

Charity registration number: 267625

# The British Society For The Philosophy of Science

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

Community Accounting Plus  
Units 1 & 2 Northwest  
41 Talbot Street  
Nottingham  
NG1 5GL

# **The British Society For The Philosophy of Science**

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# **The British Society For The Philosophy of Science**

## **Reference and Administrative Details**

<b>Trustees</b>	Prof James Ladyman, President
	Dr Alexandria Boyle
	Dr Mazviita Chirimuuta
	Dr Ellen Clarke
	Dr Neil Dewar
	Dr Alexander Franklin
	Prof Robin Hendry
	Dr Kirsten Walsh
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	267625
<b>Principal Office</b>	Department of Philosophy
	London School of Economics
	Houghton Street
	London
	WC2A 2AE
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	John O'Brien, employee of
	Community Accounting Plus
	Units 1 & 2 Northwest
	41 Talbot Street
	Nottingham
	NG1 5GL

# **The British Society For The Philosophy of Science**

## **Trustees' Report**

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

### **Trustees and officers**

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	Prof James Ladyman, President
	Dr Alexandria Boyle (appointed 9 February 2024)
	Dr Mazviita Chirimuuta
	Dr Ellen Clarke (appointed 17 July 2024)
	Dr Neil Dewar (appointed 17 July 2024)
	Dr Alexander Franklin (appointed 9 February 2024)
	Prof Robin Hendry (appointed 17 July 2024)
	Dr Kirsten Walsh
	Prof Rachel Cooper (resigned 17 July 2024)
	Dr Adrian Currie (resigned 17 July 2024)
	Dr James Read (resigned 17 July 2024)

### ***Nature of governing document***

The charity is operated under the rules of its trust deed adopted in 1960 and most recently amended 7th June 2010.

### **Objectives and activities**

#### ***Objects and aims***

The principal object of the charity is to study the logic, the methods, and the philosophy of science, as well as those of the various special sciences, including the social sciences.

The BSPS holds an annual conference on the philosophy of science with invited speakers and contributed papers.

The BSPS awards doctoral studentships for doctoral work in the philosophy of science at a UK university.

The BSPS makes small grants to support conferences relevant to research and education in its areas of study.

The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science is published by Chicago University Press on behalf of the BSPS.

The BSPS gives its imprimatur to the University of Calgary open access monographs series on philosophy of science.

#### ***Public benefit***

Activities benefit the public through supporting and disseminating research in the logic, the methods, and the philosophy of science.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

# **The British Society For The Philosophy of Science**

## **Trustees' Report (continued)**

### **Achievements and performance**

The BSPS 2024 Annual Conference was held in person at the University of York.

The society continued quarterly scholarship payments to its doctoral scholar Mr William Wolf, who is due to submit his DPhil thesis at the University of Oxford in 2025.

The BJPS was published by University of Chicago Press under Editors-in-Chief Prof Wendy Parker and Prof Robert Rupert.

The society offered financial support to conferences falling within its areas of interest.

### **Financial review**

#### ***Policy on reserves***

The society's policy is to maintain reserves approximately equal to three years' expenditure.

### **Structure, governance and management**

#### ***Recruitment and appointment of trustees***

The management of the charity is the responsibility of the Trustees (members of the BSPS committee) who are elected by Members of the society at the AGM.

# **The British Society For The Philosophy of Science**

## **Trustees' Report (continued)**

### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

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

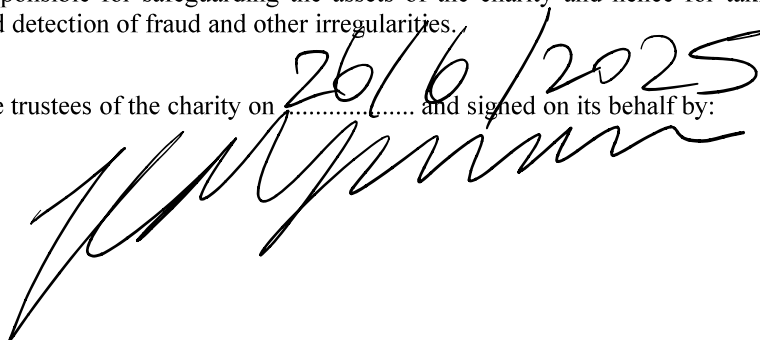
The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on ..... and signed on its behalf by:

.....  
Prof James Ladyman, President  
Trustee

26/6/2025  


## **The British Society For The Philosophy of Science**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The British Society For The Philosophy of Science**

#### **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The British Society For The Philosophy of Science**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The British Society For The Philosophy of Science (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

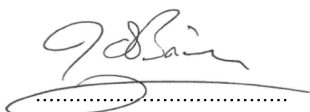
I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting 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.



