

Treasurer's Report 2018-19



The financial results for 2018-2019 have enabled BASE to consolidate its financial position. The continued success of the Certificate for Supported Employment Practitioners and demand for unaccredited training as well as our SEQF fidelity mark has meant that Inclusive Trading CIC, our trading company, has again produced a surplus. We also had a good conference, both in quality and for finance in Milton Keynes last year.

The work brought in for the Level 3 certificate in Supported Employment, the non-accredited training and the SEQF quality standards audits, has meant that Inclusive Trading was able to make a donation of £62,396 to BASE. Membership remained steady during the year netting an income of £57,825. These figures are a reminder how important the work of Inclusive Trading is to the continuation of our charitable work. Membership subscriptions alone are never enough to sustain the work that we do.

BASE has a very flat staff structure, using associates to help deliver courses. This not only keeps our costs down but they also deliver tremendous quality in their work and we would like to recognise what an asset their expertise is to us.

During the year, the BASE executive made a decision to financially support the work of the Supported Business Steering Group by donating £21,822. This enabled them to fund a consultant to help with influencing DWP policy to ensure that supported business get the best possible deal during the transitional period following the closure of Work Choice. The Support Business Steering Group has been working closely with DWP for nearly 18 months to find mechanisms to protect the employment of the thousands of disabled people working in Supported Businesses and to create an environment where the Supported Business sector may flourish to create even more opportunities. It also helped develop a new quality mark for Supported Businesses as well as to develop a new long-term element of Access to Work to continue support for those already working for a Supported Business and to help more disabled people join them.

All of this meant that BASE made a very small loss of £21 during the 2018-2019 year. We are still left with a very healthy reserve of £170,799. This is well within our reserve policy of having 6 month trading surplus. We currently have over 18 months operating costs.

It is also important to remember the work that BASE undertakes also fits into our aims and objectives of improving the quality of supported employment and a voice with our Government. The reserves will enable BASE to make prudent decisions to further the development of supported employment.

Robert Elston

Treasurer