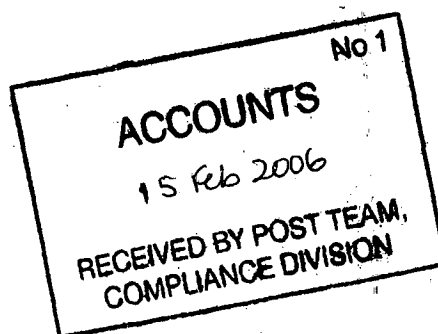


Registered Charity No. 1101114

**SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2005**



**SPILKIN KNIGHT
ACCOUNTANTS AND REGISTERED AUDITORS
FARRIERS THE STREET
ALBURY GUILDFORD
SURREY GU5 9AE**

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE TRUSTEES' REPORT

OBJECTIVES OF THE CHARITY

The Trust is a registered Charity established under Trust Deed dated 6 August 2003. The objectives are:

1. To advance the education of the public in any branch of scientific research (including social science) and in particular by the dissemination of such research and useful information about such research.
2. To promote (for the benefit of the community) the knowledge and understanding of the public of, and to stimulate interest of the public in, the creation, presentation and use of scientific research.

Sense About Science sets out to achieve its objectives in two ways: by working with scientists to respond to the misrepresentation of science and scientific evidence on issues that matter to society, particularly when they are controversial; and by undertaking longer-term activities that help the public to understand the nature of science and evidence.

POLICIES AND STRUCTURE OF THE CHARITY

The Trust specifies that a chairman should be elected annually and the Deed gives the power to elect or co-opt individuals to the Trust.

Organisational Structure

Sense About Science is an independent charitable trust funded by donations from foundations, science bodies, industry and individuals. Funding does not entitle any organisation to decision-making authority. Our activities are coordinated by a small office team and supported by a wide network of organizations and volunteers from all areas of science. The Board of Trustees is the decision making body. Sense About Science is supported by an Advisory Council, which is a voluntary network providing time and advice.

There are 14 trustees and there were no changes in the year to 5 April 2005. The Advisory Council was increased by four members and remains open to nominations. We were very sad to learn of the death of Professor Peter Campbell, a valued and active member of our Advisory Council, in February 2005.

In 2005, there are plans to increase the number of staff to ensure the smooth handling of a growing volume of work. An internship programme is also planned.

**SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

In conformity with current practice the Trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust and of the income and expenditure of the Trust for that period. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to

select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
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;
prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the Charity will continue for the foreseeable future.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Trust Deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

FINANCIAL POSITION

The principal income of the Trust is derived from Grants and Donations. There was a net deficit for the year from unrestricted funds of £8,597 (2004 – deficit £17,462). Restricted funds unspent amounted to £26,810.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Responsive Work

In the past year, the Trust's staff and volunteers have responded to an increasing range of inquiries and concerns about scientific matters under public discussion. These covered areas as diverse as nuclear physics, genetics, plastics, vaccines, nutrition, public opinion about science, scientific research fraud, diagnostics, hormones, plant breeding and nanotechnologies. The range of organizations and sectors seeking assistance has also expanded, including medical charities, local government, parliamentarians, journalists, health professionals and parent groups as well as scientific bodies. Over 2005, Sense About Science intends to investigate the requirements and concerns of different groups and put in place appropriate funding, contact points and structures to respond effectively and systematically across a broader range of issues.

Meeting the needs of sustained public discussion

There are some subject areas where there is an ongoing opportunity to improve scientific input into public discussion, for example concerning vaccines, chemicals, nuclear power and plant research. Possible activities are identified by staff, advisers and

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

volunteers, and agreed at the quarterly meetings of the trustees. Our priorities are those areas where there is a clear gap and an opportunity to build ongoing relationships between scientists and civic groups or to create resources such as briefings, expert panels and information networks that have an ongoing role.

We arranged a series of visits and meetings between civic groups and scientific research institutions. Building on a formula of short, challenging briefings on scientific work to interested parties, over 2004 we also held meetings on advances in radiology and the demand for diagnostic screening, the use of animals in scientific research and the use of public opinion surveys on scientific issues.

