment income	This is included in the accounts when receivable.
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	This includes any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.
Gains/(losses) on investment assets	This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments.

**Notes to the Accounts**

**Expenditure**

Recognition of expenditure	Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.
Expenditure on raising funds	These comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income, fundraising trading costs and investment management costs.
Expenditure on charitable activities	These comprise the costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services in the furtherance of its objects, including the making of grants and governance costs.
Grants payable	All grant expenditure is accounted for on an actual paid basis plus an accrual for grants that have been approved by the trustees at the end of the year but not yet paid.
Governance costs	These include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity, including any audit/independent examination fees, costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity, together with a share of other administration costs.
Other expenditure	These are support costs not allocated to a particular activity.

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

**Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

Office equipment	25%% Reducing balance
------------------	-----------------------

**Freehold investment property**

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value at each balance sheet date and are not depreciated. All gains or losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise.

**Stocks**

Stock is included at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Donated items of stock are recognised at fair value which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay for the items on the open market.

**Trade and other debtors**

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

**Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. In the statement of financial position, bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings or current liabilities. In the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the company's cash management.

**Trade and other creditors**

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

**Research and development**

Expenditure on research and development is written off in the year in which it is incurred.

**Foreign currencies**

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are translated at the rates of exchange prevailing at the end of the reporting period.

Transactions in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are recorded at the rate of exchange on the date that the transaction occurred.

All exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at net income/expenditure.

**Leased assets**

Where the charity enters into a lease which entails taking substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of an asset, the lease is treated as a finance lease.

Leases which do not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to charity are classified as operating leases.

Assets held under finance leases are initially recognised as assets of the charity at their fair value at the inception of the lease or, if lower, at the present value of the minimum lease payments. The corresponding liability to the lessor is included in the balance sheet date as a finance lease obligation.

Lease payments are apportioned between finance expenses and reduction of the lease obligation so as to achieve a constant rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability. Finance expenses are recognised immediately, unless they are directly attributable to qualifying assets, in which case they are capitalised in accordance with the charity's policy on borrowing costs.

Assets held under finance leases are depreciated in the same way as owned assets.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

In the event that lease incentives are received to enter into operating leases, such incentives are recognised as a liability. The aggregate benefit of incentives is recognised as a reduction of rental expense on a straight-line basis.

**Pension costs**

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the charity pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the charity has no further payments obligations. The contributions are recognised as expenses when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals in the balance sheet.

The assets of the plan are held separately from the charity in independently administered funds.

**Receipt of donated goods, facilities and services**

All donated goods, facilities and services received are recognised within incoming resources and expenditure at an estimate of the value to the charity.

## 2 Statement of Financial Activities - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	45,095	-	45,095
<b>Total</b>	<u>45,095</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>45,095</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities	48,040	-	48,040
Other	2,566	14,692	17,258
<b>Total</b>	<u>50,606</u>	<u>14,692</u>	<u>65,298</u>
<b>Net income</b>	<u>(5,511)</u>	<u>(14,692)</u>	<u>(20,203)</u>
<b>Net income before other gains/(losses)</b>	<u>(5,511)</u>	<u>(14,692)</u>	<u>(20,203)</u>
<b>Other gains and losses:</b>			
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<u>(5,511)</u>	<u>(14,692)</u>	<u>(20,203)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>			
Total funds brought forward	35,146	21,314	56,460
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<u><u>29,635</u></u>	<u><u>6,622</u></u>	<u><u>36,257</u></u>

## 3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
	52,550	10,000	62,550	45,095
	<u>52,550</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>62,550</u>	<u>45,095</u>

## 4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>				
Event Organisation	37,167	-	37,167	48,040
Travel costs	-	2,971	2,971	-
<i>Governance costs</i>				
	<u>37,167</u>	<u>2,971</u>	<u>40,138</u>	<u>48,040</u>

## 5 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Medals	-	80	80	-
Employee costs	13,730	-	13,730	14,860
Motor and travel costs	958	-	958	295
Premises costs	259	-	259	-
Amortisation, depreciation, impairment, profit/loss on disposal of fixed assets	202	-	202	116
General administrative costs	316	-	316	551
Legal and professional costs	1,778	-	1,778	1,436
	<u>17,243</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>17,323</u>	<u>17,258</u>

