COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER 03095982

THE SOCIETY OF PENSION PROFESSIONALS (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

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MEMBERS OF COUNCIL AND ADVISERS

Chairman

Sir James Hodge (resigned 01/07/2019)

Members of Council Aberdeen Standard Investments Aon Aviva Barnett Waddingham LLP Buck Capita Employee Benefits Limited	Accredited Representative Natalie WinterFrost Paul McGlone Andrew Bayfield Stephen Hitchiner Mark Pemberthy Andrew Short	*
Building and Civil Engineering Holidays Scheme	Gregg McClymont	
Management Limited (The People's Pension) Herbert Smith Freehills LLP	Ian Gault	*
Hogan Lovells International LLP	Edward Brown	*
Hymans Robertson LLP	Lindsay Davies	*
Jardine Lloyd Thompson Benefit Solutions	James Auty	(resigned 22/05/2019)
KPMG LLP	James Riley	*
Linklaters LLP	Nicholas Laird	*
Mercer	Sam Hall	(appointed 22/05/2019)
NOW: Pensions	Nigel Waterson	(resigned 22/05/2019)
PAN Trustees Limited	Roger Mattingly	(resigned 22/05/2019)
Pinsent Masons LLP	Matthew de Ferrars	,
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP	Deborah Wilson	*
Prudential PLC	Beverley Morris	
Sacker & Partners LLP	Claire Carey	*
Spence & Partners	Hugh Nolan	*
Squire Patton Boggs (UK) LLP	Clifford Sims	*
The Law Debenture Pension Trust Corporation PLC	Edward Levy	
Willis Towers Watson	Sanjay Gupta	
XPS Pensions Group	Jonathan Seed	

Individuals and organisations listed above as members of Council served for the whole year to 31 December 2019 except as otherwise indicated.

Those individuals marked with an asterisk above are members of Council in their own name. Other accredited representatives are not members of Council but the organisations they represent are members of Council.

Bankers

National Westminster Bank PLC Villiers House 38 Strand London WC2N 5JB

Solicitors

DAC Beachcroft LLP 100 Fetter Lane London EC4A 1BN

Auditor

Ecovis Wingrave Yeats LLP Waverley House 7-12 Noel Street London W1F 8GQ

Registered Office

Quantum House 22-24 Red Lion Court London EC4A 3EB

COUNCIL'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

Council presents its report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019.

Principal activities

The Society of Pension Professionals' principal activities are and will continue to be:

- to draw upon the knowledge and experience of members, so as to contribute to legislation and other general developments affecting pension and related benefit provision; and
- to provide members with services useful to their business.

Result

There was a surplus for the year of £1,553 (2018: £6,917).

Dividends

The articles of association prohibits the payment of dividends and states all income and property of the Society shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its objectives.

Statement of the Responsibilities of Council

Council are responsible for preparing Council's Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Council to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Council have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. Under company law the Council must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, Council are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Society will continue in business.

COUNCIL'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019 (Continued)

Council are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Society's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of Disclosure of Information to the Auditor

In so far as the members of Council are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the Society's auditor is unaware; and
- The members of Council have taken all the steps they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Reappointment of Auditor

The auditors, Ecovis Wingrave Yeats LLP, will be proposed for reappointment in accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

Small Company Provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies of the Companies Act 2006.

By Order of Council

J. Mortimer

Secretary

Date: 22/1/2020

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR TO THE MEMBERS

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Society of Pension Professionals for the year ended 31 December 2019, set out on pages 8 to 18. 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).

This report is made solely to the Company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 Company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 2019 and of its surplus for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for 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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the members' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the members have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties
 that may cast significant doubt about the Company's ability to continue to adopt the going
 concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the
 financial statements are authorised for issue.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR TO THE MEMBERS (Continued)

Other information

The members are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Auditors' Report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 a 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.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Council's Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Council's Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of director's remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- · we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the members were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Council's Report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR TO THE MEMBERS (Continued)

Responsibilities of Council

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Responsibilities of Council on page 3, the members are 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 members 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 members are responsible for assessing the Company'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 directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' 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 Auditors' 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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. The description forms part of our Auditors' Report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 Company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Stuart Hinds (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of **Ecovis Wingrave Yeats LLP**

Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor Waverley House 7-12 Noel Street London W1F 8GQ

