

CHARITY NUMBER: 1173492

UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS

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UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charitable Status The Union of Brunel Students is an incorporated charity established under the Education Act 1994. The Union is registered with the Charity Commission under the s.11(9), Charities Act and is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), charity number 1173492.

Principal Address

Cleveland Road
Uxbridge
Middlesex
UB8 3PH

Chief Executive

Craig Lithgow

Charity Trustees

	2020/2021	2021/2022
President*	Anvitha Paruchuri	Kulvant Singh
VP Student Activities*	Connie Fernandes	Connie Fernandes
VP College of Business, Arts and Social Sciences*	Pritesh Shah	Archan Raval
VP College of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences*	Sam Johnson	Vacant
VP College of Design, Engineering and Physical Sciences*	Eshna Sikri	Noah Yeates
Student Trustee	Mohammad Khalifa	Mohammad Khalifa
Student Trustee	Jason Francis	Jason Francis
Student Trustee	Dhiren Wadher	Ravina Jignesh
Student Trustee	Vacant	Krison Kirit
External Trustee	Nathan Townsend	Nathan Townsend
External Trustee	Julie Atherton	Julie Atherton
External Trustee	Katie Ross	Katie Ross
External Trustee	Peter Smallwood	Peter Smallwood

*denotes full-time sabbatical officers

Senior Management Team

Craig Lithgow	Chief Executive
Richard Parkin	Director of Finance and Resources
Andy Proudfoot	Director of Operations
Francesca Stirling	Head of Student Activities

Auditors	Bankers	Solicitors	Solicitors (licencing)
Crowe U.K. LLP Statutory Auditor 49 - 51 Blagrove Street Reading Berkshire RG1 1PL	HSBC PO Box 41 High Street Uxbridge UB8 1BY	Blandy & Blandy 1 Friar Street Reading Berkshire RG1 1DA	Poppleston Allen 37 Stoney Street The Lace Market Nottingham NG1 1LS

UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Charity Trustees present their annual report for the year ended 31 July 2021, which includes the administrative information set out on page 1, together with the audited financial statements for that year.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Union is structured by its Constitution & Governing Bye-Laws. The Union of Brunel Students is a democratic student led organisation which exists to represent its members to the University, the media and to other external organisations and bodies such as the National Union of Students. In addition, we provide key support, various welfare services and a variety of sporting, cultural and development opportunities for all our members. Student democracy lies at the heart of all that we do but alongside this, we are a 'not for profit' organisation with all surpluses generated from various commercial activities committed and invested into providing and improving our services to our members. We are a registered charity primarily funded by an annual block grant to help us ensure that we can work together to provide a diverse and exciting array of support, services and development opportunities for the mutual benefit of our membership.

The President and four Vice-Presidents (Student officers) are annually elected and mandated to create and set union policy whilst also being strategically responsible for the direction and lead of all union activity. The Trustee Board, which is currently made up of the President, four Vice-Presidents, four elected Student Trustees and four External Trustees have responsibilities for the financial and legal compliance of the Union. The various members of staff employed by the union are so employed to help, support and advise the officers so that they can fulfil their specific duties within their various roles/portfolios.

Charity law requires the Trustee Board to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Union and of the surplus or deficit for that year. In preparing the financial statements the Trustee Board is required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them on a consistent basis, making judgements and estimates that are prudent and reasonable. The Trustee Board must also prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Union will continue to operate.

The Trustee Board is responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Union. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the union and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Key Management remuneration

The remuneration of key management personnel is set by the Board, with the policy objective of ensuring that they are provided with appropriate incentives to encourage enhanced performance and are, in a fair and responsible manner, rewarded for their individual contributions to the Union's success. The appropriateness and relevance of such remuneration reviewed annually, including reference to comparisons with other Unions to ensure that the Union remains sensitive to the broader issues of pay and employment conditions elsewhere.

Relationship with Brunel University

The relationship between the University and the Union is recorded in the regulations of the University and detailed in the Union constitution; both approved by both organisations. This relationship is legally complied by a Memorandum of Understanding, where both parts agree on the terms of the partnership.

UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

The Union receives a block grant from the University and part-occupies a building owned by the University. Various Union Officers hold seats on several University governing committees, including University Council and Senate, thus ensuring the voices of students are represented at the top-level meetings. There is no reason to believe that any sort of support will cease to exist from the University for the foreseeable future not only due to the imposed duty as outlined in the Education Act of 1994 on Universities safeguarding Student Unions, but also due to the healthy working relationship which exists and constantly is being developed between the University and the Union.

Risk Management

The Trustees have undertaken to examine the major risks that the Union faces. That review is an integral part of the annual planning cycle. The Union has, and continues to develop, systems to monitor and control these risks in order to mitigate any impact that they have on the Union and its operations.

The principal risks and uncertainties currently facing the Union are considered to be:

- Risk of cuts to University funding of the Union, caused by either perception of value of the Union or the universities own financial sustainability.
- The financial health of the University is itself dependent on government funding, which in turn is susceptible to factors beyond the control of the Union, such as academic offering, NSS survey results, affordability driven by fees level and other demographic factors.
- Significantly increasing pension liabilities that the Union has no control over.
- Reputational damage in the unlikely event of a high-profile activity by a student, officer or trustee.
- Failure to be seen by students or the university as the voice of students
- Financial and activity reduction due to the covid-19 pandemic

Our plans and strategies for managing risk include maintaining effective internal controls, risk registers, incident-reporting and monitoring systems and insurance cover wherever appropriate.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Our Purpose

The Union exists to ensure that every Brunel Student has the opportunity to enjoy, challenge, influence and benefit from all aspects of their studies and the wider student experience.