## 6 Net income/(expenditure) before transfers

	2024	2023
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	48	116

## 7 Staff costs

	2024	2023
Salaries and wages	13,086	14,158
Pension costs	560	534
	<u>13,646</u>	<u>14,692</u>

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

## 8 Tangible fixed assets

	Office equipment	Total
	£	£
<b>Cost or revaluation</b>		
At 1 April 2023	1,649	1,649
Disposals	(1,110)	(1,110)
At 31 March 2024	<u>539</u>	<u>539</u>
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>		
At 1 April 2023	1,303	1,303
Depreciation charge for the year	48	48
Disposals	(956)	(956)
At 31 March 2024	<u>395</u>	<u>395</u>
<b>Net book values</b>		
At 31 March 2024	<u>144</u>	<u>144</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>346</u>	<u>346</u>

**BRITSpA**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

**9 Debtors**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other debtors	792	3,203
	<u>792</u>	<u>3,203</u>

**10 Creditors:**

amounts falling due within one year

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other taxes and social security	-	144
Accruals	1,128	828
	<u>1,128</u>	<u>972</u>

**11 Movement in funds**

	<b>At 1 April 2023</b>	<b>Incoming resources (including other gains/losses ) £</b>	<b>Resources expended £</b>	<b>At 31 March 2024 £</b>
<b>Restricted funds:</b>				
<b>Restricted income funds:</b>				
	8,398	-	(2,971)	5,427
	3,593	10,000	(80)	13,513
<i>Total</i>	<u>11,991</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>(3,051)</u>	<u>18,940</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>				
<b>General funds</b>	24,266	52,550	(54,410)	22,406
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>36,257</u>	<u>62,550</u>	<u>(57,461)</u>	<u>41,346</u>

**12 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	<b>Unrestricted funds £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
Fixed assets	144	144
Net current assets	41,202	41,202
	<u>41,346</u>	<u>41,346</u>

**13 Reconciliation of net debt**

	<b>At 1 April 2023 £</b>	<b>Cash flows £</b>	<b>At 31 March 2024 £</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	33,680	7,858	41,538
	<u>33,680</u>	<u>7,858</u>	<u>41,538</u>
Net debt	<u>33,680</u>	<u>7,858</u>	<u>41,538</u>

**14 Commitments**

***Operating lease commitments***

Annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Land and buildings</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Land and buildings</b>	<b>Other</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Operating leases with expiry date:				

***Pension commitments***

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
The pension cost charge to the charity amounted to:	<u>560</u>	<u>534</u>

## Statement of Cash flows

for the year ended 31 March 2024

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
<b>Net income/(expenditure) per Statement of Financial Activities</b>	5,089	(20,203)
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	48	116
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	154	-
Decrease in trade and other receivables	2,411	3,303
Increase in trade and other payables	156	52
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	<u>7,858</u>	<u>(16,732)</u>
<b>Net cash from investing activities</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net cash from financing activities</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	7,858	(16,732)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year</b>	33,680	50,412
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	<u>41,538</u>	<u>33,680</u>
<b>Components of cash and cash equivalents</b>		
Cash and bank balances	41,538	33,680
	<u>41,538</u>	<u>33,680</u>

**BRITSpA**  
**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>				
Donations and legacies	52,550	10,000	62,550	45,095
	<u>52,550</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>62,550</u>	<u>45,095</u>
<b>Total income and endowments</b>	<b>52,550</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>62,550</b>	<b>45,095</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities				
Event Organisation	37,167	-	37,167	48,040
Travel costs	-	2,971	2,971	-
	<u>37,167</u>	<u>2,971</u>	<u>40,138</u>	<u>48,040</u>
<b>Total of expenditure on charitable activities</b>	<b>37,167</b>	<b>2,971</b>	<b>40,138</b>	<b>48,040</b>
Other expenditure				
Medals	-	80	80	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>-</u>
Employee costs				
Salaries/wages	13,086	-	13,086	14,158
Pension costs	560	-	560	534
Staff welfare	84	-	84	168
	<u>13,730</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,730</u>	<u>14,860</u>
Motor and travel costs				
Travel and subsistence	958	-	958	295
	<u>958</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>958</u>	<u>295</u>
Premises costs				
Rent	259	-	259	-
	<u>259</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>259</u>	<u>-</u>
General administrative costs, including depreciation and amortisation				
Depreciation of Office equipment	48	-	48	116
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	154	-	154	-
Bank charges	105	-	105	102
Software, IT support and related costs	200	-	200	260
Stationery and printing	11	-	11	189
	<u>518</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>518</u>	<u>667</u>
Legal and professional costs				
Accountancy and bookkeeping	1,778	-	1,778	1,436

