

PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH CENTRE LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2008

CONTENTS AND COMPANY INFORMATION

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DIRECTORS:

C B Zealley (Chairman)  
A O Thorold  
M Frankel  
P C Medawar  
B Lee-Harwood  
F Armstrong  
J Alty

SECRETARY: P C Medawar

REGISTERED OFFICE:

Y Plas  
Machyalleth  
Powys  
SY20 8ER

REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1112242

CHARITY NUMBER: 266446

BANKERS:

Royal Bank of Scotland  
28 Cavendish Square  
London  
W1M 0DB

Triodos Bank  
Brunel House  
11 The Promenade  
Bristol  
BS8 3NN

AUDITORS:

Prentis & Co LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
& Registered Auditors  
115c Milton Road  
Cambridge  
CB4 1XE

TUESDAY



## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2008

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2008.

## STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Company Law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- (i) Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- (ii) Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- (iii) State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Companies Act 1985 and with applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- (iv) Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, and is therefore governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. In the event of the company being wound up the liability of the members is limited to £1.

## APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors has the power to appoint additional members.

## DIRECTORS TRAINING

Directors of the company keep their knowledge of the charity section up to date as necessary. The company secretary briefs them at regular intervals on activity.

In the event of new Directors being admitted the company would ensure that they had a suitable induction process.

## ORGANISATION

The charity is organised so that the directors meet when required (currently on a quarterly basis) to oversee the administration of the charity. The objects are attained with the services of project staff (currently three) and volunteers (currently two) with the services of one full-time researcher who utilises the funds as needed to carry out planned research. There have been no changes in the policies adopted to achieve the charitable objectives during the year.

## RISK

The directors keep the areas of risk under review and it is on the agenda for their meetings.

## OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The charity's object is to research the organisation and activity of government, industry, business, trade, the professions and the services and to assess their impact on the environment and life of the community and to make the result of such research available to and for the benefit of the public. Its policies in carrying out the objects remain unchanged.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2008

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS CONT.....

## ACHIEVEMENTS, PERFORMANCE AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The past year has seen Public Interest Research Centre Limited develop its new focus on environment, energy and economics, with specific focus on climate change and renewable energy. Public Interest Research Centre Limited completed a major report entitled Climate Safety and has given evidence on the same to the Environmental Audit Committee. The last year has seen Public Interest Research Centre Limited broaden the base of its funding. The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust has provided one year of core funding and a number of other trusts outlined in these accounts have valuably contributed to Public Interest Research Centre Limited's work and its financial stability as it moves forward.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

The statement of financial activities shows net income for the year of £25516 (2007: £26332 net deficit). Resources stand at £31153 at the year end. Grants have been reducing but costs maintained carefully to ensure that adequate reserves are maintained.

## RESERVES

The directors try to ensure that the charity has sufficient cash reserves to meet three months running costs, as funding is generally provided quarterly.

## DIRECTORS

All directors of the company are also trustees of the charity, and there are no other trustees. All of the trustees named below served throughout the year. The Board has power to appoint additional trustees as it considers fit to do so.

C B Zealley (Chairman)

A O Thorold

M Frankel

P C Medawar

B Lee-Harwood

F Armstrong

J Alty

## AUDITORS

The Auditors, Prentis & Co LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment in accordance with Section 385 of the Companies Act 1985.

This report, which has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 applicable to small companies, was approved by the Board on 15 January 2010 and signed on its behalf.



C B ZEALLEY  
DIRECTOR

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2008

## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH CENTRE LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements of Public Interest Research Centre Limited for the year ended 31st December 2008 which comprise of the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. 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 auditor's 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's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

## RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS AND AUDITORS

As described in the Statement of Directors Responsibilities the charity's trustees who are also the directors of Public Interest Research Centre Limited for the purposes of company law are responsible for the preparation of financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Auditing Standards. (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Directors' Report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the charitable company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding Directors remuneration and transactions with the company is not disclosed.

We read the Directors' Report and consider whether it is consistent with the audited financial statements. We consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within the financial statements. Our responsibilities do not extend to any other information.

## BASIS OF OPINION

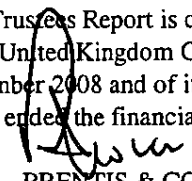
We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issue by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgement made by the Board in the preparation of financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

We have undertaken the audit in accordance with the requirements of APB Ethical Standards including APB Ethical Standard - Provisions Available for Small Entities, in the circumstances set out in note 5 to the financial statements.

