



Annual Report 2020-2021

National Society for
Education in Art & Design

Introduction to the 2020-21 NSEAD Annual Report

This annual report follows the established practice of publishing documents for consideration at the forthcoming 134th Annual General Meeting of the National Society for Education in Art and Design. It covers our activity between October 2020 to September 2021. Our AGM was held last year via videoconference, and we will again hold our AGM online, on the 21 May 2022. All members are invited to attend and are asked to register their attendance via this link: [It is hoped that by circulating these reports to all members in advance, the meeting can proceed expeditiously with proper time for discussion and for officers of the Society to respond to considered questions.](#)

The minutes of the previous AGM held on Saturday 25 September 2021 at 11am are available online at nsead.org. Further printed copies of the minutes are available on request.

The Presidents Report



By October 2020, we had all assumed that the COVID-19 pandemic would be in decline and that we would be moving back towards normality in all aspects of our lives. How wrong we were. Taking over the Presidency in January 2021 was always going to be challenging as Rachel Payne has done such an excellent job of steering the Society during her term of office, and particularly during such unprecedented times. I was glad to have her expertise and guidance as Immediate Past President as I became the first President to experience an online handover of duty without seeing or getting to wear the symbolic chain of office, as the country was once again in the middle of a full lockdown. It has been a year where it has not been possible to meet as Council, Finance and General-Purpose Group or Forum in a face-to-face capacity and I thank all members of these groups for continuing to shape and drive forward the work of the Society despite the obvious limitations of virtual meetings.

The pandemic continued to cause disruption for us all, making the job of our members everywhere, across every sector, that little bit more challenging. NSEAD has continued to support members in every way, be it through the need for Trade Union representation or through the delivery of a range of high quality CPD or by adding access to mental health and wellbeing support as a new member benefit. General Secretary Michele Gregson and Deputy General Secretary Sophie Leach have done an amazing job in transforming NSEAD into a 'digital first' organisation, resulting in us being able to off our HQ premises at 3 Masons Wharf whilst renting back an office for storing our archive and for Pat Burnell and Chloe Rowles to continue to have an administrative base. I want to take this opportunity to thank Nick Bevan for his sage advice and for overseeing the sales process on the Society's behalf, again, all conducted at the height of the Covid restrictions when all, but essential travel was allowed. Also, on behalf of our members, special thanks go to John Steers and Ron George for taking on the big and very important job of reviewing and editing the Society's archive, preserving the historic record of NSEAD activity.

All this restructuring of working arrangements and physical office space was managed alongside the regular work of the Society. Add into this the mix of additional work generated by the continuing growth in membership and the growing demand for trade union support and we were in a position where the officers were often stretched to beyond full capacity. It has been a great relieve to find ourselves in a strong enough position

financially this year to be able to invest in creating three new posts to support members and develop the next phase of our work. It was an honour to work with Michele Gregson, Sophie Leach and Rachel Payne in creating job descriptions, shortlisting and interviewing such a strong field of candidates, resulting in the appointment of Patricia Latorre as Digital and Communications Manager, Diane Quinn as Member Engagement and Events Officer and Seán Taylor as Principal Trade Union Case Worker, who took up post at the start of September and have certainly 'hit the ground running'.

We had very much hoped that the 2021 annual Conference, 'Make Art, Make Change, Make the World Better', would be able to have a face-to-face element to it. It was planned as a hybrid event, building on our experience of holding a digital event in 2020, but unfortunately continuing disruption caused the pandemic and the ever-changing Covid restrictions made it very difficult to plan for the in-person culmination of the conference, which we had hoped to hold at the National Gallery in London. However, the series of events across April, May and June, delivered in partnership with the National Gallery were well attended and received. It was an honour to open the event, reflecting on my own experience of and engagement with

gallery education, and great to welcome Jennifer Gibbs, HMI for Art Design to conference for the first time and to hear her give the keynote presentation, clarifying Ofsted's definition of knowledge in art and design.

Work of the member-led Special Interest Groups (SIGS) has continued in earnest, responding to the current educational landscape and steering the work of the Society. The active SIGs this year have included Health and Wellbeing, Cultural Capital, Initial Teacher Education, Better Practice, Examinations and Advancing Anti-ableist Pedagogy. The work of these groups has included the development of high-quality resources for the website, provoked discussion and raised awareness with stakeholders and policy makers. It was a privilege to work as chair of the examinations SIG which was able to respond rapidly to the series of consultations that were held between January and inform Michele Gregson, who then liaised directly with Ofqual, representing the interests of our subject in the discussions around arrangements for examinations for summer 2021 and 2022.

