

**THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS
EDUCATIONAL TRUST**

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020**

**(REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 313219)
(REGISTERED WITH OSCR SC039200)**

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

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THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

The Trustee submits its annual report and financial statements of the charity (Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2020. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Trust's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published in October 2019 (Charities SORP (FRS102)).

Structure, governance and management

The Trust was established by Trust Deed on 13 December 1972. Its principal object is the advancement of education in accountancy, financial management and related subjects. Its other objects are the support of individuals studying such subjects and the awarding of prizes in connection with ACCA examinations. There is also a general power to do any other things conducive to the principal object.

The Trust is registered by the Charity Commission for England and Wales, registration number 313219 and by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator, registration number SC039200. Its sole Trustee since establishment has been, and continues to be, The Certified Accountants Educational Trustees Limited, a company wholly owned by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA). New trustees can be elected at the Annual General Meeting if appropriate.

Helen Brand was a director of the corporate Trustee for the whole of the year while Mark Millar was appointed as a director on 25 April 2019. Lee Chi Ming resigned as a director on 25 April 2019. The directors of the corporate Trustee meet once a year to approve the annual financial statements. ACCA's Accountancy Futures Academy identifies and explores issues of major significance for the global accountancy profession and informs ACCA's research and insights by developing a network of high-level contributors to ACCA's work. The ACCA UK Strategy Implementation Committee, a sub-committee of ACCA, meets twice a year and has oversight over all of ACCA UK's activities. This includes the review of the provision of core Continuing Professional Development products.

ACCA's Chief Executive and Executive Team are responsible for the management of the Trust and they delegate the day-to-day responsibilities of organising educational courses, publishing of educational content, dealing with research grant applications and the financial administration of the Trust to the appropriate ACCA employees.

The Trust has developed a Trustee Induction pack for the directors of the Corporate Trustee, which includes a copy of the Trust Deed, the last three years' financial statements, recent minutes and a copy of the Charity Commission guidance 'The Essential Trustee'. Training needs will be identified and where appropriate training will be arranged for those directors.

Objectives and activities

The policies adopted by the Trustee to further the objects of the Trust have been, and continue to be, to promote the ACCA qualification among potential students and to provide ACCA students with educational publications, past examination questions and answers, a digitalised magazine called *Student Accountant* and careers information. In addition, the Trust provides conferences and courses for ACCA members, produces technical publications and promotes accounting research. The Trust receives income from advertising in respect of the students' magazine, and from courses and educational materials. ACCA bears certain central overheads on behalf of the Trust and provides lecturers for some of its educational activities. The Trust is, however, not significantly dependent on the services of volunteers or on donations in kind.

The Trust's funds comprise unrestricted funds and three restricted funds. The Simpson Scholarship Fund was established by a legacy from Miss M I Simpson in November 1983 for the purpose of establishing and maintaining scholarships, such that the whole of the principal and interest may be expended within a period of 25 years from the date of the bequest following which a decision would be taken to reclassify it as unrestricted if appropriate. Applicants are required to submit an essay detailing how the award of a scholarship would help the student reach their full potential. Submissions are reviewed by a panel appointed by the Trustee and scholarships are awarded to assist payment of subscription fees and exam related costs. The Trustee has considered that it is appropriate to continue to treat the Simpson Scholarship Fund as restricted, as it is a separate charity recognised with OSCR.

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Objectives and activities (continued)

In August 2013, the Trust received a donation of £100,000 which was used to set up the ACCA Scholarship Fund. The scholarships have been awarded annually to two final year university undergraduates studying accounting and finance degrees at state-run universities in ACCA's growth markets in Africa and South Asia. By awarding the scholarships to final year undergraduates studying relevant degrees the Trust will be benefiting students who are already showing commitment to a career in accounting and finance through their choice of degree. Students attending a state-run university may be more deserving of financial support to continue their studies (compared with private universities where students are more likely to be able to afford to go on and study for ACCA). Final year students will be better positioned and ready to take the next step to studying for a professional accountancy qualification and also more likely to progress with their ACCA studies and qualify to membership. The scholarships will cover all ACCA fees, tuition fees with an ACCA Approved Learning Provider and all study texts. Applicants have been required to submit an essay explaining how and why they would benefit from receiving the scholarship/what it would mean to receive the scholarship. Representatives from ACCA and the universities have made up the panel to award the scholarships. During the year ACCA reviewed the criteria of the Scholarship and agreed to use some funds to allow African students begin their ACCA journey and give them access to the e-campus online tuition platform of Premier Business School, who are ACCA's Strategic Partner in Africa. 497 students enrolled at a cost of £28,975. The Trustee has considered that it is appropriate to treat the ACCA Scholarship Fund as a restricted fund.