The Union acts for the benefit of Brunel Students at all times ensuring our sustainable, membership led Union thrives as a result.

Our Mission

We deliver on our core purpose through 4 main areas of operation:

1. Advice and Support
2. Student Voice
3. Student-led Activities
4. Commercial Services

Our Values

- Membership Driven
- Ambitious
- Empowering
- Accessible
- Integrity

UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

In 2016/2017 the Union identified key priorities when the new strategic plan was developed. The following themes were identified:

Our Strategic Themes

- Create a culture of sustainability
- Enhancing students' everyday needs
- Clearly demonstrating the real benefits of Union engagement
- Tackling non-completion
- Ensuring students are genuine partners in academic decision-making

Achievements and Performances

This year has understandably been dominated by Covid. Our commercial business has been forced into closure for much of the year and under significant restrictions when we have managed to open. Our clubs and societies have had to deliver much of their activity online with many unable to engage in their activities in any shape through the year. Our advice and support functions have at times been overwhelmed with enquiries as government legislation and guidance constantly changed to keep pace with the pandemic, causing significant anxiety and unrest amongst our membership. Many of our members were left stranded abroad or as lock down kicked in, stuck on campus, isolated, and trapped.

The closing of many of our services saw us utilising the Government Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme through August to May ensuring that we achieved our aspiration not to make any redundancies during this turbulent period. The reduction in services costs, retention of our core grant, successful business interruption insurance claims and benefits of furlough have enabled us to weather this current storm well, bolstering our reserves and putting us in a strong position to cope with the uncertainties that 2021-22 may bring as the pandemic and vaccination schedules battle it out between themselves.

We tackled pandemic challenges that left some of our elected officers halfway across the world in differing time zones. This caused us to work very differently on both our representative engagement but also in our governance. We pushed meetings to earlier in the day to smooth out time zone issues and moved our governance meetings to a virtual environment. Our democratic meetings also moved online, from our rep congresses and even our AGM. We were delighted that far from causing accessibility barriers, more students chose to be involved in this way and participate in these meetings, enabling the largest number of students in many years to be able to participate and influence our democratic framework.

Supporting our members

Our advice service saw a 30% increase in the number of clients this year with many of the enquiries being covid related. Whilst our advice still centred around academic support issues, housing and student living, students contacting us in financial crises was the area of significant growth. Our annual hardship fund which grants small sums to students in need, increased from an average of approximately £15,000 pa to over £75,000 in this period. We were grateful that much of this fund was provided from the University directly as they recognised our ability to get funds to students quicker than their more bureaucratic processes.

The pandemic saw major disruption to campus life, with most of the teaching delivered online through lockdowns, pretty much all social facilities closed, and students isolated in halls of residences that many felt had no value to them or that they were even mis sold that accommodation on the premise of a vibrant campus experience.

UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

We negotiated hard to help those students who had signed residential contracts, enabling those that had not returned to campus to not be charged, those that were on campus to get a token good will payment and the opportunity for a rent-free period when restrictions lifted in June to have some level of social experience on campus. In total through rents not raised, and rebates and good will payments and a long-awaited agreement to release students from contracts in term 3, we saved residential students at Brunel an estimated £5m collectively. We only wish we could have done more.

The changes to teaching practices and examination protocols was significant this year, much of which was forced in very quickly in November as lockdown number one hit. For some courses this was easily managed but for most it was completely transformative and for some overwhelming. Many of our students were accessing online content from abroad and from many different time zones, some from countries with poor internet infrastructure, and some with restricted access. We were able to secure a no detriment policy with the University which essentially enabled students effected by the significant changes to be able to have pre pandemic assessment considered or be able to retake exams if they performed poorly with no restriction on potential end grading.

Sports, Clubs and Wellbeing

In any normal year we actively engage with thousands of students through our student led groups and our commercial facilities. All our activities were decimated by the pandemic with groups unable to meet up, train or compete. This led us to introduce a wide range of online activity. Our clubs and societies embraced ZOOM and held many their meetings online. This was a lifeline for many of our students, enabling them to have contact with others whilst very restricted to movement on campus. We also ran a full health and fitness programme online, helping students keep on top of their physical fitness and mental wellbeing. Classes ranged from mindfulness and Yoga to intensive cardio and strength and conditioning.

In the periods between lockdowns, we worked swiftly and collaboratively with the university sports department to provide training sessions in person as and when guidance allowed and were delighted to provide some level of friendly competition towards the end of May despite an academic year with no competitive sport at all, no trips and little social engagement.

Mental wellbeing was one of our key activity areas through the year and we introduced our members to the FIKA App. This app is aimed at helping students work on and develop their mental fitness as much as they would their physical fitness. There is a recognised mental health crisis on university campuses with more and more students needing intervention or suffering in silence through loneliness, anxiety, and depression. Making the app available to all students we hope to encourage a culture of mental fitness training in our community, with the aim that, as with physical ill health, it is often easier and quicker to cope and to recover the fitter you are. This introduction will be the first step in us developing our own mental wellbeing strategy and focus through the next academic cycle.

