

20

Annual Report
Financial statements for the
year ended 31 Dec 2024

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Assembly members and advisors

PRESIDENT

Claire Anderson

APPOINTED

July 2021

TREASURER

Alisdair Jones

July 2023 until June 2024

Brendon Jiang

July 2024

Assembly

NATIONAL BOARD CHAIRS

Andrew Carruthers

June 2021 until June 2024

Jonathan Burton

June 2024

Tase Oputu

June 2023

Geraldine McCaffrey

June 2023

OTHER MEMBERS

Audrey Thompson

July 2022

Sorbi Khattak

July 2023 until June 2024

Cheryl Way

July 2023 until June 2024

Brendon Jiang

July 2023

Ciara Duffy

July 2023

Thorrun Govind

July 2023 until June 2024

Lynne Smith

July 2021

Gino Martini

July 2023

Ruth Edwards

July 2022

Eleri Schiavone

July 2024

Adebayo Adegbite

July 2024

Matt Prior

July 2024

Danny Bartlett

July 2024

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Paul Bennett

PRINCIPAL OFFICE

66 East Smithfield, London, E1W 1AW

AUDITOR

Buzzacott LLP

130 Wood St, London, EC2V 6DL

SOLICITOR

Laytons Solicitors LLP

2 More London Riverside, London, SE1 2AP

BANKER

National Westminster Bank

10 Southwark Street, London, SE1 1TJ

Letter from our President and Chief Executive



CLAIRE ANDERSON,
FRPHARMS, FFRPS,
FFIP, FRSPH
PRESIDENT



PAUL BENNETT,
FRPHARMS
CEO

It gives us great pleasure to present the 2024 Financial Statements of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society ("RPS"). Once again, the accounts are published fully and openly, comply with UK Financial Reporting Standards and have been independently audited.

The year in question has once again been one in which many challenges and opportunities have faced the organisation. A considerable amount of organisational resource and effort has gone into developing our comprehensive proposals to transform the constitution and governance arrangements of the organisation which will be placed before our membership in 2025. Whilst this is clearly an essential and important endeavour, it has been critical to our sustainability and future growth that other work has not been deprioritised. We are therefore delighted to acknowledge that our financial performance has remained strong, that we have continued to invest in our future and that we

have been able to do all this while delivering the fifth consecutive year of surplus.

Why is this so important? Put simply, without this financial foundation we would not be able to undertake the work we do on behalf of our members and the profession, nor have the impact and influence over pharmacy from a policy and advocacy perspective or be able to invest for future growth. We continue to have a 'not for profit' ethos because we reinvest in our operations without the need to pay dividends to shareholders of course, or to provide others with a return on any investment. We remain financially independent whilst seeking to work in increasing collaboration and partnership with others which, from time to time, requires us to enter into contracts for financial reward as would be expected of any organisation of our type. Examples of our work here include responding to commissions and tenders from government agencies and arm's length bodies in the professional space. Where we do so, such relationships accord with our values as an independent professional leadership body and are about furthering the profession and strengthening the organisation on behalf of our members.

We see this fifth year of financial surplus as part of our journey of growth, with a commitment to ensure long-term viability but with an intent to ensure we make our positive financial performance provide us with the facility to develop the activities of the RPS in a meaningful way, true to our existing Charter Objects. We strongly believe our proposals for Charter change and a new constitution will further enable us to do great works for public and professional benefit. While this transformation does have cost implications for the organisation, we have been able to accommodate all costs incurred in 2024 into our operating budgets and still deliver a healthy surplus.

Our financial stewardship has continued to produce positive results, in terms of our revenue generation, cost control and the careful placement of investments. In the following narrative we will call out the key highlights, but of course the detail is all included in our published financial statements, and we would encourage you to read these carefully.

Our total revenues for the financial year were £25,218,000 which was in line with prior year performance. Membership fees were stronger than anticipated, notably thanks to positive Foundation

Trainee numbers, although our challenge to demonstrate the benefit of membership at other career stages still remains for us as it does in other professions and their respective leadership bodies, and we are doing considerable work on bringing to life our membership strategy and member value proposition which require investment as agreed by our Assembly. More on this later.

Our total overheads remain relatively high as a percentage of revenue, as would be expected in an organisation whose main asset is its people, working in support of the products and services that we develop and the advocacy work that we undertake.

Our operating surplus before interest and investments was £284,000. This surplus increases to £991,000 after interest received on bank deposits and gains on listed investments.

We have continued to invest in our critical technological transformation of the content management system used by our publishing division which, when concluded as anticipated between late 2025 and early 2026, will place us in a much stronger position in the creation of new and updated content for our world-leading publications. The knowledge business of RPS, Pharmaceutical Press, goes from strength to strength as shown by the growth in demand for MedicinesComplete.

During the year we have been working on the development of new proposals that support our professional leadership functions. Mindful that technology is always advancing, it is an imperative that we invest in technology to support our ambitions for improving member experience, responding to what we have heard from members about how you use and navigate some of our existing systems and products, and we have agreed an investment programme to address where this experience could be better. This work begins at pace in 2025, and meaningful improvements should start to be seen within the year with longer-term gains scheduled over the next two years.

The RPS balance sheet is strong with our net assets rising £421,000 after adjustments for tax, and £2,384,000 being invested in new fixed assets. During the year we also doubled our equity investment in Dosium (a novel clinical decision support tool that utilises BNF content) having made an initial investment in 2023 taking the total investment to £1,000,000. We are excited by the prospects of this

important clinical tool that can reduce avoidable harm when prescribing and which accords so strongly with our patient safety focus.

Our cash flows continue to be well managed and owing to strong operational performance were slightly ahead of budget. Our finance team carefully manage the debtor and creditor situation to make sure we both collect outstanding payments and make payments ourselves in a timely manner to ensure positive cash flow. This has enabled us to make better use of treasury deposits within the year. Following scrutiny by our Finance and Investment Committee and Assembly of our investment proposals, we reconfigured our investment portfolio and moved investments from Ruffer which had been disappointing us over recent times following many years of positive growth, to CCLA's Cautious Multi-Asset Fund. Over the course of 2024 our CCLA investment grew by £332,000. We continue to maintain a cautious approach to investments, mindful of uncertainty about the UK economy and developments on the global scene. We have a prudent approach to our financial management and this approach over recent years has proven beneficial whilst ensuring financial security.

We have supported the work of the UK Pharmacy Professional Leadership Advisory Board, making our premises freely available for meetings, supporting with financial contribution alongside our colleague organisations also represented, and providing support to the Secretariat when requested. We continue to value our relationship with the International Pharmaceutical Federation and other international organisations to which we pay membership fees, and we continue to provide financial support each year to the Commonwealth Pharmacy Association and the great work that they do. It is important that RPS has international presence and the ability to showcase the great work of the pharmacy profession in Great Britain and this will continue in 2025 and beyond and is enabled by the financial position of the organisation.