The Prize Fund was established by an endowment and provides the funds to award prizes to students as appropriate. The Trustee has considered that it is appropriate to treat the Prize Fund as a restricted fund.

Financial review

A deficit of £830,539 arose in the year (2019: surplus £20,189). During the year, the Trust's expenditure on its charitable objects was £3,520,852 (2019: £4,234,602). This comprised direct expenditure on charitable activities of £2,688,326 (2019: £3,192,502), and support and governance costs of £832,526 (2019: £1,042,100). The financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2020 are shown on pages 7 to 17. The statement of financial activities on page 7 shows the incoming resources available to the Trust and the extent to which its funds have been spent. This, together with the balance sheet on page 8, shows that the current value of the Trust's restricted and unrestricted funds is £5,910,634 (2019: £6,741,173).

The Trust's total income of £2,715,893 (2019: £4,249,890) was sufficient to meet all direct charitable expenditure as well as the Trust's governance costs. Included in the income figure is income received through Gift Aid donations from ACCA and its subsidiaries of £nil (2019: £nil) and other donations from ACCA relating to support costs of £2,014 (2019: £2,014). Technical and professional education income of £2,177,747 (2019: £2,399,909) is made up of income received from the delivery of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) courses and e-business initiatives.

The Trust held £93,801 (2019: £108,048) in bank balances at 31 March 2020 and, in the Trustee's opinion, both the restricted and unrestricted funds are sufficient to allow the Trust to pursue its charitable activities in the future.

COVID-19 impact

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the operations of all entities globally and in particular on the activities of charities. In the last month of the year the Trust had to cancel many face-to-face events and also for most of the following year, although it has allowed for the development of online events. Fortunately, there has been minimal impact on the Trust's other activities as it has continued to provide all of the services, a lot of which are carried out online. ACCA has carried out various stress tests on its ability to operate, the results of which were positive. The Trustee continues to monitor the changing operational landscape and impact on assets and related income.

Reserves policy

The Trustee reviews the reserves of the charity annually. The review encompasses the nature of the income and expenditure streams and the expected donations from ACCA and its subsidiaries. The Trustee's policy is, generally, to maintain reserves at a level to be able to fund its activities, and to be able to fund any new strategic initiatives. In the light of the funding provided by ACCA, the Trustee considers that the balance of the unrestricted fund is satisfactory.

Grant making policy

The Trust has established its grant making policy to meet the objects of public benefit by advancing the clarity and ethical basis of both corporate and business reporting. Applicants for grants are selected by the Research Team who will review the applications and look for areas of research which will best promote ACCA's public values and best contribute to ACCA's Research and Insights program.

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Risk management

The Trustee has examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the Trust faces and confirms that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks. The Trust generates income from CPD courses which are becoming more and more freely available online and there is a risk of lower future revenues from this source if participants decide to pursue CPD activities via a different route.

Achievements and performance

During the year, the Trust organised 132 (2019: 149) courses throughout the UK for members of ACCA and others. These courses were attended by some 7,497 (2019: 8,558) participants. The Trust also organised 83 (2019: 107) regional network events. These events were attended by 3,738 (2019: 7,672) participants. The Trust is satisfied with the results as it is recognised that there are alternative ways of undertaking CPD and that there has been an economic downturn. Towards the end of the year all events had to be cancelled because of the impact of Covid-19 and that has carried through to the next financial year. The future of face-to-face CPD has obviously had to be considered and ACCA has been agile in that all CPD offerings have been carried out online since March 2020 although it should be noted that they are now carried out by another of ACCA's group companies, Certified Accountants Educational Projects Limited, and therefore no longer impacts the Trust.

