

The Association for Science and Discovery Centres

Report and Unaudited Financial Statements

Year Ended

31 March 2016



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THE ASSOCIATION FOR SCIENCE AND DISCOVERY CENTRES

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2016

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2016. These have been subject to independent examination.

Charity name: The Association for Science and Discovery Centres

Charity registration number: 1129312

Company registration number: 6798106

Registered Office and operational address:

Suite 101 QC30
30 Queen Charlotte Street
Bristol
BS1 4HJ

ASDC Website - www.sciencecentres.org.uk

Trustees and Directors

Charles Bishop (Chair)	National Space Centre
Phil Winfield (Treasurer)	At-Bristol
Dr Teresa Anderson	Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre (resigned 23 September 2015)
Dr Stephen Breslin	Glasgow Science Centre (resigned 23 September 2015)
Vicky Brightman	Royal Botanic Gardens (resigned 23 September 2015)
Linda Conlon	Centre For Life
Verena Cornwall	Winchester Science Centre
Bryan Davies	Catalyst Science Discovery Centre (appointed 23 September 2015)
Karen Davies	Science Museum
Cindy Forde	Cambridge Science Centre (appointed 23 September 2015)
Elizabeth Hodge	Aberdeen Science Centre (appointed 23 September 2015)
Dr Gillian Lang	Glasgow Science Centre (appointed 23 September 2015)
Terence O'Connor	STFC
Scot Owen	Techniquet Glyndwr
Dr Anita Shaw	Techniquet (appointed 23 September 2015)
Louise Smith	Dundee Science Centre (resigned 8 August 2016)
Leigh-Anne Stradeski	Eureka! The National Children's Museum
Peter Trevitt	Techniquet (resigned 23 September 2015)

Secretary

Dr Penny Fidler

Executive Team

Dr Penny Fidler, Chief Executive Officer
James Summers, Special Projects Manager

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

The Association for Science and Discovery Centres (ASDC) is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated and registered as a charity on 21 January 2009. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2016 (continued)

Appointment of Trustees

Under the requirements of ASDC's Memorandum and Articles of Association there shall be no fewer than eight and not more than sixteen Trustees in office.

One third of the Trustees retire from office each year, being those who have been longest in office since their appointment. A retiring Trustee is eligible for re-election.

Induction of Trustees

Trustees are invited to meet the executive team and familiarise themselves with the aims of the organisation. They are given an induction pack which includes the Memorandum & Articles of Association (which includes the objects of the Charity); Charities Commission guidelines on becoming a Trustee; and forms for signature.

Risk management

The major risks to which the organisation is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, have been reviewed and systems or procedures have been established to manage those risks. The Charity's risk register is reviewed at every meeting of the Board of Trustees (the "Board").

Objectives and Activities

Objectives of the organisation

To serve and support science and discovery centres and related organisations, in the UK and beyond, fostering learning and engagement in the field of science, technology, engineering and mathematics for the public benefit.

The trustees have had regard to Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and report on these activities below.

Vision - A society where people are intrigued, inspired and involved with the sciences.

Mission - To bring together the ASDC membership to play a strategic role in the nation's engagement with science.

Operational Report

Overview

The Association for Science and Discovery Centres (ASDC) brings together the nation's leading science centres, discovery centres, science museums, learned societies and other educational and science organisations. Together they share the ASDC vision of a society where people from all backgrounds are intrigued, inspired and involved with the sciences.

The ASDC network engages over 20 million people each year with science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM), both at their science centres and through their community and schools outreach programmes. This includes over ten million girls and women, making it a powerful national infrastructure to inspire more females into science and engineering. Public visitors to science centres can explore and discover the sciences in their leisure time with family and friends (building family science capital), whilst the many millions of participating school students have the opportunity to investigate the sciences through hands-on curriculum-linked science education programmes.

ASDC has had a busy and effective seventh year in operation, delivering national strategic STEM learning programmes, bringing together our UK-wide membership to advance the field and working with Government, Parliament, research councils and others to improve the sector.

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2016 (continued)

A key achievement for ASDC this year has been the establishment of a £30 million 'Inspiring Science Fund' for Science Centres initiated by ASDC 3 years ago and now approved for funding by the Department for Business Innovation & Skills ("BIS") and Wellcome Trust.

