

Registered number: 03317333

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 October 2023

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Company Information

Directors

Sir Martin Spencer (Chair)
Mr Michael Anthony Pilgrem (Treasurer)
Lady Justice, Geraldine Mary Andrews (appointed 1 November 2022)
Ms Claire Elizabeth Berrington (appointed 1 November 2022)
Mr Robert Anthony Emilius Clayton (appointed 1 November 2023)
Mr Colin James Holburn
Mr Peter Andrew Mulhern
Dr Kathryn Newns
Mr Edward John Picton
Mr Daniel Andres Correa Acosta Rubio (appointed 1 November 2022)
Mr Richard Peter Taylor (appointed 1 November 2022)
Mr Christopher David Turner

Company secretary Mr Simon Mark Berney-Edwards

Registered number 03317333

Registered office

10 Montfort Rise
Redhill
Surrey
RH1 5DU

Accountants

Kreston Reeves LLP
Chartered Accountants
Montague Place
Quayside
Chatham Maritime
Chatham
Kent
ME4 4QU

Bankers

Coutts & Co
440 Strand
London
WC2R 0QS

HSBC
18 High Street
Reigate
Surrey
RH2 9AY

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Company Information (continued)

Cambridge & Counties Bank
Charnwood Court
SB New Walk
Leicester
LE1 6TE

Allica Bank
4th Floor
164 Bishopsgate
London
EC2M 4LX

Nationwide Building Society
Kings Park Road
Moulton Park
Northampton
NN3 6NW

Shawbrook Bank
One, New Bailey
4 Stanley Street
Salford
M3 5JL

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Contents

	Page
Chairman's statement	1 - 3
Treasurer's report	4 - 5
Directors' report	6
Directors' responsibilities statement	7
Assurance report	8 - 9
Statement of income and retained earnings	10
Balance sheet	11
Notes to the financial statements	12 - 19

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Chairman's statement
For the year ended 31 October 2023

The chairman presents his statement for the period.

2022/23 continued to provide a challenging operating environment for the UK as the cost-of-living crisis continued to impact members, but the Institute is in a far stronger place following investment in our staff and systems enabling a more flexible approach and the ability to take advantage of more opportunities which have had a demonstrable impact on our financial and operational performance during the year. As a result, we have finished 2022/23 with a surplus and are in a strong financial position.

The four strategic objectives of the EWI are to:

1. Enhance our impact by growing membership
2. Support the development and improve the quality of experts within the community
3. Advocate on behalf of the Expert Witness community
4. Ensure an excellent, sustainable, and effective membership body

This report is structured using these headings to demonstrate how our activities have contributed to our strategic objectives.

Enhance our impact by growing membership

Over the past year we have seen strong growth in membership. At the end of the year, we finished with 1028 members, 56 ahead of last year. And whilst we acknowledge that the age profile of members will always be an issue, we have seen a greater level of diversity in that profile and can demonstrate a clear trend in recruiting more members than those that are retiring from their expert witness practice. As a result, we have expanded our panel of assessors to ensure we can deal with the expanding workload.

In the past year we have approved a further 22 applications for new or existing members to be recognised by our Scottish Qualifications Authority accredited Certification scheme.

We welcomed a further 4 new Corporate Partners in the year with some further applications expected in the new financial year. In 2023/24 we hope to review our Corporate Membership scheme to try and identify what more we can do to encourage those working for these organisations to also become members of the Institute.

We continue to develop partnerships with other organisations as a way of reaching out to other experts and expanding awareness of the Institute. We have also welcomed another two supplier partners.

We officially launched our new Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Statement at the beginning of the year. As part of this we have been working to establish our current baseline member statistics for gender identity, ethnic origin, and disability so that we can measure changes over time. We have also been actively supporting the Equal Representation for Expert Witnesses initiative and sit on their Global Steering Committee.

Support the development and improve the quality of experts within the community

We delivered 35 events during 2022/23 (2 more than the previous year) with 684 delegates (up by 136 from the previous year). This included another successful Joint Conference in partnership with Resolve Medicolegal. In addition, a further 24 event recordings were purchased, and we made 12 older webinar recordings freely available to members (including the recordings from 2 of our online conferences). Our bespoke training programme was particularly successful in 2022/23. As well as a booking for one company, we have been running core training for one of our Corporate Partners who is keen to ensure that all their experts have the same level of training.

The Core Competency Framework for Expert Witnesses continues to be a useful tool for Expert Witnesses. The framework for Expert Witnesses sets out the attributes, knowledge, and skills that experts must develop if they wish to act as an Expert Witness. In 2022/23 it was downloaded 217 times (only 40 times fewer than in the previous year when it was initially launched).