The Trust provides 10 monthly Student Accountant Direct (SAD) magazines to students in a digital format. During the year, 14,074,052 e-mails containing the regular and special editions of SAD and other educational content were delivered to students (2019: 15,357,446). The Trust printed 2 editions (2019: 2 editions) of Accountancy Futures and distributed 26,684 (2019: 34,613) copies of the publication during the year. The Trust also awarded 22 (2019: 22) Simpson Scholarships to ACCA students which amounted to £7,393 (2019: £5,975), and awarded the ACCA Scholarships to 499 ACCA students (2019:2) which amounted to £29,350 (2019: £246).

Public benefit

In setting the objectives and planning the activities the Trustee has considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The Trust's principal charitable purpose is the advancement of education in accountancy, financial management and related subjects. The Trust provides educational courses which can be attended by any potential beneficiaries. There is no requirement for those beneficiaries to be members of ACCA. The Trust also provides scholarships to ACCA students whereby their fees and subscriptions are funded from the Scholarship funds. The provision of the education allows the beneficiary to further advance their career. In addition, ACCA's contributions to global economic, financial and regulatory policy-making are founded upon a strong belief in the reality of the "public interest" and the need to advance the transparency and ethical basis of both business and corporate reporting. The Trust's educational courses assist the beneficiary in understanding how they can contribute to this. The Trust therefore meets the public benefit requirement by providing the means to advance education in accountancy and related subjects for beneficiaries throughout the UK, including Scotland, and those beneficiaries do not need to be ACCA members or students.

Plans for the future

The aim of the Trust is to continue to support ACCA members and students throughout their careers in accounting, business and finance. However, following a review of ACCA's overall activities, the CPD courses have been transferred to another ACCA group company for operational purposes.

ACCA's research and insights explores issues that matter in accountancy and the wider world. Through that research, the Trust and ACCA engage the profession, business, policy makers, standard setters, educators and the public to analyse current issues, challenge thinking, project future scenarios and provide practical insights. The ongoing research and insights covers a wide range of subjects, including finance transformation, sustainability, corporate reporting, risk and reward, audit and access to finance. The Trust will continue to promote the Accountancy Futures work as this forum contributes to our research and insights work with powerful visions of the future. It provides a platform to look forward to; to tune into the emerging trends and discussions in the global business and policy spheres and the latest reforms facing the world of finance.

The Trust will continue to embrace digital technology and provide the necessary media and forums to allow ACCA to engage more effectively with members and students. The Trust also looks forward to awarding further scholarships to ACCA students under both the ACCA Scholarship and Simpson Scholarship Funds in the forthcoming year.

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Fundraising

The Trust does not actively fundraise and has not employed any third party to fundraise on its behalf. As such the Trust is not a member of the Fundraising Regulator.

Reference and administrative information

Corporate Trustee

The Certified Accountants Educational Trustees Limited

Directors of Corporate Trustee

Helen Brand

Lee Chi Ming (resigned 25 April 2019)

Mark Millar (appointed 25 April 2019)

Principal Office

110 Queen Street, Glasgow, G1 3BX

Independent Auditor

Grant Thornton UK LLP, Victoria House, 199 Avebury Boulevard, Milton Keynes, MK9 1AU

Principal Banker

Barclays Bank plc, Aurora, 1st Floor, 120 Bothwell Street, Glasgow, G2 7JT

Key management personnel remuneration

The Trustee considers that the Chief Executive of ACCA and that organisation's Executive Team as comprising the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling the charity on a day-to-day basis. Those personnel are remunerated by ACCA and there are no direct salary costs incurred by the Trust. The Trustee gives of its time freely and no trustee remuneration was paid in the year. There are no trustee expenses.

Trustee's responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Trustee is responsible for preparing the Trustee's Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, and the regulations made thereunder, requires the Trustee to prepare financial statements for each financial year in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust and of the incoming resources and application of the resources, including the income and expenditure, of the Trust for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustee is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles set out in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Trust will continue in business.

