



UK CAT CONSORTIUM

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

Company Registration Number: 05620264

Charity Registered Number: 1133667

Company address: The Dean's Office, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham NG7 2UH

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INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIR

The focus of the Board's activity during the 2011/12 academic year was the evaluation and award of the tender to deliver and develop the test beyond 2011. The tender was awarded to Pearson Vue and represents good value for money for the Consortium, including significant service and test content improvements.

We are particularly pleased that together with Pearson Vue we are now working in partnership with the Work Psychology Group to develop situational judgement tests (SJTs) suitable for admission to medical and dental school. This development represents a real step change in test content and creates a continuum in testing as SJTs are now routinely used at application to foundation stage and into postgraduate careers.

Following the award of the contract, our website has been vastly improved and includes the Official Guide for Candidates which is free to download from the site. The practice tests have been overhauled and now include rationales for all answers to assist with test preparation.

We have extended the international reach of the test, opening test centres in a number of additional countries with a particular focus on the Caribbean. Medical and dental schools will see improvements in results delivery with annotations and exemptions now delivered directly to them through the results interface.

There is a significant improvement to this year's financial outturn. We reported last year on issues which had led to a deficit year. Discussions took place with Pearson Vue following this outturn and we were able to adjust our costs fairly significantly without impacting on the candidate experience.

During the year we said goodbye to Professor Anthony Warrens who had served on the Board for three years. We welcomed Professor Brigitte Scammell to the Board and Mr Nigel Siesage back to the Board.

I would like to record here our thanks for the long service to UKCAT from Marita Smith who resigned from her post as UKCAT Administrator earlier this year. Marita had been instrumental in establishing many of our policies and procedures and has been a great supporter and ambassador for the organisation. We wish her the very best for the future.

On behalf of the Trustees I am pleased to present the annual report and audited financial statements for the UKCAT Consortium for the year ended 31 March 2012. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and Financial Statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements and the requirements of our governing documents.

Sandra Nicholson
Chair, UKCAT

TRUSTEES' REPORT 2012

The Trustees are pleased to present their Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2012. UKCAT is registered with the Charity Commission under registration number 1133667. Details of the Charity's Trustees, senior staff, bankers and professional advisors can be found towards the end of this document.

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that, for each financial year, financial statements are prepared which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity at the end of that year and of the incoming resources and resources expended for that year.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

UKCAT is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Articles of Association which were revised and adopted by members in December 2009. The members of the Charity are those Universities who having joined the UKCAT Consortium use the test in admissions to medicine and dentistry.

The Charity Trustees comprise:

- Seven persons elected by the members for a term of up to three years;
- the chair of the Medical Schools' Council;
- the Medical Schools' Council Executive Director;
- a person nominated by the Dental Schools' Council for a term not exceeding three years

In addition, the Board may from time to time appoint up to four additional persons. Such Trustees shall hold office for a term of up to three years and shall be eligible for re-appointment.

When appointing Trustees the Consortium attempts to represent the geographical spread and diversity of Members. No more than two representatives or other members of staff from any Member shall be Trustees at the same time.

INDUCTION OF TRUSTEES

The Trustees are the Directors of the Company and are largely elected from the representatives of the members. They therefore tend to be familiar with Charity structures, objectives and operations. On appointment Trustees and representatives are provided with relevant information regarding the Charity together with recent minutes of relevant meetings and the annual report. Directors are provided with information from the Charity Commission's website regarding their role as Trustee.

MEETINGS

The Board meets approximately every two months. The Board sets the strategic direction for the Charity. Operational matters are delegated to the Board's sub-committees and to the staff of the organisation. The Board is responsible for:

- determining annual objectives and monitoring performance against them;
- ensuring effective organisational planning to achieve the objectives;
- monitoring resource allocation and ensuring adequate resources are available for the delivery, development of the test and research agenda;
- promoting the organisation to the outside world and to identified stakeholders;
- liaising and communicating with Consortium members to ensure their needs regarding test delivery and aspirations regarding test development are met.