In May I contacted my local MP, Jane Hunt and met with her to discuss art and design education. It was following this meeting that I, with permission from the Better Practice SIG, was able to share a draft version of the Big Landscape (a resource and interactive guidance on curriculum design that is still in development and will be an invaluable resource for teachers at all levels across the four nations once complete) with Jane, who passed it to the then Minister for School Standards, Nick Gibb at the Department for Education. This resulted in the opportunity for Michele Gregson and me to meet with officials at the DfE and discuss Art and Design in schools, the National Curriculum, and how we might work together. The meeting was a positive step in building a relationship with the DfE and we hope, that although there has since been a change of Secretary of State and Minister for

School Standards, it will be the first of many that help raise the profile of the subject at schools' level. NSEAD remains committed to opposing government cuts to higher education arts courses and I wrote to Gavin Williamson, the then Secretary of State to object to the decision and raise concerns about the impact that the cuts will have. Unfortunately, we have not affected a U-turn in thinking, but we continue to lobby and challenge policies that deprioritise and denigrate our subject and look forward to working with the new administration at the DfE to ensure that art and design education is championed at all levels.

Since the inception of the Anti-Racist Art Education Action Group there has been much traction in our work as a Society to address issues of equity and diversity both in and through our subject. In my day job I have been very proud to signpost educators to the ever-growing range of resources NSEAD have produced, particularly the ARAEA Checklists that support all art educators to critically review and revise their art, craft and design curriculums, publications and resources. It is gratifying to hear that these resources are being well received and are prompting educators to think and act in making art and design education more inclusive by design. Their publication on the website has been complemented by a range of timely, thought-provoking articles in AD Magazine, which continues to be a highly valued member benefit.

It's been a busy year, and a successful year for NSEAD, but NSEAD can only be what it is because of its members. It is the members who steer our work, they give their time generously, share the best of what they do, their expertise and lived experiences to help shape the art and design education landscape. Thank you for being part of our community, for your contributions and for the work that you all do on a daily basis advocating for our subject.

Liz Macfarlane, President of NSEAD 2020-2021

The General Secretary's Report



Introduction

It gives me great pleasure to be able to present to you the activities of our last financial year October 2020-September 2021.

We began the membership year in a spirit of optimism and determination to meet the ongoing challenges of the pandemic. The disappointing news that the bursary for Art and Design PGCE trainees was to be withdrawn after just one year did nothing to dent our resolve. Members have worked hard to protect, promote and defend our subject and this vital work continued throughout a very busy, and often challenging year.

Advocacy and action

NSEAD joined and informed the urgent questions of what is needed to support children and young people repair and recover from the impact of the pandemic. The creative industries, and opportunities for creative and practical learning have been hit particularly hard since March 2020. Finances are under greater pressure than ever before, and we find ourselves making the case for art, craft and design education with increasing urgency. In March we worked in partnership with Oxford Brookes University Reflect, Recover, Refresh events programme, followed in April convening a joint round table with the Crafts Council to discuss practical approaches to the Recovery Curriculum.

The challenge of widening inequity and opportunity has been a common theme, across the UK, as the pandemic has shone a brutal light on the gaps between experience, that depend on who you are, and where you live. NSEAD members have produced incisive responses and practical action to the unfairness that the pandemic has revealed. One example is the impact of the ARAEA checklists. These checklists are being used widely to support teachers in all settings who wish to de-colonise and diversify their curriculum, ensuring that it is relevant and accessible for all learners. This includes our partners the Oak National Academy, who conducted an in-depth diversity review of their Art and design KS3 lessons, following a suggestion from a member of the NSEAD Council. Led by Marlene Wylie, the checklists are a key resource supporting this work.

The cuts announced in July for creative arts courses in HE only set the scene for the disappointment of the long-awaited spending review. We know that decisions made in Westminster resonate across the four nations, and we keep the interests of members across all four nations in mind as we lobby and advocate for our subject.