The Trustee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Trust's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the provisions of the trust deed. The Trustee is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustee is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

Insofar as the Trustee is aware at the time of approving the Trustee's annual report:

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the Trust's auditor is unaware, and
- the Trustee, having made relevant enquiries, has taken all steps that it is obliged to take as a Trustee in order to make itself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Grant Thornton UK LLP have expressed a willingness to continue in office and a resolution to re-appoint them will be proposed at the annual general meeting.

By order of the Trustee



Helen J Brand
Director of The Certified Accountants Educational Trustees Limited
25 March 2021

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Notes				
Income				
<i>Donations</i>				
2 Donations from ACCA	—	2,014	2,014	2,014
15 Gift Aid donations from ACCA and subsidiaries	—	—	—	—
Total donations	—	2,014	2,014	2,014
<i>Income from charitable activities:</i>				
Technical and professional education	2,177,747	—	2,177,747	2,399,909
Career promotion, student activities and advertising	398,351	—	398,351	1,752,812
Qualifications development	134,797	—	134,797	92,387
<i>Other income</i>				
Income from Investments	—	2,984	2,984	2,768
Total income	2,710,895	4,998	2,715,893	4,249,890
Expenditure				
3 <i>Expenditure on charitable activities:</i>				
Education	2,607,799	—	2,607,799	2,917,929
Research	250,156	—	250,156	485,781
Careers promotion and student activities	610,052	38,757	648,809	823,420
Shared services	14,088	—	14,088	7,472
Total expenditure	3,482,095	38,757	3,520,852	4,234,602
Net (losses)/gains on investments	—	(25,580)	(25,580)	4,901
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds	(771,200)	(59,339)	(830,539)	20,189
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds at 1 April	6,469,695	271,478	6,741,173	6,720,984
Total funds at 31 March	5,698,495	212,139	5,910,634	6,741,173

All amounts relate to continuing activities.

The accompanying notes to the financial statements, on pages 10 to 19, are an integral part of this statement.

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2020

		31 March 2020 £	31 March 2019 £
Notes			
	Fixed assets		
8	Tangible assets	—	—
9	Investments	33,929	59,509
		33,929	59,509
	Current assets		
10	Debtors	5,924,120	7,428,111
	Cash at bank	93,801	108,048
		6,017,921	7,536,159
11	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	141,216	854,495
	Net current assets	5,876,705	6,681,664
	Net assets	5,910,634	6,741,173
	Funds		
12	Unrestricted	5,698,495	6,469,695
13	Restricted	212,139	271,478
		5,910,634	6,741,173

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustee on 25 March 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:



Helen J Brand
Director of The Certified Accountants Educational Trustees Limited

The accompanying notes to the financial statements, on pages 10 to 19, are an integral part of this statement.

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	31 March 2020 £	31 March 2019 £
Notes		
14 Net cash used in operating activities	(17,231)	(48,165)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Interest and dividends	2,984	2,768
Net cash provided by investing activities	2,984	2,768
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(14,247)	(45,397)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	108,048	153,445
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	93,801	108,048

The accompanying notes to the financial statements, on pages 10 to 19, are an integral part of this statement.

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

1 Accounting policies

The following accounting policies are considered material in relation to the Trust's financial statements:

(a) *Basis of preparation*

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the inclusion of fixed asset investments at market value, and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

(b) *Critical accounting estimates and judgements*

The preparation of financial statements, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles, requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of income and expenditure during the reporting period. Although these estimates are based on the Trustee's best knowledge of current events and actions, actual results ultimately may differ from those estimates.

The estimates and assumptions which have the most significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities relate to the recognition of income. The Trustee is comfortable that management has the appropriate processes in place to ensure that income is recognised in the correct period.

(c) *Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis*

The Trustee considers that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. In arriving at this conclusion the Trustee considered both the impact of Covid-19 on the Trust and the letter of financial support it received from its ultimate parent, the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA).

Due to the global spread of Covid-19 and the extraordinary measures enacted by governments around the world, ACCA's revenue streams have been significantly impacted. ACCA has stress tested various scenarios on their ability to operate and have approved the use of new technologies and a new 5 year budget. Under the various scenarios identified, ACCA would still be able to operate and provide any support required to the Trust for a period of 12 months after the signing of the financial statements.

