

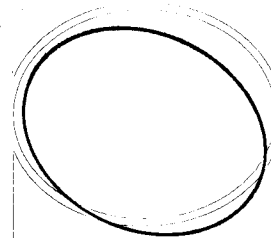
SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE

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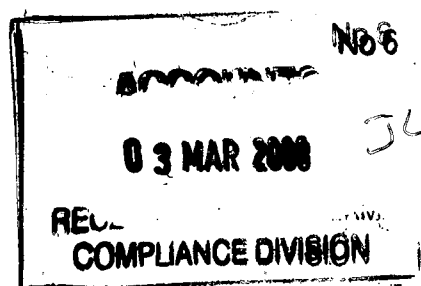
Registered Charity No. 1101114

1101114
DUPLICATE



sense about science

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2007



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 concern the public, particularly when they are controversial; and by undertaking longer-term activities that help the public to understand and use scientific reasoning and evidence.

Sense About Science summarises its objectives and activities in its mission:-

“promoting good science and evidence for the public”.

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, companies and individuals. Funding does not entitle any organisation to decision-making authority. Activities are coordinated by a small office team and supported by a wide network of organisations and volunteers from all areas of science and society.

The Board of Trustees is the decision-making body. It meets four times a year. Sense About Science is supported by an Advisory Council, which is a voluntary group providing time and advice. There are currently 14 Trustees. Dr Simon Singh joined the Board in December 2006.

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:-

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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 financials statements;
prepare the financials 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 surplus for the year from unrestricted funds of £75,027 (2006 £60,156) Restricted funds overspend at 5 April 2007 amounted to £758.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Increasing the scientific contribution to public debate

Sense About Science was founded after consultation with leading scientific bodies and civic organisations because there was widespread concern that much public discussion of scientific issues paid no regard to evidence. We encourage and work with citizens to identify the insights that help them to assess public discussions about science and evidence and to make demands of them. We work with scientists to explain their reasoning and the evidence they rely upon.

Our trust helps anyone with an audience or constituency from small local groups to national commentators. We have built relationships with opinion formers, news media, employers, educational bodies, teachers, academics, medical charities, information services, healthcare providers, professional organisations, trade bodies, NGOs, community groups, local authorities, parliamentarians, government, various statutory bodies, TV and radio programmes, lifestyle and specialist publications. Our message to all bodies who communicate with the public is: if you need help on a difficult or controversial issue of science, contact us.

For their part, scientists were often reluctant to participate in public debate for fear of misrepresentation. One of our principal aims was to increase the participation of scientists in public discussions. By April 2007 over 2,000 scientists and other specialists had enrolled on our database, from Nobel Laureates to postdoctoral fellows. They give their services free.

Sense About Science runs a programme to increase the number of younger research scientists in public and media debates. The VoYS (Voice of Young Science) programme is led by a group of enthusiastic early career scientists around Standing up for Science workshops, publications and other activities in public participation.

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Responding to growing public demand

Our responsive work has continued to grow. On a busy day, we handle in excess of 50 requests. These examples show the range of people who contact us:

- midwives about media stories on heat exposure in pregnancy
- a residents' association about brown field sites and chemicals
- women's magazines about the safety of cosmetics
- a town councillor about mobile phone masts
- health charities on assessing research claims
- television programme makers for advice on diet claims
- patient groups on government medical licensing rules
- amateur weather monitors on climate change.

We are regularly asked to help correct misleading information published in the public domain or presented by opinion formers.

Improving public exposure to good science and evidence

Where we identify significant gaps between the way that scientists and specialists understand a subject and how it appears to the public, we seek to address these through collaborative, longer term activities. In 2006-2007 these have included:

Continued republication of our guide to the way scientific research is assessed, through peer review, called "*I don't know what to believe*". Nearly 100,000 copies of the guide were requested to April 2007. Demand has been particularly high in education and community services.

The publication of a briefing booklet, "*Making sense of the weather and climate*", in response to questions from the public about how weather forecasts and climate predictions are made.

The publication of *Science for Celebrities*, a helping hand from scientific bodies to people in the public eye who comment on health matters, leading to widespread media discussion addressing misleading claims.

Sense About Science also initiated briefings and other activities concerned with promoting evidence and good science, including embryo research, WiFi radiation, homeopathy, preservatives, evidence-based medicine, endocrine disruption, water use and MRI scans.