Looking forward

Our current strategic period ended this year and with the pandemic still looming large we adopted a shorter term flexible strategy as we moved into the new academic year. One of our key focusses this next year will be to develop a more robust strategy as we come out of Covid enabling us to respond to the needs of a membership with potentially a very different view of the world. Our aims this year will be to improve accessibility to all students, ensure that we tackle the mental health crises head on, make value for money a clear priority driver after such a tough financial period for students, put our full attention to reinvigorating a vibrant campus experience and to make sure that our commitments to climate change are not forgotten or overshadowed by changes in practices brought about by the global pandemic.

UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

Financial Review

The Union's gross income from all sources this year totalled £2,414,077 (2020: £2,828,517); a fall caused by the restrictions in place to tackle Covid-19. Total expenditure was also reduced to £2,110,911 (2020: £2,688,745), again reflecting cost savings due to the University campus being closed to students for the spring term and its outlets being closed for much of the year. Ignoring the movement on the pension deficit contributions creditor, a surplus of £303,166 (2020: £139,722) was achieved as a result of these cost savings and the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grant money received.

In 2021 the pension deficit contributions creditor decreased by £190,785, resulting in a surplus for the year of £493,951. In 2020 there had been a large increase in the pension deficit contributions creditor of £1044,155 resulting in an overall deficit of £904,383.

The Union has continued to benefit from the recognition and support of Brunel University with an annual block grant of £1,137,375 plus further grants as disclosed in note 4.

Reserves level and policy

We have reviewed the Union's reserves requirements. Excluding the pension deficit, free reserves stood at £712,096 (2020: £466,277) at the year-end. This position is after deducting from total unrestricted funds (excluding the pension scheme liability) of £767,360 the amount of £55,264 invested in our existing tangible fixed assets. An amount of £1,285 (2019: £3,585) is held as designated funds to finance the further development of student facilities over the next 2 years. The Union is currently affiliated to many organisations, our largest single subscription cost amounted to £28,178 (2020: £60,646) for the year to the NUS, and no donations were made during the year to any external institutions out of the Union's own resources.

The Risk committee conducted a detailed review in 2020 of the free reserves requirement and concluded that the 2 months operating costs (circa £400,000) is a sufficient amount to set aside to cope with any unexpected downturn in funding or additional calls upon cash resources without immediately curtailing existing activities.

Current total funds of the Union stand at negative £2,161,248. This is comprised of negative £2,352,908 unrestricted funds, £1,285 in designated funds and £190,375 in restricted funds. As per the Trustee's policy, the Union considers its reserves position against 'cash in hand' balance (bank & cash balances minus current liabilities), and this stood at £844,715 at the year-end.

In respect of any surplus or deficit recognised in relation to the Union's share of the SUSS Pension Scheme, this would generally result in a cash flow effect for the Union in the form of an increase or decrease in employer's pension contributions over a number of years. The deficit of £3,120,268 recognised in this year's accounts does not represent an immediately realisable liability that requires payment but will be funded over more than 14 years from the Union's future incomes.

Custodian Activities: Clubs' & Societies' Funds and the annual RAG

The Union acts as custodian for funds raised by the students' many Clubs & Societies themselves, amounting to £123,676 (2020: £112,249) at the year-end, in addition to the grant-support funds it disburses to them as shown in the accounts. The Union is also custodian of the annual RAG proceeds from fundraising events organised by the students under the Union's auspices for distribution to the intended charities. Funds raised by this year's RAG amounting to £962 (2020: £10,809) less costs of £0 (2020: £872) were added to the undistributed balance of £7,364 (2020: £4,757) from the previous year, out of which £6,892 (2020: £7,330) was distributed among the charities nominated by the RAG Committee, leaving a balance of £1,344 (2020: £7,364) in hand for next year's RAG. No funds have subsequently been donated after the year end to charities. The remaining cash funds are held by the Union.

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Future Funding

The Charity Trustees confirm that the union has sufficient funds to meet all its obligations. The core Block Grant for 2021/22 has been confirmed at £1,151,024 plus a further £210,120 in respect of the SUSS pension scheme deficit payments and the associated PFF Levy. A restricted grant of £185,000 has been agreed to facilitate free sport club memberships and free Active@Brunel fitness and introductory sports sessions for staff and students on campus. Additionally catering compensation of £96,617 and other smaller grants of £53,739 have been agreed with the University.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards) and applicable law.

Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its net incoming resources for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards 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 to operate.

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

PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

The Trustees at the time when this Trustees' Report is approved have confirmed that:

- so far as the Trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Union's auditors are unaware, and
- the Trustees have taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as the Trustees in order to be aware of any information needed by the Union's auditors in connection with preparing their report and to establish that the Union's auditors are aware of that information.

This report was approved by the board on 10th January 2022 and signed on its behalf by:


Peter Smallwood
Deputy Chair

UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of the Union of Brunel Students

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Union of Brunel Students for the year ended 31 July 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cashflows and the Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 July 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the period then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of the Union of Brunel Students continued

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 7, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charity operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Charities Act 2011 and Charities SORP (FRS102) 2019.

