# TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note to the financial statements and comply with the charity's memorandum and articles, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

SATRO is a long established educational charity working across South Central England. We work in schools, partnering with employers to bring inspirational learning to students of all abilities and backgrounds.

We have three key areas of focus:

- STEM Education: delivering in-school workshops, multi-school challenges and events, and research projects. These bring STEM learning and careers to life for students from Primary to Post-16.
- Vocational Construction: delivering BTEC Level 1 construction qualifications, practical construction workshops and SEN independent skills training from school age to young adults.
- Employability & Skills: delivering careers, enterprise and skills workshops and mentoring partnerships which challenge perceptions and prepare students for their next steps in education, training or employment.

All areas of our work directly involve employers in the development of real-world experience and career understanding, including the involvement of staff as volunteers in delivery.

We offer our services to all types of schools and students of all abilities - accepting every student for who they are. We provide a full service to schools from booking, to the provision of all materials & equipment required on the day, administration of volunteers and delivery which is led by experienced tutors. We measure impact and feedback for all interventions with input from students, teachers and volunteers.

As a charity, we engage with charitable trusts, individual donors and corporate responsibility programmes. A key focus for us as a charity is to bring our work to those lacking access to opportunities in our three key programme areas.

### Charitable Objectives as set out in the memorandum and articles (1994):

The advancement of education, principally but not exclusively in the County of Surrey, in particular but not exclusively by educating young people in science, technology and business practice, and associated skills.

## **Public Benefit**

The Trustees have complied with their duty under Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity commissioner's guidance when reviewing aims and objectives and in planning future activities. In particular, the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

## **OUR VISION & STRATEGY**

Our Vision: That all young people in our region are given the opportunity to be inspired to improve their understanding of STEM and Construction, and to gain experience of Employability Skills as they consider a breadth of careers for the future.



# TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

**Our Mission:** SATRO delivers hands-on workshops, events, challenges and vocational qualifications in STEM with a core of business and employability skills. These are led by SATRO tutors and involve volunteers from industry and our local communities who provide an opportunity for young people to learn more about the workplace and can challenge perceptions of future careers.

### Our Three Year Strategy:

We are in the second year of a three academic year strategy in which we intend to build on our core delivery using the innovative approaches developed through the pandemic as we put in place a longer term strategy for the future. Our aim is to continue our development as a strong regional educational partner to schools and businesses that has a solid income base of both service income and charitable funding.

- 2021-22 Consolidate and review as we examine the impact of the pandemic on education, the corporate
  and charity landscape. Consolidating our staffing structure to support operations and continue the
  innovation of our services.
- 2022-23 Continuous improvement of SATRO's place as a charitable provider in our region working in education and as a business and charity partner. Focusing on the quality, reach and impact of what we deliver.
- 2023-24 Implementation of a structured longer term development plan building further on our strong regional foundation and creating strong partnerships for the future.

### **Factors Affecting Performance**

This year has seen a continuation of the impact of the pandemic on our work. This has included the cancellation of events in schools due to high Covid levels, and working from home for many of our corporate partners affecting their ability to volunteer. That said the SATRO team have delivered in-person throughout the academic year and staff have shown great flexibility and dedication by stepping in to support events at short notice where volunteers or businesses have been unable to attend.

We continue to see a decline in our range of charitable funders as many have re-focused their charitable aims to the most vulnerable in society. Also some have reduced or closed their applications due to the impact of the current situation on their own operations. In addition, many corporate partners have seen an impact on their funding, outreach and volunteering support due to costs and operational difficulties.

Our decisions to reduce our core operational costs, including a reduction in office space and not recruiting positions left vacant by leavers, has allowed us to continue successfully in meeting our mission. We do, however, recognise that this is not a sustainable situation in the longer term and we are now planning investment for the future as we move forward.

### Looking Forward to our Objectives for Academic Year 2022-23

Following a prolonged period in which our concentration has been on delivery within the operational constraints of the pandemic, including delivery and funding, it is time to look forward. Our objectives for this academic year are to focus on the educational and regional skills landscape, re-kindle our partnerships with industry, research and business and focus on the needs of the students most impacted over the last few years.

The key objectives are:

- To invest and strengthen our core team to provide the capacity to work actively with schools, our corporate
  partners and volunteers and to meet the increased demand for our services.
- To continue our core focus on the quality of our delivery and extend our offer to meet the current needs of schools and students. As part of this, we will take an active role in the regional skills agenda.
- To rebuild our partnerships, review and seek additional funding to support our charitable aims and continue to balance this with service income generation for longer term sustainability.