NSEAD contacts, links and collaborations

We developed a number of new relationships during this year and continued to work closely with established partners. NSEAD actively seeks to work with those organisations who share our aims and values, and we have been delighted to collaborate on a number of projects this year. This includes promoting the good work of others and engaging members with programmes such as the Crafts Councils school's competition 'Yinka's Challenge', the Photography Movements 'Show and Tell', Parentzones 'Find your Balance and Sky Arts' 'Access All Arts'.

We were pleased to collaborate with the National Governors Association to update and refresh the Arts Council England publication, Art, craft & design: A guide for governing boards.

In June I was privileged to join 'Renewing Education through artistic practice' - a think tank panel of leading arts educators from across the world, to discuss the most pressing questions raised for art education. 20 art educators from 18 countries. Organised by Professor Kerry Freedman (Northern Illinois University, USA) and Dr Carlos Escano (University of Seville, Spain), the film and website will be available to view next year.

CHEAD continue to be one of our closest allies, and I have been delighted to join their Trustee meetings to provide updates this year, as well as working with them and other members of the HEAD Trust to further the interests of Higher Education in our subject. Likewise, we have continued to support the Saturday Club, offering a reduced membership for Saturday Club tutors, who provide such an important bridge to higher education for secondary pupils.

We have worked with the exam boards to share updates and information, and we were particularly pleased to welcome representatives from AQA, OCR WJEC and Edexcel to a round table discussion to consider diversity in the exam curriculum in April.

I have attended regular meetings and developed joint working with key groups throughout the year, including the Primary Umbrella Group, the HE Subject Association Alliance, Artfund, Engage and the Council for Subject Associations.

NSEAD Governance

We welcomed Ron George, Eve Oliver, Fiona Donnelly and Kate Noble to Council in January 2019, thanking Nick Beavon, Paul Carney, Carla Mindel, Sarah Phillips, Tamar McClellan,

Katie Leonard and Deidre Robson as they completed their three-year term of office and handed on the baton. Liz MacFarlane stepped into the office of President, with the ongoing support and comradeship of Dr Rachel Payne. Huge thanks go to all those who steered us through these times of rapid change and unprecedented conditions for the Society, particularly our Finance and General Purposes Committee, who work tirelessly for us all.

NSEAD Forum and Specialist Interest Groups

Forum continued to meet virtually and lent their expertise to a of Special interest groups, who have led on a range of member priorities. Our thanks to Forum and the SIG chairs for the important work to produce resources, information and guidance – in particular, Initial Teacher Education, Cultural Capital, Better Practice, Examinations, Advocacy and Well Being.

Publications

In January we celebrated 10 years of AD magazine, to celebrate our birthday, and ten years of publication, our thirtieth issue was open access for everyone. AD is an outstanding member resource. With member led, cutting edge content and high production values, AD magazine can fairly claim to be the leading magazine for art, craft and design teachers and lecturers, gallery and museum educators, advisors and consultants, and anyone involved in or passionate about visual arts and design subjects. Our thanks go to Sophie Leach, for her inspired editorship, to Helen Adkins, AD copy editor, and to Steers McGillan Eves for their excellent design. In January, we held an 'AD Book club' event, aiming to create a space for readers to join AD authors in discussion. It was a great success, and we look forward to developing this and other ways to bring AD to a wider audience.

IJADE continues to enjoy a reputation as the foremost journal in the field under the leadership of Dr Deborah Riding as Principal Editor. However, the impact of open access is beginning to be felt, and as costs rise, and income falls, we will need to turn our attention to ensuring the best support for authors and defining the unique contribution that IJADE makes to the dissemination of ideas, practical developments and research findings in art and design education. Total revenue for 2021 for *International Journal of Art & Design Education* is £218,256. This is a decrease of 9.5% on 2020 revenue.

Total subscription revenue for 2021 was £173,176. This is a decrease of 5.9% compared to 2020. This is a combination of both a reduction in subscription sales and some subscription revenue migrating to Open Access revenue as part of Wiley's transitional deal agreements (Publish and Read deals).

Total open access revenue for 2021 was £10,497. This is a decrease of 29% compared to 2020. *IJADE* published 8 out of 51 online articles open access in 2021, all 8 of which were published under a Wiley transitional deal agreement.

