

CLIENT

Society number: RS007139

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

MEMBERS' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

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CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE SOCIETY, ITS MEMBERS, TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

Board Members & Trustees

Peter Gaw, CEO & Librarian (appointed 15 June 2015)
Kirsty Blyth, Assistant CEO & Librarian (appointed 15 June 2015, resigned 19 April 2016)
Nick London, Assistant CEO & Librarian (appointed 15 June 2015, resigned 19 April 2016)
John Knight, Nominated by Nottinghamshire County Council (appointed 19 April 2016)
John Cottee, Chairman (appointed 19 April 2016)
Steve Powell, Staff representative (appointed 12 October 2016)
Sarah King, Co-opted (appointed 7 June 2016)
Tim Eatherington, Co-opted (appointed 7 June 2016)
Peter Ware, Co-opted (appointed 27 June 2017)
Liz Howell, Co-opted (appointed 13 September 2016)
John Hess, Community (appointed 12 October 2016)
Richard Gaunt, Community (appointed 12 October 2016)
Glynn Gilfoyle, Nominated by Nottinghamshire County Council (appointed 27 June 2017)
Philip Jones, Community (appointed 12 October 2016)

Society registered number

RS007139

Principal office

Inspire Head Quarters
Glaisdale Park Way
Nottingham
NG8 4GP

Independent auditors

Smith Cooper Limited
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
2 Lace Market Square
Nottingham
NG1 1PB

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
2 High Street
Nottingham
Nottinghamshire
NG1 2EN

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

The chairman presents his statement for the period.

This annual report outlines a successful first full year of operations for Inspire establishing its self as an effective organisation, delivering its contractual obligations to the full and being creative and innovative in its approach.

The move to mutual status focussed on continuity of service delivery and establishing a smooth approach to staff transfer and recruitment. In addition to achieving this, I'm pleased to report that against the main contracts delivered by Inspire we have fulfilled and in some areas surpassed performance.

In addition, the accreditation of Nottinghamshire Archives by The National Archives and the award of both CSE (Customer Service Excellence) and MATRIX awards for the organisation provide assurance that quality and customers service have been maintained and improved.

Our compliance with a range of legal requirements of an independent organisation has been supported by the board and through specialist post holders and advisors. The achievement of the OHSAS occupation health and safety standard is to be welcomed to ensure we care for our staff and provide safe environments for our customers and learners.

The board is fully committed to the sustainable development of Inspire as a key provider of culture and learning, offering real benefit to individuals, families, communities and schools. As a new board, we are still developing our knowledge of Inspire services and how we can contribute to the development of the Society. Through the establishment of 3 sector committees of the board (development, learning and skills, music, culture and heritage) we provide scrutiny and constructive support and challenge to Inspire staff and partners.

Our first annual 'Inspire Awards' scheme acknowledged and celebrated the great work of our staff and volunteers, and the contribution Inspire services make to the wellbeing and achievement of individuals and groups across Nottinghamshire.

Financially we have worked hard to manage our resources effectively, achieve a small surplus (prior to pension accounting adjustments) and gain additional grant funding to enable new and additional service development especially in arts, children's theatre, supporting young people to develop skills and the long term unemployed to gain work.

In our published annual review and forward plan we have listed some of the highlights of a successful year, including the ground breaking Able Orchestra performance at the BBC Proms, launch of the Inspire Picture Archive, pioneering Dementia Film screenings, and mounting our first 'Inspired Christmas Concert' in partnership with the Royal Concert Hall and the National Youth Choir of Great Britain.

Our new website (www.inspireculture.org.uk) went live in November and provides a single online presence for customers, learners and staff. Our significant range of events and courses can now be found through the what's on tab, online booking of events and online payments has been introduced for the first time. The new section also provides a valuable source of information about the Society and its initiatives over the year.

Name John Cottee
Chairman



Date 30 October 2017

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

MEMBERS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

The Members present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of Culture, Learning and Libraries (Midlands) for the year ended 31 March 2017. The Members confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the Society (registered society number: RS007139) comply with the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014, the requirements of the Society's governing document and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to entities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Objectives, Activities & Financial Review

a. Policies and objectives

Our mission is to Inspire people to read, learn and enjoy culture. Our objects as a Society are:-

For the benefit of the public of the Midlands

- (a) the provision or assistance in the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation in the interest of social welfare and with the object of improving the conditions of life for the public at large and for persons who by youth age infirmity or disablement poverty or social or economic circumstances may have need for such facilities;
- (b) to advance the education of people who live work or study in or who visit the area of benefit including, without limitation, through:
 - (i) the provision of advice on the services and amenities available to them in the area of benefit;
 - (ii) the provision of an archive service including the collection and preservation of documents and other records related to the area of benefit;
 - (iii) the promotion of the arts, music, reading, heritage and culture;
 - (iv) the provision or assistance in the provision of lending and reference library services either free or at reasonable charge;
 - (v) the provision or assistance in the provision of cultural resources (including but not limited to music and curriculum support) to schools and educational institutions either free or at a reasonable charge;
 - (vi) the provision and promotion of education and lifelong learning for adults and families;
 - (vii) the provision and promotion of training and skills development and schemes for young people whereby such young people may receive training for employment.

In setting its objectives above, the Trustees have given consideration to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

a. Review of activities

The Society in its first year adopted an interim business plan to ensure the organisation established itself and delivered key priorities agreed by the board and funders. Customer satisfaction is high, with considerable positive feedback from service users, accreditation bodies and stakeholders. Outlined below is progress on the key outcomes that were set at the beginning of the year.