There are three groups to which the Board delegates areas of work:

Test Delivery Group

The group is responsible for overseeing the logistics of delivering the test and distribution of results and recommending policy to the Board, as appropriate, on all delivery matters including:

- Setting the testing timetable on an annual basis;
- Overseeing the process of delivering the test (including the process of registration);
- Ensuring that there is sufficient capacity for candidates wishing to take the test;
- Overseeing the delivery of results to consortium medical and dental schools;
- Reviewing test delivery on an annual basis and identifying areas for improvement;
- Working with PV to address any incidents which occur in relation to test delivery;
- Overseeing the implementation of the UKCAT Communication Policy with regard to communication with candidates, schools, consortium members and external stakeholders.

Test Development Group

The Test Development Group works with Pearson Vue and other experts in the field to develop each of the UKCAT sub-tests to enable them to be fit for purpose for use in admissions by medical and dental schools. To achieve this, the group:

- Receives a detailed annual report of statistics relating to each round of testing including data regarding item performance, 'fairness', performance of different subgroups of candidates
- Considers recommendations for changes to the test based on annual statistics or developments in computer based testing nationally and internationally
- In conjunction with the Research Panel, identifies and takes forward relevant research related to the development of the test.

Research Panel

The Panel supports the Research Lead in creating and delivering the UKCAT Research Strategy with a particular focus on:

- establishing and overseeing the governance framework for all UKCAT related data collection and research activity;
- maintaining the UKCAT database(s);
- commissioning and selecting short term studies to achieve UKCAT's objectives (such as widening participation and non-cognitive attributes);
- planning longitudinal cohort studies to establish the predictive value of the test;
- liaising with other bodies (such as Medical Schools Council, General Medical Council) on opportunities to create a linked postgraduate follow-up mechanism.

UKCAT OFFICE

The Chief Operating Officer (COO) and the UKCAT Administrator are responsible for the day to day running of the test and supporting operations. They are employed by the University of Nottingham and support the work of UKCAT through a service level agreement that is reviewed on an annual basis.

The COO's main duties include the following:

- Acting as the main contact with Pearson Vue which delivers the test on behalf of UKCAT – resolving issues directly unless the issue was significant enough to warrant escalation to the Chair or other board member.
- As Company Secretary, leading on appointment of members and Trustees, arranging induction, ensuring decisions made by the Board and Consortium are in line with the Charity articles
- Monitoring budgets and reporting on these to the Board

- Ensuring systems are in place to ensure good standards of financial management
- Leads on any liaison with solicitors, auditors and the company bank.
- Responsible for ensuring that alongside the UKCAT Administrator, the work of the Board and its sub-groups is supported and ensures that decisions are acted upon in a timely fashion.

PEARSON VUE

The test is delivered on UKCAT's behalf by Pearson Driving Assessments Limited (Pearson Vue). UKCAT entered into a contract with Pearson Vue regarding the development and delivery of the test in 2006 for a period of five years. In 2011 UKCAT issued a tender for the delivery of these services beyond December 2011. Pearson Vue was successful in being awarded the contract for delivery of testing services for a further five years.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Board reviews risks to UKCAT formally on an annual basis. Risks are regularly assessed on an informal basis by the Board and its subcommittees with a particular focus placed upon smooth test delivery and reputation management.

The following risks have been identified by the Board:

- Consortium members withdrawing from UKCAT which could impact on UKCAT'S reputation, candidate numbers and ongoing research.
- Major failure in delivery resulting in reputational impact.
- Uncertainty around university student funding impacting on candidate numbers.
- Fluctuations in candidate numbers impacting on contractual, financial and delivery issues.
- Legal challenge from an individual.
- Unfavourable evidence regarding validity or impact of UKCAT.

OBJECTIVES

The objects for which the Charity is established are to promote and provide for the advancement of education in the United Kingdom and in particular to establish and operate tests to aid selection for admission to medical and dental degrees.

