LEARNING CITY NETWORK (A company limited by guarantee)

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2009

Charity Number 1083884

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**COMPANIES HOUSE** 

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DUNCAN STOPLIS CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS AND BUSINESS ADVISERS

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## LEARNING CITY NETWORK (also known as Learning Communities Network)

## Legal and administrative information

Trustees:

D.J. Matthews (Chair)

T. Anastasi A.R. Chapman E.M. Jones J. Khan

Secretary:

T. Anastasi

Registered Office:

111 Grantham Road

Bingham Nottingham NG13 8DF

Accountants

Duncan & Toplis

Chartered Accountants

3 Castlegate Grantham Lincs. NG31 6SF

Bankers

HSBC Bank plc 1 Shelford Road Radcliffe-on-Trent Nottinghamshire NG12 2AE

**Solicitors** 

Martineau Johnson St Phillips House St Phillips Place Birmingham B3 2PP

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2009

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2009. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (issued in March 2005) and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee and was set up on 22nd October 1999. It is governed by a memorandum and articles of association. Its objects are to advance education, particularly but not exclusively, by the development of learning partnerships between cities and communities and partnership between educational organisations, the voluntary sector and business; and to promote lifelong learning and urban and social regeneration.

#### Review of activities and future developments

Due to continuing educational cutbacks and to offer support to existing members, the charity's reserves have been utilised through the waiving of members' fees for the year whilst the trustees consider future actions.

Since membership has been declining for the last three years and the charity's core activities involve sharing information, support and advice, the trustees consider that the value of the network risks being compromised unless the charity's activities are revised.

Overseas activities, in terms of forging partnerships, took place in the year, an example being a delegation from South Korea visiting learning cities showcasing their various local lifelong learning initiatives and facilitating networking with local government officials. The twinning of UK learning cities with South Korean learning cities/regions has been suggested as a potential future project.

The trustees have agreed the contents of a letter to be distributed to existing members setting out proposals for consideration and response on the future of the charity. This letter will be distributed to members in February 2010 and agreement reached, by the end on that month, regarding the future operating mode or cessation of the charity in the year to 31 March 2011. In making this decision, the trustees will give due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year is set out on page 5 of the financial statements. A summary of the financial results and the work of the charity is set out below.

#### Income generation

Due the charity having waived membership fees for the year, as referred to above, its income for the year was generated from investment income.

#### Investment policy and returns

The charity retains its funds in an instant access, interest bearing bank account. During the year, the charity has received interest of £1,057 (2008: £1,955) on these funds.

### Resources expended and services

During the year the charity has held network activities and meetings, providing opportunities to exchange ideas and experiences, involving members of other organisations and government departments, as appropriate, thus promoting the objects of the charity.

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2009 (continued)

### Reserves

During the year, the charity has incurred a deficit of £5,575 (2008: £1,700) which has been deducted from reserves as set out on page 5. The deficit is in accordance with the trustees expectations since, as referred to earlier in this report, membership fees were waived for the year.

### Volunteers

The charity is grateful for the unstinting efforts of its volunteers who are involved in promoting its objects.

This report was approved by the Board on 26 / 1 / (c

T Anastasi - Director and Trustee

# CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF LEARNING CITY NETWORK

In accordance with our terms of engagement and in order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Companies Act 1985, we have compiled the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes from the accounting records and information and explanations you have given to us.

This report is made to the trustees, as a body, in accordance with the terms of our engagement. Our work has been undertaken so that we might compile the financial statements that we have been engaged to compile, report to the trustees that we have done so and state those matters that we have agreed to state to them in this 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 company and the trustees, as a body, for our work or for this report.

We have carried out this engagement in accordance with technical guidance issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales and have complied with the ethical guidance laid down by the Institute relating to members undertaking the compilation of financial statements.

You have acknowledged on the Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2009 your duty to ensure that the company has kept proper accounting records and to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view under the Companies Act 1985. You consider that the company is exempt from the statutory requirement for an audit for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit of the financial statements. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the financial statements.

Duncan & Toplis
Chartered Accountants

3 Castlegate Grantham Lincs NG31 6SF

Dated: 27th January 2010

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2009

	Notes	2009 £	2008 £
Incoming resources:			
Voluntary income - members' fees Investment income	2		9,650 1,955
Total incoming resources		<u>1,057</u>	<u>11,605</u>
Resources expended:			
Charitable activities: Members' support and services		998	3,394
Governance costs: Management and administration Miscellaneous small items		5,466 168	9,559 <u>352</u>
Total resources expended		<u>_6,632</u>	13,305
Movement in total funds for the year - Net deficit for the year		(5,575)	(1,700)
Total funds brought forward		<u>58,060</u>	<u>59,760</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>52,485</u>	<u>58,060</u>

## **BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2009**

	Notes	2009 £	2008 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>55,161</u>	<u>60,810</u>
		55,161	60,810
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	4	(2,676)	(2,750)
Net assets		<u>52,485</u>	<u>58,060</u>
Funds:			
Unrestricted income funds			
General funds	5	<u>52,485</u>	<u>58,060</u>

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 249A(1) of the Companies Act 1985 for the year ended 31st March 2009.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2009 in accordance with Section 249B(2) of the Companies Act 1985.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 221 of the Companies
  Act 1985 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 in accordance with the requirements of Section 226 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 1985 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies, the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (issued in March 2005) and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007).

T Anastasi - Director and Trustee

T. Arabasi

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

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## NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2009

#### 1 Accounting policies

#### (a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (issued in March 2005), the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007) and The Companies Act 1985.

## (b) Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member.

## (c) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds, which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

#### (d) Incoming resources

Members' fees are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) in the year for which they are receivable. Deferred income represents amounts receivable for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the relevant period.

Other incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

## (e) Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for, on an accruals basis inclusive of any irrecoverable VAT and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

## 2 Investment income

2008	2009
£	£
1.955	1.057

Interest receivable

## NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2009

### Staff costs and trustees' remuneration

There were no employees and no wages were paid during the year (2008: £nil). The trustees neither received nor waived any emoluments during the year (2008: £nil). The trustees were reimbursed £75 (2008: £247) in respect of travelling and subsistence during the year.

Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	2009 £	2008 £
Accruals and deferred income	<u>2,676</u>	<u>2,750</u>
	<u>2,676</u>	<u>2,750</u>

#### General funds

The General reserve represents the free funds of the charity which are not designated for particular purposes.