Within the current year, ASDC has also provided a range of national meetings, including, a high-profile National Conference in September 2015, specialist professional meetings, sector-wide training academies and a range of other activities to bring staff within the ASDC membership together to share best practice and play a strategic role in the nation's engagement with science. ASDC has acted on behalf of the sector, advising Downing Street and Government on a national initiative to inspire more girls to take up physics and engineering, and inputting into science-related Select Committee inquiries.

As a major part of our operations, ASDC creatively conceives UK-wide strategic STEM learning and engagement programmes, and seeks funding to deliver these in partnership with science and discovery centres across the UK.

In this financial year, ASDC has secured funding from the UK Space Agency to create and deliver 'Destination Space', a national science engagement programme for families and school children to celebrate the British Astronaut Tim Peake's mission into space. For this programme, ASDC selected, trained, fully equipped and supported 20 UK Science Centres and Museums to run 'Destination Space' which reached 296,451 children and adults in the first four months. The programme continues until March 2017.

ASDC has also secured funding to deliver 'The Crunch' a major new national engagement programme focusing on food and drink and highlighting the connections between environment, nutrition and health. This has been created by the Wellcome Trust and is delivered by ASDC who have equipped, trained and supported nine UK centres to reach 130,000 people with The Crunch across the summer of 2016.

Within this year, ASDC has directed and delivered Phase 2 of the highly successful 'Explore Your Universe' Programme, funded by The Science and Facilities Research Council (STFC). Phase 1 ran from 2012 - 2014 where ASDC selected, trained and equipped 10 UK science centres to run newly developed high-end practical physics and engineering workshops with schools and families, and engaged 156,880 people. In Phase 2 of 'Explore Your Universe', ASDC extended the programme and trained 10 additional partners who then engaged a further 180,128 people. Phase 2 completed in February 2016 and 'Explore Your Universe' Phase 1 and 2 combined has now engaged 347,008 people in physics and engineering workshops and shows. ASDC have submitted a proposal to STFC for Phase 3 to continue Explore Your Universe for the coming 2 years.

ASDC has also successfully secured funding for two major new European Horizon 20:20 Programmes. The first, Hypatia, aims to encourage more girls into science, and the second, CIMULACT, is a unique international programme asking citizens in 30 nations how they think the EU science research funding should be spent.

ASDC continued some support to centres involved in former ASDC national programmes such as our national molecular biology programme 'Hands-on DNA' where ASDC trained, equipped and supported 15 centres to run high-level molecular biology workshops with schools in their regions. In addition, ASDC continued to share reports and best practice including the ASDC report, commissioned by The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) entitled 'UK Science and Discovery Centres: Effectively Engaging Under-Represented Groups'.

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2016 (continued)

ASDC has a central office in Bristol and has an executive team of 3.6 staff namely the CEO, 2 special projects managers and a projects associate (0.6).

Further information about ASDC and its activities and projects can be found on the charity's website www.sciencecentres.org.uk and regular updates are via twitter @sciencecentres.

Core Activities

The majority of income for ASDC is now achieved through creating and then competitively bidding for national strategic science learning programmes that advance the ASDC vision and mission, combined with a small proportion of funding achieved in membership subscriptions and conferences.

ASDC Membership Fees

The 2015-16 ASDC membership fees were:

- Small centres: £525 per year
- Larger centres: £950 per year

Strengthening the sector by bringing staff together to share knowledge and best practice

ASDC convened a variety of profession development and knowledge exchange events and conferences for science engagement practitioners across the UK including:

The 2015 ASDC National Conference and AGM

On 24 September 2015, ASDC held their fifth highly successful National Annual Conference. This was hosted by At-Bristol Science Centre, whilst Bristol celebrated its role as the 2015 European Green Capital.

The 2015 conference attracted high profile speakers including the Head of Science from the BBC, The Director of Culture & Society from The Wellcome Trust, the Head of Education from The UK Space Agency, the Creative Director for Aardman Animations, and internationally acclaimed artist Luke Jerram. The Conference opened with a personal message from the UK astronaut Tim Peake, thanking ASDC and all the science centres for celebrating his future mission with the public and schools across the UK.

