



AGM 7th March 2026

Quality and Audit Committee Report

The role of the Quality and Audit Committee (Q & A) is to independently monitor the management of ASE's resources and to report on this to members at the AGM. It is set up to represent the interests of members by acting as a critical friend and offering advice to trustees.

The current membership of Q & A comprises:

Olivia Bussey	Trustee representative, 2024 –
John Lawrence	2023-26
Stuart Naylor	2025-28, Chair
Peter Robinson	2025-28
Nicholas Souter	2025-28

A representative from Q & A attends each trustee meeting as an observer. Q & A meetings are normally held by email in order to make them more cost-effective and to reduce the demand on the CEO's time. All members of Q & A receive the documents that go to trustees so that they are able to be fully informed and make comments or raise issues as necessary before trustee meetings. Soon after each trustee meeting the Q & A chair has a discussion with the CEO. The purpose of this is to follow up any points raised by Q & A members; to raise any issues arising from the trustees meeting in a private conversation; and to provide a confidential sounding board for the CEO. This procedure enables Q & A to be fully informed about discussions held by trustees and to scrutinise the decision-making process on behalf of members. It also enables Q & A to act as a constructive and independent critical friend, offering appropriate challenge as well as support.

The main aspects of Q & A's work over the past 12 months are as follows.

- Review the procedure for electing a chair (in April, when it appeared that an election would be necessary) and approve the final joint nomination.
- Contribute to the decision about whether to have an independent examination or an external audit of accounts, and provide reassurance that an independent examination is in the best interests of members.
- Participate in the CEO performance management review and target setting for the coming year.
- Review nominations for Honorary Membership, ensuring that each nomination fully meets the criteria.
- Contribute to discussion of the overall Risk Analysis regarding ASE's continued survival and development, to ensure that relevant risks are taken into account and mitigated as far as possible.
- Providing advice to trustees in reviewing how trustee meetings are organised and managed.

Q & A wishes to record its thanks to ASE headquarters staff and the CEO for their ongoing commitment to running ASE effectively, as well as all the volunteers who enable ASE to make a positive difference to so many teachers and learners.

Stuart Naylor, Chair of Quality and Audit Committee