In October 2004, a review meeting was held on Government's use of social research and opinion polls in the area of science, risk and technological innovation. Towards the end of the year, plans were developed for working panels on nuclear energy and on perceptions about chemicals in the lifestyle sector, which will respond predominantly to media-led discussions. An earlier panel on endocrine disruption continued to work as an effective response group.

Equipping the public with an understanding of science

In June 2004, Sense About Science published a 50-page report on the findings of its working party on equipping the public with an understanding of peer review. The report, entitled 'Peer Review and the Acceptance of New Scientific Ideas' (ISBN 0-9547974-0-X), explains why the public should be interested in the peer review of scientific research findings and how the peer review process works. It sets out challenges for the scientific community and others involved in science communication. The report was discussed in the popular and scientific media, leading to over 10,000 copies being requested or downloaded from the Sense About Science website.

Discussion of the report prompted requests from educators, policy-makers, health charities and public information providers for a short summary of the peer review process for wider public circulation. In March 2005, Sense About Science established a programme of workshops to develop the content and language for this, with assistance and funding from scientific publishers, societies and medical charities. This short guide will be available from the end of 2005.

Promoting a network of scientists

Sense About Science encourages scientists to play a role in public debate. Awareness of our activities and network has increased dramatically this year, particularly through the publication of articles by staff, advisers and volunteers, and through a programme of speaking engagements. This has produced a rapid expansion in our contact database. We have responded with plans for a membership scheme and a facility for every kind of organisation to contact scientists about controversial or worrying issues. A grant from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation will enable us to recruit a Coordinator for this work in 2005.

**SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

Voice of Young Science

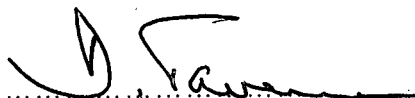
Involving young scientists is a priority of Sense About Science. In September 2004, we ran an animated and successful pilot event, bringing together 35 motivated young scientists with journalists. The aim of the event, sponsored by scientific societies and assisted by the Science Media Centre, was to increase the number of younger scientists willing to contribute to public debates about scientific research. The day helped to identify barriers to this. Almost half of the attendees have since written about the conclusions and involved themselves in related activities and media discussions.

The event will be repeated over 2005, including a shortened version planned with NESTA's Crucible programme. Young scientists lack confidence about contributing to public debates and many have contacted Sense About Science about setting up a support network. This will be developed in the coming year.

Risk Management

The Trustees actively review the major strategic, business and operational risks to which Sense About Science is exposed. At their meeting of 23 February 2005 the Trustees resolved to implement a reserves policy, effective from 6 April 2005, whereby a minimum of £5,000 per quarter should be set aside, and held in a suitable interest-bearing bank account, toward establishing a reserve equivalent to six months operating costs. Progress will be reviewed at quarterly Trustees' meetings and the amount set aside will be revised in accordance with projected income and expenditure.

On behalf of the Trustees



Chairman

Date: 2.2.06

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES
OF SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1101114**

We report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 5 April 2005, which are set out on pages 6 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner

As the Charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is our responsibility to state, on the basis of the procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

1. which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Spilkin Knight
Farriers The Street
Albury Guildford
Surrey GU5 9AE

**SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2005**

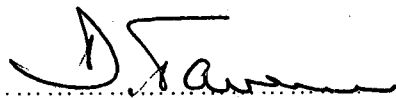
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2005	Total Funds 2004
		£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Grants					
Amberstone Trust		25,000		25,000	-
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation			31,085	31,085	-
Income from donations	2	38,940		38,940	57,141
Sponsorship		5,370		5,370	2,243
Other incoming resources		52		52	-
Tax Rebate		<u>731</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>731</u>	<u>-</u>
Total incoming resources		<u>70,093</u>	<u>31,085</u>	<u>101,178</u>	<u>59,384</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Costs of generating funds					
Fundraising and publicity		-		-	-
Charitable expenditure					
Costs of activities in furtherance of The charity's objects:					
- Staff costs		70,430	3,800	74,230	70,451
- Donations		80	-	80	-
- Running costs	3	4,699	475	5,174	3,697
Management & administration Costs	4	<u>3,481</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,481</u>	<u>2,698</u>
Total resources expended		<u>78,690</u>	<u>4,275</u>	<u>82,965</u>	<u>76,846</u>
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources					
- Net movement in funds		<u>(8,597)</u>	<u>26,810</u>	<u>18,213</u>	<u>(17,462)</u>
Total funds at 6 April 2004		<u>(8,510)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(8,510)</u>	<u>8,952</u>
Total funds at 5 April 2005		<u>(17,107)</u>	<u>26,810</u>	<u>9,703</u>	<u>(8,510)</u>

The notes on pages 8 to 10 form part of these accounts.

**SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 5 APRIL 2005**

	Notes	2005	2004
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	1,5	574	-
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank		13,102	6,670
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	6	<u>3,973</u>	<u>15,180</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		<u>9,129</u>	<u>(8,510)</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>9,703</u>	<u>(8,510)</u>
FUNDS			
Restricted funds		26,810	-
Unrestricted funds:			
General funds	8	<u>(17,107)</u>	<u>(8,510)</u>
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		<u>9,703</u>	<u>(8,510)</u>

The financial statements on pages 6 to 10 were approved by the Trustees on
and signed on their behalf by:



2.2.05

The notes on pages 8 to 10 form part of these financial statements.

**SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2005
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards. They also comply with the Trust Deed and the Charities Act 1993. In preparing the financial statements the charity has followed best practice as laid down in the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2000) issued in October 2000.

(b) Incoming resources

Grants and Donations are included in the period to which they relate.

(c) Resources expended

Resources expended are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis, inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered. The costs associated with generating funds are included as incurred. Management and administration costs are those associated with the general running of the charity.

Charitable expenditure

This includes all the costs associated with activities and sundry expenditure associated with the premises, in addition to the costs incurred in staffing.

(d) Fund accounting

Funds are held by the charity as unrestricted and restricted funds. Unrestricted funds can be used, at the discretion of the trustees, for any purpose within the objects of the charity. Funds held as restricted funds are income funds expendable by the trustees in furtherance of some particular aspect of the charity declared by the donors.

(e) Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or valuation including any incidental expenses of acquisition.

Depreciation is provided at 25% of cost.

(f) Taxation

The Trust is a registered charity and is not liable to taxation.

**SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2005
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds 2005 £	2004 £
Income from Donations		
Amersham	-	10,000
ABPI	-	3,000
Astra Zeneca	-	15,000
BP	15,000	15,000
GSK	10,000	-
Pfizer	10,000	10,000
Eli Lilly	2,000	-
SGM	1,000	250
Society for Endocrinology	300	300
Individual	640	<u>3,591</u>
	<u>38,940</u>	<u>57,141</u>

3 Running costs

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2004 £
Project	-	-	1,795
Peer Review	1,896	-	-
Conferences and Events	161	40	303
Young Scientist Pack	750	-	-
Internet and Web	35	300	150
Recruitment	-	83	-
Travel	1,666	52	1,449
Depreciation – owned assets	191	-	-
	<u>4,699</u>	<u>475</u>	<u>3,697</u>

**4 Management and administration
of the charity**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2004 £
Telephone	1,064	-	-
Postage and Stationery	1,664	-	2,498
Software	74	-	-
Accountancy Fees	646	-	-
Sundries	33	-	200
	<u>3,481</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,698</u>

**SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2005
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Total £
COST OR VALUATION	
As at 6 April 2004	-
Additions	<u>765</u>
As at 5 April 2005	<u>765</u>
Direct charitable purposes:	
DEPRECIATION	
At 6 April 2004	-
Provision for year	<u>191</u>
As at 5 April 2005	<u>191</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 5 April 2005	<u>574</u>
At 5 April 2004	<u>-</u>

6 CREDITORS	2005	2004
Other creditors	<u>3,973</u>	<u>15,180</u>

7 TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND REIMBURSED EXPENDITURE

The Trustees received no remuneration and no reimbursement expenses from the charity during the current year or previous year.

8 FUNDS

Assets as shown on the Balance Sheet comprise unrestricted funds of deficit £17,107 for the principal activity of the Trust and restricted funds of £25,810. Restricted funds arise from a Grant from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation to pay for the salary of a Membership Coordinator and costs associated with setting up a membership scheme.