The conference attracted 115 of the UK's leading science engagement professionals and stakeholders, including a high proportion of CEO's and senior managers. Participants came from 60 organisations including UK and European science and discovery centres, science festivals, science museums, media partners, universities, government departments, research councils, charities and industry.

ASDC held a conference dinner in At-Bristol on the evening before the conference which was attended by around 50 colleagues from the ASDC membership, research councils and funding bodies. The ASDC AGM took place earlier that day also hosted by At-Bristol, where ASDC members could hear the latest update from ASDC CEO and Chair and ask any questions and be part of the members discussion.

The ASDC Events and Training Academies

This year, because we had successfully bid for funding for a host of National Training Academies related to the national projects which would also bring together education specialists and marketing professional from science centres, we decided to postpone both the National Marketing Conference and the National Education Conference. ASDC ran the following National Training Academies

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2016 (continued)

1. The National Astronaut Programme - Training Academy 1 for Education Specialists from 20 Science Centres. This was held on 17-18 June 2015 at the National Space Centre as part of Destination Space, with over 50 participants.
2. The National Astronaut Programme - Training Academy 2 for marketing professionals in 20 Science Centres. This was held on 8-9 September 2015 at the National Space Centre as part of Destination Space, with over 50 participants.
3. The Crunch Training Academy for Education managers at the 9 science centre partners delivering The Crunch on 21-22 March 2015, held in Bristol at a city farm.
4. Explore your Universe National Meeting for education professionals from Science Centres and Universities, held on 2 December 2015 in At-Bristol to share best practice amongst staff running hands-on inspirational physics and space activities.

Other ASDC meetings and events included:

- Over 40 conference calls to share best practice on a range of content and skills between ASDC members and to enhance charitable operations in a simple and cost-effective manner.
- An ASDC members dinner in Trento, Italy, as part of the 2015 European science centre meeting (Ecsite) bringing together 50 UK members.
- Four ASDC trustee meetings hosted by 4 science centres bringing together Trustees who are CEOs and senior managers of 15 UK centres.
- An ASDC Specialist Astronaut Charette bringing together 20 experts from across the UK to find the very best hands on activities for The Astronaut Project, Destination Space.
- An ASDC Specialist Charette for The Crunch, bringing together 25 experts from across the UK in academia, food business, environment and charitable bodies to discuss food, environment and nutrition.

Acting as the sector body for UK Science and Discovery Centres

ASDC is well established as the representative body for the UK science and discovery centre sector and is gaining a national and international reputation as the leading UK body for informal science learning. ASDC is frequently approached by European and national organisations, government departments and learned bodies who wish to seek advice and to work with the sector. This has included:

Working with Government and Parliament

For example

- Following discussions about Science Centre funding between ASDC and the then Science Minister, David Willets, the CEO of ASDC was invited to write a submission to BIS to outline the current situation for science centres relating to the lack of access to public funds for capital for science centres, and to outline what was needed and what conditions would apply.
- The CEO wrote a submission, proposing the creation of a £22 million fund called 'The Inspiring Science Capital Fund' that would inspire children and families at UK science centres.
- 'The Inspiring Science Capital Fund' was then included in the documentation for the public consultation into Science Capital expenditure across Government for the coming 5 years. ASDC then submitted a formal response into the public consultation, encouraging ASDC members to submit responses, advocating that the fund was created.
- The fund was approved by BIS and ASDC then had a meetings and discussions with BIS and Wellcome about the fund, including a series of submissions to BIS containing additional information from science centres across the UK. This culminated in Science Minister Jo Johnson announcing in January 2015, that BIS, in partnership with the Wellcome Trust, would be launching a £30 million 'Inspiring Science Fund'.

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Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2016 (continued)

- ASDC worked with Number 10 Downing Street to advise how the sector could increase the numbers of girls studying physics and engineering.
- ASDC has written an article in 'Science in Parliament' the Journal of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee, sent to all MP's and submitted into Select Committee inquiries

ASDC national tour by Sir Mark Walport: Government Chief Scientific Adviser

ASDC arranged a national tour for the Government Chief Science Adviser Sir Mark Walport to speak directly with the public about Energy in 2015 - 2016. Venues included ASDC members Natural history Museum London, W5 in Belfast, At-Bristol, and centres in Leicester, Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Raising the profile of UK centres here and abroad.