We said last year and it makes sense to repeat again here, a resilient, viable and sustainable RPS is necessary for a strong, independent voice for pharmacy, and we are pleased that this set of financial results yet again affirms that RPS has the financial assets and resource to do what is necessary on behalf of its members and in the interests of the public good.

Report of the Assembly

The Assembly presents its report and the audited financial statements of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, trading as the Royal Pharmaceutical Society ("the RPS") for the year ended 31 December 2024.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society is the professional leadership body for pharmacists and pharmacy in Great Britain. We advance the profession of pharmacy for public and patient benefit to secure the future of the profession and our members.

We lead and promote the advancement of science, practice and education in pharmacy to shape and influence the future delivery of pharmacy driven services.

We support and empower our members to improve health outcomes for society through professional guidance, networks and resources.

We do this by providing:

Leadership

We ensure the voice of the whole profession is heard at the highest levels of healthcare and government through our responses to consultations, influencing policy development and through our expert advisory panels.

Professional recognition

We provide our members with professional recognition through post nominals. We are developing curricula and credentials for pharmacists enabling recognition for their level of practice by employers, commissioners, patients and the public. Our expert members regularly appear in the media to ensure the public has the best information when medicines are in the news.

Networking

RPS local groups have been formed to enable professional conversations which will be further enhanced by our online community.

Support and development

We produce professional guidance and support tools to develop and supplement our members' skills and knowledge. We work in collaboration with other royal colleges to develop guidance that supports effective patient care.

Medicines Information

We provide healthcare professionals, students and scientists with the most trusted and usable data, information and therapeutic guidance on drugs and medicines.

Legal status

The RPS is governed by a framework comprising its Royal Charter. This is underpinned by regulations, rules and byelaws. The RPS was founded in 1841 and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1843. The RPS's current Charter was granted in 2004 and was amended on 27th September 2010 to remove the RPS's regulatory powers, which transferred to the General Pharmaceutical Council ("GPhC") at that date.

GOVERNANCE

The Assembly agrees the overall strategy and top-level objectives, with Pharmacy policy-making at national level being the delegated responsibility of the National Boards. The National Boards in turn set Pharmacy policy and objectives within the overall strategy and ask the relevant National Director to implement them.

The Assembly also delegates responsibility for the strategic direction of the Pharmaceutical Press to the Pharmaceutical Press Board.

The Assembly elects every two years the President and Treasurer, who constitute the Officers.

CHAIRS AND OFFICERS GROUP

The Assembly authorises a group comprising the Officers and Board Chairs:

- To appoint the Chair and members of the Finance and Investment and Audit and Risk Committees
- To deal with issues arising which require an urgent response that do not fall within the delegated authorities of other governance bodies. Where this concerns new policy, actions would be subsequently ratified by the Assembly as appropriate
- To deal with matters delegated by the Assembly
- To communicate immediately to the members of the Assembly any actions/decisions agreed, unless precluded from doing so by confidentiality.

FINANCE AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

The Committee is comprised of four members of the Assembly and/or National Boards and the Treasurer, and two independent members.

The Finance and Investment Committee is established to:

- Review the proposed Budget and its alignment with approved business plans in advance of each financial year and report its opinion to the Assembly prior to the budget being signed off
- Monitor the integrity of the financial statements, including reports on financial performance, reviewing significant reporting issues and judgements which they contain, assess and make recommendations to the Assembly on any significant variances against approved budgets
- Recommend to the Assembly approval of the annual financial statements
- Assess the adequacy of internal and external financial reports and that reports are accurate and timely, assess the effectiveness and adequacy of accounting, financial and operating controls and satisfy itself that the annual financial statements represent fairly the financial position of the RPS
- Review significant accounting policies and procedures and recommend changes to the Assembly review and monitor the appropriateness of the RPS's financial reserves policy

- Monitor the effectiveness of the arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness, and value for money
- Oversee short and long-term investments
- Review the investment strategy and make recommendations to the Assembly for change where deemed appropriate, review the current Statement of Investment Principles (SIP) and recommend changes as required for consideration by the Assembly
- Review the implementation of approved capital projects to determine if the agreed objectives are being achieved and review post-implementation reports
- Monitor the Society's investment portfolio
- To ensure that the portfolio is performing to expectations
- To assess if the policy between asset classes and asset managers is deemed appropriate
- To monitor the exercise of the investment powers that have been delegated to the fund managers
- To appoint (and when necessary dismiss) the investment managers and investment consultants
- To review the appropriate amount of funds to deposit with the Fund Manager periodically balanced against the competing needs for investment in the RPS and cash flow forecast
- To review the investment in property assets and the balance between this and other investment options.

The Finance and Investment Committee met three times in 2024 and the following issues were considered:

- Financial performance: Regular reviews of the RPS's financial performance for 2024
- Three Year business plan: Review of the financial plans on behalf of the Assembly, where ultimate fiduciary duty lies
- Investment strategy: The annual review of the investment fund's overall objectives and performance was also undertaken.

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

The Committee is comprised of two appropriately skilled members of the Assembly who are not Officers of the RPS or Board Chairs, one lay member of the Assembly, one external, appropriately skilled, lay Chair and one additional external member who has finance and audit expertise.

The Audit and Risk Committee is established to:

- Advise on the appointment of external financial auditors
- Set the remit for the audit
- Review, with the auditors, the outcome of the audit and satisfy itself that the management response to any issues raised is appropriate
- Oversee a rolling programme of internal audits which is designed to provide a flexible framework around which new business risks and opportunities can be identified and tested
- Monitor the integrity of internal controls, including review of internal audit and other management reports on the effectiveness of the systems of internal control
- Keep under review the Risk Register and advise the Assembly accordingly
- Ensure the RPS's procedures for ensuring legal compliance in all areas are implemented and enforced
- Ensure appropriate arrangements for staff to raise concerns about possible improprieties
- Review anti-fraud and whistleblowing policies
- Assess the scope and effectiveness of the systems designed to identify, assess, manage and monitor significant risks.

The Audit and Risk Committee met three times during 2024 and the following issues were considered:

- Risk Management and Business Continuity: As the RPS evolves as a business, so do the risks it faces. The committee continued to ensure that the Executive Team and Assembly maintained awareness of the key risks facing the RPS and that suitable action plans were in place to deal with them

- External Audit: Members noted the post-audit report for the 2023 audited accounts
- Internal Audit: With the Committee's input, the programme of internal audit work continues to test a range of financial and non-financial systems and processes, thus providing assurances that they are robust, and where weaknesses are uncovered, the necessary changes are made
- Cyber-crime and IT Security: The Committee continues to monitor the threat of cyber-crime as the organisation continues to evolve in an increasingly digital data-driven world. Mitigating cyber risks and preventing attacks by way of a cyber risk management strategy helps identify the risks and put the correct defences in place
- Data Protection: The Committee continues to ensure that privacy is embedded into any new processing or product that is deployed and has clear policies to ensure the RPS reacts quickly to any data breach.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The RPS policy on risk management continues to be reviewed to ensure that it meets the requirements in terms of identifying risk across the organisation and that the control and assurance measures in place are appropriate and proportionate to deal with these risks. The consideration of risk is embedded across the organisation and is reviewed monthly by the Executive and at the Audit and Risk Committee and the Assembly meetings.

