

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 December 2024

1 Introduction

JAST was formed as a charitable trust in 2021 and registered with the Charity Commission in September 2021, with a financial year running from 1 January to 31 December. This report covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2024.

2. Objectives/Aims and Activities of the Charity

2.1 The charitable aims of JAST are unchanged and remain two-fold:

Educational Object

To advance education for the public benefit of young people in West Yorkshire (especially young people between the ages of 16 and 25 in Postcode areas LS10 and LS11) to enable them to complete apprenticeships and courses in the environmentally friendly adaption and rehabilitation of housing and other properties to give buildings which are ecologically sound and energy efficient.

Environmental Object

To promote for the benefit of the public, the conservation, rehabilitation and improvement of the existing built environment, to give buildings which are ecologically sound and energy efficient, including advancing education by providing and assisting in the provision of course materials not required to be provided by the ESFA.

2.2 The main practical activities of JAST over this reporting period were:

- Financial support to the Leeds College of Building (LCB) for the employment by the College of a Zero Carbon Construction Skills Project Coordinator to teach LCB students "Green Skills".
- Supporting, with others, a training course run by "Forging the Futures" for 20 young people, focussing on personal and building skills.
- Developing further contacts with external individuals and organisations working in the field of construction or housing, building up a supportive network locally and regionally to build on JAST's "Community to Employment" vision.

2.3 Development of curriculum materials

The JAST funded Zero Carbon Construction Skills Project Coordinator has continued to develop teaching materials for LCB students at the College. Material has now been prepared for use across the spectrum of students at Leeds College of Building, in all years and at all levels.

The material generated has continued to be made available to other Colleges who teach building skills. Work is continuing with other colleges in the West Yorkshire region and with the appropriate officials in the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (The WY Mayor's office) to encourage its use across the County.

2.4 Other activities

After discussion with the College, it was agreed at the beginning of the year that the Zero Carbon Construction Skills project had been successful so far and the Trust agreed the project would be funded for the full three years, based on the educational calendar. Discussions continued with the College on how the learning from the project would be utilised after July 2025 when the 3-year funding would come to an end.

The project with Forging the Futures was also judged to be a success, with participants going into employment and continuing in education. The Trust has looked for other opportunities for this sort of work and discussions were started, with the participation of Leeds College of Building, with The Hunslet Club. The Club has a track record of providing young people in Leeds 10 & 11 with opportunities to continue their education, outside formal educational institutions. The discussions were about the provision of this type of course focused on building skills and retrofit. By the end of 2024 these were progressing and it was hoped that a suitable course could be run from September 2025.

The Trustees participated in networking meetings with SSE (energy suppliers), BITMO (The Belle Isle Tenants Management Organisation, providers of social housing), Leeds City Council, and EN:able (a part of Efficiency North with similar aims to JAST). These meetings were to identify other projects and opportunities for young people which JAST might support and be involved in.

The Trust continues to promote a model pathway starting with community engagement, followed by entry into college education and then moving into jobs provided by local business, builders and building contractors, who would buy into the JAST model.

2.5. Plans for 2025

The Trustees expect the work with The Hunslet Club to come to fruition with the courses beginning in September 2025. The success of these courses will be monitored. If they are successful, the Trust hopes to continue supporting them into the future.

We continue to look for ways to build relationships with the community and with others working in the same field as JAST, particularly on retrofitting older buildings to make them "fit for the future".

Financial Review : 2024

We are pleased to continue to report that the JAST finances are in an excellent state of balance and accountability reporting, and are in accordance with the JAST project business plan.

All the major income of JAST has been substantially provided by a single private benefactor, through a series of donations direct to our bank account, This is supporting a 3-year programme of development and consolidation of charitable activities.

The recruitment, by the Leeds College of Building, of a Zero Carbon Skills Project Coordinator in July 2022. has been successful, and both JAST and the college have extended this appointment for the full 3 years by mutual agreement.

The benefactor has guaranteed funding for the remainder of the project to at least the end of the academic year 2024-5. when we plan to extend our charitable activities and investments full accordance with our charitable objectives.

The Trust uses the Unity Trust Bank to provide banking facilities.

Summary of accounts for 2024

Income

Initial opening balance	£77,705.68
Donations (inc, book sale donations)	£101,924.00
Total Income	£179,629.68

Expenditure

College salary bill	£46,000
Bank charges and fees	£68.70
JAST/sponsorship- Forging futures	£12,000.00
Total expenditure	£58,068.70

Funds carried forward (income minus expenditure) £121,560.98

The formal accounts are included as a separate file to this report, along with a statement from an Independent Examiner.

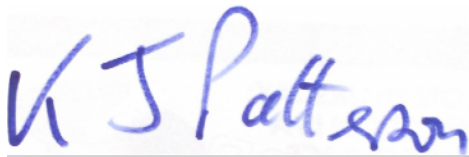
Governance

The JAST Trustees, who were in place during 2024, were:

Sir John Battle - Treasurer
Baroness Judith Blake (resigned June 2024)
Dr Jackie Coates - Secretary
Dr Geoffrey Driver
Sir Frank McLoughlin
Isobel Mills CBE (joined the Board in November)
Dr Ken Patterson - Chair

The Trustees met frequently as a group during 2024, usually at 4-6 weekly intervals. The majority of meetings were fully attended.

Baroness Blake was a Trustee throughout 2023 but resigned in 2024 when she was appointed to a government position in the House of Lords. Isobel Mills was invited to join the board, which she did in November.



Chair of the Trustee Board
October 2025

Contact: JASTrust@mail.coop

The address for correspondence is:
The Secretary Joseph Aspdin Skills Trust
% 55 Grove Lane,
Headingley,
LEEDS,
West Yorkshire
LS6 4EQ

Chair of the Trustee Board
October 2025

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JAST Statement of Accounts 1 January - 31 December 2024

Receipts and Payments			
RECEIPTS	2024	2023	
Assets-Opening Balance (brought forward)	77,705.68	25,805.78	
Donations - Note 1	100,000.00	65,000.00	
Hunslet book sales - Note 2	1,924.00	-	
Total receipts	101,924.00	90,951.78	
PAYMENTS			
JAST Marketing -	0.00	1231.00	
Salary payments of JAST Project Coordinator	46,000.00	6,489.30	
Sponsorship -Forging Futures	12000.00	307.80	
Sponsorship - other	0.00		
Bank Charges and fees	68.70	72.00	
Total Payments	58068.70	13246.10	
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	43,855.3	77,705.68	
Total Assets (at 31 December)			
Current Account	121,560.98	77,705.68	
Other	0	0	
Liabilities 2024			
	0	23,000	
Net Assets/(Liabilities)	121560.98	54,705.68	
Notes			
1. JAST income continues to be by generous donation from one of its Trustees.			
2. profits from sale of Hunslet book donated to JAST			

JAST Independent Examiner's Statement on 2024 Accounts

To the trustees of the Joseph Aspdin Skills Trust, Registered Charity No. 1195750

I'm reporting on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are set out herewith.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the independent examiner.

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 an audit is not required for this year, but that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act;
- and state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement.

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanation from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement.

As a result of my examination I have found no matter

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the following requirements have not been met:
 - a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
 - b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act;
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed  Date 20/10/25

David Salinger
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Leeds
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