Over the year, ASDC raised the profile of the work of UK science and discovery centres and museums by promoting their strategic capabilities as a major infrastructure for science learning.

For example:

- ASDC CEO spoke at national and international conferences as an expert on Informal Science Education and UK science centres.
- ASDC co-chairs the European Space Group covering a wide range of informal science engagement across Europe.
- ASDC worked with the BBC to facilitate partnerships with member centres for a variety of programmes.
- ASDC worked with a number of specific national programmes across the year including the International Year of Light 2015, programmes for World Space Week and a BP programme on evaluation looking at addressing low science capital.
- ASDC has worked with Ecsite (the European network of science centres) in a variety of advocacy activities and spoke at their conferences and meetings.

Acting as a central source of information for our members

ASDC shared with its members the latest opportunities and sector developments via a regular newsletter sent to several thousand science engagement professionals across the UK and world. The latest items are also shared via targeted emails, twitter and the ASDC website. These include funding and other opportunities, conferences, Government initiatives, Parliamentary consultations, and international and national research on the impact of science centres.

Project Activities

A major part of ASDC's operations relates to creating and composing funding proposals to develop and deliver inspirational major national strategic STEM learning programmes in partnership with the national infrastructure of UK science and discovery centres.

Across 2015 - 16 ASDC bid for, was successfully awarded and /or is delivering the following national strategic science programmes:

1. National Astronaut Programme (Level 1 - for £185K).
2. National Astronaut Programme (Level 2 - for £500K) awarded in April 2015.
3. The Crunch: A National Food and Drink Programme commissioned by the Wellcome Trust (£750K) *.
4. UK Space Agency Capital Funds for science centres (£140K).
5. Delivery of Phase 2 of Explore Your Universe (£86K).
6. HYPATIA - An EU Programme to inspire girls with STEM as the UK Partner
7. CIMULACT - An EU Programme as the UK Partner on a major international consultation on the public's priorities for science funding.

Of the above, all are restricted with the exception of The Crunch: The National Food and Drink Programme* which is unrestricted.

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2016 (continued)

The following projects were delivered in 2015- 16.

The National Astronaut programme Level 1 and 2

Destination Space is a national STEM engagement programme led by ASDC and funded by the UK Space Agency. It has the vision of engaging, inspiring and involving families with school-age children, school groups and communities across the UK with the amazing stories, science and achievements of human spaceflight, as part of a national celebration of astronaut Tim Peake's Principia Mission into space.

In partnership with the National Space Centre, Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre and the Science Museum, ASDC created and developed Destination Space, a national programmes for schools and the public. ASDC then selected, trained and equipped 20 UK Science Centres to run the full Destination Space programme, including an interactive hands-on family show, three curriculum-linked schools STEM workshops designed for ages 5 - 7, 7 - 11 and 11 - 14, a series of 'meet the expert' activities and a host of special events to inspire people across the nation with Tim Peake's mission.

The resources of 20 UK science centres have been mobilised to deliver this national programme, offering families, schools and communities across the UK unusual and exciting opportunities to discover, question, test and explore science and the latest adventures in space science.

Since its launch in October 2015, the Destination Space programme has engaged 296,451 people including 31,030 who took part in specific schools workshops and events. In just the first 4 months of this ASDC programme, the science centres have exceeded their 2 year delivery target of reaching 250,000 children and adults. ASDC also created the Destination Space Website, www.DestinationSpace.uk to enable people to continue engaging with the science and adventure of Tim Peake's Mission online, completing mission modules and finding out which space crew role could best suit them.

The programme runs for three-years, Level 1 ran across financial years 2014-16, and Level 2 runs across financial years 2015-17.

Explore your Universe (Phase 2)

ASDC is delighted to have in place a strategic partnership with STFC which brings together some of the most fascinating and diverse science in the country with the talents and infrastructure of the nation's largest network of science engagement organisations.

