

Cambridge Science Centre Annual Review 2024

CAMBRIDGE
SCIENCE
CENTRE

**“This place is amazing! Every child
is engaged and has a voice”**
– Primary Teacher

**Where science isn't something
you watch – it's something you do!**



Message from our CEO

"2024 was a defining year for Cambridge Science Centre (CSC). Our brand-new venue in Cambridge Science Park has become a vibrant hub for hands-on STEM learning – a place that welcomes families, schools, and communities with warmth, energy, and opportunity.

At the same time, we've deepened our presence in the Fenlands, delivering science experiences where they're often most needed and least available.

As we look ahead, our new multi-year Programmes will create powerful opportunities for young people to connect with real-world challenges. The first, *Building a Better World*, focuses on how we design and shape our built environment. Through this and future themes, we'll bring industry, researchers, and communities together – making STEM careers more visible, more relevant, and more inspiring.

With a clear vision, an expert team, and a growing network of long-term supporters, CSC is well positioned to lead the way in hands-on STEM engagement – in East Anglia and beyond.

Our foundation is strong, and the future is full of possibility. Join us as we shape what comes next."

Rebecca Porter, CEO



Message from our Chair

"It has been thrilling to see Cambridge Science Centre (CSC) become a driving force for hands-on STEM education. 2024 was a landmark year in our growth, not least with the opening of our brand-new venue at Cambridge Science Park.

We are now reaching more young people than ever, opening doors to discovery and opportunity.

This robust strength is built on the passion and expertise of our team, alongside the vital support of our partners. All their dedication

ensures that CSC is not only delivering inspiring experiences but also embedding long-term engagement. This tangibly helps young people see STEM as a world in which they can belong and can thrive.

As a Board, we are committed to strengthening CSC's foundations for the future. By forging deeper connections between industry, education, and the wider community, we are laying the groundwork for sustained impact – ensuring that as many young people as possible, regardless of background, have access to meaningful STEM experiences now that they will remember into old age.

Now is the time to build on our momentum. Together we can create lasting change. I encourage and invite you to join us in shaping the future of STEM education and opportunity."

Harriet Fear, MBE



Our Executive Council



When Executive Council members commit for three years or more, they become part of something lasting. They give us the security to dream bigger, reach further, and make a positive life-long difference in the lives of young people.



**“This place is the best!
Better than an inflatabounce!”**
– Young Visitor



Impact Highlights

- Over 500,000 people engaged since 2013
- Over 3x more visitors to our new Centre
- Over 30% of visitors returned within 6 months
- Critical ages 7-11 remain our majority young audience
- 23 weeks of in-depth engagement with young people from the North Cambridge community
- 3 months creating positive relationships with STEM for our youngest, STEMtots families



Our New Site

Conveniently located in Cambridge Science Park, just a short walk from Cambridge North Station, our new site offers:

- Over 275 sqm of high-quality exhibition space
- Two fully equipped classrooms
- A well-stocked shop
- Ample free parking
- A café within easy reach



Step into a space where curiosity leads the way; where children can question, experiment, and discover science on their own terms.