Risk Management

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

On behalf of the Trustees



Chairman

Date:

7.2.08

**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 2007, which are set out on pages 5 to 9.

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
Spilkin Knight
Farriers The Street
Albury Guildford
Surrey GU5 9AE

14.2.2008

**SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2007**

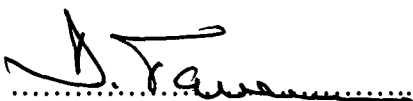
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2007 £	Total Funds 2006 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Grants					
Hamlyn		-	1,920	1,920	-
HSCT		9,533		9,533	-
Grant Weston		25,000		25,000	-
Amberstone Trust		25,000		25,000	25,000
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation		-	-	-	27,800
Donations	2	167,136		167,136	146,175
Sponsorship		-		-	-
Other incoming resources		3,278		3,278	569
Interest		760		760	100
Gift Aid		<u>408</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>408</u>	<u>39</u>
Total incoming resources		<u>231,115</u>	<u>1,920</u>	<u>233,035</u>	<u>199,683</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Costs of generating funds					
Fundraising and publicity		-		-	-
Charitable expenditure					
Costs of activities in furtherance of					
The charity's objects:					
- Staff costs		130,291	22,947	153,238	110,374
- Donations		50	-	50	-
- Other project costs		7,185	3,821	11,006	8,207
- Running costs	3	7,030		7,030	11,558
Management & administration					
Costs	4	<u>7,498</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,498</u>	<u>8,287</u>
		152,054	26,768	178,822	138,426
Governance costs	5	<u>4,034</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,034</u>	<u>3,821</u>
Total resources expended		<u>156,088</u>	<u>26,768</u>	<u>182,856</u>	<u>142,247</u>
Net incoming resources					
- Net movement in funds		<u>75,027</u>	<u>(24,848)</u>	<u>50,179</u>	<u>57,436</u>
Total funds at 6 April 2006		<u>43,049</u>	<u>24,090</u>	<u>67,139</u>	<u>9,703</u>
Total funds at 5 April 2007		<u>118,076</u>	<u>(758)</u>	<u>117,318</u>	<u>67,139</u>

The notes on pages 7 to 9 form part of these accounts.

**SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 5 APRIL 2007**

	Notes	2007 £	2006 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	1,6	904	526
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	12,000	-	-
Cash at bank	<u>147,662</u>	<u>69,945</u>	<u>69,945</u>
	<u>159,662</u>	<u>69,945</u>	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	7 <u>43,248</u>	<u>3,332</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>116,414</u>	<u>66,613</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>117,318</u>	<u>67,139</u>
FUNDS			
Restricted funds		(758)	24,090
Unrestricted funds:			
General funds	8	<u>118,076</u>	<u>43,049</u>
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		<u>117,318</u>	<u>67,139</u>

The financial statements on pages 5 to 9 were approved by the Trustees on
and signed on their behalf by:


.....

The notes on pages 7 to 9 form part of these financial statements.

**SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2007
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 2005) issued in March 2005.

(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) Governance costs

Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the Charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

(e) 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.

(f) Fixed assets

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

Depreciation is provided at 25% of cost apart from assets purchased with restricted funds which are written off.

(g) Taxation

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

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2007
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds 2007 £	Unrestricted Funds 2006 £
Income from Donations		
G E Healthcare	12,000	12,000
Amersham	-	10,000
ABPI	3,000	3,000
Astra Zeneca	15,000	15,000
BP	15,000	15,000
GSK	13,000	13,000
Pfizer	10,000	-
USGL Vodafone	15,000	-
Elsevier BV	32,575	34,165
Project Donations	25,418	36,335
Other Donations	750	2,363
Ineosuinol UK	2,500	-
SGM	1,000	-
IPEM	1,000	-
Blackwell Publishing	3,000	-
Individual and Friendship	<u>17,893</u>	<u>5,312</u>
	<u>167,136</u>	<u>146,175</u>

3 Running costs

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2006 £
Events	3186	-	742
Peer Review	-	-	2,646
Conferences and Events	-	-	153
Young Scientist Pack	-	-	2,088
Internet and Web	1,442	-	111
Papers and Journals	476	-	247
Travel	1,275	-	3,675
Depreciation – owned assets	<u>651</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>859</u>
	<u>7,030</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,558</u>

**4 Management and administration
of the charity**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2006 £
Rent	4,000	4,000	4,220
Moving Costs	-	-	159
Telephone	916	-	837
Postage and Stationery	1,522	-	2,429
Software and Computer Sundries	1,026	-	343
Repairs	-	-	92
Sundries	<u>34</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>207</u>
	<u>7,498</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,287</u>

SENSE ABOUT SCIENCE
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2007
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

	Unrestricted Funds 2007 £	Unrestricted Funds 2006 £
5 Governance costs		
Staff Costs		3,000
Accountancy Fees		<u>1,034</u>
		<u>4,034</u>
6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS		Total £
COST OR VALUATION		
As at 6 April 2006		1,576
Additions		<u>10,289</u>
As at 5 April 2007		<u>26,045</u>
Direct charitable purposes:		
DEPRECIATION		
At 6 April 2006		1,050
Provision for year		<u>651</u>
As at 5 April 2007		<u>1,701</u>
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 5 April 2007		<u>904</u>
At 5 April 2006		<u>526</u>
7 CREDITORS	2007 £	2006 £
Social security	3,799	1,915
Other creditors	<u>39,499</u>	<u>1,417</u>
	<u>43,248</u>	<u>3,332</u>

8 TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND REIMBURSED EXPENDITURE

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

9 FUNDS

Assets as shown on the Balance Sheet comprise unrestricted funds of £118,076 (2006 (£43,049)) for the principal activity of the Trust and restricted funds deficit of (£758) (2006 £24,090). Restricted funds arise from a Grant from Hamlyn.