Phase 1 of 'Explore your Universe; from atoms to astrophysics' ran from January 2012 – January 2014 and was highly successful in its aim of inspiring young people and families across the UK with the wonders of the physical sciences by sharing the amazing stories and technologies of STFC.

Funding was secured from STFC in 2014 for Phase 2 of this highly successful Programme which ran from February 2014 - February 2016. In the current year as part of Phase 2, ASDC has selected, trained and supported ten additional centres (five UK ASDC science centres and five UK Universities) to deliver all the programme activities with school children and families at their centres across the UK.

Phase 2 of Explore Your Universe completed in March 2016 and reached 180,128 people in schools and family groups with physics and engineering workshops and shows. The overall academic evaluation of this programme (by science education experts at Bristol University) considered the responses of 1,400 school students and found that:

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2016 (continued)

- 77% of boys and 80% of girls were more interested in studying science following our one hour workshop.
- 58% of boys and 63% of girls said they were more interested in a career in science after one of our workshops.
- 91% of girls who went to the family show said the experience had made them more interested in science.

Overall, this programme (including phase 1) created and delivered by ASDC has reached 347,008 school children and adults with high-end physics (particle accelerators, space science, engineering), celebrating the people and stories of this exciting area of UK science.

ASDC has submitted a successful phase 3 proposal to STFC which will begin in 2016 for 2 further years.

UK Space Agency Capital Equipment

The UK Space Agency granted the UK Association for Science and Discovery Centres (ASDC) £140K for capital equipment to increase the reach, impact and national capabilities of the Destination Space National Programme, celebrating Tim Peake's mission. This grant was agreed in February 2015 and the capital funds were administered by ASDC and allocated amongst ASDC and 20 science centre partners in the Destination Space programme by March 2015. The funds were used to purchase hundreds of items of equipment and exhibits to enhance the programme's science engagement with the public and a full description of all expenditure by each partners is available in the final report.

The Crunch: A National Food and Drink Programme (unrestricted)

ASDC successfully bid for a major national programme on the subject of Food and Drink, commissioned by Wellcome Trust. The programme, known as The Crunch, is an exciting year of activities, experiences and discussions about our food, our health and our planet. Across the summer of 2016, 9 UK science centres will be providing opportunities for families to get hands-on, with fun activities and a great new online game 'Hungry City', exploring how our food and drink are fundamental to our lives, connecting everything from our health to the world around us.

To create the families part of the programme, ASDC worked with a host of expert partners, including Eden Project, At-Bristol and Bristol as the European Green Capital, to develop exceptional content and engaging experiences for families from all backgrounds around the latest research in food and drink. ASDC then trained, equipped and supported nine UK Science Centres to engage 130,000 people in their communities to explore these global stories and the need for change.

ASDC also worked in partnership with Aardman Animations to create an accompanying digital experience on the main website www.thecrunch.wellcome.ac.uk. This programme is unrestricted and operates under a service contract rather than a grant.

CIMULACT: An EU dialogue programme

CIMULACT has been called one of the most ambitious public participation projects ever funded by the European Commission, and ASDC are the UK leading partner for it. CIMULACT (an abbreviation for 'Citizen and Multi-Actor Consultation on Horizon 2020) aims to redefine the European research and innovation agenda by engaging 1000 citizens in 30 countries to say where Horizon 2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, should focus its investment in research and innovation funding.

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2016 (continued)

ASDC is the UK partner in this programme and has run citizen workshops in Bristol where results will feed into the Horizon 2020 research funding agenda. ASDC will also run further consultations at the European Open Science Forum (ESOF) in Manchester in July 2016, and have further dialogue with schools in 2016.

Hypatia: an EU Programme inspiring girls into science

ASDC has worked extensively in this area and gender equity is championed by every UK science centre. ASDC is a UK leader in this field and as such was selected as the UK partner for a pan-European EU funded programme Hypatia (with the public campaign title of Expect Everything) to create better gender inclusive methodologies to get more teenagers, especially girls, interested in STEM careers.

Financial Overview

Overview

The total income for the period was £995,063 (2015: £305,750). Total expenditure for the year was £783,779 (2015: £272,704) giving a surplus of £211,284 (2015: £33,046).