In the area of business continuity, the plans are subject to continual review. It will be necessary to test the current plans and to engage on an exercise to communicate the plans to managers and other staff.

The IT architecture has also been significantly improved with automatic failover in the event of a problem with an internet connection and increased capacity to improve resilience at all locations. The security of the RPS museum and library assets, hardware and staff are covered by an extensive range of security devices at the London headquarters.

Some of the areas which pose a higher risk to the RPS business plan are as follows:

- Member retention and recruitment
- Competition from other bodies within the pharmacy sector
- Cyber-crime and IT security
- Data protection
- Security of assets and information
- Potential increase in pension costs.

The RPS has a robust governance process to ensure that investments being made achieve the objectives set.

REMUNERATION COMMITTEE

The Remuneration Committee comprises the President, the Treasurer, the Chairs of the three National Boards and one lay member. The Committee agreed a 3.5% basic salary increase for all staff in 2025.

THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

Consisting of the Chief Executive and Directors, the Team has delegated responsibility for the day-to-day management of the RPS. The Executive Team in turn provides the Assembly, boards and committees with sufficient information on a timely basis in regard to the performance, financial condition, operating results and prospects of the RPS to enable the organisation to fulfil its governance responsibilities.

Each year, there are three formal meetings of the Assembly as well as one strategy day. Further meetings of the Assembly can be called if necessary.

PENSION SCHEME

The RPSGB defined benefit scheme was closed to new entrants in 2012.

The latest information on the pension scheme is given below:

There was a triennial Actuarial Valuation, (as at 31st December 2021), undertaken on behalf of the Trustees in 2022. The Assembly and Trustees at that time agreed that the annual contribution would decrease to £300,000 per annum from 2023 to 2026. This triennial Actuarial Valuation, (as at 31st December 2021) was agreed in advance of the Pension Regulator's March 2023 deadline. The outcome from the valuation as at 31 December 2024 will not be known until the end of March 2026.

The Trustees, in consultation with the RPS, have maintained the mid- to long-term strategy to de-risk the Scheme's assets and more closely match its liabilities. Both the Trustees and the RPS recognise the problems financial market volatility can cause in pension funding and planning.

The strategy implemented during 2011 to move from equities to bonds when key trigger points in relative bond/equity positions are reached, has been continued. This was continuously reviewed at Trustees meetings based on sound advice from actuarial and financial advisors and amended if decided appropriate and in the best interests of the Scheme.

In previous years, the Trustees have undertaken a 'buy-in' in respect of the current pensioners to remove the risk of increased costs arising from extended life projections. The 'buy-in' represents an insurance policy that would pay an annuity to the fund and does not favour any particular group of pensioners. It was not economic to do the same for deferred pensioners as the insurance pricing for the uncertainty of this group was cost prohibitive.

More information regarding the Pension Scheme can be found in note 19 to the Financial Statements. This information includes disclosures required by FRS102.

FINANCIAL RESULTS

The surplus on ordinary activities before taxation was £1,259,000. The comparative result for 2023 was a surplus of £1,335,000. Prior to any movements arising from investment activities, or the Defined Benefit pension scheme, this surplus was £638,000. The comparative result for 2023 was a surplus of £1,688,000.

Total revenues fell by £408,000 from £25,626,000 to £25,218,000 in the year.

Publishing revenues grew by 2.3%, with 8% year-on-year growth in digital revenues offset by falling revenues from traditional print publishing, which fell by 22%. Membership numbers fell marginally over the course of the year to 37,366 compared with 37,474 at the end of 2023. Student numbers continue to grow, however, paying members were lower year-on-year. Membership revenues increased by 6% to £4,766,000 (2023: £4,500,000), owing to the inclusion of the foundation revision course and mock assessment benefits within the upgraded Foundation Trainee membership offering. Whilst building membership remains a challenge, these positive results, build on positive growing revenues allied with strong cash generation, have allowed continued investment in valuable membership and publishing products and services. A more detailed analysis of income and expenditure is included in note 2 to the Financial Statements to enhance transparency and help with the interpretation of the financial information.

Interest receivable on free cashflows increased from £125,000 to £354,000 in the year owing to positive cash generation over the course of 2024, and maximising the interest earned on treasury deposits.

During 2024, the Society fully transferred its investments from Ruffer into the CCLA Cautious Multi-Asset Fund, which together with the separate CCLA Better World Global Equity Fund takes the total investment to £10,938,000. Over the course of 2024, the CCLA investment grew by £332k. The CCLA equity fund is 100% invested in equities, with greater exposure to global equity markets and with a particular emphasis on the US. The cautious multi-asset fund aims to provide a total return (the combination of capital growth and income) after costs, of inflation (as measured by the UK Consumer Prices Index) plus 2% per annum over

the long term (defined as five years). The fund is classified as 'cautious' as it will not invest more than 50% in equities. The net impact of investing in two CCLA funds ensures we are aligned with our defined investment policy and able to meet our strategic asset allocation and core strategic principles outlined in the policy.

CCLA is a highly ethical investor. Their funds do not directly invest in companies with weak environmental, social and governance behaviours and exclude businesses that do not conform with the UN Global Compact or UN Guiding Principles for business and human rights. There are additional restrictions in areas such as fossil fuel extraction and production, tobacco, gambling and other unethical practices.

After incorporating gains on investments, interest and the tax liability for the year, the final result is a surplus of £1,259,000. The comparative result for 2023 was a surplus of £1,335,000.

The defined benefit pension scheme, on the FRS102 basis as at 31st December 2024 indicated an actuarial surplus of £3,855,000 (2023: £3,193,000 surplus). Under the Scheme regulations, the RPS can only recognise a plan surplus as a Defined Benefit plan asset to the extent that it is able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan. Consequently, the defined benefit plan asset has been capped at £nil on the balance sheet.

It is important to note that the RPS's FRS102 actuarial valuation uses different assumptions to those used by the Scheme actuary acting on behalf of the Trustee for the RPSGB Pension Scheme for the purposes of the triennial valuations. As a consequence, these valuations produce very different outcomes with the actual Scheme remaining in actuarial deficit and the Society needing to continue to make contributions.

Total funds have increased in the year to £29,206,000 (2023: £28,785,000) and the RPS remains strong financially, despite challenging economic and political conditions in the UK and globally.

STATEMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Assembly is responsible for preparing the Report of the Assembly and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

By Royal Charter, the Assembly is required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the RPS and of its income and expenditure, of the RPS for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Assembly is required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether United Kingdom Accounting Standards (FRS102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the RPS will continue in operation.

The Assembly is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the RPS. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the RPS and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Each of the Assembly members confirms that:

- So far as the member is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the RPS's auditor is unaware
- The member has taken all the steps that he/she ought to have taken as a member in order to make himself/herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the RPS's auditor is aware of that information.

The Assembly members are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of financial information included on the RPS website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

By order of the Assembly



Brendon Jiang

Treasurer

26 March 2025



Paul Bennett

Chief Executive

26 March 2025

Independent auditor's report to the Assembly of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society ("the RPS") for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the statement of income and retained earnings including the statement of other comprehensive income, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the RPS's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the RPS in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom,

including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Assembly's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the RPS's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Assembly with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

OTHER INFORMATION

The members of the Assembly are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the report of the Assembly and the Letter from the President and Chief Executive other than that within the financial statements and our Auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the RPS and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the annual report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received
- From branches not visited by us; 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.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ASSEMBLY

As explained more fully in the statement of the Assembly's responsibilities, RPS's members are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether owing to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the members are responsible for assessing the RPS's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the members either intend to liquidate the RPS or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether owing to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can

arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the RPS and the sector in which it operates. We determined that the following laws and regulations were most significant: the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), anti-bribery regulations, employment law, health and safety legislation and data protection regulations
- We understood how the RPS is complying with those legal and regulatory frameworks by making enquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures. We corroborated our enquiries through our review of Assembly minutes and papers provided to the Audit and Risk Committee
- We assessed the susceptibility of the RPS's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:
 - Identifying and assessing the design effectiveness of controls in place to prevent and detect fraud
 - Understanding how those charged with governance considered and addressed the potential for override of controls or other inappropriate influence over the financial reporting process
 - Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates
 - Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries posted with unusual account combinations

- Assessing the extent of compliance with the relevant laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the relevant financial statement item to which they relate.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditor's report.

USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the members of the Assembly, as a body, in accordance with the Bye Laws of the RPS. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the RPS's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 RPS and the RPS's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



31 March 2025

BUZZACOTT LLP

REGISTERED AUDITOR

130 Wood Street
London
EC2V 6DL

Statement of income and retained earnings

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	2024 £000s GENERAL RESERVE	2024 £000s INVESTMENT RESERVE	2024 £000s TOTAL	2023 £000s TOTAL
Income	2	25,218	-	25,218	25,626
Expenditure	2	(24,934)	-	(24,934)	(24,063)
Operating surplus		284	-	284	1,563
Net investment gains (losses)	9	-	315	315	(770)
Pension scheme service and interest cost		268	-	268	346
Interest receivable		354	38	392	196
Surplus on ordinary activities before taxation		906	353	1,259	1,335
Taxation	5	-	-	-	-
Surplus on ordinary activities after taxation		906	353	1,259	1,335
Other comprehensive income					
Revaluation (loss)		-	-	-	(3,773)
Pension scheme actuarial (loss)		(268)	-	(268)	(346)
Deferred tax	17	-	(570)	(570)	(232)
Retained surplus/(deficit) for the year		638	(217)	421	(3,016)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		14,761	14,024	28,785	31,801
Accumulated funds as at 31 December 2024		15,399	13,807	29,206	28,785

Balance sheet

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	2024 £000s	2024 £000s	2023 £000s	2023 £000s
Fixed Assets					
Heritage Assets	6		3,500		3,500
Intangible assets	7		3,216		1,464
Tangible assets	8		8,886		9,030
Investments	9		15,973		14,149
			31,575		28,143
Current assets					
Stock	10	69		112	
Debtors	11	4,289		4,907	
Short term deposits		4,000		4,000	
Cash in hand and at bank		1,388		3,134	
		9,746		12,153	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
Other creditors	12	(2,765)		(3,327)	
			6,981		8,826
Net current assets					
Total assets less current liabilities			38,556		36,969
Deferred income	13		(8,440)		(7,844)
Deferred tax liability	17		(910)		(340)
Net assets			29,206		28,785
Funds employed					
General reserve	15		15,399		14,761
Investment reserve:					
Historical cost	16	11,166		12,705	
Revaluation reserve	16	2,641		1,319	
Revaluation reserve			13,807		14,024
Total funds			29,206		28,785

The financial statements were approved by the Assembly on 26 March 2025 and were signed on its behalf by Claire Anderson and Brendon Jiang:



Claire Anderson
President



Brendon Jiang
Treasurer

Statement of cash flows

YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	2024 £000s	2023 £000s
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by operating activities	A	1,755	2,120
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(172)	(27)
Payments to acquire intangible fixed assets		(2,212)	(1,313)
Payments to acquire investments		(12,878)	(12,569)
Payments to acquire short term deposits		-	(4,000)
Receipts from disposal of investments		9,911	13,233
Investment income received		392	196
Net cash provided by (used in) investment activities		(4,958)	(4,480)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(3,204)	(2,360)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	B	4,592	6,952
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	B	1,388	4,592

Notes to the cash flow statement

YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	2024 £000s	2023 £000s
A. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash provided by operating activities			
Net income before transfers		1,259	1,335
Pension adjustment		(268)	(346)
Amortisation charge		460	96
Depreciation charge		316	462
Net investment (gains)/losses		(315)	770
Investment income		(392)	(196)
Decrease/(increase) in stocks		43	(40)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors		618	(214)
Increase in creditors		34	253
Net cash provided by operating activities		1,755	2,120

	At 31 December 2024 £000s	At 31 December 2023 £000s
B. Analysis of changes in cash and cash equivalents		
Cash at bank and in hand	1,388	3,134
Cash held by investment managers	-	1,458
Total	1,388	4,592

Notes to the financial statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the accounts are laid out below. The policies have been applied consistently throughout the year.

A ACCOUNTING CONVENTION

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

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). The accounts are presented in sterling and are rounded to the nearest thousand pounds.

B GOING CONCERN AND AREAS OF CRITICAL JUDGEMENT

The Assembly members have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The Assembly has made this assessment in respect to a period of one year from the date of approval of these accounts.

The Assembly members have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the RPS to continue as a going concern. The Assembly are of the opinion that the RPS will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

Preparation of the accounts requires the Assembly to make critical judgements and estimates. The items in the accounts where these judgements and estimates have been made include:

Product development: Determining the split of product development expenditure between capital and revenue which is based on an approximate calculation of staff time spent on different parts of the project.

Freehold and investment properties:

The properties were formally revalued as at 31 December 2023, by a registered valuer, Pelham Lease Advisory, in accordance with the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) valuation professional standards. A desktop valuation was undertaken as at 31 December 2024. The Assembly has considered general market conditions and note there is independent evidence to suggest that property values have not materially changed. In light of this, the Assembly has concluded there is unlikely to be any material change in the carrying value of these properties since the last formal valuation.

