Company registration number: 08610815

SOMERSET SKILLS & LEARNING CIC FILLETED ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021



24/03/2022 COMPANIES HOUSE

SOMERSET SKILLS & LEARNING CIC CONTENTS

Balance Sheet

Notes to the Financial Statements 2 to 13

SOMERSET SKILLS & LEARNING CIC (REGISTRATION NUMBER: 08610815) BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 JULY 2021

·	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	4	95,765	160,327
Investments	5	190,951	
		286,716	160,327
Current assets			
Debtors	6	586,682	564,709
Cash at bank and in hand		1,034,126	1,081,801
		1,620,808	1,646,510
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	7	(575,954)	(494,873)
Net current assets		1,044,854	1,151,637
Net assets excluding pension asset/(liability)		1,331,570	1,311,964
Net pension liability		(2,188,000)	(1,853,000)
Net liabilities		(856,430)	(541,036)
Capital and reserves			
Defined benefit pension reserve		(2,188,000)	(1,853,000)
Profit and loss account		1,331,570	1,311,964
Total equity		(856,430)	(541,036)

These financial statements have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006. The option not to file the profit and loss account and directors' report has been taken.

Approved and authorised by the Board on $\frac{8}{3}$ and signed on its behalf by:

K M Baker Director

1 General information

The company is a private company limited by share capital, incorporated in England and Wales.

The address of its registered office is:

Courtenay House Blackbrook Park Avenue Taunton Somerset TA1 2PX

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 Section 1A - 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared using the historical cost convention except that as disclosed in the accounting policies certain items are shown at fair value.

These financial statements are presented in Sterling (£).

Going concern

The directors assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the company to continue as a going concern.

Like many similar companies, the company's accounts are affected by the FRS102 accounting adjustments for its membership of the defined benefit Local Government Pension Scheme ("LGPS") which have resulted in a higher profit and loss account charge than the cash contributions required and also result in a large provision in the company's balance sheet. Without the inclusion of the long-term pension liability the company's balance sheet would report net assets.

The Directors have considered the impact of Covid-19 on the operations of the company. The company has been able to alter the method of delivery of their courses to a virtual format where possible which has limited the impact, and therefore the primary risks to the company arise from availability of government funding and resources. The company remains primarily government funded and the Directors have taken due care and attention in obtaining indications that the government will continue to fund both the Community Learning Contract for the company and more general adult learning at this time. The Directors also consider that the company has sufficient resources and contracts to enable the continued deliverance of services where appropriate.

The directors make an assessment of going concern in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for at least this period and there are no material uncertainties about the company's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting when preparing the financial statements.

Turnover recognition

Turnover comprises the fair value of the consideration received or receivable for the sale of goods and provision of services in the ordinary course of the Company's activities. Turnover is shown net of sales/value added tax, returns, rebates and discounts and after eliminating sales within the company.

The Company recognises revenue when:

- the amount of revenue can be reliably measured; and
- it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the entity; and
- specific criteria have been met for each of the Company's activities.

Income is recognised in relation to course fees once the CIC becomes entitled to the funding. This varies from funder to funder, but can be at registration, certain milestones throughout the course or at completion.

Where funding has been received in advance of the course beginning, or where repayment would be required in the case of a course cancellation, this money is deferred until the recognition criteria are met.

Government grants

Income from grants and government grants, whether 'capital' or 'revenue', is recognised when the company has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. Government grants represent assistance by government, government agencies and similar bodies, for training courses.

Tax

The tax expense for the period comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the profit and loss account, except that a change attributable to an item of income or expense recognised as other comprehensive income is also recognised directly in other comprehensive income.

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

Deferred income tax is recognised on timing differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements and on unused tax losses or tax credits in the Company. Deferred income tax is determined using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets are reviewed at each reporting date and a valuation allowance is set up against deferred tax assets so that the net carrying amount equals the highest amount that is more likely than not to be recovered based on current or future taxable profit.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are stated at cost, less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

The cost of tangible assets includes directly attributable incremental costs incurred in their acquisition and installation.

Depreciation of tangible assets

Depreciation is charged so as to write off the cost of assets, other than land and properties under construction over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

Asset class

Furniture, fittings and equipment Property improvements Software development

Depreciation method and rate

20% - 33% straight line 20% straight line 33% straight line

Business combinations

Business combinations are accounted for using the purchase method. The consideration for each acquisition is measured at the aggregate of the fair values at acquisition date of assets given, liabilities incurred or assumed, and equity instruments issued by the group in exchange for control of the acquired, plus any costs directly attributable to the business combination. When a business combination agreement provides for an adjustment to the cost of the combination contingent on future events, the group includes the estimated amount of that adjustment in the cost of the combination at the acquisition date if the adjustment is probable and can be measured reliably.