**BRITSpA****Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**

	<u>1,778</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,778</u>	<u>1,436</u>
<b>Total of expenditure of other costs</b>	<u>17,243</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>17,323</u>	<u>17,258</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	54,410	3,051	57,461	65,298
Net gains on investments	-	-	-	-
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<u>(1,860)</u>	<u>6,949</u>	<u>5,089</u>	<u>(20,203)</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before other gains/(losses)</b>	<u>(1,860)</u>	<u>6,949</u>	<u>5,089</u>	<u>(20,203)</u>
Other Gains	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<u>(1,860)</u>	<u>6,949</u>	<u>5,089</u>	<u>(20,203)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>				
Total funds brought forward	24,266	11,991	36,257	56,460
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<u>22,406</u>	<u>18,940</u>	<u>41,346</u>	<u>36,257</u>

**BRITISH SOCIETY FOR SPONDYLOARTHRITIS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1159476

---

# Accounts

---

BRITSpA

Charity No. 1159476

Trustees' Report and Unaudited Accounts

31 March 2023

BRITSpA

Contents

	Pages
Trustees' Annual Report	2 to 8
Independent Examiner's Report	to 9
Statement of Financial Activities	to 10
Balance Sheet	to 11
Notes to the Accounts	12 to 17

BRITSpA

Trustees Annual Report

British Society For Spondyloarthritis

The trustees present their report with the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

#### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity No. 1159476

Principal Office

C/O Professor JK Gaffney

Dept of Rheumatology, Level 2 Outpatients

East

Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital

Colmey Lane, Norwich

NR4 7UY

Trustees

The following trustees served during the year:

A. Bennett

J.K. Gafney

H. Marzo-Ortega

R. Sengupta

S. Siebert

D.R.A. Webb

Accountants

Andrew Parker Associates Ltd

Unit 7

Beech Avenue Business Park

Beech Avenue, Taverham

Norwich

NR8 6HW

## BRITSpA

### Trustees Annual Report

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the British Society for Spondyloarthritis (the charity) for the period ended 31 March 2023. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity'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 (FRS 102).

#### Chair's report 2023

BRITSpA-supported national research studies are under development and the charity continues to collaborate with a partner charity and academic groups to promote a range of studies. We were delighted to see the launch of the BAXSIC study looking at the impact of the delay of diagnosis in an inception cohort of axSpA patients. Membership continues to increase steadily and includes the full range of health care professionals and scientists committed to the advancement of knowledge and treatment of spondyloarthritis. The 2022 Annual Scientific meeting was well-attended, with online access also provided, and attracted very positive feedback. BRITSpA continues to support Travelling Fellowships for members to facilitate sharing of best practice in axSpA. We were delighted to welcome Dr Dale Webb as a new Trustee in November 2022.

Prof Raj Sengupta, Chair of Trustees

#### OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

##### OBJECTIVES OF THE CHARITY

The objectives of the charity are to promote the education of health care specialists and the public in relation to all aspects of the spondyloarthritis group of diseases including axial spondyloarthritis, psoriatic arthritis, reactive arthritis, arthritis related to inflammatory bowel disease and undifferentiated peripheral arthritis, to share information and skills among different medical disciplines that deal with these types of conditions and related disorders and to enhance research, diagnosis and treatment of spondyloarthritis for the benefit of those suffering from these conditions.

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)'.

##### ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

The principal activities for achieving these objectives are:

- Provision of multidisciplinary educational meetings
- Establishment and advocacy of best practice for clinicians
- Sharing of information and skills among different medical disciplines
- Facilitation of research into aspects of spondyloarthritis
- Improvement of diagnosis and treatment of spondyloarthritis for benefit of those suffering from these conditions.
- Conform to GDPR regulations
- Broaden Executive Committee to reflect membership and broaden expertise
- Extend representation of BRITSpA and axSpA on professional bodies.

BRITSpA

Trustees Annual Report

## MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO FURTHER THE CHARITY'S PURPOSES FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT FOR THE PERIOD 2022-23

### (i) Provision of multidisciplinary educational meetings

Two further online educational webinars were held in June and December 2022, open to BRITSpA members and non-members, all free to attend. The two-day Annual Scientific Meeting's programme was designed to benefit and be accessible to the full range of members.

### (ii) Establishment and advocacy of best practice for clinicians

The online educational seminars and Annual Scientific meeting allow the sharing of best practice. Delegates are able to interact with the lecturers via Q&A. The latest developments and guidelines are shared with the membership.

### (iii) Sharing of skills among the different medical disciplines

Current membership continues to grow, standing currently at 216, with approximately equal numbers of Rheumatology Consultants and allied health professionals.

### (iv) Facilitation of research into aspects of spondyloarthritis

BRITSpA members are contacted by email and website notifications regarding studies of interest.

### v) Improvement of diagnosis and treatment of spondyloarthritis

All of the activities of BRITSpA are aimed at improving the recognition of SpA amongst clinicians and allied health professionals, and refining and understanding current and emerging treatment modalities, particularly with a view to reducing the delay to diagnosis.

### vi) Conform to GDPR regulations

The charity's policy is shown on the website. Members are advised regularly how to request deletion of their details..

### (vii) Broaden Executive Committee to reflect membership and broaden expertise

The Executive Committee currently comprises five Rheumatology Consultants, one scientist, a clinical lecturer and two physiotherapists.

### (viii) Extend representation of BRITSpA and axSpA on professional bodies

BRITSpA

Trustees Annual Report

Executive committee members sit on:

- British Society for Rheumatology's Heberden Committee
- British Society for Rheumatology's PsA Treatment Guideline group
- British Society for Rheumatology National Early inflammatory arthritis audit working project group
- British Society for Rheumatology Research Engagement working group
- Executive Committee of Assessment of Spondyloarthritis International Society (ASAS).
- British Society of Lifestyle Medicine
- Versus Arthritis Research Advisory Group for Adult Inflammatory Arthritis
- GRAPPA global steering group,
- Trustee of Brit-PACT and member of ASAS member
- ASAS MRI working group member
- NASS medical advisory board;
- Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Alliance (ARMA)
- Member of ASAS Executive Committee
- NASS Medical Advisory Board NASS
- EULAR working parties (PsA treatment guidelines, MSK imaging)
- NICE TA committees on new SpA biologics / small molecules
- NRAS
- NIHR UK Musculoskeletal Translational Research Collaboration
- Scottish Society for Rheumatology

BRITSpA

Trustees Annual Report

Structure, governance and management

## CONSTITUTION

The principal objective of the charity is to promote the education of the public and health care specialists in relation to all aspects of the spondyloarthritis group of diseases, and to share information and skills among different medical disciplines.

The registered charity, number 1159476, is constituted under a Trust deed dated 3rd December 2014. The British Society for Spondyloarthritis (BRITSpA) was set up as a charitable Trust by the current Trustees who are also founder members of the Executive Committee governing the activities of the Trust.

The Trust actively fundraises. In the first instance this is mainly through approaches to pharmaceutical companies with an interest in advancing knowledge of spondyloarthritis. The risk of potential conflicts of interest has been acknowledged from the inception of BRITSpA; there is no representation of pharmaceutical companies or other potential donors on the Executive Committee and the measures taken to ensure that all funding and expenditure are transparent and in line with the society's charitable status and objectives and set out in the financial report below.