Date: 11 March 2020

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
Income			
Subscriptions receivable		410,844	404,146
SPP dinner	4	29,440	29,698
Round table meetings	4	<u>=</u>	3,000
POD service		180	180
	3	440,464	437,024
Expenditure		·	,
Employment costs	5	231,108	241,723
SPP dinner	4	25,299	28,593
Rent, rates, lighting, heating and cleaning		65,687	67,411
Public relations		24,786	22,686
Telephone and postage		5,962	3,626
Printing, design, stationery and publications		13,942	15,310
Travelling and entertaining		831	1,077
Auditor's remuneration		7,560	7,200
Auditor's remuneration – non-audit		5,040	5,820
Accountancy fees		2,160	520
Professional fees		3,318	509
Meeting expenses		1,149	4,856
Leasing of equipment		5,806	5,974
Repairs, maintenance of equipment and technical support		5,415	5,399
Insurance		7,258	7,550
Depreciation		5,590	6,150
Miscellaneous expenses		1,860	6,366
Videoing of SPP events		6,300	<u> </u>
Recruitment costs: Chief Executive Officer		20,154	-
	•	439,225	430,250
	÷		

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019 (Continued)

Surplus for the year before interest receivable		1,239	6,774
Interest receivable		388	177
Surplus for the year before taxation Taxation	7	1,627 (74)	6,951 (34)
Surplus for the year after taxation		1,553	6,917

All of the activities of the Society are classed as continuing. The Society had no gains or losses for the year other than those set out above. The notes on pages 11 to 18 form an integral part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2019

	Note	2019	2018
Tangible fixed assets	8	£ 6,927	£ 11,983
Current assets			
Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	9	28,900	65,205
Cash at bank and in hand		261,292	215,916
		290,192	281,121
Current liabilities Amounts falling due within one year	10	(132,716)	(130,254)
Net current assets		157,476	150,867
Total net assets		164,403	162,850
Reserves			
Income and expenditure account	11	164,403	162,850

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A – Small entities.

The financial statements were approved by Council on 22/1/behalf by:

2020 and were signed on its

Paul McGlone President

577921

Sanjay Gupta Hon Treasurer

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER 03095982

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form an integral part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

1. Statutory information

The Society of Pension Professionals is a private company, limited by guarantee, domiciled and registered in England and Wales, registration number 03095982. The registered office is Quantum House, 22-24 Red Lion Court, London, England, EC4A 3EB.

2. Principal accounting policies

A summary of the significant accounting policies which have been applied consistently is set out below.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Section 1A of Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, except where the special nature of the Society's operations has required adoption of the required formats as allowed by Section 396 of the Companies Act 2006.

The preparation of financial statements in compliance with FRS 102 requires the use of certain critical accounting policies (see note 3).

The following principal accounting policies have been applied:

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are recorded at their initial purchase cost, together with any incidental costs of acquisition.

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Furniture & Fittings

20% straight line

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019 (continued)

2 Principal accounting policies (continued)

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisitions and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

Financial Instruments

The Company only enters into basic financial instruments transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade and other debtors and creditors and loans from or to third parties.

Debt instruments that are payable or receivable within one year, typically trade payables or receivables, are measured, initially and subsequently, at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received. However if the arrangements of a short-term instrument constitute a financing transaction, like the payment of a trade debt deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate or in case of an outright short-term loan not at market rate, the financial asset or liability is measured, initially, at the present value of the future cash flow discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument and subsequently at amortised cost.

Financial assets that are measured at cost and amortised cost are assessed at the end of each reporting period for objective evidence of impairment. If objective evidence of impairment is found, an impairment loss is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

For financial assets measured at cost less impairment, the impairment loss is measured as the difference between an asset's carrying amount and best estimate, which is an approximation of the amount that the Company would receive for the asset if it were to be sold at the balance sheet date.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the balance sheet when there is an enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Subscriptions receivable

The Society's subscription year runs from 1 April to 31 March, and accordingly the portion received and applicable to the period from 1 January to 31 March is carried forward in current liabilities as subscriptions received in advance. Subscriptions receivable are recognised on an accruals basis.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019 (continued)

2 Principal accounting policies (continued)

Creditors

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other financial liabilities, including bank loans, are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Finance costs

Finance costs are charged to the statement of comprehensive income over the term of the debt using the effective interest method so that the amount charged is at a constant rate on the carrying amount. Issue costs are initially recognised as a reduction in the proceeds of the associated capital instrument

Operating lease agreements

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs

The Society participates in a pension scheme of the defined contribution type. The scheme's assets are held separately from those of the Society and are independently administered. The Society also makes contributions to employees' personal pension schemes.