Inspire Organisational Development

1. Board – fully functioning board established - COMPLETED
2. Complete data and lease transfer agreements with NCC – Part COMPLETED
3. Complete set up of financial management systems and processes - COMPLETED
4. Customer Service Excellence Awarded - COMPLETED

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

MEMBERS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

5. Establish an approach to workforce development – Part - COMPLETED
6. Establish marketing and communication strategies and protocols - COMPLETED
7. Financial Management – establish specialist capacity - COMPLETED
8. Integrated management information approach and system – To be completed
9. Interim review of business support - COMPLETED
10. Membership – undertake elections and first AGM - COMPLETED
11. Web site – launch Inspire web presence - COMPLETED

Service Delivery

1. Beeston and Keyworth Libraries Refurbished and re-opened - COMPLETED
2. Mansfield Woodhouse Libraries refurbished – Planned
3. Gain accreditation from the National Archives - COMPLETED
4. Integrated Logistics review – COMPLETED
5. Meet requirements and performance in services specification – COMPLETED
6. Music service structure review – SCOPED – TO BE COMPLETED 2018
7. Workforce and Communications system established - COMPLETED

Business Development

1. Consolidation of full cost recovery position – ELS - ONGOING
2. Development of sustainable Community Partnership Libraries – Libraries – 4 CPLS + 5 in pipeline
3. Direct delivery of 25% of adult learning – CLASS - COMPLETED
4. Grow skills for employment capacity - CLASS
5. Inspire Learn – new offer – full cost to surplus – ends Nov 17
6. Respond to Arts Council funding strategy – NPO application submitted and award made

Sustainability

1. Compliance, Risk and Audit processes established - COMPLETED
2. Contract price agreement for 2017 – COMPLETED
3. Environmental assessment – TO BE COMPLETED 2018
4. Financial planning for 2017 – 2019 – COMPLETED
5. Options for 2017 – 2020 - ONGOING

Team Achievements and Performance

Arts and Culture

1. Commission Rural Touring Programme and Earth and Fire International Ceramics Fair - COMPLETED
2. Deliver Summer Reading Challenge, Readers Day, Showcase and Poetry Festival - COMPLETED
3. Develop bids and projects for external funding - COMPLETED
4. Develop integrated Inspire wide programming approach – ONGOING

Heritage

1. Achieve accreditation by The National Archives as a place of deposit COMPLETED
2. Continue World War I commemoration activity - ONGOING
3. Market meeting and exhibition offer at Archives office - TO BE COMPLETED 2018
4. Re launch research service - TO BE COMPLETED 2018
5. Review digital historical picture archive - COMPLETED
6. Transform Beeston local studies collection - COMPLETED AUG 2017
7. Work with stakeholders such as FONA , NLHA - ONGOING

Libraries

1. Deliver core offer at all 60 sites – MET CONTRACT
2. Progress development of Community Partnership Libraries – ONGOING
3. Refurbish Keyworth - COMPLETED and Mansfield Woodhouse Library - TO BE COMPLETED 2018
4. Review Universal Offers – Reading, Health, Digital, Information, Learning and Culture - TO BE COMPLETED 2018

Learning

1. 19 + Advanced Learning Loans. - COMPLETED
2. Apprenticeships and Traineeships (16 to 18 and 19 to 24 year olds). COMPLETED
3. Deliver 25% direct delivery of adult learning from Inspire estate - COMPLETED

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

MEMBERS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

4. Develop a new commercial learning offer that will deliver from January 2017 – PILOT ENDS NOV 2017
5. Develop a new prospectus and online e-booking system for courses – PART COMPLETED – Prospectus launched AUG 2017 - COMPLETED
6. Develop a new Virtual Learning Environment – TO BE COMPLETED 2017
7. Increase skills for employment learners to 300 learners (from 284 in 2015/16). - COMPLETED
8. Initiate a self-assessment Ofsted inspection to ensure provision is moving towards Outstanding.- COMPLETED

Services to Schools

1. Establish new Music Hub vision and governance structure - COMPLETED
2. Review and develop Education Library Service offer and market – PART COMPLETED / ONGOING
3. Review structure of Instrumental Music Teaching Service – TO BE COMPLETED 2018

Volunteers

Volunteers play an important role in the operations of the Society. The number of hours of time donated by general volunteers during the year is approximately 10,154 (2016: NIL). This has an approximate value of £73,109 to the Society (2016: £NIL).

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, and given the performance of the Society in 2016/17 and the level of reserves as at 31 March 2017, the Members have a reasonable expectation that the Society has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

b. Financial risk management objectives and policies

Inspire has a set of financial regulations approved by the main board and reviewed by the finance and audit committee. The current financial regulations can be found at www.inspireculture.org.uk/about-us/governance/documentation/. These include procurement and reserve policies.

A budget is set and approved by the board in February each year, following agreement with the County Council regarding the annual contract sum agreement reached by the preceding December.

A zero-budget planning approach commences in December with current budget holders, establishing where savings, costs and budget pressures are likely to emerge.

Regular monitoring is undertaken by each budget manager, providing a monthly update on the forecast annual outturn. The Inspire leadership team review finance on a monthly basis to share the current organisational finance position and review levels of income and expenditure. Regular financial reports are provided to the main board, the finance and audit subcommittee and to the Council at monthly contract meetings.

The CEO and Senior Financial Officer (SFO) meet on a regular basis to review the current position and emerging issues. The SFO has a small team of qualified accountants and technicians to ensure financial management is good.

Inspire will file its annual report and accounts under the Charities SORP to the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). The Society is externally audited annually by the accounting firm Smith Cooper Limited.

The leadership team maintain 2 live logs, one covering risks for the organisation and the other covering its compliance. These are reviewed monthly and reported to the quarterly main board meetings.