The Trustees/Executive Committee have met quarterly since the charity's inception, together with minuted teleconferences. Since in-person meetings have become impractical due to the Covid19 pandemic, more regular, shorter virtual meetings have been held most months. Any practical changes to the charity bylaws are circulated prior to the AGM and voted upon by the attending membership. All Trustees give their time freely and no Trustee remuneration was paid in the year. Details of Trustee expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in the accounts. Neither the Trust nor any of the Trustees have interests with the pharmaceutical industry but any such interests would be disclosed. Members of the Executive Committee (EC) were affirmed. At the Trustees' meetings, the broad strategy and areas of activity for the charity and plans for research, education and links with other professional and patient groups are agreed. The day to day administration of the charity's activities is managed by the Executive Committee members, assisted by the administrator.

## METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The management of the charity is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the charity Bylaws, which are published on the BRITSpA website.

## ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The Executive Committee is responsible for overall policy and direction of BRITSpA, and delegates responsibility for day-to-day operations to the administrator. Sub-committees are formed for separate research projects, as applicable. All the Executive Committee will be eligible for re-election, with no more than half of the Executive Committee to be changed at one time.

## EMPLOYEES OF THE CHARITY

BRITSpA employs a part-time administrator (appointed 7th January 2015), originally for three days a week: this role was reduced to one day a week from May 2020, then reviewed and increased to two days a week from March 2021.

## BRITSpA

### Trustees Annual Report

#### MEMBERSHIP AND LINKS WITH RELATED PROFESSIONAL GROUPS

Recruitment to membership of BRITSpA continues to be successful with a current membership of 200 including Rheumatologists, both Consultants and trainees, nurses, radiologists, physiotherapists and occupational therapists, scientists, Research Fellows, radiologists, epidemiologists, chiropractors and general practitioners with an established interest.

We maintain our close relationship with patient-centred charity National Ankylosing Spondylitis Society (NASS), and count the CEO and three other staff among our membership. BRITSpA EC members remain as trustees and/or medical advisors to NASS.

#### FINANCIAL REVIEW

##### GOING CONCERN

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, with a minimum balance of £5,000.

The Trustees have considered the Charity's position at the time of signing the financial statements, and in particular the current issues caused by the continuing Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on the Charity and the wider economy. The administrator's working hours have been temporarily reduced.

Based on this, the Trustees have concluded that they have a reasonable expectation that the Charity will have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, and at the date of signing these financial statements, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing these financial statements.

##### RESERVES POLICY

The Treasurer continues to be successful in attracting funding for the Annual Scientific Meetings. Following discussion at the 2022 AGM, a decision was made for 2023 member delegates to make nominal contributions to the cost of the meeting by means of delegate fees .. Future options for core funding are continuously explored and are debated during the annual general meeting.

The Trustees have set a reserves policy of a minimum balance of £5,000.

Total unrestricted funds at 31 March 2023 amounted to £29,635 (2022: £35,146 ). Restricted funds amounted to £6,622 (2022: £21,314). Restricted funds are in respect of Travelling Fellowship funding to provide additional training for members, and a donation to fund medals

##### PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The charity's main focus will be to progress and develop opportunities for members to engage in research, in order to continue share knowledge with regard to all aspects of the spondyloarthritis group of diseases.

##### Statement of trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

BRITSpA

Trustees Annual Report

The Trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity 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 charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

*Dr Raj Sengupta*

R. Sengupta

Trustee

22 December 2023

BRITSpA

Independent Examiners Report

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of BRITSpA

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of BRITSpA for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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 financial statements to be reached.



Andrew Parker FCCA Association of Chartered  
Certified Accountants

Andrew Parker Associates Ltd

Unit 7

Beech Avenue Business Park

Beech Avenue, Taverham

Norwich

NR8 6HW

22 December 2023

## BRITSpA

## Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	45,095	-	45,095	20,000
Total		45,095	-	45,095	20,000
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	3	48,040	-	48,040	19,576
Other	4	2,566	14,692	17,258	19,789
Total		50,606	14,692	65,298	39,365
Net gains on investments		-	-	-	-
Net expenditure	5	(5,511)	(14,692)	(20,203)	(19,365)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net expenditure before other gains/(losses)		(5,511)	(14,692)	(20,203)	(19,365)
Other gains and losses					
Net movement in funds		(5,511)	(14,692)	(20,203)	(19,365)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		35,146	21,314	56,460	75,825
Total funds carried forward		29,635	6,622	36,257	56,460

