

Honorary Treasurers Report

June 2011

2010 Overview

Due to the uncertainty over whether the Scottish Government would continue its funding of the IRRR grant, the Council has sought to retain a surplus in its other funds as a cushion against this anticipated reduction in income. The Council was able to make an overall surplus of £6,228 in the year which was broadly in line with the surplus of £4,891 in 2009.

Our unrestricted funds surplus increased to £10,300 from £7,200 in 2009. The increase in the surplus on unrestricted funds was mainly achieved due to an increase in donations with expenditure in line with last year. Income was higher at £29,383 (2009: £26,244) mainly due to an increase in donations where the Council received a donation from the Community Security Trust and a one off donation from Glenmorangie for sponsoring Four Corners. Expenditure on the core activities was £19,044 which was in line with last year (2009: £19,057).

Whilst overall staffing levels were similar to last year, travel costs as a whole were £3,300 higher at £6,564 (2009: £3,279). This was due to a number of specific events such as the cost of flights for bringing Rabbi David Rosen to Scotland for Nostra Aetate, the cost of the Young Scot project, and the cost of joint project with Jewish Chaplaincy to provide Outreach services to the remoter Jewish Communities.

Similarly, costs for hospitality and events were £2,500 higher at £4,252 (2009: £1,733). Such events included the cost of bringing the Jewish Way of Life Exhibition to Glasgow providing an opportunity for non Jewish school children to enhance their understanding of Judaism.

During the year, the Council received a grant of £36,000, which was used to provide additional staff and sessional staff costs to assist, in particular, with publications and the organisation of outreach programmes. Such events included: bringing Rabbi David Rosen to speak at a number of events to commemorate 45 years of Nostra Aetate, supporting a number of events with the Jewish Chaplaincy Board and supporting Sukkat Shalom (Edinburgh Liberal Community), Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation and Dundee Hebrew Congregation. As a result of these events, the RRRI Fund had a deficit of £4,111 in the year.

2011 Outlook and current position

I am pleased to say that the Scottish Government IRRR fund was not cut this year, and we were awarded a further grant of £36,000 for the year. This will allow us to continue our operations at a similar level to 2010.

However, as there is no guarantee that it will be renewed in 2012, we will be aiming to make a surplus again this year of around £5,000 to cushion any shortfall should our funding be reduced next year.

As at end of June, we have cash in the bank of £45,000 and a surplus of £15,000 year to date.

Neil Livingstone