Reserves and Investment Policies

In order to provide on-going financial stability, the organisation aims to hold reserves at a level that will provide funds to cover a minimum of twelve months of costs in the event of a failure to secure funding. Currently we have £374,599 (2015: £161,354) in unrestricted reserves which, along with expected income during the current year, we consider sufficient.

The organisation does not currently have a formal investment policy.

Future Plans

The Association for Science and Discovery Centres (ASDC) strives to create a society where people of all ages and backgrounds, in all parts of the UK are intrigued, inspired and involved with the sciences.

ASDC is the UK's largest network dedicated to out-of-school science learning and family science learning and ASDC will continue to work with national stakeholders from industry, charitable trusts, Government, school science initiatives, university groups and public bodies to celebrate the unique achievements and potential of the ASDC network.

ASDC will promote and lobby to increase the quantity and quality of excellent hands-on, creative and practical science experiences that school children have access to, particularly in informal settings. In addition, ASDC will champion the importance of family science learning and of mechanisms that strive to increase diversity and participation in science at all levels.

The charity works to achieve many of its aims through national strategic programmes, CPD and training and by bringing together the membership, who together engage 20 million people (10 million girls and women), to play a more strategic role in the nation's engagement with science.

Over the coming year, ASDC will run a host of collaborative national projects, programmes and events and one-day specialist meetings to share knowledge, ideas and best practice between the many thousands of staff within the ASDC membership.

This will include:

- **Working closely with national strategic bodies** in Government, the media, universities and others to support national strategic science learning programmes.

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2016 (continued)

- **Delivering the three-year ASDC National Astronaut Programme 'Destination Space'** to over 400,000 people across the UK funded by the UK Space Agency (Our target was 250,000, which we have already exceeded). This will run until 2017 although the particular focus was on work in 2015 preparing to train, equip and support the 20 science centres for Tim Peake's launch on December 15 2015 and Tim Peake's time in space and his return in June 2016. ASDC and the science centres are delivering Destination Space at a host of summer festivals across 2016 and the programme will continue until early 2017.
- **Delivering The Crunch National Food and Drink Programme** and working closely with the Wellcome Trust and their work package leaders as well all advisors, our content experts and the 9 science centres we have selected to deliver the programme across the UK.
- **Delivering Phase 3 of Explore your Universe** with STFC to broaden the programmes reach to inspire a new sense of excitement amongst young people around the physical sciences by sharing the amazing stories and technologies of STFC.
- **Delivering the 2016 National Conference** on 28 September 2016 in London. This high-profile one-day national conference will bring together professionals from the UK's leading science and discovery centres, science museums, environment and natural history organisations as well as other science-based visitor attractions and university public engagement departments. The 2016 AGM will be part of the Pre-conference on 27 September 2016, followed by the Conference Dinner.
- **Delivering the two EU programmes (Hypatia and Cimulact)** that ASDC successfully secured as the UK leading partner.

ASDC will also submit funding applications for a series of major programmes to pursue the stated vision and mission in furtherance of the charity's objectives.

Strategic objectives for the coming year are:

- To serve and support our membership and to champion their activities.
- To be relevant and important to the work of our members and other national stakeholders.
- To add value to the UK's national science learning and science engagement agendas by fostering collaboration.
- To be financially secure.

Description of Restricted Funds

STFC Phase 2

Continuation of ASDC's national strategic programme to inspire students across the UK with the physical sciences by training, equipping and supporting 20 centres to run activities as part of the 'Explore Your Universe' Programme (with emphasis on reaching diverse audiences).

The National Astronaut programme Level 1 and 2 ("Astonaut")

The UK Space Agency has partnered with ASDC to train, equip and support 20 science centres to deliver a season of astronauts and adventure for families and schools at Science Centres across the UK to share Tim Peake's mission to the International Space Station.

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2016 (continued)

Cimulact

A Horizon 2020 Programme for which ASDC is the UK Partner, aims to explore what citizens want the European Horizon 2020 research Funding to be spent on, and to feed this back to the policy makers. ASDC is engaging citizens in Bristol, school children in Bristol and policy makers and others at ESOF in Manchester across 2016. The grant is for approximately Euros 120,000 over 2.5 years.