John O'Brien MSc, FAIA, FCIE, employee of Community Accounting Plus  
Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners

Units 1 & 2 Northwest  
41 Talbot Street  
Nottingham  
NG1 5GL

Date: 07/07/2025.....

# The British Society For The Philosophy of Science

## Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

				(As restated)
	Note	Unrestricted £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Charitable activities	2	128,515	128,515	162,769
Investment income	3	<u>1,730</u>	<u>1,730</u>	<u>1,044</u>
Total Income		<u>130,245</u>	<u>130,245</u>	<u>163,813</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Raising funds	4	(729)	(729)	(560)
Charitable activities	5	<u>(95,888)</u>	<u>(95,888)</u>	<u>(113,336)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(96,617)</u>	<u>(96,617)</u>	<u>(113,896)</u>
Gains/losses on investment assets		<u>17,737</u>	<u>17,737</u>	<u>14,490</u>
Net movement in funds		51,365	51,365	64,407
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		<u>298,138</u>	<u>298,138</u>	<u>233,731</u>
Total funds carried forward		349,503	349,503	298,138

The notes on pages 8 to 12 form an integral part of these financial statements.



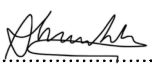
# The British Society For The Philosophy of Science

(Registration number: 267625)

## Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £ (As restated)
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Investments	8	159,538	142,530
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	9	-	30,896
Cash at bank and in hand		191,315	136,822
		<u>191,315</u>	<u>167,718</u>
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	<u>(1,350)</u>	<u>(12,110)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>189,965</u>	<u>155,608</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>349,503</u>	<u>298,138</u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>349,503</u>	<u>298,138</u>
<b>Total funds</b>		<u>349,503</u>	<u>298,138</u>

The financial statements on pages 6 to 12 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on ..03/07/2025... and signed on their behalf by:

  
 .....  
 Dr Alexander Franklin  
 Trustee

The notes on pages 8 to 12 form an integral part of these financial statements.

# **The British Society For The Philosophy of Science**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

### **1 Accounting policies**

#### **Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

#### **Basis of preparation**

The British Society For The Philosophy of Science meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

#### **Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement**

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

#### **Going concern**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

#### **Income and endowments**

##### ***Investment income***

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

##### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregates similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

##### ***Raising funds***

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

##### ***Charitable activities***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

# **The British Society For The Philosophy of Science**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)**

### **Taxation**

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

### **Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

### **Depreciation and amortisation**

<b>Asset class</b>	<b>Depreciation method and rate</b>
Office Equipment	25% straight line

### **Fixed asset investments**

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

### **Trade debtors**

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

# The British Society For The Philosophy of Science

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

### Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

### Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

### 2 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Share of surplus on sale of journal & membership fees	128,515	128,515	162,769

### 3 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	1,730	1,730	1,044

### 4 Expenditure on raising funds

#### a) Investment management costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Other investment management costs;			
Administration of the investments	729	729	560
	729	729	560

# **The British Society For The Philosophy of Science**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)**

### **5 Expenditure on charitable activities**

	<b>Unrestricted funds General £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
Grants, bursaries & scholarships	21,269	21,269	43,220
Subscriptions	1,026	1,026	972
Other expenditure	1,000	1,000	2,500
Trustee expenses	-	-	242
Journal costs	70,585	70,585	62,118
Professional fees	1,350	1,350	1,110
Bank charges	658	658	-
Annual conference	-	-	3,174
	<u>95,888</u>	<u>95,888</u>	<u>113,336</u>

### **6 Taxation**

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

### **7 Independent examiner's fees**

During the period, the fees payable (excluding VAT) to the charity's independent examiner are analysed as follows:

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Independent examination	<u>1,125</u>	<u>925</u>

### **8 Fixed asset investments**

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Other investments	<u>159,538</u>	<u>142,530</u>

# The British Society For The Philosophy of Science

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

### Other investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
<b>Cost or Valuation</b>		
At 1 January 2024	142,530	142,530
Revaluation	17,008	17,008
At 31 December 2024	159,538	159,538
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 December 2024	159,538	159,538
At 31 December 2023	142,530	142,530

### 9 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £ (As restated)
Other debtors	-	30,896

### 10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other creditors	1,350	12,110

### 11 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

### 12 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.