

Treasurers Report 2020-21



BASE has continued to have a strong financial performance despite being a very challenging year with the onset of COVID19. This was mainly down to a strong performance from Inclusive Trading CIC, which has continued to deliver accredited training, non-accredited supported employment training, the SEQF quality audit and consultancy work. This resulted in being able to give a donation to BASE for £113,493.

We also received a sizeable donation from Gill Haran for the Kilimanjaro challenge. Because of Gill's health, this has had to be changed to an Arctic Survival Challenge in March. We are really grateful to her for her efforts on our behalf.

We also increased our membership numbers this year, resulting in a 15% increase in subscriptions to £71,943. Obviously last year we had to cancel our annual conference in Leicester. It was replaced by a series of virtual events and an online Annual General Meeting. This was a huge disappointment to us as it's always a unique time for our members to meet up, share good practice and develop working partnerships. We are delighted this year to be in a position to have a conference in Brighton at a much reduced rate. I am sure it will be extra special to be able to attend workshops and listen to great speakers this year.

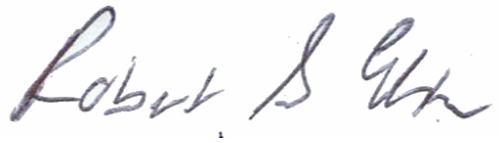
BASE still has a very flat structure, with currently one salaried member of staff. Also in March 2020, like the rest of the world, we moved to virtual meetings. This has meant that we had considerably less travel last year. In fact, we had a negative expense in a flight refund for a EUSE meeting. This was the main factor behind the £12,320 savings in expenditure this year. We have to be aware that planned recruitment will increase our staffing costs and this will present challenges going forward.

This year we again supported the Supported Business Steering Group with coordinating financial contributions. This supported them to be effective in lobbying the Government for a continuation of funding. BASE is simply invoicing for contributions to their work and managing expense claims.

With the increased income and the decreased costs, BASE made a surplus this year of £103,794. This means we have unrestricted funds of £292,449. This is larger than our reserves policy of six months trading and we will be continuing to seek ways to reinvest within the sector. We want to help our members in similar projects as the Supported Business Steering Group.

A funding sub-group has been set up to look at how we might fund research into areas of supported employment so that we can continue to improve all areas around the supported employment sector. Our continued surplus has largely been due to the work of Inclusive Trading CIC. With the great work of all the associates who have run the courses, both accredited and non-accredited, as well the quality audits and the consultancy work. All of this work fits into BASE aims and objectives. The surplus also means we are not reliant on

Government funds and therefore can be a critical friend and help lobby for policy changes to support our members.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert Elston". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

Robert Elston

BASE Treasurer