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of the Union of Brunel Students continued

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the charitable company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company for fraud. The laws and regulations we considered in this context for the Union were Health and Safety and General Data Protection Regulations. Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any

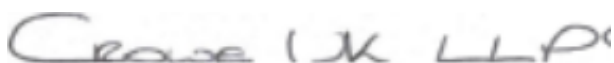
We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be the override of controls by management and the recognition of non-grant income. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, sample testing on income recognised in the accounts, reviewing accounting estimates for biases and reviewing board meeting minutes for any issues we need to be aware of.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations. These inherent limitations are particularly significant in the case of misstatement resulting from fraud as this may involve sophisticated schemes designed to avoid detection, including deliberate failure to record transactions, collusion or the provision of intentional misrepresentations.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Crowe U.K. LLP
Statutory Auditor

Reading
Berkshire

Date: 13 January 2022

**UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR
(including income and expenditure account)**

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income						
Donations:						
- Grant income	4	1,437,375	-	499,987	1,937,362	1,831,512
Other trading activities:						
- Advertising & marketing		59,321	-	-	59,321	64,340
Investment income		82	-	-	82	4,103
Charitable activities for students:						
- Bar & catering		191,329	-	-	191,329	479,894
- Entertaining		12,793	-	-	12,793	95,602
- Societies & clubs		-	-	98,463	98,463	228,331
- Other		1	-	-	-	45,100
Covid Job Retention Scheme		114,726	-	-	114,726	79,635
Total income		1,815,627	-	598,450	2,414,077	2,828,517
Expenditure						
Raising Funds:						
- Advertising and marketing		9,168	-	-	9,168	88,618
Charitable Activities for students:						
- Advice, welfare & representation		482,475	-	75,222	557,697	187,322
- Student activities		399,059	-	-	399,059	371,055
- Bar & catering		464,886	-	-	464,886	723,786
- Entertainment		159,208	-	-	159,208	302,821
- Transport		-	-	-	-	70,385
- Societies & clubs		241,289	-	279,604	520,893	944,758
Total expenditure	5	1,756,085	-	354,826	2,110,911	2,688,745
Decrease in pension deficit		190,785	-	-	190,785	(1,044,155)
Net income/(expenditure)		250,327	-	243,624	493,951	(904,383)
Transfer between funds	12	168,300	-	(168,300)	-	-
Net incoming resources after transfers		418,627	-	75,324	493,951	(904,383)
Fund balances brought forward		(2,771,535)	1,285	115,051	(2,655,199)	(1,750,816)
Fund balances carried forward	12	(2,352,908)	1,285	190,375	(2,161,248)	(2,655,199)

The notes on pages 14 to 26 form part of these accounts

**UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021**

BALANCE SHEET
Charity number: 1173492

		2021	2020
	Notes	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	8	55,264	73,241
Current assets			
Stocks	9	19,388	27,173
Debtors	10	39,653	74,756
Cash at bank & in hand		<u>976,337</u>	<u>601,596</u>
		1,035,378	703,525
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts due within one year	11	<u>(131,622)</u>	<u>(120,912)</u>
Net current assets		<u>903,756</u>	<u>582,613</u>
Net assets excluding pension liabilities		959,020	655,854
Pension scheme funding deficit	16	<u>(3,120,268)</u>	<u>(3,311,053)</u>
Total net liabilities		<u>(2,161,248)</u>	<u>(2,655,199)</u>
Representing Charitable Funds:			
Restricted income funds			
Students' Societies & Club funds	12	124,356	112,249
Other restricted grants	12	24,254	-
Sports fund	12	39,934	-
Hardship fund	12	<u>1,831</u>	<u>2,802</u>
		190,375	115,051
Unrestricted income funds			
Free reserves (Undesignated)		767,360	539,518
Pension reserve		(3,120,268)	(3,311,053)
Special projects reserve		<u>1,285</u>	<u>1,285</u>
	12	<u>(2,351,623)</u>	<u>(2,770,250)</u>
Total deficit	13	<u>(2,161,248)</u>	<u>(2,655,199)</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 10th January 2022 and signed on their behalf, by:


Peter Smallwood
Deputy Chair

The notes on pages 14 to 26 form part of these accounts.

**UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS
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STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

		2021 £	2020 £
	Notes		
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income/(expenditure)		493,951	(904,383)
Depreciation		49,905	52,698
Interest received		(82)	(4,103)
Decrease in stock		7,785	5,353
(Increase)/decrease in debtors		35,103	(27,559)
Revaluation of pension deficit		(190,785)	1,044,155
Increase/(decrease) in creditors		<u>10,710</u>	<u>(1,912)</u>
Net cash generated by operating activities		<u>406,587</u>	<u>164,249</u>
 Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable		82	4,103
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		<u>(31,928)</u>	<u>(42,640)</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(31,846)</u>	<u>(38,537)</u>
 Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	17/18	374,741	125,712
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<u>601,596</u>	<u>475,884</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		<u>£ 976,337</u>	<u>£ 601,596</u>
		2021 £	2020 £
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>£ 976,337</u>	<u>£ 601,596</u>

The notes on pages 14 to 26 form part of these accounts.

**UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1 Charity Information

The Union's principal activities are campaigning, representation, provision of social activities and the organisation of sporting and recreational activities and opportunities. Union of Brunel Students is a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) registered in the UK (Charity registration no. 1173492). The address of the principal office is Cleveland Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB8 3PH.