BRITSpA

Balance Sheet

at 31 March 2023

Charity No. 1159476

2023

£

£

Fixed assets

Tangible assets

7	346	462
	<u>346</u>	<u>462</u>

Current assets

Debtors

8	3,203	6,506
---	-------	-------

Cash at bank and in hand

	33,680	50,412
--	--------	--------

	<u>36,883</u>	<u>56,918</u>
--	---------------	---------------

Creditors: Amount falling due within one year

9	(972)	(920)
---	-------	-------

Net current assets

	35,911	55,998
--	--------	--------

Total assets less current liabilities

	36,257	56,460
--	--------	--------

Net assets excluding pension asset or liability

	<u>36,257</u>	<u>56,460</u>
--	---------------	---------------

Total net assets

	<u><u>36,257</u></u>	<u><u>56,460</u></u>
--	----------------------	----------------------

The funds of the charity

Restricted funds

10

Restricted income funds

	6,622	21,314
--	-------	--------

	<u>6,622</u>	<u>21,314</u>
--	--------------	---------------

Unrestricted funds

10

General funds

	29,635	35,146
--	--------	--------

	<u>29,635</u>	<u>35,146</u>
--	---------------	---------------

Reserves

10

Total funds

	<u><u>36,257</u></u>	<u><u>56,460</u></u>
--	----------------------	----------------------

Approved by the trustees on 22 December 2023

And signed on their behalf by:

*Dr Raj Sengupta*

R. Sengupta

Trustee

22 December 2023

## BRITSpA

## Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2023

## 1 Accounting policies

### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

### Change in basis of accounting or to previous accounts

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and method of accounting) since last year and no changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds	These are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.
Designated funds	These are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.
Revaluation funds	These are unrestricted funds which include a revaluation reserve representing the restatement of investment assets at their market values.
Restricted funds	These are available for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

### Income

Recognition of income Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to, and virtually certain to receive, the income and the amount of the income can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Income with related expenditure Where income has related expenditure the income and related expenditure is reported gross in the SoFA.

Donations and legacies Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the the SoFA when receivable and only when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.

Tax reclaims on donations and gifts Income from tax reclaims is included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift/donation to which it relates.

Donated services and facilities These are only included in income (with an equivalent amount in expenditure) where the benefit to the Charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material.

Volunteer help The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts.

Investment income This is included in the accounts when receivable.

Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets This includes any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

Gains/(losses) on investment assets This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments.

## BRITSpA

## Notes to the Accounts

## Expenditure

Recognition of expenditure Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Expenditure on raising funds These comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income, fundraising trading costs and investment management costs.

Expenditure on charitable activities These comprise the costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services in the furtherance of its objects, including the making of grants and governance costs.

Grants payable All grant expenditure is accounted for on an actual paid basis plus an accrual for grants that have been approved by the trustees at the end of the year but not yet paid.

Governance costs These include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity, including any audit/independent examination fees, costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity, together with a share of other administration costs.

Other expenditure These are support costs not allocated to a particular activity.

## Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

## Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

Office equipment	25%% Reducing balance
------------------	-----------------------

## Freehold investment property

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value at each balance sheet date and are not depreciated. All gains or losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise.

## Stocks

Stock is included at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Donated items of stock are recognised at fair value which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay for the items on the open market.

## Trade and other debtors

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

## Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. In the statement of financial position, bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings or current liabilities. In the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the company's cash management.

## Notes to the Accounts

### Trade and other creditors

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

### Research and development

Expenditure on research and development is written off in the year in which it is incurred.

### Foreign currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are translated at the rates of exchange prevailing at the end of the reporting period.

Transactions in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are recorded at the rate of exchange on the date that the transaction occurred.

All exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at net income/expenditure.

### Leased assets

Where the charity enters into a lease which entails taking substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of an asset, the lease is treated as a finance lease.

Leases which do not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to charity are classified as operating leases.