Risk Register and Issues Log - key risks which Inspire faces in meeting its goals including a relative rating score of these risks and accompanying list of management actions which the board and the leadership team will take to reduce to an acceptable level.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

MEMBERS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

Areas of risk and volatility

The range of unfunded inflationary and statutory requirements are difficult to accurately forecast. Financial planning is based on reasonable assumptions around these pressures. Income from schools and from fees and charges has been under pressure for several years and is volatile to broader changes in the economy. Government policy in relation to music hubs has been confirmed until 2020, but is still based on an annual funding allocation that can change. The post Brexit position in relation to ESFA funded learning is currently unclear as some elements are currently rely elements of EU funding programmes.

Governance

A Finance and Audit Committee was established during 2016 and has a range of delegated responsibilities from the main board to ensure the good financial management and position of the Society. The committee supports the Senior Financial Officer in developing strong and sustainable finances, provides financial scrutiny and ensures good financial management for the organisation.

Reliance on public funding

Inspire acknowledges that its reliance on public funding is a challenge to its long-term sustainability as the landscape for the public finances remains very challenging. Even standstill budgets represent a real term reduction in spending power as price and wage inflation have a year on year impact. The contract price with the County Council is an annual negotiation. The contract price in 2017/2018 was reduced by £200K and will be reduced again in 2018/2019 by a further £143K, with a likely £100K reduction in the following year. Funding from ESFA and ACE is also standstill representing additional financial pressures. Income from the public and especially schools is under pressure as households and schools discretionary spend is squeezed.

Inspire's response is to continue to drive down costs and become more effective and efficient as we gain from the synergies and economies of scale offered by the size and reach of the range of Inspire services. Through tight financial controls and creative entrepreneurial thinking the freedoms the Society model offers will be exploited to the full. Inspire will also negotiate with funders as it agrees contracts to ensure the financial security of the Society is not weakened. The establishment of a commercial company and or a registered charity, to enable both increased income generation and charitable donations for specific areas of Inspires work will be considered.

Capital investment

The County Council continues to invest in Inspire buildings and technical infrastructure. A capital programme of £1.7M will be delivered during 2017 and 2018. A further draw down of learning reserves amounting to £273K will be undertaken during the 2017/2018 academic year to invest in the Inspire learning services, including ICT infrastructure.

Defined benefit pension scheme

The Directors would like to draw your attention to the impact of its defined benefit pension scheme on the Society's financial position.

The Society is a member of a multi-employer Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) administered by Nottinghamshire County Council, which is a defined benefit pension scheme.

Under a methodology prescribed by Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) an annual valuation of the scheme must be made. Any deficit in the scheme's assets compared to its future obligations (liabilities) must be included on the Society's Balance Sheet. Following a valuation of the scheme (under FRS102) at the 31 March 2017 a pension scheme liability of £15,893,000 has been included on the Balance Sheet as a long-term liability.

The FRS 102 valuation differs to the methodology adopted by the scheme's actuary. In comparison, the FRS 102 valuation results in a higher liability.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

MEMBERS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

Because of the way this LGPS scheme is structured, this pension scheme liability can only be called-in in special circumstances, over which the Society has control. As long as the Society continues to operate and has actively contributing members (i.e. employees who are current members of the scheme and for whom contributions are actively being paid into the scheme), which it has, then the scheme's liability cannot be called-in.

A triennial valuation is undertaken by the actuary and required rates of contributions are established for the short to medium term. The Directors foresee no issues in meeting employer's pension contributions for the foreseeable future and, given the level of the Society's reserves, the Directors are confident that it can meet all foreseeable calls on it by the pension scheme while meeting all our other known financial obligations.

d. Reserves policy

Following the meeting of the Finance and Audit Committee (FAC) of the Society, a revised approach to the creation of a reserve was agreed.

Inspire has set itself the requirement to maintain at least a month's operating costs as a cash reserve total. This amounts to £800K, (to provide a month's salary cover and statutory payments) as a new organisation establishing this is a significant challenge. The positive cash balances also contribute to financial resilience and flexibility. Full compliance with establishing the agreed level of cash reserves will take several years to achieve, we aim to achieve this by 2020. It should be noted that a significant element of financial risk is held or shared with Nottinghamshire County Council covering redundancy costs, pension liabilities, major building maintenance and capital replacement of buildings, vehicles and technical infrastructure.

e. Financial results

The total turnover of the Society in its first year was £17.9 million before the transfer in of the pension liability and donated books from Nottinghamshire County Council.

Expenditure for 2016/2017 was broadly in line with budgets. However, both budgeted income and expenditure was inflated due to inter-Inspire trading.

The Liquidity position of Inspire is excellent, largely to do with receiving grants in advance of expenditure. Deferred Income (i.e. money paid to us in advance) at the end of March 2017 was £190k. Actual trading surplus is in the region of £0.6 million before depreciation, capitalisation, VAT and pension adjustments and corporation tax.

The level of bank and cash balances at the year end of £2.8 million represents 15.5% of income from charitable activities or 1.8 months of average expenditure.

The Working Capital ratio (which measures the ability to meet all current liabilities) is also good at a ratio of 1.6. Consideration in the next year will be given to employing treasury management techniques, such as placing surplus funds on term deposit for example. However, as a large amount of the current surplus is deferred income, the real cash position should reveal itself at the end of the academic year.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

MEMBERS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

f. Principal funding

Most funding for Inspire services comes from public funding. Nottinghamshire County Council is the main funder for Libraries, Archives, Culture and Records Management services. The County Council also provides several brought back services, which Inspire pay for (HR, ICT etc.) and provides for major property costs, pension liabilities and any future redundancy costs if initiated by reductions in its funding or grant funding as at the time of transfer.

The Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) and the Arts Council England (ACE) through various channels fund specific areas of service delivery, some through grant and some in a formula funding method relating to recruitment and retention of learners.

The Education Library Service and the Instrumental and Music Teaching Service are both reliant on income from schools and parents, and aim to move firmly to full cost recovery models and surplus in the next 2 years.