2 Accounting Policies

(a) Accounting convention

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of these accounts is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS102 "the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and the 2015 Charities Statement of Recommended Practice based thereon – the Charities SORP and the Companies Act 2006. Union of Brunel Students meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102

(b) Going concern

(c) At the time of approval of the annual report and accounts, the Covid-19 pandemic whilst still present is having much less of an impact on the Union's activities, Sport is now fully back in operation as are the bar and nightclub the latter of which was closed for the entirety of the 2020/21 financial period. The Trustees have reviewed the position carefully with a view to ensuring the ongoing provision of student representation and services as well as employment of staff. The Union has cash resources and net current assets currently well in excess of stipulated minimum levels. The pension scheme funding deficit represents amounts payable by the Union for the next 15 years and will be paid out of future income, and the Union are working closely in conjunction with the university in respect of funding this deficit. University grant funding remains increased year on year which reflects the importance of the union's work despite challenging economic factors. Conservative cash flow modelling with sensitivity analysis indicates that the cash reserves of the Union are adequate to meet its obligations as they fall due. Accordingly, the Trustees believe the Union's financial resources are sufficient to ensure the Union will continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future, being at least 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements, and have therefore prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis.

(c) Income

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Students' Union is legally entitled to the income, receipt is probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Gifts in kind donated for distribution are included at valuation and recognised as income when they are distributed to the projects. Gifts donated for resale are included as income when they are sold. Donated facilities are included at the value to the Students' Union where this can be quantified and a third party is bearing the cost. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

Donated services or facilities, which comprise donated services, are included in income at a valuation which is an estimate of the financial cost borne by the donor where such a cost is quantifiable and measurable. No income is recognised where there is no financial cost borne by a third party.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

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

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(c) **Income continued**

Covid Job Retention Scheme grant income is recognised on a straight line basis over the furlough period of each relevant employee, as permitted by the Charity SORP.

(d) **Expenditure**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Expenditure includes irrecoverable VAT. Charitable expenditure comprises the direct and indirect costs of delivering public benefit. Governance costs are those incurred for compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, such as the annual audit, annual elections and training for sabbatical officers. The value of free serviced campus accommodation is apportioned on estimated floor space occupied. Other central overhead costs are apportioned to charitable and other projects/activities on a usage basis, pro rata to the total costs of each project or activity undertaken.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

(e) **Tangible fixed assets**

Fixed assets are capitalised if over £500 and are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write the cost of assets off over their estimated useful lives:-

Fixtures and Fittings	-	20-25%	per annum straight line.
IT & Hi-tec equipment	-	33%	per annum straight line.
Motor vehicles	-	33%	per annum straight line.

(f) **Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of 3 months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

(g) **Debtors**

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment.

(h) **Creditors**

Short term creditors are measured at transaction price.

(i) **Pension costs**

Union of Brunel Students participates in the Students' Union Superannuation Scheme, which is a defined benefit scheme whose membership consists of employees of students' unions and related bodies throughout the country. Benefits in respect of service up to 30 September 2003 are accrued on a "final salary" basis, with benefits in respect of service from 1 October 2003 accruing on a Career Average Revalued Earnings (CARE) basis. With effect from 30 September 2011 the Scheme closed to future accrual. The Scheme operates as a pooled arrangement, with contributions paid at a centrally agreed rate. As a consequence, no share of the underlying assets and liabilities can be directly attributed to Union of Brunel Students.

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Pension costs (continued)

However the Union entered into an arrangement to clear the scheme deficit over a 20 year period. This period has since been extended and there are still 15 years remaining. The Net Present Value of Union student union's contributions as part of this plan are reflected as a liability on the balance sheet, which will reduce as they are paid.

The Union now operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Union to the fund in respect of the year. Differences between contributions payable in the year and paid are shown as accruals or prepayments in the balance sheet.

(j) **Leased assets**

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged as expenditure on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

(k) **Stock**

Stock is valued at the lower of the cost and its net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks.

(l) **Fund accounting**

(i) **Unrestricted Funds** General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustee in furtherance of the general objectives of the Students' Union and which have not been designated for other purposes

(ii) **Designated Funds** Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustee for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements

(iii) **Restricted Funds** raised and administered by the Union for specific purposes as determined by students, such as Club and Societies Accounts, as well as revenue received for purposes specified by the donor. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

(m) **Taxation**

No provision is made in these accounts for corporation tax as the Union is exempt from such taxes as a result of its charitable status.

(n) **Termination benefits**

Termination benefits are accounted following a commitment by legislation, by contractual or other agreements with employees to make payments (or provide other benefits) to employees when the Union terminates their employment.

(o) **Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value. The present value of the pension deficit is measured at fair value.

**UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

3 Critical areas of judgement

Preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements and estimates.

The key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are that of the SUSS pension scheme deficit. A discount rate of 1.8% has been used in line with industry standards.

4 Voluntary Income

	2021 £	2020 £
Block grant	1,137,375	1,138,381
Grant for rent in kind	300,000	300,000
Free sport grant	205,000	205,000
Other restricted grants	49,586	17,757
Hardship fund	74,251	9,969
SUSS Pension deficit contributions & PFF Levy	168,300	160,405
External grant	<u>2,850</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>1,937,362</u>	<u>1,831,512</u>

The University provides rent-free accommodation to the Union. Under the Charities SORP the 'donations in kind' must be valued and included within the accounts. The value to the Union is considered to be £300,000 and is included as 'Grant for rent' above.