The pension cost charged to the income and expenditure account represents the Society's contributions payable in respect of the accounting year. No amounts were outstanding in respect of pensions as at 31 December 2019 (2018: £nil).

Borrowing costs

All borrowing costs are recognised in the income and expenditure account in the year in which they are incurred.

Taxation

The current income tax charge is calculated on the basis of tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date in the countries where the company operates and generates income.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019 (continued)

3. Judgements in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Leases

Judgement is used to determine whether leases entered into by the company as a lessor are operating leases or finance leases. These decisions depend on an assessment of whether the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred from the lessor to the lessee on a lease by lease basis.

Impairment of tangible fixed assets

Management continually use judgement to ascertain whether there are indicators of impairment of the company's tangible fixed assets. Factors taken into consideration in reaching such a decision include the economic viability and expected future financial performance of the asset and where it is a component of a larger cash-generating unit, the viability and expected future performance of that unit.

Tangible fixed assets

Fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. In re-assessing asset lives, factors such as technological innovation, product life cycles and maintenance programmes are taken into account. Residual values consider issues such as future market conditions, the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values.

4. Surplus from fundraising activities

			2019	2018
	Income	Expense	Surplus	Surplus
	£	£	£	£
SPP dinner	29,440	25,299	4,141	1,105
Round table meetings	12	12	-	3,000
	29,440	25,299	4,141	4,105

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019 (continued)

5. Employees

The average monthly number of employees, including the Directors, during the year was as follows:

	Employees	2019	2018
6.	Pension contributions		
	Staff pension contributions	2019 £ 30,322	2018 £ 32,242
7.	Taxation		
		2019 £	2018 £
	Current tax: UK Corporation tax based on the results for the period at 19% (2018: 19%)	74	34
	Tax on profit on ordinary activities	74	34

As in previous years the ordinary activities of the company do not amount to trade carried on a commercial basis with a view to a profit. The surplus for the year ended 31 December 2019, is not taxable for corporation tax purposes. The only taxable activity of the company remains that of its non-trade loan relationship, where interest of £388 (2018: £177) was received in the year ended 31 December 2019, giving rise to a tax liability of £74 (2018: £34).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019 (continued)

8.	Tangible fixed assets		
			Furniture &
			Fittings £
	Cost		ı.
	At beginning of year		59,078
	Additions		534
	Disposals		(179)
	At end of year		59,433
	Depreciation		
	At beginning of year		47,095
	Charge for the year		5,590
	On disposals		(179)
	At end of year		52,506
	Net book value		\ <u></u>
	At 31 December 2019		6,927
	At 31 December 2018		11,983
9.	Debtors		
		2019	2018
		£	£
	Amounts falling due within one year	•	~
	Trade debtors	7,537	40,776
	Other debtors	307	9
	Prepayments and accrued income	21,056	24,429
		28,900	65,205

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019 (continued)

10. Creditors falling due within one year

		2019	2018
		£ 2019	2018 £
		T	ı.
	Trade creditors	1,809	144
	Corporation tax	73	33
	Other taxation and social security costs	4,888	12,564
	Other creditors	144	-
	Accruals and deferred income	125,802	117,513
		132,716	130,254
11.	Reserves		
		2019	2018
		£	£
	Balance brought forward	162,850	155,933
	Surplus in year	1,553	6,917
		(
	Balance carried forward	164,403	162,850

12. Commitments under operating leases

At 31 December 2019 the Society had future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2019		2018	
	Land & Buildings	Other items	Land & Buildings	Other items
	£	£	£	£
Not later than one year Later than one year and not later than	51,552	3,563	51,552	4,804
five years	·	6,386	51,552	9,948
Total	51,552	9,949	103,104	14,752

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019 (continued)

13. Members' liability and voting rights

Members of the Society undertake to contribute to the assets of the Society in the event that it is wound up during the time that he is a member, or within one year afterwards, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the Society contracted before he ceases to be a member and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required not exceeding £1.

Members have one voting paper each with a vote value equal to the number of units of subscription payable for the year.

14. Related party transactions

During the year ended 31 December 2019 there were no transactions with related parties (2018: none). All income is received from the Society's members in both the current and prior year.