## OPINION

In our opinion the information given in the Trustees Report is consistent with the financial statements. The financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st December 2008 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure. In the year then ended the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.



PRENTIS & CO LLP

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
& REGISTERED AUDITORS

115c Milton Road  
Cambridge  
CB4 1XE

18 January 2010

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2008

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING AN INCOME &amp; EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2008 Total	2007 Total
INCOMING RESOURCES FOR GENERATED FUNDS				£	£
Voluntary income:					
Grants and Donations	2	78763	11500	90263	24438
Activities for generating funds:					
Miscellaneous income		-	-	-	150
Investment income	3	181	-	181	705
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		<u>78944</u>	<u>11500</u>	<u>90444</u>	<u>25293</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable activities:					
Research work and other charitable activity		58816	3500	62316	49967
Governance costs		2612	-	2612	1658
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	4	<u>61428</u>	<u>3500</u>	<u>64928</u>	<u>51625</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR	5	17516	8000	25516	(26332)
Total funds brought forward		5637	-	5637	31969
Total funds carried forward		<u>23153</u>	<u>8000</u>	<u>31153</u>	<u>5637</u>

None of the companies activities were acquired or discontinued during the year and there were no recognised gains or losses for 2007 or 2008 other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The notes on pages 6 to 9 form part of these financial statements.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2008

## BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	2008 £	2007 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets	7	3857	1394
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Stocks		1859	-
Debtors	8	1392	281
Cash at bank and in hand		29577	7660
		<u>32828</u>	<u>7941</u>
<b>CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year</b>	9	<u>5532</u>	<u>3698</u>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>27292</u>	<u>4243</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>31153</u>	<u>5637</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Unrestricted funds	11	23153	5637
Restricted funds		8000	-
		<u>31153</u>	<u>5637</u>

The financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 applicable to small companies, were approved by the Board on 15 January 2010 and signed on its behalf.



C B ZEALLEY  
DIRECTOR

The notes on pages 6 to 9 form part of these financial statements.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2008

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## (a) BASIS OF PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and include the results of the charity's operations which are described in the Directors' Report and of all which are continuing.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities, (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005 applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 1985.

## (b) INCOMING RESOURCES

Grants and donations are recognised when there is entitlement.

## (c) RESOURCES EXPENDED

Expenditure includes all costs directly incurred on charitable projects being run by the Charity. It is recognised when it is incurred.

## (d) VALUE ADDED TAX

Expenditure includes VAT where appropriate.

## (e) TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible assets at rates calculated to write-off the costs less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Computer equipment - over 4 years

Fixtures, fittings, tools and equipment - over 8 years

## (f) STOCKS

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items. Cost includes all direct expenditure.

## (g) OPERATING LEASES

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor, are charged against profit as incurred.

## (h) PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS

The institution participates in the Universities Superannuation Scheme, a defined benefit scheme which is externally funded and contracted out of the State Second Pension (S2P). The liabilities are valued every three years by a professional qualified independent actuary using the projected unit method, the rates of contribution payable being determined by the trustee on the advice of the actuary. In the intervening years, the actuary reviews the progress of the scheme. Pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of the actuary, based on the latest actuarial valuation of the scheme, and are accounted for on the basis of charging the cost of providing pensions over the period during which the institution benefits from the employees' services.

## (i) FOREIGN CURRENCIES

Monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate ruling on the date of the transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the operating profit.

## (j) CASH FLOW STATEMENTS

The company, being a company of small size within the meaning of the Companies Act 1985, has used the exemption provided by Financial Reporting Standard No: 1 under which they are not required to include a cash flow statement as part of their financial statements.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2008