5(a) Total expenditure - charitable and other activity costs

	Cost of sales £	Staff costs £	Rent £	Other costs £	Total £	Total 2020 £
Activities for generating funds						
Advertising & marketing	-	2,647	1,336	5,185	9,168	88,618
Charitable activities						
Advice, welfare & representation	-	328,529	81,285	147,883	557,697	187,322
Student activities	-	268,821	58,163	72,075	399,059	371,055
Bars & catering	40,341	274,728	67,757	82,060	464,886	723,786
Entertainment	-	86,895	23,205	49,108	159,208	302,821
Transport	-	-	-	-	-	70,385
Societies & clubs	-	<u>222,476</u>	<u>68,254</u>	<u>230,163</u>	<u>520,893</u>	<u>944,759</u>
Total costs	<u>40,341</u>	<u>1,184,096</u>	<u>300,000</u>	<u>586,474</u>	<u>2,110,911</u>	<u>2,688,745</u>

Included in the above costs is the fee for the preparation and audit of the statutory accounts of £12,950 (2020: £12,575)

**UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

5(a) Total expenditure - charitable and other activity costs (continued)

2020	Cost of sales £	Staff costs £	Rent £	Other costs £	Total 2020 £
<i>Activities for generating funds</i>					
Advertising & marketing	-	49,326	9,922	29,371	88,618
<i>Charitable activities</i>					
Advice, welfare & representation	-	121,129	21,531	44,662	187,322
Student Activities	-	197,399	43,608	130,048	371,055
Bar & catering	137,356	350,582	83,194	152,654	723,786
Entertainment	55,697	138,335	34,807	73,982	302,821
Transport	-	17,744	8,090	44,550	70,385
Societies & Clubs	-	376,235	98,848	469,676	944,759
Total costs	<u>193,053</u>	<u>1,250,749</u>	<u>300,000</u>	<u>944,943</u>	<u>2,688,745</u>

Affiliation fees are:

	2021 £	2020 £
BUCS	10,650	10,850
NUS	<u>28,178</u>	<u>60,646</u>
	<u>38,828</u>	<u>71,496</u>

5(b) Central overhead costs included in Note 5(a)

2021		Staff £	Rent £	Other £	Total £
	Usage				
Activities for generating funds					
Advertising & marketing	0.4%	2,647	1,336	741	4,724
Charitable activities					
Advice, welfare & representation	27.1%	161,027	81,285	45,045	287,357
Student Activities	19.4%	115,223	58,163	32,231	205,617
Bar & catering	22.6%	134,229	67,757	37,548	239,534
Entertainments	7.7%	45,969	23,205	12,859	82,033
Transport	0.0%	-	-	-	-
Societies & Clubs	22.8%	135,212	68,254	37,823	241,289
Totals	100%	<u>594,307</u>	<u>300,000</u>	<u>166,247</u>	<u>1,060,554</u>

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

5(b) Central overhead costs included in Note 5(a) (continued)

2020		Staff	Rent	Other	Total
	Usage	£	£	£	£
<i>Activities for generating funds</i>					
<i>Advertising & marketing</i>	3.3%	21,761	9,922	10,646	42,329
<i>Charitable activities</i>					
<i>Advice, welfare & representation</i>	7.2%	47,224	21,531	23,105	91,860
<i>Student Activities</i>	14.5%	95,644	43,608	46,795	186,047
<i>Bar & catering</i>	27.8%	182,466	83,194	89,274	354,933
<i>Entertainments</i>	11.6%	76,341	34,807	37,351	148,499
<i>Transport</i>	2.7%	17,744	8,090	8,681	34,516
<i>Societies & Clubs</i>	32.9%	<u>216,802</u>	<u>98,848</u>	<u>106,074</u>	<u>421,724</u>
<i>Totals</i>	100%	<u>657,981</u>	<u>300,000</u>	<u>321,926</u>	<u>1,279,908</u>

6 Staff costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	902,257	976,013
Social security	73,149	77,945
Pension costs	<u>208,690</u>	<u>196,791</u>
	<u>1,184,096</u>	<u>1,250,749</u>

The number of employees whose emoluments (gross pay plus taxable benefits) exceeded £60,000 during the year were as follows:

£70,001 - £80,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
-------------------	----------	----------

Pension contributions totalled £4,456 for the above higher paid employee.

The key management personnel of the Union are the Trustees and the Senior Management Team, listed on page 1. The aggregate remuneration (including employer NI and employer pension contributions) of key management personnel was £374,723 (2020: £334,586). The average staffing was as follows:-

Permanent staff	27	30
Students – term time only	<u>26</u>	<u>28</u>

No redundancies in the year (*Nil in 2020*).

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

7 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

Sabbatical officers are paid as authorised in the Union's governing document, for the representation, campaigning and support work they undertake as distinct from their trustee responsibilities. This work included voicing student opinion with the University and local community, defending and extending the rights of students through petitions etc. and also organising and supporting student volunteers and service provision for them.

The total salary and social security costs for the sabbatical officers amounted to £129,538 (2020: £129,308). Full time sabbatical officers in post were paid a salary of £19,963 (2019/20: £21,815) for 11 months of the year whilst the new Sabbatical officers were paid £3,630 (2019/20: £3,469) for two months of the year, with the Postgraduate Officers being paid for a part-time role paid on a pro-rata basis.