UKCAT is committed to achieving greater fairness in selection to medicine and dentistry and to the widening participation in medical and dental training of under-represented social groups. Through an ongoing programme of research UKCAT is seeking to identify the characteristics in applicants which will make them good dentists and doctors and thus to improve the quality of those who enter the professions with the ultimate aim of improving patient care.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The following sections summarise UKCAT activity during the 2011 test cycle (2011/12 financial year).

New Contract

Following a competitive tendering exercise the contract for delivery of testing services beyond December 2011 was awarded to Pearson Vue. The Pearson Vue tender represented good value for money with a fixed testing fee over the period, allowing UKCAT to forecast future finances more confidently. The tender also included a number of enhancements to the current test both in terms of its delivery and development. Some of these enhancements are listed here.

Academic Admissions Research Panel

Pearson Vue proposed the creation of this panel to provide a forum for debate around current national and international developments in computer-based testing and alternatives to the current test. The AARC includes well-recognised occupational, organisational and educational psychologists as well as clinicians, senior Pearson Vue psychometricians and other experts. The first meeting of this group took place in September 2012 and included interesting presentations from Lawrence Rudner (GMAC) and Fiona Patterson (Work Psychology Group).

Test Content

A number of options were presented within the tender for changes to test content. The existing test will run in 2012 with the Test Development Group to consider options for 2013 and beyond. There are a number of options available including the enhancement of the test using a confidence rating.

Pearson Vue proposed replacing Section 5 (non-Cognitive Test) with Situational Judgement Tests developed by the Work Psychology Group. Items are being trialled during the 2012 test cycle with the intention that items will become operational in 2013.

Item Focus Group and Item Review Panel

The focus group includes UKCAT representatives and intends to define further test specifications, particularly in verbal and quantitative reasoning. The group provides direction on the types of subjects appropriate for the verbal passages and examine appropriate numerical problems.

The panel reviews all items and their associated pre-test data on an annual basis prior to approving items for operational use.

Practice Tests

Pearson Vue has provided two practice tests available over the web and now compatible with both PCs and Macs. For the first time, the practice tests include the dynamic presentation of the rationale associated with correct answers.

Website and Official Guide

The UKCAT website has been completely redesigned for 2012 and is now underpinned by a content management system allowing for quick updates to be made. Feedback from the new site has been very positive with a significant decrease in candidates contacting Customer Services, which suggests that information is better presented and more simple to access.

An official guide to the test can now be freely downloaded from the UKCAT website. The Committee is looking further at the use of mobile technologies in test preparation.

Candidate Helpline

Pearson Vue will provide a service underpinned by a service level of 80% of calls answered within 20 seconds and emails responded to within one working day. This represents an enhanced service for candidates during the period of the contract.

Exemptions and Annotations

Candidate exemptions and annotations will now be delivered direct to Universities through the results interface creating a single source of information for them regarding the UKCAT.

Test Centre Coverage

International Test Centre coverage has been reviewed and expanded for 2012 testing which will hopefully significantly reduce the number of exempt candidates.

Test Centre Environment

In 2012 candidates will be presented with a dedicated set of UKCAT Test rules and a set of whiteboards preventing the needing to request additional boards during testing.

Test Overview

The UKCAT is an aptitude exam, designed to measure innate cognitive ability and personality traits. The exam consists of four cognitive subtests: Verbal Reasoning, Quantitative Reasoning, Abstract Reasoning and Decision Analysis. Items include those developed from operational items used in the previous administrations and from new items trialled in previous test rounds. In previous years, the test also included a fifth component (The Behavioural Test) intended to assess non-cognitive attributes of empathy, integrity and robustness, associated with good doctors and dentists. This section was not delivered in 2011 whilst UKCAT reviewed this section for future years.

Each exam comprised 171 items (158 operational and 13 pre-test). Candidates were given 93 minutes to complete the tests with each subtest timed separately. Results were provided to candidates at the end of their test and later to the schools to which the candidates had applied.