Income from non-school services based fees, charges and sales is around £300K and will be a focus of future growth and development, as will grant seeking, sponsorships, donations and commercial developments.

As most of Inspire funding comes from public funding, the ongoing constraints and inflationary cost pressures present the organisation with an ongoing challenge. Since 2010 all the services delivered by Inspire have seen significant reductions in core budgets, on average 55%, and in some cases 90%. Therefore, responding to further core funding reductions and cost pressures is a major challenge for the organisation.

The development of additional income streams and continually ensuring value for money and efficiencies is a priority for the leadership team and the whole organisation.

During 2016/2017, the first year of operations, Inspire has established robust budgeting monitoring and reporting system to ensure close management of financial risk is enabled. The organisation achieved a small surplus before Pension and Fixed asset adjustments at year end as a contribution to its aim to establish reserves to ensure Inspire is resilient to financial shocks. The cash flow position is extremely strong, as funding payments are often made in advance and delayed expenditure during the early months of operation have a positive impact.

A Finance and Audit Committee (FAC) has been established by the main board and regularly meets to ensure the financial health and good management of the Society is undertaken. The committee also review procurement, financial regulations and appointment of external auditors periodically.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The Society was registered on 15 June 2015. Trading activity commenced on 1 April 2016.

Inspire – Culture, Learning and Libraries (Midlands) is a not for profit Community Benefit Society registered with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), with charitable status and was established in June 2015. The Society has a contract with Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) to deliver a range of cultural, learning and library services and a contract with Arts Council England (ACE) to host the Nottinghamshire Music Hub and deliver the music education plan. The five-year contract with NCC commenced on 1st April 2016. Inspire will also become a National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) in 2018 to deliver a range of arts and cultural programmes. The Council retains control of, and delivers its statutory library duty and legal archive obligations through its contract with Inspire.

Inspire is a membership organisation, all 685 staff are members and currently there are over 44,000 public members. The Society is governed by an independent board of elected, nominated and co-opted directors.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

MEMBERS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

The 12-member Board is made up of:

Staff Director - elected by staff members
Community Directors (4) – elected by the whole membership
County Council (2) - nominated Directors
Co Opted Directors (4)
The Chief Executive Officer

b. Method of appointment or election of Members

The following board members have been appointed:

John Cottee (April 2016) Nominated by Nottinghamshire County Council
John Knight (April 2016 - June 2017) Nominated by Nottinghamshire County Council
Glynn Gilfoyle (June 2017) Nominated by Nottinghamshire County Council
Peter Gaw (June 2015) – CEO
Tim Eatherington (June 2016) Co opted
Richard Gaunt (June 2016) Elected
John Hess (June 2016) Elected
Liz Howell (June 2016) Co opted
Philip Jones (June 2016) Elected
Sarah King (June 2016) Co opted
Steve Powell (October 2016) Staff Elected
Peter Ware (June 2017) Co opted

Committees have been established to develop the work of the Society; Finance and Audit, Staffing and Standards, Development, Learning and Skills and, Music, Culture and Heritage.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) has delegated powers from the main board to operationally manage the work of the Society. The CEO is supported by a leadership team consisting of 2 Assistant CEOs , a Senior Financial Officer and four Service Managers.

For information about the organisation, its constitution and board visit www.inspireculture.org.uk/about-us

All members of the board have participated in several induction and development activities. Further development will be undertaken during the coming year.

The Board of Directors may at its discretion admit to membership any individual, corporate body or nominee of an unincorporated body, firm or partnership who supports the objects of the Society and has paid or agreed to pay any subscription or other sum due in respect of membership for the time being in force.

All those wishing to become a Member must support the objects of the Society and complete an application for membership which shall include an application for at least one share in the Society. Such an application form must be approved by the Directors and the Directors must approve each application for membership.

A corporate body which is a Member shall be resolution of its governing body or members (as appropriate) appoint a representative who may during the continuance of her/his appointment be entitled to exercise all such rights and powers as the corporate body would exercise if it were an individual person. Each such corporate body Member shall supply notification in writing to the Society of its choice of representative.

c. Pay policy for senior staff

All Inspire posts are linked to a grading scheme, nationally recognised by local government. All posts are evaluated against either National Job Evaluation (NJE) Scheme or the HAY Evaluation Scheme. This evaluation includes senior staff. Job evaluation services are provided by an external organisation.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

MEMBERS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

d. Risk management

The Members have assessed the major risks to which the Society is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Society, and are satisfied that systems and procedures have been established to manage those risks.

Plans for future periods

a. Future developments

The Inspire budget for 2017/2018 has been completed and plans a surplus of approximately £100k. The budget recognises the impact of reduced funding from the council, increased staff costs (due to wage increases, living wage, apprenticeship levy), inflation; balanced by increased income, management team reduction, business efficiencies and tight cost control. The budget also adds a realistic assumption that not all positions will be filled 100% of the time, as there is always a lag between vacancy and final recruitment.

We expect there to be a rise in pressure on Inspire budgeted liquidity position during 2017/2018, due to increased costs (Wage increases, Apprenticeship levy, Living wage impact, RPI and some reduced guaranteed funding from the County Council. The cash position is budgeted to decrease by £1.1m during 17/18 but remain healthy at above £2m. It is extremely likely that the cash position will actually remain well above £2m as Inspire's actual performance in 2017/18 is projected to be ahead of budget.

Priorities 2022

We have 6 priorities for development over the next four years for Inspire to become more sustainable, and grow. These are:

1. Effective and efficient systems – good reliable systems allow us to maximise the value of the resources we have;
2. Finances – through good management and diversification we can spread the risks of reducing funding;
3. Governance and advocacy – good governance provides support and scrutiny, alongside active member involvement especially at a community level;
4. Growth and retention – we need to retain our current funding, income and customer base and increase market share and gain new contracts without putting at risk the current Inspire contracts;
5. Integration of our learning and cultural offers – we need to communicate our offer and ensure the customer and learner journey is smooth, integrated and supports progression; and
6. Organisational capacity and resilience – our staff retention, recruitment, performance management and skills development is essential to continued delivery of successful services and further development.