The royalty due to NSEAD in 2021 was £21,604, down from £24,015 in 2020

Conferences and CPD

We have established a strong online CPD offer, responding to member needs and reaching more educators than ever. We work with experienced tutors and trainers from the NSEAD community who come with the highest professional standards, and a genuine interest in supporting colleagues with quality professional development. We have also organised a growing number of events that enable networking, connection and exchange of ideas.

Primary courses were particularly popular, with bespoke sessions for multi academy trusts in demand. We launched 'Mind the Art Gap' for our early career teachers, to complement early career framework and CPD entitlement launched by the DFE in September 2021.

We also worked in partnership with a number of providers. A highlight was 'Digital Art will save us' a free six-week course, developed by NSEAD supporter Greg Hodgson of EdgeGain in partnership with Adobe, especially for NSEAD members. Other partnerships included sessions for The National College and NASBTT.

Our conferences were also held entirely online, bringing a diversity of speakers and audiences that was greatly welcomed. Our national conference was programmed as a series of 'national conversations' in partnership with the National Gallery. IJADE 2021 'Hybrid Spaces: Re-imagining pedagogy, practice and research' was a triumph, with keynotes from Henry Giroux, Satish Kumar and Chila Kumari Burman.

Communicating with our members – and beyond

Following the launch of our new site in the last membership year, in January 2020, membership continued to grow. We experienced a number of difficulties with the website in the Autumn however and must apologise to members who experienced difficulties renewing membership as a result. We have continued to work with the developer of the site, Grandad Digital Limited to try to resolve technical issues. We have been able to share new content on an almost daily basis, a lifeline at a time when members have needed up to date information and resources at their fingertips.

Alongside the website, our regular newsletter continues to be an essential read, and valuable member benefit. Thanks go to the NSEAD office team, and to Sophie Leach, for this substantial fortnightly production.

Our social media activity and influence continues to grow and is increasingly the predominant means of connecting directly with members and showcasing the benefits of membership to the art education community. This is an area of our work that has become

increasingly demanding and will benefit from greater investment of time and resources in the future.

We established a network for our university based initial teacher educators at the start of the year, which has grown to include course leaders and tutors from almost every university based ITE course in the UK. This network provides valuable peer support, but also brings the expertise of our ITE colleagues directly into our community. It is a developing space for debate and collaboration.

Trade union matters

NSEAD has attended all meetings of the DFEs Stakeholder Advisory Group, set up to provide advice from across the education sector as we manage pandemic response and actions. We have worked closely with the TUC, attending General Council meetings, and agreeing position in tandem with the other trade unions representing the school and college workforce. Schools and colleges have been under enormous pressure amid intermittent closures, and the chaotic scenes preceding the second national lockdown in January 2021. Solidarity and a united front have been vital during this time. Our case work has dramatically increased over the past year, and we have worked hard to provide individual support, guidance and representation, including preparing cases for hearing at Employment Tribunal, and the Teacher Regulatory Authority. We have negotiated financial settlements for a number of members with highly favourable terms. Our members feedback that our service is excellent – we provide expert, personal and rapid support when it is most needed.

The All-Party Parliamentary Group for Art, Craft and Design in Education (ACD APPG)

Meetings have continued to be held online, attracting a wide range of supporters and a number of parliamentary members. In addition to full meetings, the APPG Chair called a number of evidence sessions, investigating the impact of the pandemic on art, craft and design education. A research group has been formed to present the findings of the sessions in a report that will be published in the Spring/ Summer of 2022. As secretariat for the group, NSEAD ensures that all papers and minutes of meetings are publicly available on our website. With thanks to Chair Sharon Hodgson MP, Vice Chair, the Earl of Clancarty and our APPG co-ordinator Susan Coles.

Preparing for the next membership year

During the summer we advertised for three newly created posts, to help meet the increasing needs of a growing membership. We were delighted to appoint Patricia Latorre, Sean Taylor and Diane Quinn as Digital and Communications manager, principal case worker and member engagement and events officer, respectively.

As the year drew to a close, we were delighted to be recognised by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation as a Backbone Organisation, a validation of the work that our members to

promote a civil society through art education. We have been awarded funding over five years, that will make a major contribution to our work. This secure funding, and our growing team give me great confidence that NSEAD will go on to achieve even more in the coming membership year. We work with you, and for you, **protecting** your interests as the art, craft and design educators' Professional Body. Thank you to each and every member for all that you do to work towards our vision of a just and equitable society that values high quality art, craft and design education.