Candidate Statistics

The UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT) was administered in 2011 beginning on 5 July 2011 and ending on 7 October 2011. In this period, a total of 24,951 exams were administered. This was a slight decrease in candidate numbers from 2010 (1%). A brief summary of testing statistics is provided below. A more detailed version of these can be found in the Executive Summary of the 2011 Technical Report which can be found on the UKCAT website (www.ukcat.ac.uk).

Candidates' scale scores were reported for each cognitive subtest and were based on all the scored items for each section. The valid scale score ranged from 300 to 900, with a mean set to 600 in the 2006 reference sample. Universities received the subtest scaled scores for each candidate, plus a total score that is a simple sum of the four subtest scores and that had a valid range of 1200 to 3600. Table 1 presents summary statistics for the 2011 candidates. The distributions are generally symmetric around their means and reasonably well spread out.

Table 1: Subtest and Total Scale Score Summary Statistics

	Total N	Mean	SD	Minimum	Maximum
Verbal Reasoning	24951	580.48	74.35	300	890
Quantitative Reasoning	24951	630.69	84.04	300	900
Abstract Reasoning	24951	624.91	80.87	300	900
Decision Analysis	24951	639.64	100.54	300	900
Total Scale Score	24951	2475.72	263.23	1320	3360

The performance patterns for different subgroups (ethnic, gender, age and NS-SEC) are shown below and closely parallel those of previous years.

Table 2: Subtest and Total Scale Score Summary Statistics by Gender

	Gender	Total N	Total %	Mean	SD
Verbal Reasoning	Female	13988	56.06	574.27	74.19
	Male	10963	43.94	588.41	73.80
Quantitative Reasoning	Female	13988	56.06	614.82	82.68
	Male	10963	43.94	650.93	81.39
Abstract Reasoning	Female	13988	56.06	619.81	79.04
	Male	10963	43.94	631.42	82.71
Decision Analysis	Female	13988	56.06	641.07	100.75
	Male	10963	43.94	637.81	100.23
Total Scale Score	Female	13988	56.06	2449.97	260.97
	Male	10963	43.94	2508.58	262.44

Males performed somewhat better than females on VR and QR. Performance on the other cognitive tests was roughly equivalent between gender groups.

Table 3: Total Scale Score Statistics by Ethnic Group

Ethnic Group	Total N	Total %	Mean	SD
White – British	10328	41.39	2562	223
White – Other	2947	11.81	2412	260
Asian	6537	26.20	2415	260
Black	1437	5.76	2263	280
Mixed Race	909	3.64	2471	288
Chinese	1396	5.59	2562	242
Other	749	3.00	2354	281
Information withheld	648	2.60	2427	269

Ethnic group performance trends also closely paralleled those of previous years, with some minor differences. For all cognitive tests, the lowest performing groups was Black/British other, although it is also the ethnic group with the fewest candidates. For VR, the highest performing group was White/British. For QR, AR and DA the highest performing group was Chinese.

Table 4: Total Scale Score summary statistics by NS-SEC Class

SEC Group	Total N	Total %	Mean	SD
1 Managerial and professional occupations	17074	68.43	2503	257
2 Intermediate occupations	761	3.05	2480	249
3 Small employers and own account workers	2202	8.83	2438	251
4 Lower supervisory and technical occupations	861	3.45	2417	249
5 Semi-routine and routine occupations	866	3.47	2375	254
Information withheld	3187	12.77	2396	285

For NS-SEC classifications, category 1 was consistently associated with the highest average scores. The lowest average scale scores occurred for category 5.

Table 5: Total Scale Score summary statistics by age group and highest qualification

Age	Highest Qualification – HE				Highest Qualification – School Leaver			
	Total N	Total %	Mean	SD	Total N	Total %	Mean	SD
<16	6	0.1	2578	245	62	0.34	2361	293
16 – 19	403	6.85	2405	276	16925	91.57	2507	249
20 – 24	3906	66.44	2440	262	1132	6.12	2391	274
25 – 34	1328	22.59	2383	303	282	1.53	2369	305
>34	236	4.01	2251	307	83	0.45	2386	320

Age was broken into five groups. Scores across all age groups were examined controlling for candidates highest qualifications. In general, scores showed negative correlations with age although this trend was slightly less marked for candidates with a higher education qualification.