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Chairman's statement (continued)
For the year ended 31 October 2023

In 2022/23 we focused our efforts on content creation and began the development of a Content Strategy which provides clarity on what the Institute should be talking about and how our content can support our business objectives. We launched our 'In Conversation With' series which provides access to free interviews with industry leaders as a taster of the kind of content that can be accessed as members. We also began working with a copywriter to extend our capacity in writing articles supporting the Expert Witness community.

Our monthly e-newsletter continues to perform well and the click through rate continues to perform well above industry standards.

During the year we delivered two editions of Expert Matters which has now become a digital magazine. We continue to provide information and advice through our Member Helpline. This service is highly valued by members and following some promotion of the service we have seen demand almost double.

We have continued to improve the quality and range of support available to members through the Knowledge Hub by increasing the number of case updates, highlighting useful queries submitted to the helpline and further developing guidance.

In September we launched our new guidance on choosing, instructing, and working with an Expert Witness. This provides essential guidance for lawyers and litigants in person on how they can maximise the relationship with their Expert Witness. As well as being produced as a hard copy guide, this now forms a new section of our website.

Advocate on behalf of the Expert Witness community

EWI continues to seek opportunities to be an advocate on behalf of the Expert Witness community and has received limited coverage in online media. We have featured in the media 23 times (up from 12 last year) including coverage in the Law Society Gazette, Solicitors Journal and New Law Journal.

During 2022/23 EWI responded to

- MOJ Consultation on RTAs/Medical Reporting Agencies
- Providing feedback on the GMC's rework of their guide to Acting as an Expert Witness
- Scottish Civil Justice Council - New Civil Procedure Rules
- The Medical Protection Society's White Paper on Expert Witnesses
- Civil Procedure Rules Committee - Expert Evidence and the Intermediate Track
- Criminal Procedure Rules Committee - Revised declarations

We have been particularly pleased with the response from key stakeholders in recognising the value we can add to their work and, particularly the work on the Civil Procedure Rules Committee new rules on Expert Evidence and the Intermediate Track has been welcomed by members. This has clearly demonstrated the important role we can play in advocating on their behalf.

In 2022/23 we saw a 35% increase in the number of searches on the Directory and similar increases in the number of referrals compared to the previous year. We also launched an e-bulletin focussed on lawyers to encourage engagement in the EWI.

Provide an excellent, sustainable and effective membership body

At the AGM, Robert Clayton was appointed to the Board and Ed Picton, Chris Turner, Peter Mulhern were reappointed to the Board.

Mark Broadbent and Saba Naqshbandi did not stand for re-election and the Institute offers its thanks to them for their contribution to the EWI.

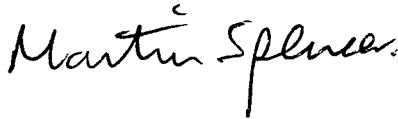
The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Chairman's statement (continued)
For the year ended 31 October 2023

The Board agreed to further invest in staff capacity during 2022/23. Our Training and Events Manager increased from 3 to 4 days per week and Membership Manager increased from 4 to 4 ½ days per week, increasing the team to 3.5FTE at the beginning of the year. The focus of this increase was based on the development of additional content. In June, the Board, also agreed to trial investment in a 0.5FTE Membership Administrator, enabling the Membership Manager to focus on more proactive Membership Recruitment. Our Web and Communications Officer resigned in June. The vacancy was held pending discussion about what was needed going forward. This meant the team ended the year with 3.6FTE.

Following a year where Expert Witnesses have faced increasing scrutiny, it has never been more important to have a credible voice for expert witnesses, highlighting the critical role they play in our justice system. I believe the EWI does, and will increasingly, play a significant role in championing the best interests of our members and their contribution. I encourage you to engage with your Institute and take advantage of all it has to offer.

Name Sir Martin Spencer
Chairman



Date 27/3/2024

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Treasurer's report
For the year ended 31 October 2023

Results for the year ended 31 October 2023

The Institute does not aim to make a profit, but the Governors seek to ensure that its annual turnover from subscriptions from members and other sources covers the annual costs of its various activities, and that it also has adequate reserves. During 2023, the net assets of the Institute increased by £ 53,430 to £ 122,377 and were then equivalent to about 34% of its administrative expenses for 2023. In part, those reserves are available to fund the costs of planned activities that were delayed in 2023 and are now expected to occur in 2024. The Governors aim to increase gradually the Institute's reserves further.

