



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **Period start date** **To** **Period end date**

Charity name:

Charity registration number:

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>For much of its long history, The British Society for Research on Ageing has solely relied on its volunteer board of Trustees to manage the operational side of its activity. In October 2023, the board took the decision to appoint a part-time freelance Chief Executive to support and oversee operations.</p> <p>The Trustees took this decision to invest in support staff to help them deliver ambitious targets for the charity, based on a Vision for the organisation that has 5 interconnecting pillars:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Bring our scientist members together2. Educate the general public3. Advocate for more funding for high quality research4. Raise money to provide grants to support excellent research5. Enable translation of research by relevant stakeholders <p>Trustees remain integral to the operational work of the charity. They are appointed for a term of 3 years, with the option to renew, and are encouraged to take on a specific role in line with their skills and experience. A majority of the Trustees are academics drawn from the ageing research community, with others bringing experience from the private and charity sectors. Applications and nominations can be made at any time through the year, via the BSRA website, with candidates elected by ballot of members either online or in person at our AGM.</p> <p>The Board of Trustees is supported by a Scientific Advisory Board, a group of 6 individuals who dedicate their time to assist with reviewing and making decisions about</p>

		<p>grants awarded by the society, in line with AMRC guidelines.</p> <p>All new Trustees and members of the SAB read the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission and sign the BSRA Trustee register to say that they have understood the content of the document and the requirements of being a charity Trustee under UK law.</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>The Trustees were committed to making progress against the 5 pillars of the society's Vision. To do this they made the decision to invest in a part time freelance Chief Executive and part time freelance Communications Manager, who helped them increase the charity's output and impact.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bring Scientist Members Together <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of BSRA members increased by over 10% and membership broadened through outreach to students, industry, international researchers and institutions. - Six leading figures in the field of ageing research were invited to share their work in our 2024 Academic Seminar Series, attracting approximately 300 participants. - Our 73rd Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) at the University of Birmingham brought together approximately 135 delegates and over 20 speakers for 3 days of stimulating talks, networking opportunities and poster presentations. 2. Educate the Public <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The public lecture at our Annual Scientific Meeting is a key part of our public outreach. The guest speaker at our Birmingham meeting was Professor Steve Harridge from King's College London, whose talk on exercise and ageing was attended by 70 representatives from the Birmingham 1000 Elders cohort. - A core objective of 2023-2024 was to develop a public engagement strategy to deliver on the charity's commitment to education. Led by our new CEO and Communications

		<p>Manager, this strategy includes the development of new opportunities for members of the public to engage with scientists in the field of research ageing, including the launch of an online public lecture series.</p> <p>3. Advocate for More Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Chair of the Board of Trustees, Professor Weinkove, represented the BSRA at an event on ageing at the Royal Society and discussed ageing research priorities with former Chief Medical Officer, Chris Witty, and Lord Kakkar, Chair of the OSCHR. - Members of the BSRA represent over 56 UK institutions involved in ageing research, providing a significant platform for promoting the value of this area of research as a means of preventing disease and improving the health of all individuals. <p>4. Raise Money to Provide Grants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The BSRA supported the work of 13 young researchers in 2023-2024. As a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRS), the BSRA has its own Scientific Advisory Board to assess and award grant applications. These prizes included ongoing support for a PhD student at the University of Birmingham with the support of The Chernajovsky Foundation; the Korenchevsky Prize awarded to the best elevated Oral Presentation to an Early Career Researcher at our Annual Scientific Meeting; two small research grants, two travel grants, three summer studentship grants and poster prizes at our ASM. <p>5. Enable Translation of Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The BSRA launched a new initiative to develop partnerships with specific disease charities and identify ways in which the expertise of ageing researchers can help them fulfil their objectives. Charities include Cystic Fibrosis Trust, The Macular Society and Cancer Research UK. - The BSRA hosted a one-day satellite event before the annual ASM for the eleven UK Ageing Networks (UKAN)
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		<p>to meet in person.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The ASM included an inaugural Early Career Commercialisation Prize to encourage these young researchers to translate their laboratory research into commercial opportunities.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	On appointment to the board, all new trustees must read the guidance on public benefit issued by the charity commission and sign a the BSRA trustee register to say that they have understood the content of the document.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	When awarding grants, the BSRA conforms to the AMRC principles of peer review guidelines, and utilises a minimum of 2 peer reviewers (for awards exceeding £2000) and an independent Scientific Advisory Board for selecting projects for funding. The BSRA is also committed to the 3Rs relating to the use of animals in research.
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The BSRA is wholly reliant on volunteers in order to function. The board of trustees are at the heart of the society and are responsible for its management and running. In addition, the BSRA has a scientific advisory board; a group of 6 individuals who dedicate their time to assist with reviewing and making decisions about grants awarded by the society.
Other		N/A