Employee involvement and employment of the disabled

Employees have been consulted on issues of concern to them by means of regular consultative committee and staff meetings and have been kept informed on specific matters directly by management. The Society carries out exit interviews for all staff leaving the organisation and has adopted a procedure of upward feedback for senior management and the Members.

The Society has implemented a number of detailed policies in relation to all aspects of personnel matters including:

- Equal opportunities policy
- Volunteers' policy
- Health & safety policy

In accordance with the Society's Equal opportunities policy, the Society has established fair employment practices in the recruitment, selection, retention and training of disabled staff.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

MEMBERS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

Inspire has a comprehensive approach to both the recruitment, retention and support of disabled employees. This is reflected in our policies and working practices.

Our equality policy states Inspire's commitment to the principles of the Equality Act 2010. This commitment is delivered through our:

- Recruitment Policy
- Performance Management Policy
- Workforce Development Strategy
- Inspire business plans

Also, additional guidance is provided to Managers to support them in the fair application of Inspire's policies including specific guidance on supporting Employees with disabilities (See attached).

Over and above this, Managers (alongside all Inspire Staff) undertake Equalities training, disability awareness training and mental wellbeing and stress awareness training. Supported by our HR provider (Nottinghamshire County Council Human Resources and Occupational Health service) managers are able to access specialist support to assess the needs and any reasonable adjustments required by disabled employees. Inspire currently supports 14 employees with a declared disability.

Recruitment Policy Extract:

3.5 The organisation is committed to applying its Equality Policy at all stages of recruitment and selection. Shortlisting, interviewing and selection will always be carried out without regard to disability, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital or civil partnership status, colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origins, religion or belief, age, pregnancy and maternity or trade union membership.

3.6 Reasonable adjustments to the recruitment process will be made to ensure that no applicant is disadvantaged because of his/her disability.

Performance Management Policy Extract:

3.3 Managers are required to reasonably consider the performance issues and the action taken to address them before formal action is instigated. Employees will be given every opportunity and all appropriate support to improve. Early intervention by managers will include:

- clarifying the required standards
- identifying areas of concern
- establishing the likely causes of poor performance (having regard to the possibility of making reasonable adjustments if the employee has a disability) and identify any training needs
- setting targets for improvement and a timescale for review.

Full details of these policies are available from the Society's offices.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

MEMBERS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

Members' responsibilities statement

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the society will continue in operation.

The Members are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Society's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the society and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Society's governing document registered with the FCA. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Members, on 30 October 2017 and signed on their behalf by:



Peter Gaw, CEO



Tim Eatherington, Trustee

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

We have audited the financial statements of Culture, Learning and Libraries (Midlands) for the year ended 31 March 2017 set out on pages 15 to 35. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statements of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

This report is made solely to the Society's members, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Society's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Society and its members for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Members and auditors

As explained more fully in the Members' responsibilities statement, the Members are responsible for the preparation of financial statements which give a true and fair view.

We have been appointed as auditors under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and report to you in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Society's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Members; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Members' report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Society's affairs as at 31 March 2017 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and in other respects the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Members' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.



Sarah Flear (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

Smith Cooper Limited

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

2 Lace Market Square

Nottingham

NG1 1PB

30 October 2017

Smith Cooper Limited are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
Income from:						
Donations & legacies:						
Donations	2	-	14,467	-	14,467	-
Donations from local authority	2	(7,643,000)	-	-	(7,643,000)	-
Charitable activities	3	11,410,078	6,433,651	-	17,843,729	-
Trading activities	4	37,190	-	-	37,190	-
Total income		3,804,268	6,448,118	-	10,252,386	-
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	5	12,100,650	4,362,401	123,914	16,586,965	300
Total expenditure	7	12,100,650	4,362,401	123,914	16,586,965	300
Net income / (expenditure) before transfers		(8,296,382)	2,085,717	(123,914)	(6,334,579)	(300)
Transfers between funds	16	(929,716)	-	929,716	-	-
Net income / (expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses		(9,226,098)	2,085,717	805,802	(6,334,579)	(300)
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	20	(7,344,000)	-	-	(7,344,000)	-
Net movement in funds		(16,570,098)	2,085,717	805,802	(13,678,579)	(300)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		(300)	-	-	(300)	-
Total funds carried forward		(16,570,398)	2,085,717	805,802	(13,678,879)	(300)

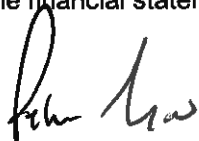
The notes on pages 18 to 35 form part of these financial statements.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2017**

	Note	£	2017 £	£	2016 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		805,802		-
Current assets					
Debtors	14	931,703		-	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,764,481		128,578	
			<u>3,696,184</u>	<u>128,578</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(2,287,865)		(128,878)	
Net current assets/(liabilities)			1,408,319		(300)
Total assets less current liabilities			2,214,121		(300)
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	20		(15,893,000)		-
Net liabilities including pension scheme liabilities			(13,678,879)		(300)
Society funds					
Restricted fixed asset funds	16		805,802		-
Restricted funds	16		2,085,717		-
Unrestricted funds:	16				
Unrestricted funds excluding pension liability		(677,398)		(300)	
Pension reserve		(15,893,000)			
Total unrestricted funds			(16,570,398)		(300)
Total funds			(13,678,879)		(300)

The financial statements were approved by the Members on 30 October 2017 and signed on their behalf, by:



Peter Gaw, CEO



Tim Eatherington, Trustee

The notes on pages 18 to 35 form part of these financial statements.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017**

	Note	2017 £	2016 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	18	<u>3,565,619</u>	<u>128,578</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		<u>(929,716)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(929,716)</u>	<u>-</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		2,635,903	128,578
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		<u>128,578</u>	<u>-</u>
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	19	<u><u>2,764,481</u></u>	<u><u>128,578</u></u>

The notes on pages 18 to 35 form part of these financial statements.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

Culture, Learning and Libraries (Midlands) is a society incorporated under the Co-operative and Communities Benefits Act 2014 and is registered on the mutuals public register by the FCA. The address of the registered office is given in the company information page of these financial statements. The society's registered number is RS007139.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), Charities Act 2011 and the Co-operative and Communities Benefits Act 2014.