Turnover for 2023 was £ 406,108, an increase over the prior year of £ 22,973 (6.0%). Most turnover, £ 290,106, was from subscriptions from members, a reduction compared to the prior year of £ 1,336. The average number of members increased 5% between 2022 and 2023. The fall in subscriptions was due, in part, to a change in proportions of types of member, reducing the average subscription per member. Turnover from vetting fees was £ 12,401. This amount represents turnover from membership applications of £ 7,955 (2022 - £ 6,280) and certification activities of £ 4,446 (2022 - £ 2,880).

An important contributor to turnover was £ 103,601 of income from courses, events and similar activities (2022 - £ 82,783), including (as in the prior year) an important contribution from a joint conference held with Resolve Medicolegal and a £ 11,000 increase in Bespoke Training on the previous year.

Total administrative expenses for 2023 were £ 356,122, a reduction over the prior year of £ 21,766. Costs associated with the Institute's staff were £ 213,632, an increase over the prior year of £ 46,272 (27.6%). The average monthly number of employees was 5, as it was in 2022. This increase in costs was due to the combined effect of increases in salary and other remuneration, the average number of full time equivalents to 3.6 (2022 - 3.1), and the use of sub-contactors.

Following the surrender of the Institute's lease during 2022, costs associated with the Institute's establishment (being storage) and insurances were £ 3,586, a decrease over the prior year of £ 51,024 (which included rent and service charges and the costs of surrendering the lease, light and heat, insurances, removals and storage). As had been anticipated, the costs of the Institute's use of information technology, including its membership database and website, fell during 2023 to £ 62,000 (a reduction over the prior year of £ 28,673).

As had also been anticipated, the costs of the Institute's publications and other public relations activities, including printing and postage, increased during 2023 to £ 12,424 (an increase over the prior year of £ 6,150).

The direct costs of the Institute's certification activities for 2023 were £ 2,650 (2022 - £ 6,658).

Other administrative costs for 2023, including the costs of the Institute's courses, events and similar activities, were £ 61,830, an increase over the prior year of £ 9,517.

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Strategic report (continued)
For the year ended 31 October 2023

Financial position as at 31 October 2023

The Institute's fixed assets as at 31 October 2023 comprised equipment and furniture and its website which are fully depreciated. Consequently, the net assets of the Institute are almost entirely represented by its net current assets. As at 31 October 2023, the Institute's most significant current assets were its cash, cash equivalents and short-term cash deposits of £ 209,448 (2022 - £ 130,470) and its most significant current liabilities were accruals of £ 11,078 (2022 - £ 12,206) and annual subscriptions received in advance of the year in question of £ 74,425 (2022 - £ 52,024).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M.A. Pilgrem', followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr Michael Anthony Pilgrem (Treasurer)
Director

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Directors' report
For the year ended 31 October 2023

The Directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2023.

Principal activity

The Institute's activities are directed towards the achievement of its objects, which are the support of the proper administration of justice and the early resolution of disputes through fair and unbiased expert evidence. To this end major priorities are the provision of training and the dissemination of information to members to maintain and enhance the standards and status of experts.

Directors

The Directors who served during the year were:

Sir Martin Spencer (Chair)
Mr Michael Anthony Pilgrim (Treasurer)
Lady Justice, Geraldine Mary Andrews (appointed 1 November 2022)
Ms Claire Elizabeth Berrington (appointed 1 November 2022)
Mr Mark Richard Broadbent (retired 31 October 2023)
Mr Colin James Holburn
Mr Peter Andrew Mulhern
Ms Saba Naqshbandi (retired 31 October 2023)
Dr Kathryn Newns
Mr Edward John Picton
Mr Daniel Andres Correa Acosta Rubio (appointed 1 November 2022)
Mr Richard Peter Taylor (appointed 1 November 2022)
Mr Christopher David Turner

Small companies note

In preparing this report, the Directors have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the board on *27th March 2024* and signed on its behalf.



Sir Martin Spencer (Chair)
Director

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Directors' responsibilities statement
For the year ended 31 October 2023

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period.

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

- select suitable accounting policies for the Company's financial statements and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent chartered accountants' review report
to the directors of The Expert Witness Institute
For the year ended 31 October 2023

We have reviewed the financial statements of The Expert Witness Institute for the year ended 31 October 2023, which comprise the Statement of income and retained earnings, the Balance sheet and the notes to the financial statements. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Statements

As explained more fully in the Directors' responsibilities statement set out on page 7, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

Accountants' Responsibility

Our objective is to express a conclusion based on our review of the financial statements. We conducted our review in accordance with International Standard on Review Engagements (ISRE) 2400 (Revised), 'Engagements to review historical financial statements' and ICAEW Technical Release TECH 09/13AAF 'Assurance review engagements on historical financial statements'. ISRE 2400 (Revised) requires us to conclude whether anything has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements, taken as a whole, are not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. ISRE 2400 (Revised) also requires us to comply with the ICAEW Code of Ethics.