Hypatia

A Horizon 2020 Programme for which ASDC is the UK Partner, aiming to get more girls into science. The funding for ASDC is for approximately Euro 50,000 over 2 years.

EYU Evaluation

An evaluation of the Explore Your Universe project with a view to a third phase.

Space Agency Capital Equipment

The UK Space Agency granted the Association for Science and Discovery Centres £140K for capital equipment to increase the reach, impact and national capabilities of the Destination Space National Engagement Programme. Grants were administered for equipment amongst programme partners and completed in March 2016.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR SCIENCE AND DISCOVERY CENTRES

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2016 (continued)

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small Company Exemptions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

Trustee – Charles Bishop

Date: 27 September 2016

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of The Association for Science and Discovery Centres

I report on the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2016 which are set out on pages 15 to 21.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the ICAEW.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. Which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

E J Corrigan FCA
Corrigan Associates Bristol LLP
The Tramshed
25 Lower Park Row
Bristol BS1 5BN

Date:

THE ASSOCIATION FOR SCIENCE AND DISCOVERY CENTRES

Statement of Financial Activities including Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2016

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
Income from					
Investments		398	-	398	167
Charitable activities	2	317,700	630,004	947,704	228,782
Other trading activities	3	46,961	-	46,961	76,801
Total income		365,059	630,004	995,063	305,750
Expenditure on					
Charitable activities		150,614	631,965	782,579	271,504
Governance costs		1,200	-	1,200	1,200
Total expenditure	6	151,814	631,965	783,779	272,704
Net income/(expenditure)		213,245	(1,961)	211,284	33,046
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	7	213,245	(1,961)	211,284	33,046
Total funds at 1 April 2015		161,354	-	161,354	128,308
Total funds at 31 March 2016		374,599	(1,961)	372,638	161,354

All income and expenditure is derived from the charity's continuing activities.
All gains and losses recognised during the year are included above.

The notes on pages 17 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2016

	Note	2016 £	2015 £
Current assets			
Debtors	8	416,644	59,974
Cash and bank balances		293,830	158,563
		<u>710,474</u>	<u>218,537</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(337,836)	(57,183)
		<u>372,638</u>	<u>161,354</u>
Net current assets			
		<u>372,638</u>	<u>161,354</u>
Net assets		<u>372,638</u>	<u>161,354</u>
Financed by:			
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds	10	(1,961)	-
Unrestricted funds			
General funds	10	374,599	161,354
	10	<u>372,638</u>	<u>161,354</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2016.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2016 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) Ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- (b) Preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its profit or loss for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Section 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Enterprises (effective January 2015).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 27 September 2016 and were signed on its behalf by:

Trustee – Charles Bishop

Trustee – Phil Winfield

The notes on pages 17 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015) and the Companies Act 2006.

Income

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy when any performance criteria or conditions attached to the income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity, and when receipt of the income is considered to be probable.

Income received in advance for contracts and where criteria or conditions are attached to the income is deferred until the conditions or criteria for recognition are met.

General funds

Unrestricted General Funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity.

Restricted funds are funds which have been given for a specific purpose by the donor or statutory body. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with fair allocation of management and support costs on an employee basis. Descriptions of the restricted funds are contained in the trustees report.

Resources expended

External costs of projects are those costs directly incurred in connection with the various projects carried out by the Charity.

Expenditure is included in the financial statements on an accruals basis. Expenditure is charged directly to the projects where possible. Irrecoverable VAT is treated as a cost to the charity and analysed between appropriate expenditure headings.

Governance costs are those costs incurred in connection with compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs on an employee basis.

Debtors

Grant and contract debtors are recognised at the settlement amounts due after any discounts. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any discounts due.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash or short term deposits with maturity date less than 3 months from the opening of the deposit.

Creditors

Creditors and provision are recognised when the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in a transfer to a third part in settlement of the obligation and when it can be measured reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after any discounts due.

Pension scheme

The charity pays contributions into a group personal pension scheme on behalf of the employees. Contributions payable are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability on respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member.

