JOSEPH ASPDIN SKILLS TRUST (JAST)

(Charity number 1195750)

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 December 2025

1 Introduction

JAST was formed as a charitable trust in 2021 and registered with the Charity Commission in September 2021, with a financial year running from 1 January to 31 December.
This report covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2025.

2. Objectives/Aims and Activities of the Charity

2.1 The charitable aims of JAST are unchanged and remain two-fold:

Educational Object
To advance education for the public benefit of young people in West Yorkshire (especially young people between the ages of 16 and 25 in Postcode areas LS10 and LS11) to enable them to complete apprenticeships and courses in the environmentally friendly adaption and rehabilitation of housing and other properties to give buildings which are ecologically sound and energy efficient.

Environmental Object
To promote for the benefit of the public, the conservation, rehabilitation and improvement of the existing built environment, to give buildings which are ecologically sound and energy efficient, including advancing education by providing and assisting in the provision of course materials not required to be provided by the ESFA.

2.2 The main practical activities of JAST over this reporting period were:

- Financial support to the Leeds College of Building (LCB) for the employment by the College of a Zero Carbon Construction Skills Project Coordinator to teach LCB students "Green Skills". This support finished at the end of the 2024-25 academic year.
- Supporting an initiative at The Hunslet Club to run an evening course for young people of school age who were interested in possibly working in the building industry.
- Supporting the work of the "Green Futures" project for young people in Beeston and across South Leeds.
- Continuing to develop contacts with other individuals and organisations working in the field of construction or housing; building up a supportive network locally and regionally to build on JAST's "Community to Employment" vision.

2.3 Development of curriculum materials

As expected, JAST's project with Leeds College of Building (LCB), where the trust funded a Zero Carbon Construction Skills Project Coordinator, came to an end in July 2025. The project was judged by the Trust and the College to be a significant success and the teaching material has now been taken into the mainstream teaching across the College. The College was designated as the Regional Centre of Excellence when the government

announced its initiative to improve the energy efficiency of UK buildings and we hope the work done helped the College achieve this. The contribution of the project was also noted in the College's Social and Economic Impact Report.
The material generated in the project has continued to be made available to other Colleges who teach building skills and we will continue to press the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (The WY Mayor's office) to encourage its use across the County.

2.4 Work with The Hunslet Club

The preparatory work with The Hunslet Club was successful and an evening course in building skills for 12 students, started in September 2025. The participants were selected by The Club, though unfortunately the participants were all boys. LCB were very helpful in enabling the Club to set the appropriate standards for the participants and in guiding the Club's tutor on the skills which were most likely to enable those on the course to transfer to LCB as students there. By the end of 2025 the attendance on the course had been close to 100% and no-one had dropped out. We look forward to reporting on the success of the (academic) year-long project in 2026.

2.5. Other Activities

Th "Green Futures" project, based in Middleton but working across inner-south Leeds, asked for funding to support their work. The mixed group of young people, are interested in the changes which are needed to ensure that their area is "future-proofed" against global heating and in taking action to keep global heating as small as possible. The Trust was glad to be able to support the group for 12 months, enabling them to secure funding elsewhere for their future activities.

The Trustees asked Sarah Greenfield, a Freelance Research Consultant & Service Evaluator, to give the Trustees an external view of the Trust's activities up to mid-2025 and an opinion on possible priorities for the future. Sarah interviewed the trustees individually; and reviewed the work the Trust has done so far. Her report was discussed in depth by the trustees, with Sarah's assistance, and her analysis has helped the Trust develop its current priorities.

The Trustees participated in meetings with The Hunslet Club and LCB during the year and also met Mears (building maintenance contractors for BItMO and LCC). We also continued to keep in touch with EN:able (a part of Efficiency North with similar aims to JAST), though Efficiency North has now had a slight change of emphasis and JAST is looking at how we should maintain this relationship.

The Trust remains committed to promoting a pathway from community engagement into further education and sustainable employment within the construction sector, working with education providers, employers and industry partners to support skills development and career progression.



Chair of the Trustee Board
September 2026

Contact: JASTrust@mail.coop

The address for correspondence is:
The Secretary, Joseph Aspdin Skills Trust
% 55 Grove Lane,
Headingley,
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Governance

The JAST Trustees, who were in place during 2025, were:

Sir John Battle - Treasurer
Dr Jackie Coates - Secretary
Dr Geoffrey Driver
Sir Frank McLoughlin
Isobel Mills CBE
Dr Ken Patterson - Chair

The Trustees met frequently as a group during 2025, usually at 4-6 weekly intervals. The meetings were held both in-person and on-line; on occasions as mixture of the two. The majority of meetings were fully attended.

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS

RECEIPTS	2025	2024	Cheque numbers and notes
Assets/Opening balance (brought forward)	£121,560.98	£77,705.68	
Donations	£70,000.00	£100,000.00	see note 1
Hunslet book sales	£0.00	£1,924.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£70,000.00	£101,924.00	
PAYMENTS			
Salary & overheads payment for JAST project coordinator at LCB (Payment 2 for academic year 24-25)	£22,514.72	£46,000.00	Cheque 300018
Salary & overheads payment for JAST project coordinator at LCB (Payment 3 for academic year 24-25)	£23,500.00		Cheque 300020
Sponsorship “Forging the Future” training course	£0.00	£12,000.00	
Sponsorship Hunslet Club	£8080.00		Cheque 300019
Sponsorship “Green Futures” activities	£9000.00		Cheque 300023
Payment to Sarah Greenfield for JAST review	£800.00		Cheque 300021
Miscellaneous see Note 2	£57.00		Cheque 300022
Bank charges and fees	£73.05	£68.70	
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£64024.77	£58068.70	
Surplus (Deficit) for year	£5975.23	£43,855.30	
TOTAL ASSETS at 31.12 held in current account	£127,536.21	£121,560.98	in JAST Unity Trust bank account

Note 1: JAST income continues to be by generous donation from one of the Trustees

Note 2: Miscellaneous JAST research project - HEART meeting room for presentation of findings.

JAST Independent Examiner's Statement on 2025 Accounts

To the trustees of the Joseph Aspdin Skills Trust, Registered Charity No. 1195750

I'm reporting on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2025, which are set out herewith.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the independent examiner.

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 an audit is not required for this year, but that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility:
to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act;
and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement.

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanation from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement.
As a result of my examination I have found no matter
1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the following requirements have not been met:
a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act;
2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed D. J. Salinger, Date 21/10/26

David Salinger
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