As part of this we are an increasingly active member of local networks including the Skills Builder Partnership, Surrey Research Park Talent Working Group and Sustainability Group, Surrey Chamber of Commerce, Surrey Charity CEO network and we are engaging with the Local Enterprise Partnerships across our region (Surrey, Hampshire, Sussex, Berkshire).



# TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE 2021/22**

The academic year 2021/22 saw the return to more normal delivery in schools following the impact of the pandemic on education. We delivered a full year of workshops, events and qualifications in all programme areas and continued to expand our range of offers to schools.



We were particularly pleased to see our volunteer base from industry and our local community returning both inperson and online across all our programmes. This input is vital to inspire students to discover new careers and challenge their perceptions of the world of work.



# TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

## **STEM**

### Workshops

This year saw the expansion of our STEM offer to schools across a wider range of topics supporting the curriculum particularly in Primary Schools. We also expanded our offer down to Key Stage 1 students.











New activities included Hydrogen as a fuel for the future, Health, Insects, Forces and Magnets. We continue to extend our range of exciting equipment and resources deployed into schools examples of which are given below:



For the first time, we launched a series of workshops and an in-person events for children of all ages that are being home-educated either through choice or who are unable to attend school for whatever reason. This was particularly popular and over 85 attended the full-day event held at Brookland's Museum. Activities on the day included coding, health and a very popular Crime Scene Investigation challenge.

We extended our offer to special needs education settings where students often miss the input of science and technology within their curriculum.

We continue to integrate Sustainability into more of our workshops. For example, our structures workshop is now based on sustainable development of Sports Stadiums. We have also achieved SkillsBuilder Impact accreditation for our STEM workshops as we increasingly build the framework across our delivery.



















## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022





### **SATROfest**

We returned to delivering of our own STEM festival this year with an updated format and new workshops to inspire the students. We included a new careers challenge based on a humanitarian project that was researched in our 2021 Summer placement scheme. We added workshops with industry partners including Pfizer and Air Products, presented our Summer Research Project results and welcomed companies to inspire students with hands-on activities.

235 students attended, aged 12 – 14, of whom over 15% were identified as disadvantaged or special needs. The event was a great success and we thank ACS Cobham for hosting the event for us.



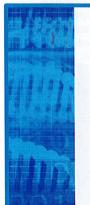












## Feedback from students on the day:

- 62% met someone or took part in an activity at SATROfest that has changed their attitude to STEM careers;
- 75% felt that they had been introduced to STEM careers they didn't know about;
- 64% are more interested in studying STEM after they leave school; 50% are more likely to take part in a STEM club or
- activity;
- 82% would like to have more STEM activities in school.

Student from Woking High: "I was truly fascinated by the incredible variety of employment opportunities in STEM. Even though I have always loved science from the beginning and am very keen to look for a job in this sector, the SATROffest eve has opened many more new ideas for me which I could not have thought of before the second many more new ideas for me which I could not have thought of before the second many more new ideas for me which I could not have thought of before the second many more new ideas for me which I could not have thought of before the second many more new ideas for me which I could not have thought of the second many many means the second many many many means the second many means the second many many many means the second many means the s

Teacher: "The activities were really engaging and gave them good insight into STEM careers. There was no point where they weren't engaged."

Representative of industry: "The students were brilliant and I was very impressed with their knowledge/experience of coding data. There were definitely a few of them which would enhance COINS's development team in years to come!"

The Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey and SATRO Patron: "A very impressive SATROfest. Great satisfaction in seeing young people so enthused.... I enjoyed meeting some of the students and finding out from them what they were wanting to achieve.... A memorable and special morning .... an outstanding event."



# TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

We ran a number of specific Science Fairs for primary school students to extend the knowledge of careers in STEM and introduce them to employees in industry. These are particularly popular with secondary schools engaging primary feeder schools and as part of their outreach.

### Challenges

Our long-running Senior Problem Solving Challenge returned to in-person delivery with 26 schools competing with 59 teams of 6 students each. This was the last challenge set by our long-standing SATRO Associate Ian Wilson who now steps down after many years of creative problem setting. We thank him for his creative input.







We were also able to re-start and complete our Primary Energy Saving Challenge with the schools that started in 2020. The work in each of the 11 schools was led by the students. They had access to real-time data on their school's energy usage, thanks to our partner, Powercor, an energy efficiency company. They showed creativity and innovation in their ideas to reduce their carbon footprint both in school, within the wider school community and at home. In total, 10.5 tonnes of carbon was saved, demonstrating that the climate change challenge can be led by the younger generation.