Michele Gregson General Secretary of NSEAD

The Honorary Treasurers Report 2019-20



It is with immense pleasure that I can report that our financial affairs continue in a most positive direction something that has enabled the society to move forward with our ambitious expansion plans, employing new staff in the areas of social media and website development, union advice and CPD.

We have again seen a significant increase in subscriptions, which means new members as well as strong renewal from our loyal and excellent supporters, for which I say a 'Big Thank You' on behalf of our staff and the society. At the same time these accounts are a little unusual because we have benefitted from a number of 'one off' income streams from the sale of our headquarters in Corsham, to money from the Athena trust and a legacy, as well as being fortunate in receiving a grant of 16K from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation to support those aspects of our work that have been impacted by the pandemic.

However, our income comes from our members, and it is the power and loyalty of our members that enables the societies officers and staff to serve you and keep you informed of new developments, government policy changes and ideas. We have been fortunate to see an increase in membership and ask that you continue to persuade, invite and recruit new members to what is the only professional body, trade union and learned society for teachers and lecturers of Art, Craft and Design Education in the United Kingdom. Many art staff and lecturers are not familiar with the society or unaware of our existence, the society is open to all who are interested and involved in art education in any way, teachers, lecturers, consultants, artists and businesses, so please continue to talk to your colleagues and friends encouraging them to join the society at whichever level is appropriate to them.

I would like to thank all our staff, and the Finance and General-Purpose group, as well as council, but especially our General Secretary, Michele, and Sophie her deputy, whose energy, hard work and tireless enthusiasm have had a huge influence in both creating and maintaining our society and its stronger financial position.

John Childs, Honorary Treasurer.

Appendix 1: Members of Council and Staff from January 2021

Finance and General Purposes Committee

President: Liz MacFarlane
Immediate Past President Elect: Dr Rachel Payne
Vice President: Marlene Wylie
Vice President (job share) Dr Emese Hall
Vice President (job share) Patricia Brown
Honorary Treasurer: John Childs
Deputy General Secretary: Sophie leach

Council

Ron George
Fiona Donnelly
Eve Oliver
Kate Noble
Andy Ash
Paul Brennan
Juliet Alcaez

NSEAD Forum

Simon Columb
Kimberley Appleyard-
Pallot
Anne Pickard
Anne Louise Quinton
Bradley Hodgson
Amanda Skilton
Sue Gibbons
Liz Lawrence
Laura Stewart
Peter Gregory
Wilma Eaton
Debbi Wynne
Clare Stanhope

Staff

General Secretary: Michele Gregson
Deputy General Secretary and *AD* Editor: Sophie Leach
Communications Assistant: Pat Burnell
Office Assistant: Chloe Rowles

Appendix 2: Notice of the Annual General Meeting 2022

All members are invited to attend the 134th Annual General Meeting of the National Society for Education in Art and Design.

The AGM will be held on Saturday the 21 May at 11am. All members are invited to attend, and are asked to register their attendance via this link:

Agenda

1. To record attendance and to receive apologies for absence
2. President's opening remarks
3. To approve the minutes of the last AGM held by Zoom on Saturday 25 September
4. To consider any matters arising from the minutes
5. To receive and approve the General Secretary's report for 2020-21
6. To receive and approve the Honorary Treasurer's report for 2020-21
7. To receive and approve the report of the Auditors for 2020-21
9. To appoint auditors for the financial year 2021-22
10. AOB

Note: This draft agenda for the meeting is made available to all members of the Society to enable members to comply with Rule 4.22 which requires that 'Notice of any motion relative to the Constitution or of any other business shall be delivered in writing to the General Secretary at least twenty-eight days before the Annual General Meeting i.e., 23 April 2022. Any member of the Society may submit a motion for consideration at the Annual General Meeting through Council. To be eligible for consideration all such motions shall be submitted to the Annual General Meeting with the support of five members of the Council who shall appoint proposers and seconders.

