



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 June 2020
To 31 May 2021

Period start date
Period end date

Charity name: The London Society

Charity registration number: 206270

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The Charity's object is "stimulating wider concern for the beauty of the capital city, for the preservation of its charms and for the careful consideration for its development".
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>In pursuance of its objectives the Society undertakes, inter alia, the following activities:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organises a programme of events including, lectures and discussions, visits walks and tours, and social and networking occasions.• Produces and publishes papers and discussion documents on a variety of subjects relevant to London's development and quality of life.• Produces, publishes and distributes the Journal of The London Society as part of membership benefits.• Keeps a watching brief on major planning and development issues and encourages constructive involvement in, and discussion thereon, among membership and the public at large.• Issues regular newsletters and bulletins to membership and those on the Society's mailing list covering coming events and other current topics.• Maintains liaison with London's local amenity associations through membership of London Forum of Amenity and Civic Societies.• Advises the APPG on London Planning and Built Environment
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees are aware of the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance and are confident that they comply.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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>During the past year the Society has:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued with its financial goals to stabilise finances, producing a small surplus Successfully moved its events' programme online, with significantly increased reach for its activities. Expanded its online publishing programme, with many new blog posts. Acted as sponsors of an All Party Parliamentary Group on London's Planning and Built Environment Increased the visibility of the Society through presence on social media and the growth of the Society's email marketing list Published a well-received edition of the <i>Society Journal</i> Published a collection of essays, '<i>When This is All Over</i>', with a range of commentators giving their views on the London that should emerge after the pandemic. The annual Banister Fletcher lecture in 2020 was given (online) by writer and broadcaster Robert Elms.

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		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>During the year to 31st December 2020 the Society had an income of £56,069 (£66,581 in 2019) and an expenditure of £51,592 (£64,018 in 2019) giving net surplus of £4,477 (£2,563 in 2018).</p> <p>Reduced income and expenditure were as a result of lockdown – we could not run major ticketed events during the period. Online events were initially free, and then at a lower price than 'in person' events. Our part-time administrator position was redundant at the end of 2020.</p> <p>We expect to have another surplus in 2021, with new corporate supporters being actively recruited.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The Trustees believe that the Society needs a significant level of reserves in order to finance plans to develop its range of activities and raise its profile. Central to this is the need to increase membership to a level that renders the Society financially viable, and to reduce the per capita level of costs.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	The Society's reserves at 31st December 2020, are invested in the COIF Charities Investment Fund which has a book value of £105,000 and a market value of £196,896, and in the Society's current and deposit accounts with CAF Bank UK amounting to £32,825.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	None
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None

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	Membership subscriptions, events receipts and corporate donations.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	

A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	The Charity's governing document is its Constitution adopted in 1912 and last amended 21 July 2020
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	The charity is constituted as an unincorporated association with membership open to the public by subscription
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	Trustees who have been duly nominated and seconded by current paid up members of the Society are put forward for approval and adoption at the Annual General Meetings of the Society held in June/July each year, or as soon as possible thereafter.

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	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	The London Society
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	206270
Charity's principal address	Mortimer Wheeler House 46 Eagle Wharf Road London N1 7ED

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	Peter Murray	Chairman		
2	Neil Bennett	Vice Chairman		
3	Clive Price			
4	Mark Prizeman			
5	Nick McKeogh			
6	Jessica Cargill Thompson		To 21 July 2020	
7	Dave Hill			
8	Sarah Yates		To 21 July 2020	
9	Andrew Reynolds			
10	Michael Coupe			
11	Barry Coidan	Treasurer		
12	Jonathan Manns		To 21 July 2020	
13	Lucy Smith			
14	Darryl Chen	Vice Chairman		
15	Eric Sorensen			
16	Diane Cunningham			
17	Martha Grekos	Secretary		
18	Helen Parton		From 21 July 2020	
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	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Financial & Charities (Authorised by HMRC to submit accounts)	Stuart Edwards	Stuart Edwards & Co Kemp House 152-160 City Road London EC1V 2NX

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

Don Brown - Director

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)	Barry Coidan	Alpa Depani
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Hon. Treasurer	Hon. Secretary
Date	29 October 2021	

The London Society

Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Charity Registration No. 206270