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2.	GRANTS AND DONATIONS RECEIVED	Unrestricted 2008 £	Restricted 2008 £	Total 2008 £	Total 2007 £
	Grants received during the year				
	A Thorold	25000	-	25000	-
	Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	31519	3500	35019	15000
	The Marnot Charitable Trust	-	8000	8000	-
	The 1970 Trust	3000	-	3000	3000
	General donations	4393	-	4393	1288
	Other income	14851	-	14851	5150
		<u>78763</u>	<u>11500</u>	<u>90263</u>	<u>24438</u>
3.	INVESTMENT INCOME			2008 £	2007 £
	Interest received on UK cash deposits			181	705
4.	RESOURCES EXPENDED ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITY	2008 Unrestricted £	2008 Restricted £	2008 Total £	2007 Total £
	Research salaries	36874	-	36874	35335
	Research costs	3313	3500	6813	1000
	Computer support	768	-	768	739
	Travelling expenses	5181	-	5181	4450
	Publications	2104	-	2104	1000
	Telephone	1078	-	1078	810
	Office rent and utilities	2969	-	2969	2730
	Stationery and office supplies	1308	-	1308	825
	Office and equipment repair and maintenance	141	-	141	449
	Postage	297	-	297	464
	Books, subscriptions etc.	487	-	487	791
	Bank charges	301	-	301	234
	Miscellaneous expenses	1485	-	1485	78
	Depreciation	1202	-	1202	852
	Seminar costs	1308	-	1308	210
		<u>58816</u>	<u>3500</u>	<u>62316</u>	<u>49967</u>
	GOVERNANCE COSTS				
	Audit			2612	1658
5.	SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR				
	The excess of income over expenditure for the year is stated after charging:			2008 £	2007 £
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets owned by the Charity			1202	852
	Audit fee			2612	1658

## MANAGEMENT THREAT IN RELATION TO NON-AUDIT SERVICES

In common with many other businesses of our size and nature we use our auditors to prepare and submit returns to the tax authorities and assist with the preparation of the financial statements.



## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2008

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 6. STAFF COSTS

No remuneration was paid to directors during the year nor were any expenses reimbursed to them. The staff costs were:

	2008	2007
	£	£
Salaries	34597	32389
Social security costs	2277	2351
Pension costs	-	395
	<u>36874</u>	<u>35135</u>

There were no pension contributions paid for staff during the year.

The average weekly number of staff employed by the charity during the year was:

	2008	2007
Direct charitable workers	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>

No employee received remuneration of more than £25000.

## 7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Office Equipment £	Computer Equipment £	Fixtures and Fittings £	Total £
<b>COST</b>				
Balance at 1.1.08	-	11093	3030	14123
Additions	1425	2197	43	3665
Balance at 31.12.08	<u>1425</u>	<u>13290</u>	<u>3073</u>	<u>17788</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>				
Balance at 1.1.08	-	9699	3030	12729
Charge for the year	208	992	2	1202
Balance at 31.12.08	<u>208</u>	<u>10691</u>	<u>3032</u>	<u>13931</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE at 31.12.08</b>	<u>1217</u>	<u>2599</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>3857</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE at 31.12.07</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>1394</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1394</u>

## 8. DEBTORS

	2008 Due within one year £	2007 Due within one year £
Accrual income	329	-
Prepayments	777	-
Other debtors	5	-
Social Audit Ltd	281	281
	<u>1392</u>	<u>281</u>

## 9. CREDITORS

	2008 Due within one year £	2007 Due within one year £
Taxation and social security	1016	-
Accruals	2159	1835
Other creditors	2357	1863
	<u>5532</u>	<u>3698</u>

## 10. SHARE CAPITAL

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have any share capital. The liability of the Members is limited to £1 each in the event of the company being wound up.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2008

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

11.	MOVEMENTS OF FUNDS	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
		£	£	£
	Balances brought forward at 1.1.08	5637	-	5637
	Incoming resources	78944	11500	90444
	Outgoing resources	61428	3500	64928
	Balances carried forward at 31.12.08	<u>23153</u>	<u>8000</u>	<u>31153</u>
12.	RESTRICTED FUNDS			Funds carried forward at 31.12.08
		Grants Received	Expenditure	
		£	£	£
	Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	3500	3500	-
	The Marmot Charitable Trust - (Zero Carbon Offices Grant)	8000	-	8000
		<u>11500</u>	<u>3500</u>	<u>8000</u>
13.	CONNECTED ORGANISATIONS			
	The charity has connections with an associated company limited by guarantee, Social Audit Ltd, which has common directors.			
	The balance due to the charity is £281 (2007: £281). Accounts are not consolidated as there are no material net assets.			
14.	RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS			
	During the year a donation for Core Funds of £25000 was made by a Trustee, A O Thorold.			