Culture, Learning and Libraries (Midlands) constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The society was incorporated on 15 June 2015 and presented financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2016, reporting under FRS 102. Trading commenced on 1 April 2016 under the trading name Inspire and these financial statements present the results for the year ended 31 March 2017.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the company and are rounded to the nearest £1.

The significant accounting policies have been applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.2 Income

All income is recognised once the Society has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

On the commencement date of the Service Agreement with Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) a consideration of £1 was payable by the Society for all equipment, furniture, fixtures and fittings, including but not limited to library books stock, musical instruments and shelving, on the site of the properties or used for the provision of the services. Legal title transferred to the Society at that date. In order to recognise the donation, for a value other than £1, a reliable value needs to be made for recognition to be permissible under the Charity SORP. Following appropriate review it is has been impractical to measure the value of the donation reliably with sufficient material certainty and therefore the value of the donation has been recognised at £1.

Grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance Sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the Society is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the Society has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the Society, or the Society is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Gifts in kind donated for distribution are included at valuation and recognised as income when they are distributed to the projects. Gifts donated for resale are included as income when they are sold. Donated facilities are included at the value to the Society where this can be quantified and a third party is bearing the cost. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

Where the donated good is a fixed asset it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be used. The gain is recognised as income from donations and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the Society's accounting policies.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the Society has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the Society of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the Society which is the amount the Society would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the society's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the society apportioned to charitable activities.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.4 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Short term leasehold improvements	-	5 years straight line
Specialist equipment	-	5 years straight line
Fixtures and fittings	-	5 years straight line
Office and computer equipment	-	3 years straight line
Books	-	7 years straight line

In preparing the financial statements the Trustees have concluded that it is more appropriate to depreciate the fixed assets over their expected useful economic life, for which in some cases this extends beyond the current core contract with NCC to supply certain services. At the termination of the contract the assets are required to be transferred to any new provider of the services or to NCC for £1. This decision has been made on the basis that this more appropriately reflects the value of the assets to the Society, otherwise they would be written down over an artificially shorter period of time, particularly if the core contract is extended beyond the current agreed term. If the contract were to be terminated, a gift of the fixed asset of £1 would then be made at that time and the financial statements adjusted accordingly. In order to ensure transparency in reporting, the fixed assets are reported through a separate fund.

1.5 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

1.6 Cash at Bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.7 Creditors and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the society anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation.

1.8 Financial instruments

The society only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1.9 Taxation

The society is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore meets the definition of a charitable entity for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the society 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.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.10 Pensions

Retirement benefits to employees of the society are provided by a defined contribution scheme and two defined benefit pensions schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme ("TPS") and the Local Government Pension Scheme ("LGPS"). These are defined benefit schemes and the assets are held separately from those of the society.

For the defined contribution pension scheme, the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the society to the fund in respect of the year.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of the pensions over the employees' working lives with the society in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. As stated in note 21, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they related.

The LGPS is a defined benefit funded scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the society in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and gains and losses on the settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Past service costs are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities if the benefits have vested. If the benefits have not vested immediately, the costs are recognised over the period vesting occurs. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities and comprises the interest costs on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised in other recognised gains and losses.

1.11 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Members in furtherance of the general objectives of the Society and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Society for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.12 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The society makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 21, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2017. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

1.13 Irrecoverable VAT

The society is registered for VAT, however due to the mixed nature of the supplies it makes, it has irrecoverable VAT arising due to partial exemption which is included in resources expended.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017**

2. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
Donations	-	14,467	-	14,467	-
Subtotal detailed disclosure	-	14,467	-	14,467	-
Transfer from local authority (Note 12)	(7,643,000)	-	-	(7,643,000)	-
Total donations and legacies	(7,643,000)	14,467	-	(7,628,533)	-

3. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
Provision of services	11,410,078	6,433,651	-	17,843,729	-

4. Trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
Charity trading income					
Other trading income	37,190	-	-	37,190	-
Net income from trading activities	37,190	-	-	37,190	-

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017**

5. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
Provision of services	12,100,650	4,362,401	123,914	16,586,965	300
<i>Total 2016</i>	300	-	-	300	

6. Direct costs

	Provision of services £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Net interest on pension obligation	277,000	277,000	-
Premises costs	1,171,612	1,171,612	-
Vehicle and travel costs	189,513	189,513	-
Books and equipment	197,384	197,384	-
Office and administration costs	222,942	222,942	300
Computer and systems costs	669,450	669,450	-
Other costs	839,142	839,142	-
Legal and professional	171,667	171,667	-
Adult Education	1,623,576	1,623,576	-
Bank charges and interest	12,760	12,760	-
Other staff costs	421,590	421,590	-
Wages and salaries	8,112,664	8,112,664	-
National insurance	596,593	596,593	-
Pension cost	1,957,158	1,957,158	-
Depreciation	123,914	123,914	-
	16,586,965	16,586,965	300
<i>At 31 March 2016</i>	300	300	

7. Analysis of Expenditure by expenditure type

	Staff costs 2017 £	Depreciation 2017 £	Other costs 2017 £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Provision of services	10,666,415	123,914	5,796,636	16,586,965	300
<i>Total 2016</i>	-	-	300	300	

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

8. Net income/(expenditure)

This is stated after charging:

	2017 £	2016 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets: - owned by the society	123,914	-
Board Members remuneration	78,849	-
	<u>202,763</u>	<u>-</u>

During the year, no Board Members received any benefits in kind (2016 - £NIL).