The Trust has a debtor of £5.8 million (2019: £6.5 million) due from its parent company, ACCA, at 31 March 2020. ACCA has confirmed to the Trustee that it would settle this debtor on demand should it be requested to do so and has the resources to enable it to repay.

At the time of approving the financial statements the Trustee has a reasonable expectation that the Trust will be able to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and that there are no material uncertainties about its ability to continue as a going concern.

(d) *Expenditure recognition*

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Trust to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Research grants are payments made to third parties in furtherance of the charitable objectives of the Trust. Single or multi-year grants are accounted for when either the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant and the Trustee has agreed to pay the grant without condition, or the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant and any condition attaching to the grant is outside the control of the Trust. Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient.

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

1 Accounting policies (continued)

(e) *Income recognition*

All income is recognised once the Trust has entitlement to the resources, it is probable that the resources will be recovered and the monetary value of incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability. Donations are recognised when receivable.

(f) *Foreign currencies*

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the exchange rate in operation on the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate in operation at the balance sheet date. All revaluation differences and realised foreign exchange differences are taken to the statement of financial activities.

(g) *Charitable activities*

Costs of charitable activities include the provision of educational courses to ACCA members, promotion of the ACCA qualifications, promotion of accounting research, advertising in the digital publication Student Accountant Direct and an apportionment of support and governance costs as shown in notes 3 and 4.

(h) *Allocation of support and governance costs*

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs relating to statutory audit and professional fees together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs. Support costs relate to staff costs incurred by ACCA in pursuance of the Trust's charitable activities. The allocation of support and governance costs is analysed in notes 4 and 5.

(i) *Operating leases*

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

(j) *Tangible fixed assets and depreciation*

Tangible fixed assets are stated at depreciated cost. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write-off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

- leasehold improvements - over the period of the lease;
- computer systems and equipment - over 4 years;
- plant and machinery - over 4 to 7 years.

(k) *Fixed asset investments*

Fixed asset investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price.

All investments are carried at their fair value. Investment in equities and fixed interest securities are all traded in quoted public markets, primarily the London Stock Exchange. The basis of fair value for quoted investments is equivalent to the market value, using the bid price. Asset sales and purchases are recognised at the date of trade at cost (that is their transaction value).

(l) *Realised and unrealised gains and losses*

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase price if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year-end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

1 Accounting policies (continued)

(m) *Cash at bank and in hand*

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

(n) *Funds: Unrestricted and restricted funds*

The unrestricted general funds represent the amounts retained to ensure the continuing charitable activities of the Fund.

The restricted funds represent funds subject to specific restrictions imposed by the donors. The purpose of the unrestricted funds and use of the restricted funds are set out in the report of the Trustee.

(o) *Grant-making*

Grants are accounted for when either the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant and the Trustee has agreed to pay the grant without condition, or the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant and any condition attaching to the grant is outside the control of the Trust.

(p) *Financial instruments*

Financial instruments recognised in the balance sheet include cash and cash equivalents, available-for-sale investments, receivables and prepayments and trade and other payables. Financial instruments are initially valued at fair value. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the asset have expired. Financial liabilities are derecognised when the obligation under the liability is discharged or cancelled or expires.

The Trust assesses at each balance sheet date whether a financial asset is impaired. Where a financial asset shows an indicator of impairment, it is tested to assess whether it should be specifically impaired. The recoverable amounts of financial assets are calculated by discounting the estimated future cash flows using the original effective interest rate. Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying value, an impairment loss is recognised. Subsequent to recognising that impairment, the impairment may be recovered if an event occurred that reverses the impairment indicator.

Subsequent to initial recognition, financial instruments are measured as set out below.

Trade receivables

Trade receivables are carried at original invoice amount less provision made for impairment of these receivables. A provision for impairment of trade receivables 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 receivables. The amount of the provision is the difference between the carrying amount and the recoverable amount, being the present value of expected cash flows.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are carried in the balance sheet at cost. For the purposes of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand or bank overdraft and short-term investments and are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

Trade and other payables

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

Gains and losses

All gains or losses on financial assets and liabilities are recognised in the statement of financial activities, including unrealised and realised gains or losses on investments.