Investments

Investments in equity shares which are publicly traded or where the fair value can be measured reliably are initially measured at fair value, with changes in fair value recognised in profit or loss. Investments in equity shares which are not publicly traded and where fair value cannot be measured reliably are measured at cost less impairment.

Interest income on debt securities, where applicable, is recognised in income using the effective interest method. Dividends on equity securities are recognised in income when receivable.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the company will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Other debtors comprise amounts due from funders, prepayments and accrued income. Amounts due from funders are recognised when the company is entitled to the money, prepayments arise from the payment for services prior to benefit from those services, and accrued income is amounts due for services provided, recognised at the point of provision of the services.

Creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the Company does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Other financial liabilities are measured initially at fair value net of transaction costs and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Reserves

The profit and loss account includes all current and prior period profits and losses.

The defined benefit pension reserve represents the pension deficit for the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Leases

Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases are charged to profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Defined contribution pension obligation

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the company in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quinquennial valuations using a prospective benefit menthod. The TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

Defined benefit pension obligation

The Local Government Pension Scheme ("LGPS") is a funded scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the company. Typically defined benefit plans define an amount of pension benefit that an employee will receive on retirement, usually dependent on one or more factors such as age, years of service and compensation.

The liability recognised in the Balance Sheet in respect of defined benefit pension plans is the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the reporting date minus the fair value of plan assets. The defined benefit obligation is measured using the projected unit credit method. The present value of the defined benefit obligation is determined by discounting the estimated future payments by reference to market yields at the reporting date on high-quality corporate bonds that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits will be paid, and that have terms to maturity approximating to the terms of the related pension liability.

Actuarial gains and losses are charged or credited to other comprehensive income in the period in which they arise.

3 Staff numbers

The average number of persons employed by the company (including directors) during the year was 93 (2020 - 92).

4 Tangible assets

	Furniture, fittings and equipment £	Software development in £	Leasehold property mprovements £	Portable buildings £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 August 2020	130,390	54,433	124,851	11,500	321,174
Additions	2,438	-	-	-	2,438
Disposals	(8,831)	<u> </u>			(8,831)
At 31 July 2021	123,997	54,433	124,851	11,500	314,781
Depreciation					
At 1 August 2020	89,884	18,144	49,940	2,879	160,847
Charge for the year	23,310	18,144	24,970	576	67,000
Eliminated on disposal	(8,831)				(8,831)
At 31 July 2021	104,363	36,288	74,910	3,455	219,016
Carrying amount					
At 31 July 2021	19,634	18,145	49,941	8,045	95,765
At 31 July 2020	40,506	36,289	74,911	8,621	160,327

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5	Investments			
	Investments in subsidiaries		2021 £ 190,951	2020 £
	THYCSTRETTS IT Subsidiaries			
	Subsidiaries			£
	Cost or valuation Additions		_	190,951
	Carrying amount			
	At 31 July 2021		-	190,951
;	Debtors			
		Note	2021 £	2020 £
	Trade debtors		4,792	1,655
	Amounts owed by group undertakings and undertakings in			
	which the company has a participating interest		27,590 554,300	-
	Other debtors		554,300	563,054
	Total current trade and other debtors		586,682	564,709

Included within other debtors is a deferred tax asset of £370,443 in relation to the defined benefit pension scheme.

7 Creditors

,	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Due within one year			
Trade creditors		185,567	128,762
Taxation and social security		48,569	35,132
Corporation tax		34,051	51,436
Other creditors	_	307,767	279,543
	_	575,954	494,873

8 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the scheme and amounted to £140,445 (2020 - £118,023).

Contributions totalling £42,071 (2020 - £37,563) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

Defined benefit pension schemes Local Government Pension Scheme

Local Government Pension Scheme

The date of the most recent comprehensive actuarial valuation was 31 July 2021.

The total cost relating to defined benefit schemes for the year recognised in profit or loss as an expense was £615,000 (2020 - £534,000).