## Erasmus

We were delighted to run pilot testing and training for parents, schools and students on our Erasmus CyberAdventure Game. We worked closely over 3 years on this with educational teams from Portugal, Spain and Lithuania gaining insight to education across Europe and providing our own experience of working across all educational settings and abilities. The activity was led by Aston University. The game is aimed at educating Primary School students of on-line risks and how to improve safety and is free to use as a resource for all.





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# TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### **Vocational Construction**

Our construction tutors were extremely busy with many more schools looking for vocational pathways to reengage students who found the re-integration back into education following the pandemic difficult. We taught over 450 students across the region and were pleased to award BTEC qualifications to 177 students completing their 1-year Award or 2-year Certificate. A further 139 continue their studies for the BTEC next year whilst others took part in our SEN SATRO Award or educational re-engagement vocational sessions.

We were pleased to share a case study with the Thames Valley Berkshire Local Skills Report:

## The building blocks for a better future

## SATRO's mobile classrooms

An inspirational Construction programme is fostering inclusion and helping to fill the skills gap in Berkshire schools with funding from Thames Valley Berkshire LEP.

A collaboration between educational charity SATRO and the Shanly Foundation, the BTEC Level 1 Construction programme is aimed at giving disadvantaged students solid skills while raising their aspirations.

Kitted out with tools, equipment and training materials, SATRO's fleet of vans serve as mobile construction classrooms to deliver practical the hands-on construction training. SATRO's seventh and latest van was funded by Thames Valley Berkshire LEP. A two-year Certificate programme at Furze Platt School in Maidenhead is already seeing results. Taylor, pictured, completed his Certificate in July 2020 before undertaking a Brickwork apprenticeship. He has kept in touch with his tutor, Kevin, who inspired him to continue into the construction industry. Taylor recently sent this photo (inset) with the comment "Now building extension walls by myself!"

The Deputy Head of another Shanly-sponsored school programme said: "The SATRO construction course offers students real currency and enables them to succeed practically, setting them up as desirable candidates to progress onto college courses and apprenticeships. This is what vocational education should be!" •



As ever in this programme, it is the students that tell their stories about the success of the programme in providing them a stepping stone in their vocational training. Epsom & Ewell reported an 80% success rate in students moving onto college in construction training using their SATRO portfolio of course work as a key input to their applications. A statistic we see across many of our sessions.

Case Study: Ashley was the only girl in the class at Furze Platt School to study construction. She has gone on to study A levels within the school and is hoping to go on to an advanced Apprenticeship in stage making in the film industry. She is giving up her time this year to mentor the students studying construction this year with SATRO as a role model as well as providing practical support to the sessions.



## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Case Study: Student X was disengaging from his education due to personal circumstances. He was introduced to our construction class by the school's inclusion team. His first term was a continual battle with challenging behaviour and non-attendance. However, with a bespoke approach and practical learning he started to excel, achieving a distinction in his first practical unit. Whilst staff were celebrating his achievement, he had to ask if that was good having never received such a mark! He has dedicated himself to achieving the 2 year certificate so that he can go onto college and has continued to receive distinction marks across his course work. He now has a confirmed place at college and a plan for a career in construction.

We also support special needs schools and an employability programme for learning disability young adults providing skills for life and independence. We were especially pleased to see the Halow project receive a Gold Award at the Guildford in Bloom Event in the "Best Site for Nature Conservation" with Birtley House for the badger hide they built as part of their SATRO sessions.



## **Employability**

### Research Work Placement programme

The SATRO Research Work Placements (RWP) programme has been running for many years. Now running with a hybrid, virtual/in-person, model of attendance, we have been able to extend this opportunity to more students and employers. This year we received 100 applications and offered 70 placements. In all, 58 students took part in 25 projects offered by 13 local companies. The students worked across a wide range of topics including quantum mechanics, Silicon enrichment methods, nature based solutions to biodiversity, viability of hydrogen fuel in transport, investing to mitigate climate change, calculation of carbon for net-zero house design and the impact of the pandemic and Ukraine on supply chain sustainability.