- **Heritage assets:** The value of heritage assets is based on the fair value at the time of formal valuations taking place, with a desktop assessment of any material changes considered on an annual basis. The Assembly do not believe there to be any material change in the carrying value since formal valuation (see note D for further information)
- **Pension assets:** The present value of the defined benefit liability or asset 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 will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability (see note L for further information).

C CAPITALISATION POLICY

All assets costing more than £500 and with an expected useful life exceeding one year are capitalised.

D HERITAGE ASSETS

The RPS's heritage assets comprise collections of books, drug jars, silver plates and general artefacts. Any additions to the collection are now received by way of donations. See note 8 for further information.

Heritage assets have been recognised on the balance sheet separately from other assets at a valuation that reflects the value of the asset at the time it was acquired. The assets have been valued by St George Valuations, taking into account full

market value. The work began in 2015 and was completed in early 2016. This was treated as deemed cost.

No depreciation is charged against heritage assets, but the RPS carries out an annual impairment review to assess whether a heritage asset is impaired and, if so, to recognise and measure the impairment loss.

E TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Depreciation is calculated in order to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets, less their estimated residual values, in equal annual instalments over the expected useful economic lives of the assets.

The principal annual rates in use are:

	Annual rates
Freehold property	2%
Short leasehold	Over life of the lease
Plant and machinery	5% – 20%
Office equipment	10% – 33%

No depreciation is provided on freehold land, and no depreciation is provided on assets during construction.

The RPS has adopted a policy of revaluation for its freehold properties. This asset class was revalued as at 31 December 2023 to fair value at the date of revaluation. In subsequent years, freehold properties will be held at revalued amounts less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses. Revaluations will be made with sufficient regularity to ensure that the carrying amount does not differ materially from that which would be determined using fair value at the end of the reporting period.

F INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Intangible assets are initially recognised at the cost to the RPS of acquiring these assets. Amortisation of intangible fixed assets is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate the cost of the assets over their estimated useful lives.

Intangible assets which are technological in nature are assumed to have useful lives of five years and are amortised accordingly at an annual rate of 20%.

Intellectual Property assets, categorised under intangible fixed assets, are deemed to have a longer estimated useful life, and are amortised at an annual rate of 10%.

An annual impairment review is carried out for each asset after it has been brought into use to re-assess its remaining useful life and that it still meets the definition of an intangible asset. Provision is made for assets where the net present value of future benefits is less than the carrying value.

G LISTED INVESTMENTS

Listed investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price.

Where a portion of listed investments is to be sold for a cash drawdown to fund the RPS's operations in a period less than one year this is shown under current assets. Cash held by investment managers is also shown within current assets. The remainder of the listed investments are considered fixed asset investments.

The main form of financial risk faced by the RPS is that of volatility in equity and other investment markets owing to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

H UNLISTED INVESTMENTS

Unlisted equity investments are accounted for at fair value unless there is no available data or widely accepted model based on observable data for assessing this value, in which case they are carried at cost less impairment.

I INVESTMENT PROPERTY

Investment property, being a portion of the RPS' main property at 66 East Smithfield, is held by the RPS to earn rentals and for capital appreciation, rather than for use in the ordinary course of business. The investment property is measured at cost and subsequently at fair value at the reporting date. Professional advice is sought as appropriate to determine the valuation of investment property. Changes in fair values are recognised in the statement of income and retained earnings.

Investment property is subject to renovations or improvements at regular intervals. The cost of major renovations and improvements is capitalised. The cost of maintenance, repairs, and minor improvements is recognised in the statement of financial activities when occurred.

On disposal of an investment property, the difference between the disposal proceeds and the carrying amount is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

J STOCKS AND WORK IN PROGRESS

Stocks and work in progress are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value and after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving items. Materials and associated pre-press costs make up the unit cost of printed goods. In line with industry practice, the RPS is writing off publication editorial costs as incurred.

K INCOME

Income from professional activities and publishing is stated net of Value Added Tax, where appropriate, and represents the invoiced value of goods and services supplied.

Membership fees and other subscriptions are recognised in the statement of income and retained earnings in the year to which they relate on a pro rata basis, with the excess of receipts over income recognised carried forward in the balance sheet as deferred income.

Interest on loans and deposits is accrued as earned.

L REVENUE GRANTS

Revenue grants receivable are matched against the expenditure of the specific projects in respect of which they are granted. Where projects span more than one accounting period, any excess of grants received over expenditure incurred to date is carried forward in the RPS's Balance Sheet as a current liability.

M FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling using HMRC rates as at the balance sheet date. Foreign exchange differences are taken to the statement of income and retained earnings in the year in which they arise.

Forward currency contracts are a form of complex financial instrument. They are recognised at their fair value at the balance sheet date. Gains or losses arising during the year on such contracts are credited or debited to the statement of income and retained earnings.

N PENSION COSTS

The RPS operates a Defined Contribution arrangement for all eligible employees to which the RPS contributes varying percentages of salary. Contributions to the scheme are accounted for on an accruals basis.

As the Defined Benefit pension scheme accrual ceased from April 2012, there is no current service cost. The pension scheme assets are measured using fair values at each balance sheet date. The scheme's liabilities are measured using the projected unit actuarial method. Actuarial gains and losses, in respect of the RPS's Defined Benefit scheme are recognised in other comprehensive income for the period. Other movements are allocated to the statement of income and retained earnings.

Under FRS 102, if the present value of a scheme's defined benefit obligation at the reporting date is less than the fair value of its plan assets at that date, the plan is in surplus. Surpluses can only be recognised as an asset to the extent that the RPS is able to recover the surplus, either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan. If the surpluses are unable to be recovered the liability is capped at zero.

O DEBTORS

Debtors are recognised at their settlement amount, less any provision for non-recoverability. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash receipt where such discounting is material.

P CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

Cash at bank and in hand represents such accounts and instruments that are available on demand or have a maturity of less than three months from the date of acquisition. Deposits for more than three months but less than one year have been disclosed as short-term deposits. Cash placed on deposit for more than one year is disclosed as a fixed asset investment.

Q CREDITORS AND PROVISIONS

Creditors and provisions 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. Creditors and provisions are recognised at the amount the RPS anticipates it will pay to settle the debt. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash payment where such discounting is material.

R FUND STRUCTURE

The investment reserve comprises two elements: the cost of the RPS's investments and the total return earned on those investments. Total return comprises two elements: a capital return and an income return.

S OPERATING LEASE RENTALS

Operating lease rentals are charged to the statement of income and retained earnings over the lease term on a straight-line basis.

T DEFERRED TAXATION

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events that result in an obligation to pay more tax in the future or a right to pay less tax in the future have occurred at the balance sheet date. Timing differences are differences between the RPS's taxable profits and its results as stated in the financial statements.