Providing this level of data helps those selecting students make informed decisions about how they use the test. In the next section we describe the steps taken to ensure that test is fair and reliable.

Test and item analysis

Each year test results and item performance are analysed using a variety of methods in order to report on test reliability, internal construct validity and individual item performance.

Test Reliability

Subtest score reliabilities ranged from moderate to high. Scale score reliabilities were the same or slightly higher across test forms compared to 2011. The Standard Error of Measurement (SEM) for the subtest and total scores was satisfactory. Variation in score reliability and SEM across the four subtests can be attributed to test length, range of discrimination and difficulty among items.

Item Performance

Differential Item Functioning (DIF) refers to the potential for items to behave differently for different groups. DIF is an undesirable characteristic because it means that an item is measuring both the construct it was designed to measure and some additional characteristic or characteristics of performance that depend on classification or membership in a group, (usually a gender or ethnic group classification). The Mantel-Haenszel procedure is used to identify DIF. For the UKCAT, MH DIF items are classified into one of three categories, A, B, or C. Category A contains items with negligible DIF, Category B contains items with slight to moderate DIF, and Category C contains items with moderate to large DIF. Items flagged in Category C are typically subjected to further scrutiny while Category B items may be reviewed.

DIF analyses were conducted for the pre-test and operational items when sample sizes were large enough. The UKCAT DIF comparison groups are based on gender, age, ethnicity and SEC.

For the operational pools, there were 17 occurrences of Category C DIF across all cognitive subtests and comparisons. Of these 8 occurred for the Age <20/>35 comparison; 3 for the White/Black comparison; 1 in the White/Asian comparison; 3 in the White/Other comparison; 1 in the White/Withheld Information comparison and 1 in the SEC 1/2 comparison. For the pre-test items, there were 16 occurrences of Category C DIF.

Items with Category C DIF will have content and wording examined for the potential bias. These items will either be revised or retired based on the review in the item writing workshops.

These analyses which are performed annually reassure UKCAT that the test is fair and reliable.

Test Incidents

The following incidents occurred during 2011 testing and were addressed in detail during the Annual Review held in December 2011.

Registration

10 candidates were permitted to register to take the test following the registrations deadline due to a timing delay in the APAC (Australasia, Pacific and China) region. This was addressed for future years by additional operational notices being sent out to Test Centres at registration close.

Item Content Issues

Two item content issues had been identified during testing. Pearson Vue was requested to improve further their quality assurance procedures in relation to item development. One of these improvements included the creation of the Item Review Group referred to above.

Calculator

Some candidates had experienced problems with the operation of on-screen calculators which had caused tests to require re-starting. This had resulted in a number of candidate annotations where delays in testing were thought to have affected performance. The issue had been caused by a software release that had not been properly tested. Pearson Vue was committed to improving systems in this area.

Results Interface

Results were delivered to Universities a week late. Pearson Vue took this issue very seriously and has reviewed management of this process in detail with progress to be monitored by the Test Delivery Group.

Bursaries

The bursary application process underwent a significant improvement in the 2011 test cycle, with the introduction of an online application process supported by a CMS database. Candidates applied online via the UKCAT website, uploaded their supporting documentation and received a confirmation email quoting a unique reference. A small number of candidates experienced difficulty in uploading documents and modifications were made to the system at the beginning of the test cycle. Candidates unable to upload documents could post their evidence to the UKCAT office. The introduction of the online application system greatly improved the speed of bursary processing.

In 2011 testing 3396 (13.6%) candidates received a bursary covering the full costs of their test.

In 2012 UKCAT has had to review the criteria for bursaries as EMA is phased out in England. Candidates whose families are in receipt of tax credits and whose household income is below £30,000 may now apply for a bursary.

Research Panel

The Research panel was established in 2009 and its remit is identified above. Significant work has taken place since in moving the research agenda forward.