All students were encouraged to submit their work to the Crest Award Scheme, a nationally recognised scheme that inspires young people to think and behave like scientists and engineers. Some have already done this and received Gold awards. To showcase the work done by all our students, we held our first SATRO RWP celebration event. Attended by students, parents and participating companies and research organisations. It was very well received, as can be seen by the post from the CEO of the Surrey Research Park:



## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022









Grant Bourhill . 1st Chief Executive Officer at Surrey Research Park

Simply wow! Last night I attended the SATRO education charity event, where a group of school students were presenting and discussing the results of their projects with employers.

These weren't teenagers that stared at their shoes when they spoke with you. No these were highly engaging, bright, confident individuals that were passionate about their chosen subjects. Truly inspirational.

Great to see the work of Anne Edward and the team at Satro, alongside various employers such as TRUEinvivo Limited, in helping students make the transition from school.

So if you want to help the next generation with their career, please contact the

Let's reduce intergenerational unfairness and give something back (or should that be forward).

Student Feedback: Overall, I think I've gained a greater understanding of the climate crisis and the importance of the energy transition. Through this project, I've become more invested in climate change and genuinely enjoy finding out more about its solutions, which I hope I can somehow incorporate into my degree or future career. I think this was a great experience to learn more about real-world science and to also become more independent by managing my own deadlines.

Research Provider Feedback: I just wanted to say it was a pleasure meeting all of you. You are all very intelligent and have passion for the sciences. I am sure you will all succeed in your individual paths in life. I had a lot of fun working with you all and all of our interesting science conversations and I hope you've enjoyed your time at the Ion Beam Centre. You all should be very proud of yourselves as you've all completed uni-level/post-grad work.

### Mentoring:

Mentoring was the programme most affected by the pandemic and we are pleased that this year, we have seen it return to a more normal footing with over 1,400 volunteer hours delivered. We also started a new programme at Rodborough School - supported by Waverley Borough Council and Thakeham. This brought our total programmes to nine this year.



Mentor training at Synamedia



## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Our corporate volunteers supported 78 students across the region with most meetings now face to face. The impact of the pandemic on young people has been particularly evident in this programme. Young people are facing many challenges after Covid: loss of confidence in the future and disengagement with school being very high up the list. School truancy levels have never been higher. The input from our mentors has, therefore, never been more important – helping their mentees to think about their futures and to put recent events into context. In response to this we have increased our support to mentors including a webinar on the education landscape.

## Student Feedback on what was the best thing about having a mentor:

- "feeling safe to talk about my worries and being able to ask silly questions"
- "helped me understand what I need to do to achieve my maximum potential"
- "being able to talk about what I'm struggling with and getting the help and support I needed"
- "talking about any problems that you have including plans for the future and studying"

## Mentor Feedback to the question 'What do you most enjoy about mentoring?'

- "Finding the connection that enables the relationship"
- "The fact that some of the students really have no one to talk to or let off steam too. Seeing them flourish hopefully!"
- "To show up for a teenager looking for clarity, and provide a safe space to allow them to
  express themselves, be vulnerable and trust guidance given. This hopefully will shape their
  view of the adult world with more confidence."

## Careers & Enterprise

There was an increased demand for support in the careers and employability area as schools recognised the opportunities lost by students who were making choices for exams or next steps after school. At the same time, the impact of the pandemic was still evident in this programme where the involvement of a wide range of volunteers from business was still difficult due to many working from home and the need for extended risk assessments. We worked hard to ensure that we could deliver within these constraints where we could, with staff stepping in to support with unexpected drop-outs due to COVID. Activities included careers networking events, corporate challenges and our ever popular Business & Enterprise Game.





We continue to develop the integration of employability skills into this programme building on our SkillsBuilder partnership.

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## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

## **VOLUNTEERS**

We were pleased that the number of hours donated to SATRO by volunteers have returned to pre-pandemic levels. That is 3998 hours or nearly 500 full work days which with the median UK wage for full-time employees for 2022 is equivalent to £8,500 donated in-kind.

Volunteers come from the community, corporate and public body partners and through the school's own parent networks. Whilst we continued to deliver virtually in some areas the vast majority of the time donated was inperson at school events.

We were pleased to be invited to the Surrey University Showcase 2022 to present a talk on 'Why Volunteering Matters in Education Today and for our Future'. This was very well received by university staff, students and companies and is available to watch on our website on the volunteering page.

We have also had the opportunity to attend events to showcase this. These included with corporate partners, the High Sheriff of Surrey and our local community networks.