Deferred tax is measured at the average tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which the timing differences are expected to reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the balance sheet date. Deferred tax is measured on a non-discounted basis. Deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the assets can be utilised.

2 Income and expenditure

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Income		Expenditure	
	2024 £000s	2023 £000s	2024 £000s	2023 £000s
From professional body activities				
Professional Member fees	4,766	4,500	-	-
Assembly	-	-	105	71
Chief Executive's Office	208	293	2,714	1,777
Education and Membership	566	1,597	2,975	3,656
Technology	-	-	4,552	3,780
Operations	493	479	3,077	3,098
Cost transfer to Pharmaceutical Press	-	-	(4,880)	(4,664)
Total from professional body activities	6,033	6,869	8,543	7,718
Pharmaceutical Press	19,185	18,757	11,511	11,681
Costs transfer to Pharmaceutical Press	-	-	4,880	4,664
Total Pharmaceutical Press	19,185	18,757	16,391	16,345
Total for the year	25,218	25,626	24,934	24,063

*In 2024, oversight of the three national boards was transferred from Education and Membership into the Chief Executive's Office. The income and expenditure numbers above reflect this change, as does the number employed shown in note 3 below.

3 Information regarding employees

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Employee costs represent	2024 £000s	2023 £000s
Wages and salaries	11,450	10,369
Social security costs	1,193	1,063
Pension costs	1,013	894
	13,656	12,326

The number of persons employed by the Society at the end of the year was:	2024 No.	2023 No.
Chief Executive's Office	34	27
Education and Membership	44	47
Pharmaceutical Press	115	103
Operations	14	13
Technology	33	29
	240	219

Monthly average of employees in post during the year	2024 No.	2023 No.
	228	213

Chief Executive and Directors' remuneration	2024 £000s	2023 £000s
Basic salaries	1,472	1,503
Benefits	8	6
Pension contributions	124	102
	1,604	1,611

Chief Executive and Directors' remuneration, excluding employer pension and national insurance contributions, fell within the following ranges:	2024 No.	2023 No.
£1-£70,000	-	3
£70,001-£80,000	-	2
£80,001-£90,000	2	-
£90,001-£100,000	3	3
£100,001-£110,000	1	-
£110,001-£120,000	1	2
£120,001-£130,000	1	1
£130,001-£140,000	-	-
£140,001-£150,000	-	1
£150,001-£160,000	2	1
£160,001-£170,000	-	2
£170,001-£180,000	2	-
	12	15

4 Surplus on ordinary activities before taxation

This is stated after charging:	2024 £000s	2023 £000s
Depreciation of intangible and fixed assets	777	558
Auditor's remuneration:		
Buzzacott LLP: audit services:		
Current Year	36	35
Buzzacott LLP: other services	31	16

5 Taxation

	2024 £000s	2023 £000s
Profit for the period	1,259	1,335
Expected tax charge at 19% (2023: 19%)	239	254
Effects of:		
Disallowable expenditure	148	264
Unrecognised deferred tax	(392)	(335)
Adjustment to opening deferred tax rate	-	(43)
Non-taxable income	(111)	(105)
Movement on pension scheme (see note 18)	(126)	302
Utilisation of brought forward tax losses	-	(337)
Actual tax credit	(242)	-

6 Heritage assets

The Museum of the RPS, established in 1842, has collections covering all aspects of British pharmacy history including:

- Traditional dispensing equipment
- Drug storage containers
- Fine "Lambeth delftware" dating from the 1600s and 1700s
- Proprietary (brand name) medicines dating from the 1700s to present
- Bronze and bell metal mortars
- Medical caricatures
- A photo archive.

Preservation and management

The museum's curators are responsible for maintaining the museum's register of objects. There are around 45,000 objects within the collection, of which only a sample is on display at any one time. Objects in the stored collections are available to be viewed by appointment.

The RPS elected to value these heritage assets in the year to 31 December 2015 and this is treated as deemed cost.

7 Intangible fixed assets

	INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY £000s	PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT £000s	TOTAL £000s
Cost			
As at 1 January 2024	240	2,326	2,566
Additions	-	2,212	2,212
As at 31 December 2024	240	4,538	4,778
Depreciation			
As at 1 January 2024	122	980	1,102
Charge for the year	24	436	460
As at 31 December 2024	146	1,416	1,562
Net Book Value			
As at 31 December 2024	94	3,122	3,216
As at 31 December 2023	118	1,346	1,464

8 Tangible fixed assets

	FREEHOLD PROPERTY £000s	PLANT & MACHINERY £000s	OFFICE EQUIPMENT £000s	TOTAL £000s
Cost				
As at 1 January 2024	8,326	2,082	1,092	11,500
Additions	-	-	172	172
Disposals	-	-	(123)	(123)
As at 31 December 2024	8,326	2,082	1,141	11,549
Depreciation				
As at 1 January 2024	565	965	940	2,470
Charge for the year	136	107	73	316
Disposals	-	-	(123)	(123)
As at 31 December 2024	701	1,072	890	2,663
Net Book Value				
As at 31 December 2024	7,625	1,010	251	8,886
As at 31 December 2023	7,761	1,117	152	9,030

RPS's freehold properties were revalued as at 31 December 2023, by a registered valuer, Pelham Lease Advisory, in accordance with the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) valuation professional standards. Market value was used as the basis for fair value. A desktop valuation was undertaken as at 31 December 2024. The Assembly has considered general market conditions and

note there is independent evidence to suggest that property values have not materially changed. At acquisition, components of the properties were allocated to freehold property and plant for the purposes of calculating depreciation. The methodology adopted for the valuation of 66 East Smithfield was on a vacant possession basis, representing the RPS's current usage of the property.

9 Investments

	UNLISTED EQUITY INVESTMENTS	INVESTMENT PROPERTY	LISTED INVESTMENTS	TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
As at January 2024	500	4,035	9,614	14,149	11,340
Additions	500	-	12,378	12,878	12,569
Transfers	-	-	-	-	5,393
Disposal at book value	-	-	(11,407)	(11,407)	(13,993)
Unrealised gains (losses)	-	-	353	353	(2,618)
As at 31 December 2024	1,000	4,035	10,938	15,973	12,691
Cash held for reinvestment	-	-	-	-	1,458
Total investments as at 31 December 2024	1,000	4,035	10,938	15,973	14,149
Historical cost as at 31 December 2024	1,000	427	11,903	13,330	12,830

10 Stocks and work in progress

	2024 £000s	2023 £000s
Work in progress	2	5
Finished goods and goods for resale	67	107
	69	112

11 Debtors

	2024 £000s	2023 £000s
Trade debtors	2,140	2,682
Prepayments and accrued income	1,848	1,800
VAT debtor	301	425
	4,289	4,907

