

PSI internal audit

15.07.2022 meeting minutes

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- The auditors have reviewed the 2021 management accounts, 2022 budget, and external audit documents.
- PSI has a positive balance of £292,946 at the end of 2021. This is slightly below the target reserves of £300,000. The current reserves are expected to be sufficient to allow for the continued operation of PSI.
- The auditors note the increases in costs due to inflation as well as higher uncertainty in future planning compared to the time before COVID-19. The actual costs in 2021 of 333k and budgeted costs for 2022 of 472k indicate that reserves of 300k may be insufficient for the continued operation of PSI when unexpected events occur. They recommend increasing the target reserves to at least £330k to be prepared for future unexpected events.
- In almost all of PSI's business areas a better result was seen in 2021 than in 2020. This is very encouraging, but the auditors note that a return to profitability is still needed in the near future. To achieve this, it is recommended to be judicious about spending and only spend money on optional initiatives when the target reserves have been achieved.
- The auditors congratulate the conference team on the very successful and profitable 2022 conference, especially the particularly high sponsorship income. However, they note that the conference would not have been profitable without any sponsorship. They recommend for the BoD to assess if registration prices should be increased in 2023.
- A different classification for MSc scholarships and similar initiatives may be appropriate in the future, as "gifts" may give the wrong impression, especially when large sums are spent.
- Overall, the auditors conclude that PSI was run prudently in 2021 and did well to keep costs under control. The auditors congratulate PSI on making it through another difficult year and keeping the finances in a stable state.