Our volunteers are a fundamental part of what we bring to young people across. They inspire with their personal experiences, guide with examples of their own career pathways, mentor and challenge students to open their minds and be aspirational. Not only, they support our tutors with the hands-on practical elements of workshops and events. In return we ensure that they receive the information, training or briefings they need to take part in what we do. In addition, by ensuring that each event is led by a SATRO member of staff our volunteers can be sure that they are supported on the day. We provide feedback on impact and regularly seek volunteer input on their experience with SATRO and what we can do to improve.

## **WORK EXPERIENCE STUDENTS**

SATRO again welcomed work experience students from local schools during the year to gain an understanding of the work we do, support delivery into schools and contribute to the ongoing development of our workshops. The four that joined us for a week each this year were able to gain an understanding of the work environment, working within a team, key skills including communication, presentation, teamwork, problem-solving and creativity. At the same time they bring to us the voice, outlook and experience of the students with whom we work. There are clear benefits both to those that take part and to us an educational charity and we value their input and commitment to our values.



## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

## **SUPPORTERS**

We would like to thank our many financial supporters, both for their funding and the support they provide through staff volunteering. Their generosity and support ensures that we can deliver our programmes across the region.

## **Charitable Trusts**

- Armourers & Brasiers
- Berkshire Community Foundation
- Blue Spark Foundation
- Community Foundation for Surrey
- **CP Charitable Trust**
- **Edward Gostling Foundation**
- Garfield & Weston Foundation
- Guildford Poyle
- **Heathrow Community Trust**
- Henry Smith Foundation
- Ogden Trust
- Shanly Foundation St Faith's Trust
- **Synopsis**
- The Coleman Trust
- The Manly Trust
- Walton Charity

## Corporate Sponsors

- Air Products
- Allianz
- Alliots
- BAE
- **Beard Construction**
- **Brewers**
- **BCS** Berkshire
  - CarVal Investors
- CISCO
- CNOOC
- COINS
- Cold Fuzion
- Fluor
- Points Align
- Powercor
- Roke
- Sanofi
- Synamedia
- Synopsis
- TT Electronics
- **UNUM**

## **Public Sector Sponsors**

- Erasmus +
- **HEON**
- Reigate & Banstead Borough Council
- Waverley Borough Council
- Thames Valley Berkshire LEP

## **Individual Sponsors**

We also thank our many individual sponsors who loyally support so many of our programmes.

## Volunteers

We engage volunteers from across our local community, parents, businesses and research organisations. We would like to thank them all for the most precious of gifts, their time. Also in

- Arcadis
- **ANS**
- ATP Technical
- **BAM Construction**
- Checkpoint
- Exxon Mobil
- Guildford Borough Council
- Legal & General
- **KPMG**
- **Nature Metrics**
- NPL

addition to the volunteers from the corporates above who are also financial supporters we would like to thank those who supported a number of our events from:

- Pfizer
- **RHS Wisley**
- Rotary Clubs
- **SNCLavalin**
- **SThree**
- Surrey Ion Beam Centre
- Surrey University
- Surrey Wildlife Trust
- Thakeham
- Thames Water
- Wilmot Dixon



## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Surrey SATRO is a charitable company limited by guarantee. The affairs of the charity are regulated by its Memorandum and Articles of Association and governed by the Board of Trustees. The names of all those who were Trustees on the date of this report or who served as a trustee in the reporting period are shown on page 1.

Trustees are appointed, elected or re-elected for a fixed term, according to the procedures set out in the charity's memorandum and articles of association. New Trustees are recruited by advertisement and/or recommendation by existing Trustees or the Managing Director. They are initially offered the opportunity to observe a board meeting and are interviewed by the Managing Director and Chairman. If successful, their appointment is confirmed at a Board meeting. A structured induction programme is agreed and implemented for each new Trustee, covering all aspects of the role and the organisation. Trustee objectives are set by the Chairman and performance against these is reviewed annually at a Trustee Appraisal with the Chairman.

All Trustees are regularly offered and encouraged to participate in SATRO's school activities.

All Trustees are required to provide information on potential conflicts of interests and related parties. A Conflicts of Interest Policy is in place to ensure management of any conflicts.

The board ensures that all its activities operate in compliance with all relevant UK legislation and regulation. Its work includes setting SATRO's strategic direction, agreeing the financial plan and monitoring performance against it. Matters reserved for the board are set out clearly and include the appointment of a Managing Director who is responsible for the day to day running of the organisation.