Our Supporters

29th May 1961 Charity

Amazon

Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge

Anglia Ruskin University, Chelmsford

Anglia Ruskin University, Peterborough
Arm

Association of Science & Discovery Centres

Bidwells

Birketts

STEM CAA, Reach for the Sky Challenge
Fund

Cambridge Festival

Cambridge Science Park

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined
Authority

Cambridgeshire Community Foundation

Centre for Landscape Regeneration,
University of Cambridge

Cleevely Family Charitable Trust

COEL

Dr Debbie Allen

East Coast Skills Fund

Edina Trust

Eligator Sansom Family Fund

FAAM Airborne Laboratory

Horsefair Shopping Centre,
Wisbech

Illumina

Johnson Matthey

LifeArc

March Community Centre

Mission Street

Mr Mike Inglis

North Cambridge Community Partnership

North Cambridgeshire Training Centre

Nuclera UK

PEM Accountants

Ramsey Rural Museum

Relithan Trust

Roche

Trinity College, University of Cambridge

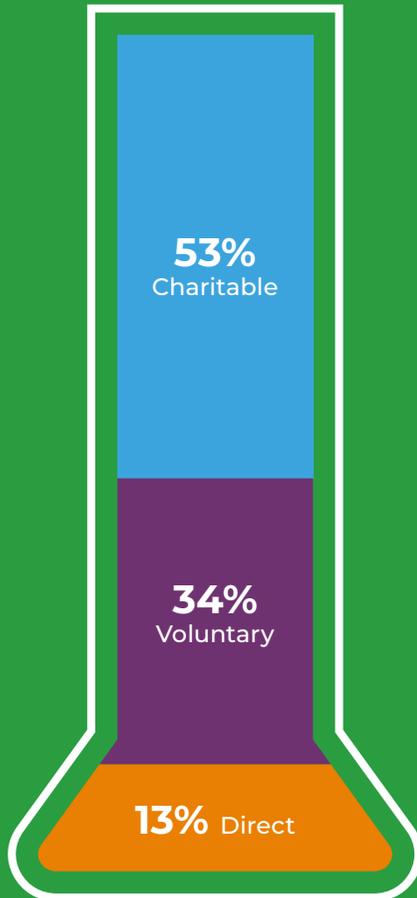


Income and Spend 2024



Total Income: £968,000 Total Spend: £916,000

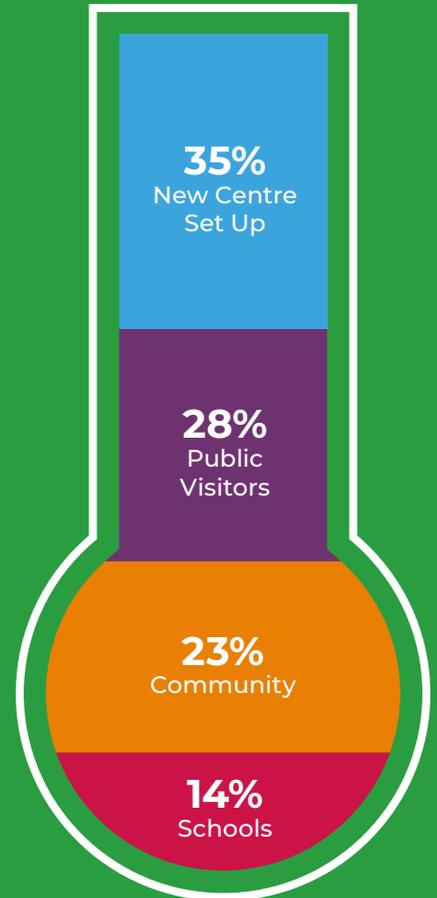
Income Sources



Expenditure Breakdown



Where We Focused Our Work



2024 in Review



Since opening our new venue in July 2024, CSC has more than tripled its previous best visitor numbers – and sustained that momentum into 2025.

The new exhibition hall – now featuring over 50% new exhibits – has transformed the experience for families, with fresh, themed content each school holiday exploring topics like space, engineering, oceans, the natural world, and more!

Our skilled science communicators bring every visit to life, creating warm, engaging, and memorable moments that keep families coming back.

While children aged 4-11 remain our core audience, we've also seen increased demand from families with toddlers thanks to our ever-popular STEMTots programme.

Over the year, we welcomed Brockton Everlast to our Executive Council and forged 13 new partnerships – including a national collaboration with Roche to deliver Challenge Days exploring disease detection and drug discovery. We also expanded outreach through our Wisbech hub in the North Cambridgeshire Fenlands, embedding ourselves more deeply in regional communities.

CSC is now widely recognised for making science exciting, inclusive, and relevant – a mission that will continue to guide us into the future.



The Year Ahead

In late 2024, we welcomed Rebecca Porter as CEO. With her comes fresh ambition and sharper focus for CSC's next phase of growth.

At the heart of this is a new programme model: multi-year content designed to connect communities, researchers, and industry. Our first theme, *Building a Better World*, will explore how we shape our built environment for a more sustainable and inclusive future.

Each programme will run for 12-18 months and use both our Cambridge and regional sites as delivery hubs – creating space for hands-on learning, public dialogue, and real-world exploration.

Meanwhile, our year-round exhibitions will continue to bring science to life through play, storytelling, and surprise.

CSC is evolving – but always with curiosity, creativity, and community at its core.



Join us!
Sign up for
our newsletter

Cambridge Science Centre

The Trinity Centre, Cambridge Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge, CB4 0FN

w: cambridgesciencecentre.org e: info@cambridgesciencecentre.org

Registered Charity in England and Wales No. 1146349