12 Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year	2024 £000s	2023 £000s
Trade creditors	932	1,143
Other taxes and social security	523	291
Other creditors	520	1,035
Accruals	790	858
	2,765	3,327

13 Deferred income

Income has been deferred as a result of the RPS receiving amounts in advance of the period that they relate to for activities that have been analysed below:

Amounts falling due within one year	2024 £000s	2023 £000s
Subscription income	5,273	4,750
Licensing income	1,480	1,430
Membership income	784	716
Other income	816	889
Amounts falling due after one year		
Subscription income	87	59
	8,440	7,844

14 Financial commitments

Operating leases due:	2024 £000s	2023 £000s
Within one year	3	4
Within two to five years	-	3
	3	7

15 General Reserve

The makeup of the general reserve as at 31 December 2024 is	2024 £000s	2023 £000s
General reserve as at 1 January	14,761	18,898
Operating surplus	284	1,563
Interest receivable	354	125
Pension scheme service and interest cost	268	346
Pension scheme actuarial loss	(268)	(346)
Property revaluation (loss)	-	(1,790)
Transfer of funds to investment reserve	-	(4,035)
As at 31 December	15,399	14,761

16 Investment Reserve

The makeup of the investment reserve is:	2024 £000s	2023 £000s
Investment reserve as at 1 January	14,024	11,340
Surplus of investment income over management expenses	38	72
Net investment gains	315	(770)
Investment revaluation gains/(losses)	-	(420)
Transferred from property revaluation reserve	-	4,035
Deferred tax	(570)	(232)
As at 31 December	13,807	14,024

	INCOME RETURN £000s	CAPITAL RETURN £000s	TOTAL £000s
Unapplied total return available within the investment reserve			
As at 1 January 2024	377	2,251	2,628
Returns in the period	38	315	353
As at 31 December 2024	415	2,566	2,981

17 Deferred Tax Liability

	2024 £000s	2023 £000s
Opening deferred tax liability	(340)	(108)
Pension scheme liability	-	-
Investment movements	(570)	(232)
Property revaluation	-	-
Actual tax charge	-	-
Total net deferred tax (liability)	(910)	(340)

18 Pensions

Payments into the defined contribution/Group Stakeholder Pension Plan scheme of £713,000 (2023: £594,000) were due in the year, of which £nil (2023: £95,000) was outstanding at year end.

The RPS Staff Pension Scheme is a Defined Benefit scheme closed to new entrants. The assets of the scheme are held separately, under the control of its Trustees, and the RPS does not have access to these funds. An actuarial assessment was carried out as at 31 December 2021.

In April 2012, the RPS closed the Scheme to future accrual, but continues to look at ways to reduce its exposure to the Scheme and limit the cost of maintaining the Scheme in the future. In accordance with the requirements of section 28 of FRS102, the Scheme actuary has carried out a valuation of the Scheme using the assumptions specified by the reporting standard. The assumptions used in calculating the expected return on assets and the Scheme's liabilities are detailed in the following disclosures.

The RPS valuation in accordance with FRS102 as at 31 December 2024 reveals a Scheme surplus of £3,855,000. This is a £662,000 increase in the surplus of £3,193,000 disclosed as at 31 December 2023; these figures are quoted gross of deferred tax. In accordance with FRS102, an entity can only recognise a plan surplus as a Defined Benefit plan asset to the extent that it is able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan. Consequently, the Defined Benefit plan asset has been capped at £nil on the balance sheet.

As mentioned earlier, these standards require the use of different assumptions to those used by the actuary acting on behalf of the Trustee for the RPSGB Pension Scheme. As a consequence, these valuations can produce very different outcomes.

In addition to the contribution rates required to meet the cost of benefits earned by members in the future, the RPS continues to pay monthly contributions. From January 2023, these contributions were set at a new agreed level of £25,000 per month until 2026. These contributions are designed to eliminate the shortfall revealed by the 31 December 2021 valuation.

The Employer will continue to monitor funding levels on, at least, an annual basis.

The total contributions for the year ended 31 December 2024 were £300,000 (2023: £300,000).

	2024	2023
A The amounts recognised in the balance sheet are as follows:	£000	£000
Present value of funded obligations	(33,541)	(39,995)
Fair value of plan assets	37,396	43,188
Derecognition of surplus	(3,855)	(3,193)
Net liability	-	-

	2024	2023
B Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:	£000	£000
Opening defined benefit obligation	39,995	39,112
Benefits paid	(2,891)	(2,494)
Administration costs	182	191
Interest cost	1,740	1,823
Actuarial (gain) loss	(5,485)	1,363
Defined benefit obligation at end of year	33,541	39,995

	2024	2023
C Changes in the fair value of the scheme assets are as follows:	£000	£000
Opening fair value of scheme assets	43,188	43,893
Interest income	1,890	2,060
Actuarial (loss)	(5,091)	(571)
Employer contributions	300	300
Benefits paid	(2,891)	(2,494)
Fair value of scheme assets at the year end	37,396	43,188

	2024	2023
D The amounts included within the statement of income and retained earnings are as follows:	£000	£000
Past service costs including curtailments	-	-
Administration cost	(182)	(191)
Total amount charged within surplus as operating activities before tax	(182)	(191)

	2024	2023
E Analysis of pension finance costs	£000	£000
Interest on scheme assets	1,890	2,060
Interest on pension liabilities	(1,740)	(1,823)
Pension finance costs	150	237

	2024	2023
F Amount recognised in other comprehensive income	£000	£000
Actuarial (loss) on assets	(5,091)	(571)
Actuarial gain (loss) on liabilities	5,485	(1,363)
Actuarial gain recognised in other comprehensive income*	394	(1,934)

G The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total Scheme	2024	2023
UK equities	6.0%	4.7%
Infrastructure funds	4.7%	3.6%
Short term credit	5.3%	5.4%
LDI	21.9%	27.6%
DGF	18.6%	19.8%
Insurance Contracts	28.4%	29.7%
Cash	15.1%	9.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

H Scheme principal assumptions at the balance sheet date (expressed as weighted averages):	2024	2023
Discount rate	5.50%	4.50%
Retail Prices Index (RPI) inflation	3.10%	3.10%
Consumer Prices Index (CPI) inflation	2.60%	2.50%
Rate of increase of pensions in deferment:		
LPI (max 5%) based on RPI	2.90%	2.90%
LPI (max 2.5%) based on RPI	2.05%	2.00%
LPI (max 3%) based on CPI	2.10%	2.05%

*As the pension scheme surplus is irrecoverable, recognition of the surplus on the balance sheet has been restricted to £nil by adjusting the actuarial gain.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
I Historical trends	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Defined benefit obligation	33,541	39,995	39,112	64,521	71,595
Scheme assets	(37,396)	(43,188)	(43,893)	(68,034)	(69,112)
Surplus / (deficit)	3,855	3,193	4,781	3,513	(2,483)
Non-recognition of surplus	-	-	-	-	-
Experience adjustments on scheme liabilities	5,485	(1,363)	24,471	5,644	(7,449)
Experience adjustments on scheme assets	(5,091)	(571)	(23,755)	(122)	6,666

J Life expectancy	2024	2023
Retiring Now		
Males	26.1	26.2
Females	28.8	28.7
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	28.0	28.0
Females	30.2	30.2

19 Related Party Transaction

In 2024, payments for Board and Assembly related activities totalled £98,276 (2023: £88,575). These payments cover fixed allowances and expenses to undertake their roles, which may necessitate travel and accommodation to and from meetings where it is not possible or practical to participate remotely. Some members are released by employers, and certain members with extra responsibilities will be expected to represent RPS externally.

