

**LEEK UNITED BUILDING SOCIETY
STAFF ASSOCIATION**

STATEMENT TO MEMBERS

31 JANUARY 2021

Bennett Brooks & Co Limited
St. George's Court, Winnington Avenue, Northwich, Cheshire, CW8 4EE

**LEEK UNITED BUILDING SOCIETY
STAFF ASSOCIATION**

**STATEMENT TO MEMBERS ISSUED IN CONNECTION WITH THE UNION'S ANNUAL
RETURN FOR THE YEAR TO 31 JANUARY 2021 AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 32A OF
TRADE UNION AND LABOUR RELATIONS (CONSOLIDATION) ACT 1992**

Income and expenditure

The total income of the union for the year was £5,146. This amount included payments of £4,370 in respect of membership to the union. The union's total expenditure for the year was £4,770. The association does not maintain a political fund.

Salary paid and other benefits provided to the chair and committee.

The chair and committee were not paid a salary and received no benefits.

Irregularity statement

A member who is concerned that some irregularity may be occurring, or have occurred, in the conduct of the financial affairs of the union may take steps with a view to investigating further, obtaining clarification and, if necessary, securing regularisation of that conduct.

The member may raise any such concern with such one or more of the following as it seems appropriate to raise it with:

- The officials of the union,
- the trustees of the property of the union
- the auditor or auditors of the union
- the Certification Officer (who is an independent officer appointed by the Secretary of State)
and
- the police.

Where a member believes that the financial affairs of the union have been or are being conducted in breach of the law or in breach of rules of the union and contemplates bringing civil proceedings against the union or responsible officials or trustees, he should consider obtaining independent legal advice.

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Independent auditors' report to the members of Leek United Building Society Staff Association

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Leek United Building Society Staff Association for the year ended 31 January 2021 which comprise the balance sheet and the income and expenditure account and notes to the financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the association's affairs as at 31 January 2021 and of its transactions for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs(UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the association in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Members of the Committee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Members of the Committee with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

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Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- proper accounting records have not been kept in accordance with the requirements of section 28; or
- the association has not maintained a satisfactory system of control over its transactions in accordance with the requirements of that section; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records.
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purpose of our audit.

Reporting on other information

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The members of the Committee are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit

Responsibilities of the Committee for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Committee's responsibilities in respect of the financial statements set out on page 2, the members of the Committee are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view and are also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the members of the Committee are responsible for assessing the Staff Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the members of the Committee either intend to liquidate the Staff Association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

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Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Independent auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the association and sector, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to UK tax legislation and regulations which govern the preparation of financial statements, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements such as the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992. We evaluated the Members of the Committee's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries to increase income, through management bias in manipulation of accounting estimates or accounting for significant transactions outside the normal course of operations.

Audit procedures performed included:

- Enquiry of management around actual and potential litigation and claims and instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, testing accounting estimates (because of the risk of management bias), and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of operations;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and agreeing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations; and
- Review of minutes of the meetings of the Committee.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at:

<https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our Independent auditors' report.

Use of our report

The report is made solely to the Association's members, as a body, in accordance with the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Association'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 Association and the Association's members as a body, for audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Bennett Brooks & Co Limited

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Statutory Auditor

St George's Court
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Northwich
Cheshire
CW8 4EE

12 November 2021