

ASCN UK Treasurer's Report 2026

Simon Turley



Nearly a year has passed since I joined the Association of Stoma Care Nurses UK (ASCN UK) committee as honorary treasurer. I officially succeeded to the role on 12 February 2026 taking over from my predecessor Natasha Roles who had become the new Chair. Together with the other new committee members Kevin (vice chair), Sue (secretary) and Paul (education), I have received a warm and friendly welcome from my fellow committee members and instantly made to feel part of the team. The committee have twice monthly online meetings, and monthly online meetings with Delegant our secretariat, to discuss the associations activities and plans. The committee have also had 3 face to face meeting with another planned for later in the year.

Joining the ASCN committee is not a new experience for me, as I was previously Honorary Secretary between 2014-2017, but will enable me to continue the strong affiliation, connection, interaction and commitment to and with the organisation which I have developed over the years culminating in being asked to become a Trustee in 2023, which was a real honour and privilege. I am continuing in my role as a trustee for the association.

The role of Honorary Treasurer and the field of finance have been a new direction and learning curve for me as I have limited experience within this area. However, over the 41 years of working within the NHS of which the last 25 years have been within the specialism of stoma care, I have gathered plenty of awareness, insight and understanding of the financial cost of and pressures on resources, the complexity of finance and the need to work within budgetary constraints. Additionally, I bring and can utilize my wealth of knowledge and experience within the sphere of stoma care and the association, to the role. I have been working hard, acquiring, learning and developing new knowledge and skills which has been a challenge at times, but with the help and support of the secretariat Delegant's finance team, I have got there. I am sure there is and will be more to learn in the future. The rather daunting aspect and responsibility of the role is that I am dealing with other people's money! and that of a charity!

As Honorary Treasurer, I have overarching responsibility for ASCN's finances, expenditure and financial position, working with the secretariat finance team to maintain accurate records, accounts and yearly audit, to comply with financial regulations and reporting requirements. We are bound by our constitution and are governed by the Charities Commission to whom we are accountable. Ultimately, the treasurer in collaboration with committee colleagues, ensures appropriate and best use of the association's funds.

The treasurer's report presents an overview of the accounts for the financial year 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026. The association remains in a healthy financial position, with our income greater than our outgoings, resulting in a Net profit of £5,188.80 for the year. Profit was vastly reduced compared to 2024/25 of £57,426.19 due to a much larger profit from WCET International but with minimal associated costs and no VAT paid. As ASCN is only partly exempt from VAT, this explains the nearly £22,000 which is unable to be reclaimed on purchases. However, despite the high negative amount of over £31,000 in the VAT control account, this is explained by a refund being awaited which was subsequently received but in the 2026/27 financial year. Additional one-off exhibition expenditure of approximately £1344 plus associated travel costs was incurred due to ASCN attending NSWOC/WCET in Vancouver in April. Overall, the total capital and reserves for 2025/26 is approximately £5000 higher than 2024/25.

The challenges of financial stability continue due to the pressures placed on every aspect of life. The membership fee remains unchanged at £30 per year or £2.50/month, or 58p/week, or .08p/day, which provides members access to all the resources ASCN offers, such as clinical guidelines, standards and tools, 3 complimentary BJN journals a year, free access to our webinars and reduced delegate rate for conference, which I think you'll agree is excellent value for money. The Jean Preston fund is available for members to apply for funding for projects, courses/modules or conference, details and application form can be found on the ASCN website.

Our yearly conference is undoubtedly the largest expense for the association, with 2025 being more expensive than 2024, mainly due to 2024 being held jointly with WCET International. Being treasurer has provided me with a greater insight and appreciation into the financial aspects and costs involved. Planning has already begun for next year's conference, with deposit paid. Location, venue and dates to be revealed in the AGM!

The committee continually discuss and explore methods to generate income, such as charging for external requests to access our resources or for the association's endorsement on projects, study days or literature. We believe it's important to protect and acknowledge the value of our collective work, although this needs to be balanced against restricting access, when we are attempting to promote and raise the profile and practice of stoma care.

ASCN UK is here for its members and the committee continually strive to act on your behalf. If there is anything you would like the committee to be involved in, be aware of, or raise on your behalf, please contact us – details on the website <https://ascnuk.org>, or alternatively contact your local Area Representative whose details can also be found on the ASCN UK website <https://ascnuk.org/ascn-uk-area-representatives>. Additionally, if you would like to become more involved with the work of the association please contact us. I look forward to meeting many of you in Birmingham and wish you an enjoyable conference. Also networking with you during my tenure as ASCN Honorary Treasurer.

In conclusion, the association remains in a healthy financial position. However, we should never be complacent from a financial standpoint, as we never know what is around the corner.

Finally, I would like to thank team colleagues in Oxford for their support and understanding during my first year as ASCN Honorary Treasurer.

Simon Turley
Honorary Treasurer