**AS APPROVED AT THE LONDON SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 5 JULY 2021**

**Stuart Edwards & Co
Chartered Accountants
Kemp House
152-160 City Road,
LONDON,
EC1V 2NX**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE LONDON SOCIETY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The London Society

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out on pages 3 to 6

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

**Stuart Edwards
Chartered Accountant
Kemp House, 152-160 City Road,
LONDON, EC1V 2NX**

.....**Date.**

The London Society

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Receipts			
Subscriptions & Gift Aid Recovered	2	25,205	28,702
Visits, Events & lectures		6,754	15,676
Corporate Donations		15,236	14,986
Investment Income		5,668	5,559
HMRC CVJRS		2,293	-
Donations		901	1,648
Library, tie and map sales		12	10
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Receipts		56,069	66,581
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Payments			
Visits, Events & Lectures		1,273	12,375
Events' Administration		749	9,303
Journal		8,234	8,594
Printing, Postage, Stationery		1,952	2,957
IT, Website, Telephone		2,059	1,810
Equipment		-	7
Publicity and Promotion		-	-
Subscriptions Refunded		438	120
Subscriptions		167	252
Administrative Services		13,505	10,073
Directors Fees		19,208	17,835
Redundancy Payment		3,302	-
Insurance		230	218
Accountant's Fees		475	475
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Payments		51,592	64,018
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Receipts/ (Payments) From Ordinary Activities		4,477	2,563
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Reserves Brought Forward		133,348	130,785
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Reserves Carried forward	2	£137,825	£133,348
		<hr/>	<hr/>

The London Society

Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets		-	-
Investments at Cost	4	105,000	105,000
Current assets			
Debtors and prepayments		-	-
Cash at bank		32,825	28,348
		<u>32,825</u>	<u>28,348</u>
Less: Current liabilities			
Creditors and accruals		-	-
		<u>32,825</u>	<u>28,348</u>
Total net assets		£137,825	£133,348
Reserves:			
General Reserve	3	137,825	133,348
		<u>£137,825</u>	<u>£133,348</u>

The financial statements on pages 3 to 6 were approved by the Executive Committee of the Society on

5 JULY 2021 and signed on its behalf by the following:

..... (LEANNE TRITTON) Chair

..... (BARRY COIDAN) Hon. Treasurer

..... (ALPA DEPANI) Hon. Secretary

The notes on pages 5 & 6 form part of these accounts.

The London Society

Notes to the Accounts For the year ended 31 December 2020

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting Convention

The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

1.2 Subscriptions & Gift Aid Repayments

These are included in the accounts when received and no amount is carried forward in respect of Life memberships.

1.3 Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Equipment purchased is written off in the year of purchase.

1.4 Legacies

Legacies unless otherwise specified by the testator, are included in the accounts in the year when they are received

2. Income

	2020	2019
	£	£
Subscriptions & Gift Aid Recovered		
Subscriptions & memberships	20,962	21,227
Gift Aid Recovered	4,243	7,475
	<u>25,205</u>	<u>28,702</u>
	=====	=====

The London Society

Notes to the Accounts For the year ended 31 December 2020

2. Income (Cont'd)

Corporate Donations:

Allies & Morrison LLP	1,250	1,000
Almacantar	1,250	1,000
Berkeley Group	1,000	-
Buckley Gray Yeoman	1,250	1,000
Cadogan Estates	1,250	1,000
Derwent London	-	1,000
E.H. Smith Builders	-	1,000
Fletcher Priest Architects	-	986
ft'work	2,000	-
Grosvenor Estate	1,250	1,000
Hawkins Brown	986	2,000
Howard De Walden	-	1,000
Metropolitan Works	-	1,000
Portman Settled Estates	1,250	1,000
Rockwell Properties	1,250	1,000
Shaftesbury PLC	1,250	-
Stiff & Trevillion	1,250	-
Weston Williamson	-	1,000
	<u>£15,236</u>	<u>14,986</u>

3. Reserve and Investment Policy

The Trustees believe that the Society needs a significant level of reserves in order to finance plans to develop its range of activities and raise its profile. Central to this is the need to increase membership to a level that renders the Society financially viable, and to reduce the per capita level of costs. The Trustees refine their business plans as each financial year proceeds.

4. COIF Charities Investment Fund

	2020	2019
Holding: No of Units	10,931.72	10,931.72
Cost	£105,000	£105,000
Market Value (mid-market value)	£196,896	£185,060

The London Society

Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

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