Inter-company debtors

The inter-company debtor is stated at its fair value. The balance between ACCA and CAET is considered to be a trading debtor as transactions occur throughout the year. There are no repayment terms but the balance would be repaid on demand if requested.

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	31 March 2020 £	31 March 2019 £
2 Analysis of donations from ACCA		
Support cost donations	2,014	2,014

3 Analysis of charitable expenditure

The charity undertakes its charitable activities through the provision of educational courses to ACCA members, promotion of the ACCA qualifications, promotion of accounting research, including grant making, from advertising in the digital publication, Student Accountant Direct and from the provision of shared services to allow it and ACCA to operate to pursue ACCA's vision in becoming the number one professional accountancy body in providing accountants which the world needs.

Year ended 31 March 2020

	Direct costs £	Support and governance costs £	31 March 2020 £
Education – Publications	812,855	185,774	998,629
Education – Professional courses	1,447,951	161,219	1,609,170
Research	32,380	217,776	250,156
Careers promotion and student activities	395,140	253,669	648,809
Shared services	—	14,088	14,088
	2,688,326	832,526	3,520,852

Year ended 31 March 2019

	Direct costs £	Support and governance costs £	31 March 2019 £
Education – Publications	692,382	190,885	883,267
Education – Professional courses	1,836,988	197,674	2,034,662
Research	223,829	261,952	485,781
Careers promotion and student activities	443,631	379,789	823,420
Shared services	(4,328)	11,800	7,472
	3,192,502	1,042,100	4,234,602

Analysis of grants

	31 March 2020 £	31 March 2019 £
<i>Research and Insights grants</i>		
Grants to institutions	25,169	45,067
Grants to individuals and corporates	3,000	63,209
	28,169	108,276

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

3 Analysis of charitable expenditure (continued)

Analysis of grants (continued)

	31 March 2020 £
Recipients of institutional grants	
IAAER – Support for Early Careers Researchers in Bucharest	15,000
Deakin University – Integrated Reporting Centre	10,169
Total	25,169

The support costs relating to grant making activities relate to employee costs.

4 Allocation of governance and support costs

The breakdown of support costs and how these were allocated between governance and other support costs is shown in the table below.

Cost type	Basis of apportionment	Other support costs £	Governance related £	31 March 2020 £
Staff costs	Staff time	807,438	11,000	818,438
Office costs	Work done	—	14,088	14,088
		807,438	25,088	832,526

Cost type	Basis of apportionment	Other support costs £	Governance related £	31 March 2019 £
Staff costs	Staff time	1,018,300	12,000	1,030,300
Office costs	Work done	—	11,800	11,800
		1,018,300	23,800	1,042,100

Allocation on staff time is based on the staff costs accounted for by ACCA with regards to the time spent within each area of charitable activity.

5 Analysis of governance costs

	31 March 2020 £	31 March 2019 £
Staff costs	11,000	12,000
Auditors' remuneration	14,088	11,800
	25,088	23,800

The Trustee has decided to meet all governance costs from unrestricted funds and so no allocation or charge is made to restricted funds for any governance related costs.

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

6 Salaries and related costs

	31 March 2020 £	31 March 2019 £
The costs of employing support staff during the year were as follows:		
Management charge	819,559	1,028,286
	819,559	1,028,286

The Trust has no employees. The management charge represents management's best estimate of the cost of ACCA staff time on CAET activities during the year.

