

Dear Member,

It is a legal requirement for Trade Unions to issue a statement to members after submitting our annual return to the Certification Officer.

Please see below Scottish Artists Union's statement to you, our valued member.

Many thanks for taking the time to read over it. If you have any questions, or wish to see our full annual return please email: office@artistsunion.scot

**Scottish Artists Union's statement to members for period ended 31st March 2023
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 period was £253,558. This amount included payments of £148,164 in respect of membership income of the union. The union's total expenditure for the period was £226,665.

Political Fund

The union does not maintain a political fund.

Salary paid to and other benefits provided to the President Salary and members of the Executive
The President (outgoing) of the union (April – August 2022) was paid £8,056 in respect of salary, employer pension contribution of £142 and £0 in respect of benefits. The President (incoming) of the union (September 2022 – March 2023) was paid a stipend of £8,157, £0 in respect of pension contribution or benefits. Six Members of the Executive were recompensed for undertaking training and carrying out activities not related to Executive Member duties, with a cost to the union of £3,375.

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 the rules of the union and contemplates bringing civil

proceedings against the union or responsible officials or trustees, he should consider obtaining independent legal advice.

Auditor's report

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of the Scottish Artists Union.

Responsibilities of the executive committee

As explained more fully in the executive committee's responsibilities statement, the executive committee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the it determines 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 executive committee are responsible for assessing the union'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 executive committee either intends to liquidate the union or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's 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 auditor's 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 identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures to respond to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we consider the following:

- The nature of the industry, control environment and business performance of the charity
- The results of our enquires with management and the executive committee about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities
- The matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we consider the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the union for fraud. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override and inappropriate income recognition.

We also obtain an understanding of the legal and regulatory environment in which the union operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of

material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and those which may be fundamental to the union's ability to operate. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspx> This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the union's members, as a body, in accordance with the rules of the union. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the union's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 union and the union's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Paul Marshall

For and on behalf of Geoghegans

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors 6 St Colme Street

Edinburgh

EH3 6AD

26 August 2023

Thank you for taking the time to read this statement.

Kind regards,

Scottish Artists Union Executive Committee