During the year, no Board Members received any reimbursement of expenses (2016 - £NIL).

During the year retirement benefits were accruing to 1 Board Member (2016 - NIL).

9. Auditors' remuneration

	2017 £	2016 £
Fees payable to the society's auditor and its associates for the audit of the society's annual accounts	16,650	-
	<u>16,650</u>	<u>-</u>

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017**

10. Staff costs

Staff costs were as follows:

	2017 £	2016 £
Wages and salaries	8,112,664	-
Social security costs	596,593	-
Other pension costs (Note 20)	1,957,158	-
	<u>10,666,415</u>	<u>-</u>

The number of hours of time donated by general volunteers during the year is approximately 10,154 (2016: NIL). This has an approximate value of £73,109 to the Society (2016: £NIL).

The average number of persons employed by the society during the year was as follows:

	2017 No.	2016 No.
Library services	285	0
Education Library Service	12	0
Archives & Records Management	16	0
CLASS	90	0
Instrumental Music Teaching & Music Hub	75	0
Community Arts	27	0
Support Services	45	0
General Management	9	0
	<u>559</u>	<u>0</u>

The number of higher paid employees was:

	2017 No.	2016 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	0

The remuneration of key management personnel during the year totalled £280,526 for short term employment benefits and £43,790 for post-employment benefits (2016: £NIL). During the year retirement benefits were accruing to 7 key management personnel (2016: NIL).

11. Interest payable

	2017 £	2016 £
Bank interest payable	3,430	-
Net interest on defined benefit liability	277,000	-
	<u>280,430</u>	<u>-</u>

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017**

12. Transfer from local authority

	2017 £	2016 £
Opening defined benefit pension scheme liability (Note 2)	(7,643,000)	-

On 1 April 2016 a number of employees of Nottinghamshire County Council were transferred to the Society as part of a TUPE arrangement. The retirement benefit obligation as determined by IAS 19 relating to those employees transferred to the Society who were members of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) was also acquired by the Society. The opening liability under IAS 19 was £3,777,000.

The amounts transferred on 1 April 2016 have been treated as a donation. In accordance with accounting standards, adjustments in relation to the pension liability since 1 April 2016 have been reflected in the Statement of Financial Activities of the Society.

See note 1.2 with regard to the accounting treatment in respect of assets acquired.

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Short-term leasehold property £	Specialist equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Office equipment £	Books £	Total £
Cost						
At 1 April 2016	-	-	-	-	-	-
Additions	15,253	29,221	19,788	48,094	817,360	929,716
At 31 March 2017	15,253	29,221	19,788	48,094	817,360	929,716
Depreciation						
At 1 April 2016	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charge for the year	365	1,716	538	4,529	116,766	123,914
At 31 March 2017	365	1,716	538	4,529	116,766	123,914
Net book value						
At 31 March 2017	14,888	27,505	19,250	43,565	700,594	805,802
At 31 March 2016	-	-	-	-	-	-

14. Debtors

	2017 £	2016 £
Trade debtors	678,042	-
Other debtors	4,763	-
Prepayments and accrued income	248,898	-
	931,703	-

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017**

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2017 £	2016 £
Bank overdrafts	-	300
Trade creditors	485,632	1,486
Other taxation and social security	560,670	21,182
Other creditors	132,799	-
Accruals and deferred income	1,108,764	105,910
	<u>2,287,865</u>	<u>128,878</u>

16. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2016 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2017 £
Unrestricted funds						
Charitable activities	(300)	11,410,078	(11,194,650)	(929,716)	-	(714,588)
Trading	-	37,190	-	-	-	37,190
Pension reserve	-	(7,643,000)	(906,000)	-	(7,344,000)	(15,893,000)
	<u>(300)</u>	<u>3,804,268</u>	<u>(12,100,650)</u>	<u>(929,716)</u>	<u>(7,344,000)</u>	<u>(16,570,398)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Capital expenditure	-	-	(123,914)	929,716	-	805,802
Restricted funds						
Charitable activities	-	6,433,651	(4,362,401)	-	-	2,071,250
Trading	-	14,467	-	-	-	14,467
	<u>-</u>	<u>6,448,118</u>	<u>(4,362,401)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,085,717</u>
Total of funds	<u>(300)</u>	<u>10,252,386</u>	<u>(16,586,965)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(7,344,000)</u>	<u>(13,678,879)</u>

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 15 June 2015 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2016 £
Unrestricted funds						
Charitable activities	(300)	-	-	-	-	(300)
	<u>(300)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(300)</u>

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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16. Statement of funds (continued)

Restricted fixed asset funds

	-					-
Restricted funds						
Total of funds	(300)		-		-	(300)

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	805,802	805,802
Current assets	1,456,511	2,239,673	-	3,696,184
Creditors due within one year	(2,133,909)	(153,956)	-	(2,287,865)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	(15,893,000)	-	-	(15,893,000)
	(16,570,398)	2,085,717	805,802	(13,678,879)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2016 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2016 £</i>	<i>Restricted fixed asset funds 2016 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2016 £</i>
Current assets	128,578	-	-	128,578
Creditors due within one year	(128,878)	-	-	(128,878)
	(300)	-	-	(300)

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

18. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2017 £	2016 £
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(6,334,579)	(300)
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges	123,914	-
FRS 102 pension adjustment	906,000	-
Defined benefit pension liability transferred in	7,643,000	-
Increase in debtors	(931,703)	-
Increase in creditors	2,158,987	128,878
Net cash provided by operating activities	3,565,619	128,578

19. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2017 £	2016 £
Cash in hand	2,764,481	128,578
Total	2,764,481	128,578

20. Pension commitments

The Society's employees belong to three pension schemes: the People's Pension, a defined contribution scheme, and two defined benefit pension schemes: the Teacher's Pension Scheme for England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by Nottinghamshire County Council. Both are Multi-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Schemes.