No trustees were reimbursed (2019/20: 3) with a total of £nil (2019/20: £221) in connection with their duties during the period. The expenses reimbursed during the year related to training and attendance at conferences and meetings.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures & fittings £	IT and Hi-tec equipment £	Total £
COST			
At 1 August 2020	210,733	110,333	321,066
Additions	<u>26,334</u>	<u>5,594</u>	<u>31,928</u>
At 31 July 2021	<u>237,067</u>	<u>115,927</u>	<u>352,994</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 August 2020	160,961	86,864	247,825
Charge for the year	<u>35,672</u>	<u>14,233</u>	<u>49,905</u>
At 31 July 2021	<u>196,633</u>	<u>101,097</u>	<u>297,730</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 July 2021	<u>40,434</u>	<u>14,830</u>	<u>55,264</u>
<i>At 31 July 2020</i>	<u><i>49,772</i></u>	<u><i>23,469</i></u>	<u><i>73,241</i></u>

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

9	Stock	2021	2020
		£	£
	Bar and shop stock	<u>19,388</u>	<u>27,173</u>
10	Debtors	2021	2020
		£	£
	Trade debtors	6,353	17,051
	Other debtors	5,424	11,455
	VAT debtor	2,218	-
	Prepayments & accrued income	<u>25,658</u>	<u>46,250</u>
		<u>39,653</u>	<u>74,756</u>
11	Creditors: amounts due within one year	2021	2020
		£	£
	Trade creditors	21,537	18,155
	Social security & other taxes	20,306	17,530
	Other creditors	3,267	7,364
	Accruals & deferred income	<u>86,514</u>	<u>77,863</u>
		<u>131,622</u>	<u>120,912</u>
	Deferred income	2021	2020
		£	£
	Balance as at 1 st August 2020	842	5,500
	Amounts released to income in the year	(842)	(5,500)
	Amounts deferred in the year	<u>2,150</u>	<u>842</u>
	Balance at 31 July 2021	<u>2,150</u>	<u>842</u>

Deferred income includes receipts relating to the subsequent period, being income received in advance for events taking place after the year end.

**UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

12 Fund analysis

	<i>As at 31 July 2020 £</i>	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	As at 31 July 2021 £
Unrestricted Funds					
Free reserves					
(Undesignated)	539,518	1,815,627	(1,756,085)	168,300	767,360
Pension Reserve	(3,311,053)	190,785	-	-	(3,120,268)
Special projects reserve	<u>1,285</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,285</u>
	<u>(2,770,250)</u>	<u>2,006,412</u>	<u>(1,756,085)</u>	<u>168,300</u>	<u>(2,351,623)</u>
Restricted Funds					
Students' Societies & Clubs Funds	112,249	98,463	(86,356)	-	124,356
Hardship Fund	2,802	74,251	(75,222)	-	1,831
SUSS Pension deficit contribution	-	168,300	-	(168,300)	-
Other restricted grants	-	52,436	(28,182)	-	24,254
Sports Fund	<u>-</u>	<u>205,000</u>	<u>(165,066)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,934</u>
	<u>115,051</u>	<u>598,450</u>	<u>(354,826)</u>	<u>(168,300)</u>	<u>190,375</u>
Total Funds	<u>(2,655,199)</u>	<u>2,604,862</u>	<u>(2,110,911)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,161,248)</u>

The transfer of £168,300 from the SUSS pension deficit restricted fund to unrestricted funds is to reimburse the Union for the SUSS pension deficit contributions and PPF levy it has made during the year.

**UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

12 Fund Analysis (continued)

<i>2020</i>	<i>As at 31 July 2019 £</i>	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	As at 31 July 2020 £
Unrestricted Funds					
Free reserves					
(Undesignated)	412,378	2,207,055	(2,145,334)	65,419	539,518
Pension Reserve	(2,266,898)	-	(1,044,155)	-	(3,311,053)
Special projects reserve	3,585	-	(2,300)	-	1,285
	<u>(1,850,935)</u>	<u>2,207,055</u>	<u>(3,191,789)</u>	<u>65,419</u>	<u>(2,770,250)</u>
Restricted Funds					
Students' Societies & Club Funds	89,210	228,331	(256,653)	51,361	112,249
Hardship Fund	10,909	9,969	(18,076)	-	2,802
SUSS Pension deficit contribution	-	160,405	-	(160,405)	-
Other restricted grants	-	17,757	-	(17,757)	-
Sports Fund	-	205,000	(266,382)	61,382	-
	<u>100,119</u>	<u>621,462</u>	<u>(541,111)</u>	<u>(65,419)</u>	<u>115,051</u>
Total Funds	<u>(1,750,816)</u>	<u>2,828,517</u>	<u>(3,732,900)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,655,199)</u>

13 Analysis of net deficit between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Total £
At 31 July 2021			
Fixed Assets	55,264	-	55,264
Current assets	845,003	190,375	1,035,378
Current liabilities	(131,622)	-	(131,622)
Pensions	(3,120,268)	-	(3,120,268)
	<u>(2,351,623)</u>	<u>190,375</u>	<u>(2,161,248)</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Total £
At 31 July 2020			
Fixed Assets	73,241	-	73,241
Current assets	588,474	115,051	703,525
Current liabilities	(120,912)	-	(120,912)
Pensions	(3,311,053)	-	(3,311,053)
	<u>(2,770,250)</u>	<u>115,051</u>	<u>(2,655,199)</u>

**UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

14 Control Relationship

The Union is controlled by the Board of Trustees which is subject to democratic election by the voting membership of the Union. The ultimate control of the Union is vested under the constitution in the membership in General meeting. As such no single person or entity controls the Union.

15 Related Parties

The Union is in receipt of a recurrent grant from Brunel University of £1,137,375 (2020: £1,138,381). A further grant of £205,000 (2020: £205,000) has been received to facilitate free sport club membership and £168,300 (2020: £160,425) was received as a contribution towards the SUSS pension deficit payments. Smaller restricted grants are made as the need arises; in 2021 these totalled £124,107 (2020: £27,726).