Thanks to their expertise within the pharmaceutical field, Assembly and Board members may also complete small pieces of editorial work or be engaged in the delivery of educational events on behalf of the RPS.

20 Member expenses

(AMOUNTS IN £)

Member	Position held	Attendance Fees	Loucm Fee	Travel	Accommodation	Mileage	Subsistence	Parking	Other	Total
Mary Lynne Smith	Assembly	3,865	-	659	-	-	-	-	-	4,524
Ruth Edwards*	Assembly	2,109	-	450	-	-	174	-	38	2,771
Luigi Martini	Assembly	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ewan Maule	English Pharmacy Board	-	-	171	-	-	19	-	-	190
Martin Astbury	English Pharmacy Board	904	-	130	-	-	28	-	-	1,062
Sibby Buckle	English Pharmacy Board	1,650	-	-	-	424	-	116	-	2,190
Stephen James Churton	English Pharmacy Board	-	-	183	331	227	25	21	-	787
Susannah Ladds	English Pharmacy Board	1,205	-	350	-	-	-	21	-	1,576
Emma Boxer	English Pharmacy Board	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ankish Patel	English Pharmacy Board	1,205	-	129	92	153	-	-	-	1,579
Michael Maguire	English Pharmacy Board	1,507	-	349	-	-	-	-	-	1,856
Adebayo Sulaiman Abayomi Adegbite	English Pharmacy Board and Assembly	2,712	-	87	-	-	-	-	-	2,799
Danny Bartlett	English Pharmacy Board and Assembly	1,808	-	121	63	152	-	-	250	2,394
Ciara Marie Duffy	English Pharmacy Board and Assembly	-	-	1,325	153	-	19	-	-	1,497
Sarwat Javed Khattak	English Pharmacy Board and Assembly	1,205	-	126	-	-	-	42	-	1,373
Erutase Oputu	English Pharmacy Board and Assembly	1,507	-	765	111	-	13	-	-	2,396
Matthew Geoffrey Prior	English Pharmacy Board and Assembly	-	-	376	127	111	7	-	-	621
Thorrun Govind	English Pharmacy Board and Assembly (until June 2024)	1,055	-	116	-	-	25	-	-	1,196
Brendon Jiang*	English Pharmacy Board and Assembly and Treasurer (from July 2024)	1,055	-	118	-	-	-	-	-	1,173
Claire Anderson**	English Pharmacy Board, Assembly and President	25,302	-	3,153	636	810	227	517	-	30,645
Alisdair Jones**	English Pharmacy Board, Assembly and Treasurer (until June 2024)	1,356	-	204	-	-	19	33	-	1,612
Catriona Sinclair	Scottish Pharmacy Board	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amina Slimani-Fersia	Scottish Pharmacy Board	-	-	68	-	-	18	-	-	86
Jacqueline Sneddon	Scottish Pharmacy Board	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jill Swan	Scottish Pharmacy Board	1,951	-	241	-	99	7	44	-	2,342
Joshua Cowan Miller	Scottish Pharmacy Board	-	-	166	-	-	-	-	1,100	1,266
Kelsey Drummond	Scottish Pharmacy Board	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Member	Position held	Attendance Fees	Loucm Fee	Travel	Accommodation	Mileage	Subsistence	Parking	Other	Total
Laura Jayne Fulton	Scottish Pharmacy Board	1,657	-	130	-	10	7	51	-	1,855
Lola Dabiri	Scottish Pharmacy Board	301	-	82	-	-	-	-	-	383
Lucy Anne Dixon	Scottish Pharmacy Board	-	-	72	-	-	53	35	-	160
Richard William Strang	Scottish Pharmacy Board	1,205	-	28	-	60	-	5	-	1,298
Nicola Sharon Middleton	Scottish Pharmacy Board	603	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	603
Richard John Shearer	Scottish Pharmacy Board	301	-	43	-	-	15	107	-	466
Tamara Cairney	Scottish Pharmacy Board	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	50	70
William Iain Bishop	Scottish Pharmacy Board	301	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	310
Andrew Carruthers*	Scottish Pharmacy Board and Assembly (until June 2024)	1,327	-	26	-	150	-	-	-	1,503
Audrey Thompson	Scottish Pharmacy Board and Assembly	603	-	236	-	41	6	45	-	931
Jonathan Burton	Scottish Pharmacy Board and Assembly	2,712	-	13	-	29	-	39	127	2,920
Dylan Jones	Welsh Pharmacy Board	720	890	366	-	230	-	70	-	2,276
Gareth Hughes	Welsh Pharmacy Board	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Helen Davies	Welsh Pharmacy Board	-	-	102	-	-	-	-	-	102
Lowri Puw	Welsh Pharmacy Board	1,507	-	84	-	472	-	-	-	2,063
Aled Roberts	Welsh Pharmacy Board	1,507	-	134	-	78	-	-	-	1,719
Elizabeth Jane Hallett	Welsh Pharmacy Board	1,205	-	196	-	-	-	-	-	1,401
Rafia Jamil	Welsh Pharmacy Board	301	-	-	-	252	34	47	240	874
Rhiannon Lloyd Evans	Welsh Pharmacy Board	717	-	102	-	60	-	5	-	884
Richard Evans	Welsh Pharmacy Board	2,561	-	251	-	518	-	40	-	3,370
Cheryl Way	Welsh Pharmacy Board and Assembly (until June 2024)	-	-	389	-	-	25	-	-	414
Eleri Wyn Schiavone	Welsh Pharmacy Board and Assembly	2,410	-	172	-	216	14	28	-	2,840
Geraldine Mary McCaffrey	Welsh Pharmacy Board and Assembly	4,202	-	1,505	-	-	52	144	-	5,903
		74,534	890	13,249	1,513	4,092	786	1,407	1,805	98,276

* Attendance amounts include other pieces of work undertaken, such as Community Pharmacy Consultation Service (CPCS) facilitation.

** Attendance fees are paid direct to the Member's employer.

21 Post balance sheet event

In March 2025, Members who took part in the 'Special Resolution Vote', voted in favour of the proposed changes to the RPS's Royal Charter, paving the way for its transition to become the Royal College of Pharmacy and a charity.