The board has appointed three standing committees comprising trustee members:

- Finance Committee with responsibilities to review financial and operational performance, external audit reports and advise the board on matters of internal control and financial governance.
- Risk Committee with responsibilities to generate and review the risk register and associated policies and procedures and to make recommendations to the board.
- Staffing Committee with responsibilities to review staffing policies, staff salaries and HR issues.

The Trustees consider the main risk to the company being:

- · Failure to secure sufficient funding, both to meet core costs and to ensure programme continuity;
- Staffing issues within a small team and adequate back-up for front-line staff;
- A Safeguarding incident which affects the reputation of a key individual or the charity;
- Financial Control of overhead and management costs within the current challenges of the charitable sector

All risks are reviewed on a regular basis so that corrective action can be taken where necessary.

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

(Resigned 25 May 2022)

Mr H Railton (Chairman)

Mr D Anthony

Mr D Brockes

Mrs S Flew

Mrs P Gough

Mr D Leyshon

Dr J Preston

Mr A Sanderson

Mr O Chun

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## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### **Employees**

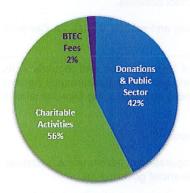
SATRO had no employees receiving in excess of £60,000 p.a. in 2020/21. The Managing Director is not a Trustee and does not have the responsibilities of a statutory director.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our staff who have shown resilience, flexibility and determination to ensure the success of the charity through yet another challenging year for everyone.

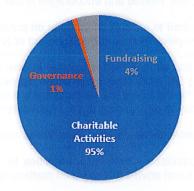
### Financial review

Income totaled £658,909 (£683,884 in 2021) we have continued to balance our income sources to provide the Charity with a sustainable platform on which to plan for the future.

Total expenditure was £605,970 (£537,331 in 2021) which reflects increase in costs, the cancellations of some events due to COVID and a sustained prudence in overhead and operational costs.



Where our income came from



How our income was spent

SATRO finished another challenging year with a surplus of £52,939. This was due to the charity continuing to be run on a cost-saving operational scenario with reduced staff and overheads, all of which made significant savings. This approach was implemented during the pandemic to ensure the survival of the charity but it is now time to look forward to a sustainable future of the charity in the long term. As such we are now planning a period of investment for the future. This will see us plan our annual budgets to utilise surplus to recruit key positions back into the organisation to provide the breadth, depth and quality we seek from the team so we can successfully deliver our charitable aims.

## **Investment Policy**

Surplus funds are invested only in short-term interest-bearing accounts with the company's banker. This policy is considered by the Trustees to be appropriately conservative with little financial risk.

## Reserves Policy

Following a detailed assessment of the operations and financial risks of SATRO, including assessment of the reliability of future funding sources, the cost base and any financial commitments, the Trustees have established a Reserves Policy based on maintaining the reserves at a level which allows for sufficient funding to manage the organisation in an orderly manner through any short-to-medium term operating difficulties. In setting a target level of reserves, the Trustees consider it appropriate to relate them to core operating costs and to ensure continuity in completing educational commitments for students. This is what SATRO would be required to cover in the event of a decline in activity levels and/or funding shortfall.

Subject to annual review and effective interim monitoring of the financial situation, the Trustees consider that maintaining free unrestricted reserves (general reserves less funds not readily available for spending eg. Fixed assets) at a minimum level equivalent to six months of prospective core operating costs as being adequate and justifiable. Based on our financial plan for 2022/23, Trustees continue to consider £218,822 the necessary free reserves at the year end sufficient to meet this requirement whilst allowing us to continue the strategy for future development. Overall, the free reserves at the year end are £299,622.

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# TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

## Going Concern

The Trustees recognise that the coming years will be difficult for funding but are reassured by the income from services which continues to be strong due to the need from schools. The prudent steps taken to reduce operating costs during the pandemic and create a healthier income balance between donations and service income will allow us to provide a stable base for longer term planning.

We are now in the second year of our 3-year strategy where we plan to focus on our place as a charitable provider in our region, working in education and as a business and charity partner. Our work will concentrate on the quality, reach and impact of what we deliver. This will involve investment for the future whilst continuing our tight management of income and costs.

The Trustees will continue to regularly review financial forecasts against the budget to ensure that we remain confident of being able to secure adequate funding for SATRO's activities. Consequently, the Trustees consider it entirely appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis.

## **Auditor**

Alliotts LLP have indicated their willingness to continue in office as the charity's auditor and a formal resolution proposing their reappointment will be put forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

## Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the Trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Mr H Railton (Chairman)

Chairman

Dated: 26 Jan 2023