7 Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2019

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2019 £
Income			
<i>Donations</i>			
Donations from ACCA	—	2,014	2,014
Gift Aid donations from ACCA and subsidiaries	—	—	—
Total donations	—	2,014	2,014
<i>Income from charitable activities:</i>			
Technical and professional education	2,399,909	—	2,399,909
Career promotion, student activities and advertising	1,752,812	—	1,752,812
Qualifications development	92,387	—	92,387
<i>Other income</i>			
Income from Investments	—	2,768	2,768
Total income	4,245,108	4,782	4,249,890
Expenditure			
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities:</i>			
Education	2,909,694	8,235	2,917,929
Research	485,781	—	485,781
Careers promotion and student activities	823,420	—	823,420
Shared services	7,472	—	7,472
Total expenditure	4,226,367	8,235	4,234,602
Net gains on investments	—	4,901	4,901
Net income and net movement in funds	18,741	1,448	20,189
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds at 1 April 2018	6,450,954	270,030	6,720,984
Total funds at 31 March 2019	6,469,695	271,478	6,741,173

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

8 Tangible assets

	Computer systems and equipment £	Total £
<i>Cost</i>		
At 1 April 2018 and 1 April 2019	107,877	107,877
Additions	—	—
At 31 March 2020	107,877	107,877
<i>Accumulated depreciation</i>		
At 1 April 2018 and 1 April 2019	107,877	107,877
Charge for year	—	—
At 31 March 2020	107,877	107,877
<i>Net book value</i>		
At 31 March 2020	—	—
At 31 March 2019	—	—
	31 March 2020 £	31 March 2019 £

9 Investments

Prize Fund investments

Cost or value at 1 April	59,509	54,608
Net unrealised investment (losses)/gains	(25,580)	4,901
Market value at 31 March	33,929	59,509
Historical cost at 31 March	3,157	3,157
Investments at market value		
Temple Bar Investment Trust PLC	22,860	39,660
Royal Dutch Shell B shares	11,069	19,849
Total	33,929	59,509

10 Debtors

Trade and other debtors	108,140	591,137
Amounts due from ACCA	5,803,861	6,472,248
Prepayments and accrued income	1,918	225,558
Other taxation and social security costs	10,201	139,168
	5,924,120	7,428,111

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	31 March 2020 £	31 March 2019 £
11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Trade and other creditors	6,175	53,605
Accruals and deferred income	135,041	800,890
	<u>141,216</u>	<u>854,495</u>

Trade and other payables principally comprise amounts outstanding for trade purchases and ongoing costs. The normal payment terms are within 30 days. Payment terms may exceed 30 days where the contract provides for extended terms.

12 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Investments	—	33,929	33,929
Cash at bank	8,754	85,047	93,801
Current assets	5,830,957	93,163	5,924,120
Current liabilities and provisions	(141,216)	—	(141,216)
	<u>5,698,495</u>	<u>212,139</u>	<u>5,910,634</u>

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2019 £
Investments	—	59,509	59,509
Cash at bank	25,985	82,063	108,048
Current assets	7,298,205	129,906	7,428,111
Current liabilities and provisions	(854,495)	—	(854,495)
	<u>6,469,695</u>	<u>271,478</u>	<u>6,741,173</u>

The unrestricted funds represent the amounts retained to ensure the continuing charitable activities of the Trust. The restricted funds represent the amounts retained for the Simpson Scholarship Fund, the ACCA Scholarship Fund and the Prize Fund (see note 13).

13 Movement in restricted funds

	Simpson Scholarship Fund £	ACCA Scholarship Fund £	Prize Fund £	Total £
At 1 April 2019	66,356	90,170	114,952	271,478
Incoming resources	238	—	2,746	2,984
Support costs donated	2,014	—	—	2,014
Resources expended	(9,407)	(29,350)	—	(38,757)
Unrealised investment losses	—	—	(25,580)	(25,580)
At 31 March 2020	<u>59,201</u>	<u>60,820</u>	<u>92,118</u>	<u>212,139</u>

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

13 Movement in restricted funds (continued)

	Simpson Scholarship Fund £	ACCA Scholarship Fund £	Prize Fund £	Total £
At 1 April 2018	72,175	90,416	107,439	270,030
Incoming resources	156	—	2,612	2,768
Support costs donated	2,014	—	—	2,014
Resources expended	(7,989)	(246)	—	(8,235)
Unrealised investment gains	—	—	4,901	4,901
At 31 March 2019	<u>66,356</u>	<u>90,170</u>	<u>114,952</u>	<u>271,478</u>

14 Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flows from operating activities

	31 March 2020 £	31 March 2019 £
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources	(830,539)	20,189
Losses/(gains) on investments	25,580	(4,901)
Dividends and interest from investments	(2,984)	(2,768)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	1,503,991	(73,699)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(713,279)	13,014
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(17,231)</u>	<u>(48,165)</u>

15 Related party transactions

The Trust exists to promote the ACCA qualification among potential students and to provide ACCA students with publications, courses and careers information. In addition, the Trust provides conferences and courses for ACCA members and others, produces technical publications and promotes accounting research. ACCA also collects certain income and pays certain expenditure on behalf of the Trust and there may therefore, at any time, be a balance outstanding between the Trust and ACCA (see note 10).