The latest full actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2012 and of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016.

Contributions amounting to £146,660 were payable to the Society's pension schemes at 31 March 2017 (2016: £NIL) and are included within other creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations (2010) and, from 1 April 2014, by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers and, from 1 January 2007, automatic for teachers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract, although they are able to opt out.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis – these contributions along with those made by employers are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

Not less than every four years the Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

20. Pension commitments (continued)

of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2012 and in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 9 June 2014. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 16.48% of pensionable pay, including a 0.08% employer administration charge (currently 14.1%);
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £191,500 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £176,600 million giving a notional past service deficit of £14,900 million;
- an employer cost cap of 10.9% of pensionable pay will be applied to future valuations;
- the assumed real rate of return is 3.0% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.75%. The assumed nominal rate of return is 5.06%.

During the previous year the employer contribution rate was 14.1%. The TPS valuation for 2012 determined an employer rate of 16.48%, which was payable from September 2015. The next valuation of the TPS is currently underway based on April 2016 data, whereupon the employer contribution rate is expected to be reassessed and will be payable from 1 April 2019.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £259,158 (2016 - £NIL).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2014/06/publication-of-the-valuation-report.aspx).

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is a multi-employer pension scheme. The trust has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The trust has set out above the information available on the scheme.

Local Government Pension Scheme

Retirement benefits to some employees of the Trust are provided by the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). The company is an admitted body of the LGPS, admitted by Nottinghamshire County Council.

The LGPS is a defined benefit funded scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the Company in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and gains and losses on the settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs. Past service costs are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities if the benefits have vested. If the benefits have not vested immediately, the costs are recognised over the period vesting occurs. The expected return on assets and the interest cost are shown as a net finance amount of other finance costs or credits adjacent to interest. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other gains and losses.

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017**

20. Pension commitments (continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions at the Balance sheet date (expressed as weighted averages) :

	2017	2016
Discount rate at 31 March	2.80 %	- %
Future salary increases	4.20 %	- %
Future pension increases	2.70 %	- %
Inflation assumptions (RPI)	2.70 %	- %
Inflation assumptions (CPI)	3.60 %	- %

The assets in the scheme and the expected rates of return were:

	Fair value at 31 March 2017 £	Fair value at 31 March 2016 £
Equities	16,708,000	-
Gilts	730,000	-
Other bonds	1,441,000	-
Property	2,656,000	-
Cash	1,202,000	-
Other	1,151,000	-
Total market value of assets	23,888,000	-

The actual return on scheme assets was £3,922,000.

The amounts recognised in the Statement of financial activities are as follows:

	2017 £	2016 £
Current service cost	(1,698,000)	-
Interest on obligation	(277,000)	-
Administration expenses	(7,000)	-
Total	(1,982,000)	-
Actual return on scheme assets	3,922,000	-

Movements in the present value of the defined benefit obligation were as follows:

	2017 £	2016 £
Defined benefit obligation transferred in	26,190,000	-
Current service cost	1,698,000	-
Contributions by scheme participants	366,000	-
Actuarial losses	10,515,000	-
Interest cost	1,028,000	-
Estimated benefits paid net of transfers in	(16,000)	-
Closing defined benefit obligation	39,781,000	-

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017**

20. Pension commitments (continued)

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets were as follows:

	2017	2016
	£	£
Defined benefit obligation transferred in	18,547,000	-
Interest income	751,000	-
Actuarial gains and (losses)	3,171,000	-
Contributions by employer	1,076,000	-
Contributions by scheme participants	366,000	-
Administration expenses	(7,000)	-
Estimated benefits paid net of transfers in	(16,000)	-
	<hr/> 23,888,000 <hr/>	<hr/> - <hr/>

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total scheme assets are as follows:

	2017	2016
Equities	70.00 %	- %
Gilts	3.00 %	- %
Other bonds	6.00 %	- %
Property	11.00 %	- %
Cash	5.00 %	- %
Other	4.00 %	- %

CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES (MIDLANDS)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017**

20. Pension commitments (continued)

Amounts for the current and previous period are as follows:

Defined benefit pension schemes

	2017 £	2016 £
Defined benefit obligation	(39,781,000)	-
Scheme assets	23,888,000	-
Deficit	(15,893,000)	-
Experience adjustments on scheme assets	3,171,000	-

21. Related party transactions

Nottinghamshire County Council is a related party to the Society as two of its Councillors are also directors of the Society. During the year, amounts totalling £10,521,666 (2016: £105,910) were received by the Society from Nottinghamshire County Council in relation to the provision of services. At the balance sheet date an amount of £758,167 was due from this party and is included within trade debtors and prepayments. At the balance sheet date an amount of £79,024 (2016: £105,910) is included within accruals and deferred income in the balance sheet in respect of income received in advance.

Nottinghamshire County Council also recharged expenses during the year totalling £1,270,102 (2016: £NIL). At the balance sheet date an amount of £255,666 was owing and is included within trade creditors and accruals.

The remuneration of key management personnel during the year totalled £280,526 for short term employment benefits and £43,790 for post-employment benefits (2016: £NIL). During the year retirement benefits were accruing to 7 key management personnel (2016: NIL).