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>In Sept 2024 we hosted our Annual Scientific 1at the University of Birmingham with 135 delegates. This continues to provide the BSRA with an excellent forum to discuss the biology of ageing. The meeting includes a public lecture, open to all members of the public as a way to engage wider communities in the importance of ageing research. As part of the ASM, the BSRA also awarded the Korenchevsky prize to enable a young researcher to present their work at the AGE meeting in America in 2025. This continues to represent an excellent mechanism to spread the message about the BSRA to a wider audience, and also support early career researchers in the field of biogerontology.</p> <p>The BSRA has continued to support research into the biology of ageing through awards of small grants to researchers in the field. In 2024 we awarded almost £15000 to researchers to enable them to conduct and publish work in this field.</p> <p>The BSRA has worked alongside the Chernajovsky Foundation in 2024 to administer a PhD award to the University of Birmingham. The BSRA provides additional support to this student via providing opportunities and funding to attend and network at our annual meeting. This project was successfully completed in 2024.</p> <p>The BSRA has also established an online lecture series from leading scientists in the field.</p>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

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Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	As of the 30th of November 2024, the British Society for Research on Ageing has total cash funds of £68,896. This represents a net profit of approximately £7,378 over the last 12 months.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The BSRA do not have a specific policy on holding reserves. However, we do not have any financial dependencies (e.g. employee's) and the cash funds held by the BSRA are more than adequate to conduct our main aims of hosting our annual scientific meeting and awarded small grants to our members.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	N/A
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The principal sources of funding to the BSRA are: 1. Donations to the charity 2. Registrations to the annual scientific meeting 3. Membership subscriptions
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	N/A
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	All trustees are subject to election by the membership

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	All newly elected trustee's must read the Charity Commission document "The essential trustee" and sign the BSRA training register to confirm that they have read and understood the document and the responsibilities of a trustee. New trustees typically spend some time observing and shadowing existing trustee's before taking on a substantive role within the charity.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	Responsibility for the management of the BSRA lies with the board of trustees, who are led by the chairperson. The trustees are supported by the Scientific Advisory Board, comprising 6 persons, who work with the board of trustees to review and select from applications for BSRA funding. The BSRA development board are a separate panel of volunteers whose role is to help the BSRA secure funds to advance our aims and deliver our core activities. The board of trustees, scientific advisory board and development board are all comprised of volunteers. In Oct 2024 a CEO was appointed to assist with the running of the charity.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	N/A
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	
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Other name the charity uses	British Society for Research on Ageing
Registered charity number	1174127
Charity's principal address	British Society for Research on Ageing, Durham University, Science Site, South Road, Durham, DH1 3LE

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Professor David Weinkove	Chair		
2	Sally Bird	CEO	Oct 2024 on	
3	Dr Paul Morgan	Honorary Secretary		
4	Dr Paul Potter	Honorary Treasurer		
5	Dr Bradley Elliott	Communications		
6	Dr Niharika Duggal			
7	Dr Ira Milosevic			
8	Dr Sophie Joannis	Grants and Awards	Jan 2024 on	
9	Elizabeth Mills			
10	Tina Woods			
11	Dr Charalampos Rallis		Nov 2024 on	
12	Dr Diana Marcu		Nov 2024 on	
13	Dr Jon Houseley		Jan 2024 on	
14	Dr Hector Zenil		Jan 2024 on	
15	Dr James Murray	Honorary Secretary	Sept 2024 on	
16	Adrian Cull		Resigned March	
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

[illegible]

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

[illegible]

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Dr Paul K Potter

Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

Honorary Treasurer

Date

20/9/25



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
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Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 01/12/2023	To	Period end date 30/11/2024
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership	4997.6	-	-	4,998	4,901
Annual Scientific Meeting	59766.54	-	-	59,767	29,490
Donations	8672.99	-	-	8,673	3,239
Refunds	-	-	-	-	907
Grant Funds	6574.32	-	-	6,574	67,480
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	80,011	-	-	80,011	106,017
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	80,011	-	-	80,011	106,017
A3 Payments					
Travel expenses and refunds	2,059	-	-	2,059	5,956
Annual Scientific Meeting	37566.6	-	-	37,567	35,049
Grants and Awards	14362.8	-	-	14,363	79,358
Professional costs	720	-	-	720	600
Subscriptions	866	-	-	866	790
Website	923.32	-	-	923	653
Bank and Fraudulent Charges	45	-	-	45	193
Consultancy	16041.9	-	-	16,042	3,264
PayPal Refunds	48.55	-	-	49	-
Sub total	72,633	-	-	72,633	125,863
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	72,633	-	-	72,633	125,863
Net of receipts/(payments)	7,378	-	-	7,378	- 19,846
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	61,518	-	-	61,518	81,364
Cash funds this year end	68,896	-	-	68,896	61,518

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank account	68,896	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	68,896	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Dr Paul K Potter		



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
British Society for the Research into Ageing

On accounts for the year
ended

30th November 2024

Charity no
(if any) 279932

Set out on pages

1-2

Responsibilities and
basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/11/2024

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts 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

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (~~other than that disclosed below *~~) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date: 28/09/2025

Name:

Tracy Rhys-Williams

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

MAAT

(if any):

Address:

7 Rosebarn Close, Burgess Hill, West Sussex RH15 0HN

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.