Scope of the Assurance Review

A review of the financial statements in accordance with ISRE 2400 (Revised) is a limited assurance engagement. We have performed procedures, primarily consisting of making enquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, applying analytical procedures and evaluating the evidence obtained. The procedures performed in a review are substantially less than those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK). Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements have not been prepared:

- so as to give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 October 2023, and of its profit for the year then ended;
- in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent chartered accountants' review report
to the directors of The Expert Witness Institute (continued)
For the year ended 31 October 2023

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Company's directors, as a body, in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 25 November 2021. Our review work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's directors those matters that we have agreed to state to them in a reviewer'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 and the Company's directors, as a body, for our review work, for this report or the conclusions we have formed.



Kreston Reeves LLP
Chartered Accountants
Montague Place
Quayside
Chatham Maritime
Chatham
Kent
ME4 4QU

17 April 2024

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of income and retained earnings
For the year ended 31 October 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Turnover		406,108	383,135
Gross profit		406,108	383,135
Administrative expenses		(356,122)	(377,888)
Operating profit		49,986	5,247
Interest receivable and similar income		3,416	1,143
Profit before tax		53,402	6,390
Tax on profit		28	22
Profit after tax		53,430	6,412
Retained earnings at the beginning of the year		68,947	62,535
		68,947	62,535
Profit for the year		53,430	6,412
Retained earnings at the end of the year		122,377	68,947

The notes on pages 12 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)
Registered number: 03317333

Balance sheet
As at 31 October 2023

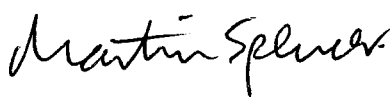
	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	5	-	96
Current assets			
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	6	9,524	7,268
Current asset investments	7	80,675	30,000
Cash at bank and in hand		128,773	100,470
		<u>218,972</u>	<u>137,738</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(96,595)	(68,887)
Net current assets		<u>122,377</u>	<u>68,851</u>
Net assets		<u><u>122,377</u></u>	<u><u>68,947</u></u>
Capital and reserves			
Profit and loss account		<u><u>122,377</u></u>	<u><u>68,947</u></u>

The directors consider that the Company is entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and members have not required the Company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A - small entities.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board and were signed on its behalf on
27 March 2024



Sir Martin Spencer (Chair)
Director



Mr Michael Anthony Pilgrem (Treasurer)
Director

The notes on pages 12 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 October 2023

1. General information

The Expert Witness Institute is a private company limited by guarantee, and is incorporated in England and Wales with the registration number 03317333. The address of the registered office is 10 Montfort Rise, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 5DU.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention unless otherwise specified within these accounting policies and in accordance with Section 1A of Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2006.

The following principal accounting policies have been applied:

2.2 Going concern

The Directors assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Company to continue as a going concern. The Directors make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

2.3 Revenue

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Company and the revenue can be reliably measured. Revenue is measured as the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts, rebates, value added tax and other sales taxes.

Subscriptions from members

Subscriptions from the Company's members are received, or receivable, by the Company in respect of years ended 31 October. Such subscriptions are recognised as turnover in the year to which they relate.

Rendering of services

Revenue from a contract to provide services is recognised in the period in which the services are provided in accordance with the stage of completion of the contract when all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- the amount of revenue can be measured reliably;
- it is probable that the Company will receive the consideration due under the contract;
- the stage of completion of the contract at the end of the reporting period can be measured reliably; and
- the costs incurred and the costs to complete the contract can be measured reliably.

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 October 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Interest income

Interest income is recognised in profit or loss using the effective interest method.

2.5 Pensions

Defined contribution pension plan

The Company operates a defined contribution plan for its employees or contributes to a defined contribution plan nominated by its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the Company pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the Company has no further payment obligations.

The contributions are recognised as an expense in profit or loss when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals as a liability in the Balance sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the Company in independently administered funds.

2.6 Taxation

The tax expense or credit represents current tax..

The Company has not earned any profits from training or similar activities provided to members or non-members, after the attribution and allocation of the costs of performing those activities. The Directors consider that the Company is not liable to tax on any profits arising from other activities generating income from members.

The Company has not recognised any deferred tax asset relating to past losses on activities, as it is not probable that such losses will be recoverable against future taxable profits.

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 October 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets under the cost model are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Equipment and furniture	-	33% straight-line basis
Website	-	33% straight-line basis

The assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted prospectively if appropriate, or if there is an indication of a significant change since the last reporting date.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised in profit or loss.