Appendix 3: Statement to members

SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION**EXTRACTED FROM THE FULL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

<u>SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
Subscription income	243,549	218,504
Other income	162,322	62,909
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total income	405,871	281,413
Total expenditure	(279,988)	(241,086)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Result for the year before taxation	125,883	40,327
Tax charge for the year	(2,300)	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Result and comprehensive result for the year	123,583	40,327
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<u>SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>

	£	£
Fixed assets	2,248	231,301
Current assets	272,371	79,249
Current liabilities	(56,853)	(90,725)
Non-current liabilities	-	(125,642)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	217,766	94,183
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Reserves	217,766	94,183
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	217,766	94,183
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

SUMMARY OF SALARIES AND BENEFITS PROVIDED

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
M Gregson	General Secretary	Salary	£44,178
		Pension contributions	£1,191

The President and the members of the Council do not receive any salary from the Society or any benefits. The President and the members of the Council are reimbursed for any expenditure incurred by them in the performance of their duties on behalf of the Society, as is the General Secretary.

.....Column Break.....

STATUTORY DECLARATION

We are required by the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (Amended) to include the following declaration in this statement to all members. The wording is as prescribed by the Act.

"A member who is concerned that some irregularity may be occurring, or have occurred, in the conduct of the financial affairs of the union may take steps with a view to investigating further, obtaining clarification and, if necessary, securing regularisation of that conduct."

The member may raise any such concerns with such one or more of the following as it seems appropriate to raise it with: the officials of the union, the trustees of the property of the union, the auditor or auditors of the union, the Certification Officer (who is an independent officer appointed by the Secretary of State) and the police.

Where a member believes that the financial affairs of the union have been or are being conducted in breach of the law or in breach of rules of the union and contemplates bringing civil proceedings against the union or responsible officials or trustees, he should consider obtaining independent legal advice.”

Any member of the Society who wishes to obtain a copy of the full accounts for the year ended 30 September 2021 should contact the General Secretary at the National Society for Education in Art & Design, 3 Masons Wharf, Potley Lane, Corsham, Wiltshire, SN13 9FY, or by telephone on 01225 810134.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Set out below is the report of the independent auditors to the members as contained in the financial statements of the Society for the year ended 30 September 2021:

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The National Society for Education in Art & Design (the 'Society') for the year ended 30 September 2021 which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including 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 Society's affairs as at 30 September 2021 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Basis for our 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 Society in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC'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 statement, we have concluded that the Council'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 about the Society's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Council is responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion of the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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 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.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS (CONTINUED)

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

The Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (Amended) requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- A satisfactory system of control over transactions has not been maintained; or
- The Society has not kept proper accounting records; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the books of account; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we need for our audit.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of The Council

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities of the Council, the Council is 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 Council determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Council is responsible for assessing the Society'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 Council either intends to liquidate the Society 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 due 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:

As part of our planning process:

- We enquired of management the systems and controls the union has in place, the areas of the financial statements that are most susceptible to the risk of irregularities and fraud, and whether there was any known, suspected or alleged fraud. The union did not inform us of any known, suspected or alleged fraud.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the union. We determined that the following were most relevant: FRS 102 and the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (Amended).
- We considered the incentives and opportunities that exist in the union, including the extent of management bias, which present a potential for irregularities and fraud to be perpetuated, and tailored our risk assessment accordingly.
- Using our knowledge of the union, together with the discussions held with the union at the planning stage, we formed a conclusion on the risk of misstatement due to irregularities including fraud and tailored our procedures according to this risk assessment.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS (CONTINUED)

The key procedures we undertook to detect irregularities including fraud during the course of the audit included:

- Identifying and testing journal entries and the overall accounting records, in particular those that were significant and unusual.
- Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and determining whether accounting policies have been appropriately applied.
- Testing key revenue lines, in particular cut-off, for evidence of management bias.
- Obtaining third-party confirmation of material bank and loan balances.
- Documenting and verifying all significant related party balances and transactions.
- Reviewing documentation such as the national executive committee's board minutes, correspondence with solicitors, for discussions of irregularities including fraud.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. The primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of irregularities and fraud rests with management.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditors/audit-assurance>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report to the members of The Society

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

HW FISHER LLP

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditor

Date: 8 March 2022

Acre House

11 - 15 William Road

London NW1 3ER

United Kingdom

Any member of the Society who wishes to obtain a copy of the full accounts for the year ended 30 September 2019 should contact the General Secretary at the National Society for Education in Art and Design, 3 Masons Wharf, Potley Lane, Corsham, Wiltshire, SN13 9FY, or by telephone on 01225 810134.

Blank