

RESERVES POLICY

The Society has for nearly a decade, self-funded its current work based on funds arising out of the sale of property owned by the charity, when it moved away from being a provider of hostel accommodation for women offenders leaving Holloway.

In its new role/purpose, as a provider of practitioner-led, indicative research into the treatment of women and girls in the criminal justice system, the society funds annual research fellowships, currently in partnership with the Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge.

In order to ensure sufficient funds are available to cover the Society's operational liabilities for an 18-month period, the society maintains a base reserve of £50,000.

Efficient financial management and planning allow a level of reserves to be maintained above this lower limit (at a total of £150,000) that is consistent with the long-term nature of the Society's work. Social research has to be planned well in advance. The Society's strategy for the dissemination of research has to be long-term, because it can take many years of work before research findings become reflected in improvements to criminal justice policy and practice. The Society's reserves help to safeguard the future of the Society. This in turn helps to ensure research findings can be effectively translated into sustainable change that brings benefits to women offenders, to the criminal justice system, and to the wider community.