2.8 Debtors

Short-term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment.

2.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

2.10 Creditors

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

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 October 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.11 Financial instruments

The Company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 "Basic Financial Instruments" of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

The Company has elected to apply the recognition and measurement provisions of IFRS 9 Financial Instruments (as adopted by the UK Endorsement Board) with the disclosure requirements of Sections 11 and 12 and the other presentation requirements of FRS 102.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Company's Balance sheet when the Company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables, cash and bank balances, are initially measured at their transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at their amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any provision for impairment, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest.

Discounting is omitted where the effect of discounting is immaterial. The Company's cash and cash equivalents, trade and most other receivables due with the operating cycle fall into this category of financial instruments.

Other financial assets

Other financial assets, which includes investments in equity instruments which are not classified as subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures, are initially measured at fair value, which is normally the recognised transaction price. Such assets are subsequently measured at fair value with the changes in fair value being recognised in the profit or loss. Where other financial assets are not publicly traded, hence their fair value cannot be measured reliably, they are measured at cost less impairment.

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting date.

Financial assets are impaired when events, subsequent to their initial recognition, indicate the estimated future cash flows derived from the financial asset(s) have been adversely impacted. The impairment loss will be the difference between the current carrying amount and the present value of the future cash flows at the asset(s) original effective interest rate.

If there is a favourable change in relation to the events surrounding the impairment loss then the impairment can be reviewed for possible reversal. The reversal will not cause the current carrying amount to exceed the original carrying amount had the impairment not been recognised. The impairment reversal is recognised in the profit or loss.

Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instruments any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the Company after the deduction of all its liabilities.

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 October 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.11 Financial instruments (continued)

Basic financial liabilities, which include trade and other payables, bank loans and other loans are initially measured at their transaction price after transaction costs. When this constitutes a financing transaction, whereby the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Discounting is omitted where the effect of discounting is immaterial.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at their amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods and services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Trade payables are classified as current liabilities if the payment is due within one year. If not, they represent non-current liabilities. Trade payables are initially recognised at their transaction price and subsequently are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Discounting is omitted where the effect of discounting is immaterial.

Other financial instruments

Derivatives, including forward exchange contracts, futures contracts and interest rate swaps, are not classified as basic financial instruments. These are initially recognised at fair value on the date the derivative contract is entered into, with costs being charged to the profit or loss. They are subsequently measured at fair value with changes in the profit or loss.

Debt instruments that do not meet the conditions as set out in FRS 102 paragraph 11.9 are subsequently measured at fair value through the profit or loss. This recognition and measurement would also apply to financial instruments where the performance is evaluated on a fair value basis as with a documented risk management or investment strategy.

Derecognition of financial instruments

Derecognition of financial assets

Financial assets are derecognised when their contractual right to future cash flow expire, or are settled, or when the Company transfers the asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another party. If significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained after the transfer to another party, then the Company will continue to recognise the value of the portion of the risks and rewards retained.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

3. Employees

The average monthly number of employees, during the year was 5 (2022 - 5).

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 October 2023

4. Taxation

Factors that may affect future tax charges

At the Balance sheet date, the Company has taxable losses carried forward of £164,918 (2022 as restated: £113,221).

5. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment and furniture £	Website £	Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 November 2022	5,806	57,255	63,061
At 31 October 2023	<u>5,806</u>	<u>57,255</u>	<u>63,061</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 November 2022	5,710	57,255	62,965
Charge for the year on owned assets	96	-	96
At 31 October 2023	<u>5,806</u>	<u>57,255</u>	<u>63,061</u>
Net book value			
At 31 October 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 October 2022	<u>96</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>96</u>

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 October 2023

6. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	2,757	-
Prepayments and accrued income	6,745	7,218
Tax recoverable	22	50
	<u>9,524</u>	<u>7,268</u>

7. Current asset investments

	2023 £	2022 £
Short-term cash deposits	80,675	30,000

8. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	6,265	120
Other taxation and social security	4,747	3,857
Other creditors	80	680
Accruals	11,078	12,206
Subscriptions received in advance	74,425	52,024
	<u>96,595</u>	<u>68,887</u>

9. Company status

The Company is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the Company in the event of liquidation.

The Expert Witness Institute
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 October 2023

10. Financial commitments

At 31 October 2023 the Company had future minimum lease payments due under non-cancellable operating leases for each of the following periods:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Not later than 1 year	918	1,002
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	-	918
	918	1,920

11. Controlling party

The Company does not have an ultimate controlling party.