3 Charitable activities

	2016	2015
	£	£
Grants	630,004	228,782
Contracts for services	317,700	-
	<u>947,704</u>	<u>228,782</u>

4 Other trading activities

	2016	2015
	£	£
Membership income	28,486	29,638
Annual conference	16,138	35,379
Education conference	-	6,335
Marketing conference	-	2,258
Other income	2,337	3,191
	<u>46,961</u>	<u>76,801</u>

The charity is exempt from tax on income falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2016 (continued)

5 Expenditure	External cost of projects £	Cost of provision of services £	Governance £	2016 £	2015 £
Purchases	520,004	130	-	520,134	112,022
Salaries	-	147,383	-	147,383	102,016
Pension contribution	-	3,097	-	3,097	3,771
Staff training and welfare	-	39	-	39	22
Recruitment	1,000	2,400	-	3,400	-
Travel and subsistence	18,100	1,600	-	19,700	15,363
Entertaining	115	448	-	563	953
Premises costs	6,067	19,968	-	26,035	5,494
Telephone and fax	36	3,668	-	3,704	2,032
Postage and stationery	2,934	1,974	-	4,908	2,038
Subscriptions	-	525	-	525	526
Bank charges	188	76	-	264	497
Irrecoverable VAT	26,794	6,842	-	33,636	9,403
Insurance	520	794	-	1,314	652
Computer costs	1,822	314	-	2,136	4,790
Repairs and maintenance	-	6	-	6	-
Board costs	-	-	-	-	-
Sundry expenses	9	131	-	140	7
Accountancy fees	3,900	3,624	1,200	8,724	6,513
Consultancy fees	-	725	-	725	600
Advertising and PR	253	62	-	315	708
Other marketing costs	5,150	476	-	5,626	5,284
Legal and professional fees	1,400	5	-	1,405	13
	588,292	194,287	1,200	783,779	272,704
6 Net incoming resources					
Net incoming resources are stated after charging:-				2016	2015
				£	£
Cost of independent examination				1,200	1,200
Directors' remuneration				-	-
7 Salaries					
				2016	2015
				£	£
Salaries				135,122	94,298
Social security costs				12,261	7,718
Pension contributions				3,097	3,771
				150,480	105,787

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2016 (continued)

The staff costs of the charity are shown above. The average number of full time equivalent employees in the year was:

	2016 number	2015 number
Management	1	1
Administration	3	2
	—	—
	4	3
	—	—
	2016 number	2015 number
Number of employees with emoluments (excluding employers' pension)		
Between £60,000 and £70,000	1	-
8 Debtors: amounts falling due within one year		
	2016 £	2015 £
Trade debtors	413,621	58,583
Other debtors and prepayments	3,023	1,391
	—	—
	416,644	59,974
	—	—
9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
	2016 £	2015 £
Trade creditors	265,824	40,776
Tax and social security	36,382	9,429
Other creditors	2,630	5,279
Accruals and deferred income	33,000	1,699
	—	—
	337,836	57,183
	—	—

THE ASSOCIATION FOR SCIENCE AND DISCOVERY CENTRES

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2016 (continued)

10 Statement of funds

	At 1 Apr 15 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	At 31 Mar 16 £
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>					
General funds	161,354	365,059	(151,814)	-	374,599
<i>Restricted funds</i>					
STFC Phase 2	-	19,850	(19,850)	-	-
Astronaut	-	414,838	(418,690)	-	(3,852)
Cimulact	-	33,261	(31,812)	-	1,449
Hypatia	-	12,855	(12,413)	-	442
EYU Evaluation	-	9,200	(9,200)	-	-
Space Agency Capital	-	140,000	(140,000)	-	-
	-	630,004	(631,965)	-	(1,961)
Total funds	161,354	995,063	(783,779)	-	372,638

11 Funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2016 are represented by:				
Current assets	680,635	29,839	710,474	218,537
Current liabilities	(306,036)	(31,800)	(337,836)	(57,183)
	374,599	(1,961)	372,638	161,354

12 Pensions

The pension charge amounted to £3,097 (2015: £3,771). At the year-end £nil (2015: £nil) was outstanding.

13 Trustees' Remuneration and Benefits

There was no trustees' remuneration or benefits for the year ended 31 March 2016, nor for the year ended 31 March 2015.