Reconciliation of scheme assets and liabilities to assets and liabilities recognised

The amounts recognised in the statement of financial position are as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Fair value of scheme assets	2,585,000	1,983,000
Present value of defined benefit obligation	(4,773,000)	(3,836,000)
Defined benefit pension scheme deficit	(2,188,000)	(1,853,000)

Defined benefit obligation		
Changes in the defined benefit obligation are as follows:		
		2021 £
Present value at start of year		3,836,000
Current service cost		588,000
Interest cost		54,000
Actuarial gains and losses		251,000
Benefits paid		(30,000)
Contributions by scheme participants		74,000
Present value at end of year		4,773,000
Fair value of scheme assets		
Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:		
·		2021 £
Fair value at start of year		1,983,000
Interest income		29,000
Return on plan assets, excluding amounts included in interest income	335,000	
Employer contributions		196,000
Contributions by scheme participants		74,000
Benefits paid		(30,000)
Administration expenses		(2,000)
Fair value at end of year		2,585,000
Analysis of assets		
The major categories of scheme assets are as follows:		
	2021 £	2020 £
Cash and cash equivalents	103,000	105,000
Equity instruments	1,880,000	1,390,000
Property	186,000	161,000
Other bonds	269,000	206,000
Gilts	147,000	121,000
	2,585,000	1,983,000

Return on scheme assets		
	2021 £	2020 £
Return on scheme assets	364,000	35,000

The pension scheme has not invested in any of the company's own financial instruments or in properties or other assets used by the company.

Principal actuarial assumptions

The principal actuarial assumptions at the statement of financial position date are as follows:

	2021 %	2020 %
Discount rate	1.60	1.40
Future salary increases	3.80	2.20
Future pension increases	2.80	2.20
Post retirement mortality assumptions		
	2021 Years	2020 Years
Current UK pensioners at retirement age - male	23.00	23.00
Current UK pensioners at retirement age - female	24.00	25.00
Future UK pensioners at retirement age - male	24.00	25.00
Future UK pensioners at retirement age - female	26.00	26.00

9 Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

The Teachers Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for teachers. All teachers have the option to opt-out of the TPS following enrolment.

The TPS is an unfunded to which both member and employer makes contributions, as a percentage of salary - there contributions are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2016. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 5 March 2019.

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy).
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £22,000 million.
- the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 2.4% above the rate of CPI. assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return including earnings growth is 4.45%.

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2023.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £118,000 (2019 - £114,000).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website.

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is a multi-employer pension scheme. The company has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The company has set out above the information available on the scheme.

10 Financial commitments, guarantees and contingencies

Amounts not provided for in the balance sheet

The total amount of financial commitments not included in the balance sheet is £632,713 (2020 - £446,843). The total commitment is due over the following periods: £150,642 (2020 - £125,546) in one year, £376,321 (2020 - £326,228) in two to five years and £105,750 (2020 - £nil) in more than five years.

11 Audit Report

The Independent Auditor's Report was unqualified. The name of the Senior Statutory Auditor who signed the audit report on 22 March 2022 was Michelle Ferris BSc(Hons) FCA DChA, who signed for and on behalf of Albert Goodman LLP.

00012/15 CIC 34

Community Interest Company Report

	For official use (Please leave blank)	
Please complete in	Company Name in full	Somerset Skills & Learning CIC
typescript, or in bold black capitals.	Company Number	08610815
oupriuio.	Year Ending	31/07/2021

This template illustrates what the Regulator of Community Interest Companies considers to be best practice for completing a simplified community interest company report. All such reports must be delivered in accordance with section 34 of the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Act 2004 and contain the information required by Part 7 of the Community Interest Company Regulations 2005. For further guidance see chapter 8 of the Regulator's guidance notes and the alternate example provided for a more complex company with more detailed notes.

PART 1 - GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPANY'S ACTIVITIES AND IMPACT

In the space provided below, please insert a general account of the company's activities in the financial year to which the report relates, including a description of how they have benefited the community.

SS&L is embedded in the County of Somerset, and in 20/21 delivered from 5 centres and 30+ community venues in order to provide accessible learning opportunities for all. We worked with over 250 employers across Somerset and delivered partnership provision with in excess of 30 other providers and community organisations. Learning continued throughout the pandemic by successfully moving the majority of our provision to an on-line platform.

SS&L provides an extensive range of lifelong learning opportunities for people of all ages, at times and in locations, which are convenient for them.