Database and Progression Data

In October 2010, the University of Dundee Health Informatics Group was awarded the contract to develop and manage the UKCAT database. The established database now contains data regarding all test takers including progression data collected from 20 medical and dental schools.

As part of this development, Dundee had made available to schools, web reports showing trends over time in their data with regional and national comparisons. It is hoped that these will be developed to become an increasingly useful tool to schools when reviewing admission processes.

Longitudinal Study

HIC has been able to provide researchers at UCL and Birkbeck with candidate and progression data in order that an initial longitudinal study (looking at first year performance in the first instance) can take place. It is expected that a report from the study will be available towards the end of 2012.

Widening Participation

The University of Durham carried out research on behalf of UKCAT to look at the impact of the test on widening participation. The paper was published in the *BMJ* in spring 2012 (*Widening access to UK medical education for under-represented socioeconomic groups: modelling the impact of the UKCAT in the 2009 cohort* *BMJ 2012;344:e1805 Paul A Tiffin, Jonathan S Dowell, John C McLachlan*). The authors concluded that the use of the UKCAT may lead to more equitable provision of offers to those applying to medical school from under-represented socio-demographic groups. The research will be replicated in 2012/13 with a further cohort.

Section 5 Research

In May 2011 the Research Panel convened a meeting of researchers interested in investigating the outcomes from our section 5 (non-cognitive) data and how this might be used to develop the test. The day helped to spark interest in studies in this area. Activity to date has included collaboration between three medical schools looking at potential links between the sub-test and the outcomes from Multiple Mini Interviews (MMIs).

Research Website

The UKCAT website now contains a section dedicated to research and includes a summary of published research in the field.

FUTURE PLANS

The Board has set the following objectives for 2012/13

- To deliver the test successfully to medical and dental school candidates and ensure that Universities receive test results in good time to contribute to their admissions processes.
- To develop a strategy for the next 3-5 years to inform future spending priorities
- To identify key stakeholders and external organisations and further embed communication strategies in order to develop relationships and better promote UKCAT.
- To use information gathered from the candidate survey and reported incidents to improve the candidate experience with regard to test preparation and the testing environment.
- To build upon the scoping exercise in order to embark on full longitudinal cohort study of test candidates using progression data collected from Consortium members.
- To continue to work with Dundee to develop the database and put in place robust mechanisms for the collection and integration of additional data.
- To facilitate sharing of good practice regarding the use of the test within the Consortium.
- To develop a new non-cognitive test for 2013 and review options for Decision Analysis.
- To work alongside other stakeholders to explore linkages with postgraduate data to enable further longitudinal studies in the future.
- To review marketing strategies focusing in particular on 'widening participation' candidates.

The Board and its sub-groups are charged with achieving the objectives as outlined above. The Board monitors performance against these objectives at its regular meetings through reports from the Chairs of these groups. These objectives inform the work of the UKCAT office.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

2011/12 Outturn

Following the 2010/11 outturn, negotiations took place with Pearson Vue to reduce the cost of elements of the contract during 2011 testing. Reductions in costs were achieved as a result of the reduced test timing (following the decision not to run section 5 in 2011) and a renegotiation of the service levels offered through the call centre. This combined with an increase in the test fee (the first since testing started in 2006) has resulted in UKCAT delivering a surplus in 2012.

Reserves Policy

UKCAT needs reserves to:

- Meet contractual liabilities should the organisation cease to exist. This includes redundancy pay, amounts due to creditors and commitments under leases.
- To meet unexpected costs like break down of essential office machinery, staff cover in relation to illness, maternity leave and parental leave.
- To meet any legal costs defending the charity's interest.
- To replace equipment when required.
- To meet the costs of one-off developments to the test or its delivery.
- To meet the organisation's fixed costs in the event of a significant fall in candidate numbers
- To undertake and provide infrastructural support for a programme of research which may span several years with the costs of research varying significantly between those years.

Expenditure in 2011/12 totalled £1.69m. Current reserves stand at £0.46m (27% of annual expenditure). UKCAT aims to have reserves in the region of 20 – 25% of annual expenditure. The Board is undertaking a strategic review of activities and spending priorities in order to ensure that reserves are kept within this range in the future.

