



**22<sup>nd</sup> June 2016**

I have pleasure in reporting that we have experienced another successful year. Although we were sorry to lose James Talman as our CEO at the end of September, we are very pleased to have appointed Cathie Clarke. Cathie has enthusiastically taken on the various initiatives set in motion by her predecessor in addition to developing ideas for growth and influence for SPRA within the wider construction sector.

Membership continues to grow and our financial reserves have also increased. A significant three-year funding grant from the CITB confirmed in May 2016 has secured plans to support and develop our important training objectives. Training, management and administration costs have however increased which is to be expected and is a direct result of an increasing membership and training development commitments.

Communication and collaboration are at the heart of our objectives to promote SPRA quality standards, members and specialist training, and we continue to develop closer working relationships with partner organisations in the roofing and wider construction industry. Our technical developments and support, training, events and other marketing activities, including a refresh of our website; have all supported this activity.

A future priority is to continue to grow the organisation in both membership and influence whilst maintaining our commitment to high quality standards and training. In an uncertain economic and political environment, SPRA is working hard across the industry to ensure that we support and promote our members with standards and services that always work to improve quality across their business.

## **Financial**

I am pleased to advise that at the end of 2015, SPRA had a trading surplus of £ 31599 on a turnover of £237181. Once again, this a significant increase on 2014. Revenues increased 27% on 2014 whilst costs also increased by 17% for the year. Reserves went up to £94199 from £62503 which substantially covers all known commitments and allows for some re-investment into the organisation to support membership services.

## **Governance**

There have been no governance issues over the past year. Our articles and procedures have been reviewed by our new CEO and approval of changes form part of the 2016 AGM.

## **Objectives**

At the time of writing our membership has reached 15 manufacturer members (up 2 on last year's report), 33 associate members and purchasers of services (up 3 on last year) and 49 contractor members (up 5 on last's year's position). There are currently 7 companies in audit for membership. Representation of all polymer genres continues to increase and SPRA is

working across the membership to introduce new standards and guidance so that all markets; commercial, domestic, large and small are appropriately regulated and continuous quality improvement is encouraged and supported.

SPRA continues to lead the way for specialist roof training through the development and delivery of a range of quality single ply training programmes. The new manufacturer Basic Competency Programme (BCP) initiated in 2015 and highly praised by the CPA, is successfully delivering candidates and Gary Walpole, SPRA Training Manager continues to work with SPRA manufacturers to approve more BCP courses. Gary is also developing a new initiative for SPRA that could revolutionise assessment and training processes and significantly improve L2 craft achievements. It is intended that this initiative will also be linked to a new membership category for Installers in our bid to promote quality and training and allow access to SPRA for those delivering high quality installations within the roofing industry.

Our Technical Programme continues to provide advice and guidance at the highest level through our helpline, Technical Committee and Task Groups. The revised Design Guide (including effect of Part L 2016; BIM objects) was released in March 2016 and a new Homeowner's Guide is being launched at the 2016 AGM

Our desire to see a single voice from the roofing industry is gaining momentum and our collaboration with the NFRC continues to grow and we also serve on the board of the Roofing Industry Alliance. We continue our support of the Construction Products Association and are also members of Build UK, (created in 2015 out of an amalgamation of the NSCC and the UKCG). We have also joined the UK Green Building Council and have active representation on the Advisory Committee for Roof Safety (ACR).

## ***The Year Ahead***

This is my last Chairman's report as I am stepping down at the AGM having served four years in this post. It has been an honour to represent SPRA and I am proud of the achievements that this organisation has accomplished during my tenure.

Our aim is to Influence, Innovate and Educate, and it is important that we continue delivering on all the key objectives. There are considerable and exciting challenges ahead for the new Chairman, the Council and the membership. SPRA will be pursuing all opportunities to promote SPRA standards and to lobby for SPRA specification at the earliest stages of any project. We will continue our approval programme of manufacturer training programmes for the BCP and delivering high quality training will be a high priority. SPRA will continue to work more closely with its membership to deliver quality customer service and maximise membership benefits.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Council members for their time and support, and our Executive team; Cathie, our Chief Executive, Jim, our Technical Director, Gary our Training Manager and all the support team behind the scenes for their commitment and enthusiasm.

***Mike Crook***  
***Chairman***  
***Single Ply Roofing Association***