Assets held under finance leases are initially recognised as assets of the charity at their fair value at the inception of the lease or, if lower, at the present value of the minimum lease payments. The corresponding liability to the lessor is included in the balance sheet date as a finance lease obligation. Lease payments are apportioned between finance expenses and reduction of the lease obligation so as to achieve a constant rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability. Finance expenses are recognised immediately, unless they are directly attributable to qualifying assets, in which case they are capitalised in accordance with the charity's policy on borrowing costs.

Assets held under finance leases are depreciated in the same way as owned assets.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

In the event that lease incentives are received to enter into operating leases, such incentives are recognised as a liability. The aggregate benefit of incentives is recognised as a reduction of rental expense on a straight-line basis.

### Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the charity pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the charity has no further payments obligations. The contributions are recognised as expenses when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals in the balance sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the charity in independently administered funds.

### Receipt of donated goods, facilities and services

All donated goods, facilities and services received are recognised within incoming resources and expenditure at an estimate of the value to the charity.

## BRITSpA

## Notes to the Accounts

## 2 Income from donations and legacies

Unrestricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
£	£	£
45,095	45,095	20,000
<u>45,095</u>	<u>45,095</u>	<u>20,000</u>

## 3 Expenditure on charitable activities

Unrestricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
£	£	£
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>	48,040	19,576
<i>Governance costs</i>	<u>48,040</u>	<u>19,576</u>

## 4 Other expenditure

Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
£	£	£	£
Bank loan and overdraft interest payable	-	-	138
Employee costs	168	14,692	15,056
Motor and travel costs	295	-	464
Amortisation, depreciation, impairment, profit/loss on disposal of fixed assets	116	-	154
General administrative costs	551	-	2,519
Legal and professional costs	1,436	-	1,458
<u>2,566</u>	<u>14,692</u>	<u>17,258</u>	<u>19,789</u>

## 5 Net expenditure before transfers

	2023	2022
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	116	154

## 6 Staff costs

	2023	2022
Salaries and wages	14,158	14,734
Pension costs	534	196
<u>14,692</u>	<u>14,930</u>	

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

## BRITSpA

## Notes to the Accounts

## 7 Tangible fixed assets

	Office equipment	Total
	£	£
Cost or revaluation		
At 1 April 2022	1,649	1,649
At 31 March 2023	<u>1,649</u>	<u>1,649</u>
Depreciation and impairment		
At 1 April 2022	1,187	1,187
Depreciation charge for the year	116	116
At 31 March 2023	<u>1,303</u>	<u>1,303</u>
Net book values		
At 31 March 2023	<u>346</u>	<u>346</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>462</u>	<u>462</u>
8 Debtors		
	2023	2022
	£	£
Other debtors	3,203	4,981
PAYE	-	1,525
	<u>3,203</u>	<u>6,506</u>
9 Creditors:		
amounts falling due within one year		
	2023	2022
	£	£
Other taxes and social security	144	110
Accruals	828	810
	<u>972</u>	<u>920</u>

## 10 Movement in funds

	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2023
		£	£	£
Restricted funds:				
Restricted income funds:				
Abbvie Funding	6,314	-	(14,692)	(8,378)
Novartis Travelling Fellowship Funding	10,000	-	-	10,000
Andrew Keat Lectrue	5,000	-	-	5,000
<i>Total</i>	<u>21,314</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(14,692)</u>	<u>6,622</u>
Unrestricted funds:				
General funds	35,146	45,095	(50,606)	29,635
<b>Total funds</b>	<u><b>56,460</b></u>	<u><b>45,095</b></u>	<u><b>(65,298)</b></u>	<u><b>36,257</b></u>

## 11 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£
Fixed assets	346	-	346
Net current assets	36,055	(144)	35,911
	<u>36,401</u>	<u>(144)</u>	<u>36,257</u>

## 12 Reconciliation of net debt

	At 1 April 2022	Cash flows	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£
Cash and cash equivalents	50,412	(16,732)	33,680
	<u>50,412</u>	<u>(16,732)</u>	<u>33,680</u>
Net debt	<u>50,412</u>	<u>(16,732)</u>	<u>33,680</u>

## 13 Commitments

*Pension commitments*

	2023	2022
	£	£
The pension cost charge to the charity amounted to:	<u>534</u>	<u>196</u>