The costs of ACCA staff engaged in Trust activities is shown under Education, Research and Careers Promotion and student activities costs. The costs have been billed to the Trust by way of a management charge of £819,559 (2019: £1,028,286).

	31 March 2020 £	31 March 2019 £
Sales		
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Purchases		
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants	<u>819,559</u>	<u>1,028,286</u>

THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

16 Reconciliation of net debt

	1 April 2019	Cashflows	31 March 2020
	£	£	£
Cash	108,048	(14,247)	93,801
Total	108,048	(14,247)	93,801

17 Trustee remuneration

The Trustee did not receive any remuneration or expenses during the year (2019: £nil).

18 Ultimate parent

ACCA is the ultimate parent of the Corporate Trustee and the Trust. ACCA is incorporated under Royal Charter with registration number RC000732. The Trustee's Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2020 are available from ACCA's office at The Adelphi, 1-11 John Adam Street, London, WC2N 6AU.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEE OF THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST (registered numbers 313219 and SC039200)

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Certified Accountants Educational Trust for the period ended 31 March 2020, which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. 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).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2020 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the period 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 Charities Act 2011, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Basis for opinion

We have been appointed as auditor under sections 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and report in accordance with regulations made under those Acts. 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 Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC'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.

The impact of macro-economic uncertainties on our audit

Our audit of the financial statements requires us to obtain an understanding of all relevant uncertainties, including those arising as a consequence of the effects of macro-economic uncertainties such as Covid-19 and Brexit. All audits assess and challenge the reasonableness of estimates made by the trustees and the related disclosures and the appropriateness of the going concern basis of preparation of the financial statements. All of these depend on assessments of the future economic environment and the charity's future prospects and performance.

Covid-19 and Brexit are amongst the most significant economic events currently faced by the UK, and at the date of this report their effects are subject to unprecedented levels of uncertainty, with the full range of possible outcomes and their impacts unknown. We applied a standardised firm-wide approach in response to these uncertainties when assessing the charity's future prospects and performance. However, no audit should be expected to predict the unknowable factors or all possible future implications for a trust associated with these particular events.

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 Trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Trustee has not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charity'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.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEE OF
THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST (continued)
(registered numbers 313219 and SC039200)**

Conclusions relating to going concern (continued)

In our evaluation of the trustee's conclusions, we considered the risks associated with the charity's business model, including effects arising from macro-economic uncertainties such as Covid-19 and Brexit, and analysed how those risks might affect the charity's financial resources or ability to continue operations over the period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue. In accordance with the above, we have nothing to report in these respects.

However, as we cannot predict all future events or conditions and as subsequent events may result in outcomes that are inconsistent with judgements that were reasonable at the time they were made, the absence of reference to a material uncertainty in this auditor's report is not a guarantee that the charity will continue in operation.

Other information

The Trustee is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustee's Annual Report, set out on pages 2 to 6, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustee's Annual Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- the charity has not kept sufficient and proper accounting records; or
- the charity's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustee's Responsibilities set out on page 5, the Trustee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustee determines 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 Trustee is responsible for assessing the charity'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 Trustee either intends to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEE OF
THE CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST (continued)
(registered numbers 313219 and SC039200)**

Auditor's 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 auditor's 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. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustee, as a body, in accordance with Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011 and Section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Trustee those matters we are required to state to it 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 charity and its Trustee as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Grant Thornton UK LLP

Grant Thornton UK LLP
Statutory Auditor, Chartered Accountants
Milton Keynes

26/3/2021

Grant Thornton UK LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006