In addition, the Union occupies its building on a rent free basis under an informal license subject to the union maintaining the building in a good state of repair. A notional value for rent in kind is included in the accounts and amounted to £300,000 (2020: £300,000).

The Union received catering compensation from the University of £95,661 (2020: £94,720). This is included within bars and catering income on the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Sabbaticals of the Union are the members of the Trustee Board and receive remuneration for their services as provided for within the Constitution. Whilst basic pay is consistent for these 4 paid Trustees, the amounts paid are variable due to holiday pay. The remuneration included in the accounts are noted in note 7.

The amount owed to Brunel University at the year-end was £399 (2020: £3,097 was due to Brunel University).

16 Pension Costs

Student Union Superannuation Scheme

The Union participates in the Student Union Superannuation Scheme, a multi employer defined benefit pension scheme whose membership consists of employees of students' unions and related bodies throughout the country. With effect from 30 September 2011 the scheme closed to future accrual.

The employers share the actuarial risks associated with all members of the scheme. The Union is not legally responsible for the scheme and does not have sufficient information to use defined benefit accounting. Accordingly the scheme is accounted for as if it is a defined contribution scheme.

The Union and the other employers are jointly and severally liable for the scheme's deficit. At 30 June 2019, the date of the latest available information, the SUSS scheme deficit was £140.9m, up from £119.7m as at 30 June 2016. Recommended monthly contributions by participating employers have therefore been increased in order to clear the ongoing funding deficit. These contributions will be made until 2035 and will increase by at least 5% each year, with an additional one-off increase in 2021 of varying amounts depending on how many members were affected by the compromise issue. The average would be 18%; for the Union of Brunel Students the increase is 28.8%.

A liability of £3,120,268 (2020: £3,311,053) has been recognised by the Union, representing the present value of the additional contributions payable between the year-end and 2035, with the resulting movement recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities under the heading of 'Decrease in pension deficit' reporting a cost of £190,785.

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

16 Pension Costs (continued)

Defined Contribution Pension Costs

As the SUSS is closed to future accrual there were no employer contributions paid into the scheme by the Union for the year ended 31 July 2020; the Union does however continue to pay funding towards the deficit. For the year ended 31 July 2021, these contributions amounted to £144,300 (2020: £137,440).

The Union also operates two defined contribution pension schemes. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the Union in independently administered funds. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the funds and amounted to £38,542 (2020: £25,023). Contributions are accounted for as part of the Union's unrestricted funds.

Pension costs as disclosed in staff costs note (note 6) also include Death in Service premiums.

17 RECONCILIATION OF NET CASH FLOW TO MOVEMENT IN NET FUNDS

	2021 £	2020 £
Increase in cash and net funds in the year	374,741	125,712
Net funds at 1 August	<u>601,596</u>	<u>475,884</u>
NET FUNDS AT 31 JULY	<u>£ 976,337</u>	<u>£ 601,596</u>

18 ANALYSIS OF CHANGE IN NET FUNDS

	<i>Net funds as At 1 August 2020 £</i>	Cash Change £	Net funds as at 31 July 2021 £
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>£ 601,596</u>	<u>£ 374,741</u>	<u>£ 976,337</u>

**UNION OF BRUNEL STUDENTS
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021**

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

19 Comparative Statement of Financial Position

	<i>Unrestricted Fund £</i>	<i>Designated Fund £</i>	<i>Restricted Fund £</i>	<i>Total 2020 £</i>
<i>Income</i>				
<i>Donations:</i>				
- Grant income	1,438,381	-	393,131	1,831,512
<i>Other trading activities:</i>				
- Advertising & marketing	64,340	-	-	64,340
<i>Investment income</i>	4,103		-	4,103
<i>Charitable activities for students:</i>				
- Bar & catering	479,894	-	-	479,894
- Entertaining	95,602	-	-	95,602
- Societies & clubs	-	-	228,331	228,331
- Other	45,100	-	-	45,100
<i>Covid Job Retention Scheme</i>	79,635	-	-	79,635
<i>Total income</i>	<u>2,207,055</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>621,462</u>	<u>2,828,517</u>
<i>Expenditure</i>				
<i>Raising Funds:</i>				
- Advertising and marketing	86,318	2,300	-	88,618
<i>Charitable Activities for students:</i>				
- Advice, welfare & representation	169,246	-	18,076	187,322
- Student activities	371,055	-	-	371,055
- Bar & catering	723,786	-	-	723,786
- Entertainment	302,821	-	-	302,821
- Transport	70,385	-	-	70,385
- Societies & clubs	421,723	-	523,035	944,758
<i>Total expenditure</i>	<u>2,145,334</u>	<u>2,300</u>	<u>541,111</u>	<u>2,688,745</u>
<i>Increase in pension deficit</i>	(1,044,155)	-	-	(1,044,155)
<i>Net income/(expenditure)</i>	(982,434)	(2,300)	80,351	(904,383)
<i>Transfer between funds</i>	65,419	-	(65,419)	-
<i>Net (outgoing) resources after transfers</i>	(917,015)	(2,300)	14,932	(904,383)
<i>Fund balances brought forward</i>	<u>(1,854,520)</u>	<u>3,585</u>	<u>100,119</u>	<u>(1,750,816)</u>
<i>Fund balances carried forward</i>	<u>(2,771,535)</u>	<u>1,285</u>	<u>115,051</u>	<u>(2,655,199)</u>