Delivery included:

- Community Learning (CL): this is largely targeted provision delivered with community partners through the Community Learning Partnership (CLP), which aims to maximise access to learning across Somerset. Our strategy aims to focus this funding on people who are disadvantaged and least likely to participate in learning. The CLP also aims to promote social renewal and maximise the impact of community learning on the social and economic well-being of individuals, families and communities.
- Adult skills delivery: this provision included classroom-based delivery focussing on maths, English and digital skills, as well as qualifications relating to our sector specialisms: Early years, supporting teaching and learning in schools, social care and business administration. In 2020/21 we introduced a comprehensive distance learning programme covering many areas; social care, counselling, mental health etc. Our curriculum offer is directly linked to the needs of our communities, and it is designed to meet identified skills gaps. The provision also offers progression routes to both employment and further and higher education.
- 16-24 traineeships: these programmes are designed to provide young people with the skills and confidence to progress into sustainable apprenticeships, employment or further education.
- Apprenticeships we deliver these in the following sectors: early years, supporting teaching and learning in schools, business administration, customer service and team leading

IMPACT:

We delivered learning opportunities to 6,526 learners. We supported 32 local community partners to deliver Community Learning projects in the Community to those furthest from education and training, Over 99% of learners achieved their aims in Community Learning, with 38% of our learners progressing into employment or further education. 37% report an increase in community involvement and developed personal skills. 57% reported an increase in mental health and well-being as a direct result of our programmes. 75% of learners achieved an apprenticeship, and 80% achieved a qualification. Our traineeships supported 70 younger learners; this provision allows them to explore career options and upskill themselves in preparation for the world of work and further learning. We employ 92 staff members with the vast majority living in the local area. Our oldest learner was 92!

(If applicable, please just state "A social audit report covering these points is attached").

(Please continue on separate continuation sheet if necessary.)

PART 2 – CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS – Please indicate who the company's stakeholders are; how the stakeholders have been consulted and what action, if any, has the company taken in response to feedback from its consultations? If there has been no consultation, this should be made clear.

The CIC's key stakeholders are:
CIC Staff
Learners (Somerset Residents)
Somerset Employers
Key Funding Partners
Partners / Sub Contractors
Town councils
Somerset County Council and District Councils.

Ofsted - We are inspected by Ofsted on a regular basis- our most recent inspection was in June 2017

PART 2 - CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS

Our culture of continuous improvement and evaluative annual self-assessment report is underpinned by a range of consultation activities, including a whole management approach to learner / customer feedback evidenced by learning walks in classrooms (including remote), Listening to Learners events, regular learner and employer surveys, a formal programme of performance reviews.

The CIC has a well-established customer complaint / compliments process and the results of this is reported quarterly to the senior management team. Safeguarding concerns are reported directly to our Designated Safeguarding Officer.

In 2020/21 learner feedback on all areas remained consistently high with 96% of learners saying said they would recommend SS&L to family and friends. Any concerns raised by learners are followed up with remedial actions put in place.

Findings from our stakeholder consultation process, form, part of the CIC's annual Self Assessment report. The report is a comprehensive annual overview of the organisations performance, outcomes and improvement. This is accompanied by a comprehensive and detailed Quality improvement plan.

(If applicable, please just state "A social audit report covering these points is attached").

PART 3 – DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION – if you have provided full details in your accounts you need not reproduce it here. Please clearly identify the information within the accounts and confirm that, "There were no other transactions or arrangements in connection with the remuneration of directors, or compensation for director's loss of office, which require to be disclosed" (See example with full notes). If no remuneration was received you must state that "no remuneration was received" below.
Somerset Skills & Learning CIC had 9 Directors in 2020/2021. 5 are members of staff and 4 are Non-Executive Directors. No director remuneration was received.
PART 4 - TRANSFERS OF ASSETS OTHER THAN FOR FULL CONSIDERATION - Please
insert full details of any transfers of assets other than for full consideration e.g. Donations to
outside bodies. If this does not apply you must state that "no transfer of assets other than for
full consideration has been made" below.
No transfer of assets other than for full consideration has been made
·
(Please continue on separate continuation sheet if necessary.)
•

PART 5 - SIGNATORY

The original report must be signed by a director or secretary of the company

Signed KMBALV	
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Date 7/3/22

Office held	(delete as	appropriate.	Director/Secretary
		appi opi iato	

You do not have to give any contact information in the box opposite but if you do, it will help the Registrar of Companies to contact you if there is a query on the form. The contact information that you give will be visible to searchers of the public record.

	Tel	
DX Number	DX Exchange	

When you have completed and signed the form, please attach it to the accounts and send both forms by post to the Registrar of Companies at:

For companies registered in England and Wales. Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF14 3UZ DX 33050 Cardiff

For companies registered in Scotland: Companies House, 4th Floor, Edinburgh Quay 2, 139 Fountainbridge, Edinburgh, EH3 9FF DX 235 Edinburgh or LP – 4 Edinburgh 2

For companies registered in Northern Ireland: Companies House, 2nd Floor, The Linenhall, 32-38 Linenhall Street, Belfast, BT2 8BG