The Board of Trustees reviews the level of reserves at each Board meeting. The current level of reserves will be considered particularly carefully before any agreed increase in the candidate fee.

Members' Liability

The Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up.

Trustees' Responsibility Statement

The Trustees (who are also directors of UK CAT Consortium for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Provision of Information to Auditor

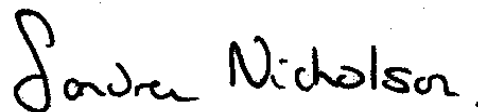
Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any information needed by the charitable company's auditors in connection with preparing their report and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

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

This report was approved by the Trustees on 22 November 2012 and signed on their behalf, by:

Dr S Nicholson

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra Nicholson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF UKCAT CONSORTIUM

We have audited the financial statements of UK CAT Consortium for the year ended 31 March 2012 set out on pages 15-18. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities). This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 charity and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinion we have formed.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Auditors

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the Audit and Financial Statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Trustees' report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on Financial Statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2012 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Opinion on other matters Prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the Trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Trustees' report.

Christopher Dougherty (Senior statutory auditor) for and on behalf of **Lakin Rose Limited** Chartered Accountants, Registered Auditors Pioneer House, Vision Park, Cambridge CB24 9NL

Date:

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2012 £	Total funds 2011 £
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Incoming resources from generated funds:			
Investment income	2	5,793	4,234
Incoming resources from charitable activities:			
Testing fees - clinical aptitude testing		1,819,635	1,719,320
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		1,825,428	1,723,554
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Charitable activities - clinical aptitude testing	3	1,688,207	1,880,896
Governance costs	6	3,600	3,893
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		1,691,807	1,884,789
MOVEMENT IN TOTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR - NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR		133,621	(161,235)
<i>Total funds at 1 April 2011</i>		<u>326,815</u>	<u>488,050</u>
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 MARCH 2012		£ 460,436	£ 326,815

The notes on pages 17 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

UKCAT Consortium (Registered number 05620264)
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2012

	Note	£	2012 £	£	2011 £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	1,698		1,922	
Cash at bank		<u>552,924</u>		<u>385,064</u>	
		554,622		386,986	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(94,186)</u>		<u>(60,171)</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>460,436</u>		<u>326,815</u>
NET ASSETS			<u>£ 460,436</u>		<u>£ 326,815</u>
CHARITY FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	10		<u>460,436</u>		<u>326,815</u>
			<u>£ 460,436</u>		<u>£ 326,815</u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 22 November 2012 and signed on their behalf, by:

Sandra Nicholson.

Dr S Nicholson

The notes on pages 17 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2012

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008). The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" published in March 2005, applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the charity are the medical and dental schools who have chosen to implement the clinical aptitude test. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

1.3 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

1.4 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of financial activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Candidate testing fees are recognised in the period in which testing occurs.

1.5 Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management carried out at Headquarters. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

1.6 Cash flow

The financial statements do not include a Cash flow statement because the charitable charity, as a small reporting entity, is exempt from the requirement to prepare such a statement under the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds	<i>Total Funds</i>
	2012	<i>2011</i>
	£	£
Bank interest receivable	3,013	<i>1,307</i>
Other interest receivable	2,780	<i>2,927</i>
	£ 5,793	<i>£ 4,234</i>

3. ANALYSIS OF RESOURCES EXPENDED BY ACTIVITIES

	Activities undertaken	Support	Total	<i>Total</i>
	directly	costs	2012	<i>2011</i>
	2012	2012	2012	<i>2011</i>
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities: clinical aptitude testing	£ 1,445,055	£ 243,152	£ 1,688,207	<i>£ 1,880,896</i>

4. DIRECT COSTS	Clinical aptitude testing	Total 2012	Total 2011
	£	£	£
Testing provider's charges - testing	1,312,063	1,312,063	1,435,511
Testing provider's charges - other	132,992	132,992	244,185
Corporation tax	-	-	(1,511)
	<u>£ 1,445,055</u>	<u>£ 1,445,055</u>	<u>£ 1,678,185</u>

5. SUPPORT COSTS	Clinical aptitude testing	Total 2012	Total 2011
	£	£	£
Office and administration recharges	114,420	114,420	110,621
Data management	45,670	45,670	12,702
Hotels, travel and subsistence	13,574	13,574	12,410
Premises	17,857	17,857	19,378
Printing and stationery	-	-	794
Research	22,790	22,790	-
Sundry expenses	1,580	1,580	1,204
Legal fees	24,432	24,432	42,985
Insurance	2,743	2,743	2,444
Bank charges	86	86	173
	<u>£ 243,152</u>	<u>£ 243,152</u>	<u>£ 202,711</u>

6. GOVERNANCE COSTS	Unrestricted funds 2012	Total Funds 2011
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	<u>£ 3,600</u>	<u>£ 3,893</u>

7. STAFF COSTS
The charity has no employees. During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or benefits in kind (2011 - £NIL). 12 Trustees received reimbursement of expenses amounting to £8,020 in the current year, (2011 - 11 Trustees - £4,525).

8. DEBTORS	2012	2011
	£	£
Other debtors	<u>£ 1,698</u>	<u>£ 1,922</u>

9. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	2012	2011
	£	£
Trade creditors	20,780	-
Accruals and deferred income	73,406	60,171
	<u>£ 94,186</u>	<u>£ 60,171</u>

10. STATEMENT OF FUNDS	Brought Forward	Incoming resources	Resources Expended	Carried Forward
	£	£	£	£
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				
General Funds	<u>326,815</u>	<u>1,825,428</u>	<u>(1,691,807)</u>	<u>460,436</u>
SUMMARY OF FUNDS				
	Brought Forward	Incoming resources	Resources Expended	Carried Forward
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>£ 326,815</u>	<u>£ 1,825,428</u>	<u>£ (1,691,807)</u>	<u>£ 460,436</u>

UKCAT Consortium

CHARITY TRUSTEES

Dr Sandra Nicholson, Queen Mary University of London, Chair

Mr Martyn Annis, University of Brighton, Vice-Chair

Dr Lyndon Cabot, King's College London

Dr Jon Dowell, University of Dundee (re-elected 16/12/11)

Mrs Martine Lowes, University of Nottingham

Dr Robert McAndrew, University of Cardiff (appointed 01/09/12)

Professor John McLachlan, University of Durham (re-elected 16/12/11)

Mr Nigel Siesage, University of Leicester

Dr Katie Petty Saphon, Medical Schools' Council

Professor Brigitte Scammell, University of Nottingham (elected 16/12/11)

Dr Keith Steele, Queen's University Belfast

Professor Tony Weetman, Medical Schools' Council

Professor Anthony Warrens (term of office ended 16/12/11) and Professor Mark Thomason (term of office ended 01/09/12) were trustees during the financial year 2011/12.

COMPANY SECRETARY

Significant elements of the day to day management of UKCAT are delegated to the Chief Operating Officer and Company Secretary, Rachel Greatrix.

PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

Bank: Natwest, Nottingham University Branch, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2AG

Solicitors: Browne Jacobson, Mowbray House, Castle Meadow Road, Nottingham NG2 1BJ

Auditors: Lakin Rose Limited, Pioneer House, Vision Park, Cambridge CB24 9NL

CONSORTIUM MEMBERS 2011/12

University of Aberdeen

Brighton and Sussex Medical School

Cardiff University

University of Dundee

University of Durham

University of East Anglia

University of Edinburgh

University of Glasgow

Hull York Medical School

Imperial College London

Keele University

Kings College London

University of Leeds

University of Leicester

University of Manchester

University of Newcastle

University of Nottingham

University of Oxford

Peninsula Medical School

Queen Mary, University of London

Queen's University, Belfast

University of Sheffield

University of Southampton

University of St Andrews

St George's, University of London

University of Warwick