

# Form AR21

Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992

## Annual Return for a Trade Union

Name of Trade Union:	Social Workers Union				
Year ended:	30 September 2024				
List no:	809T				
Head or Main Office address:	Wellesley House				
	37 Waterloo Street				
	Birmingham				
Postcode	B2 5PP				
Website address (if available)	<a href="http://www.swu-union.org.uk">www.swu-union.org.uk</a>				
Has the address changed during the year to which the return relates?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	('X' in appropriate box)
General Secretary:	John McGowan				
Telephone Number:	0771 1958 802				
Contact name for queries regarding the completion of this return	John McGowan				
Telephone Number:	0771 1958 802				
E-mail:	j.mcgowan@swu-union.org.uk				

**Please follow the guidance notes in the completion of this return**

Any difficulties or problems in the completion of this return should be directed to the Certification Officer as below or by telephone to: 0330 109 3602

You should send the annual return to the following email address stating the name of the union in subject:

[returns@certoffice.org](mailto:returns@certoffice.org)

# Contents

Trade Union's details.....	1
Return of members.....	2
Change of officers.....	2
Officers in post.....	2a
General fund.....	3
Analysis of income from federation and other bodies and other income.....	4
Analysis of benefit expenditure shown at general fund.....	5
Accounts other than the revenue account/general fund.....	6-8a
Political fund account.....	9-9vii
Analysis of administrative expenses .....	10
Analysis of officials' salaries and benefits.....	11
Analysis of investment income.....	12
Balance sheet as at.....	13
Fixed assets account.....	14
Analysis of investments.....	15
Analysis of investment income (controlling interests).....	16
Summary Sheet.....	17
Summary sheet (Only for Incorporated Bodies).....	17a
Information on Industrial action ballots.....	18-19
Information on Industrial action.....	20-21
Notes to the accounts.....	22
Accounting policies.....	23
Signatures to the annual return.....	23
Checklist.....	23
Checklist for auditor's report.....	24
Auditor's report (continued).....	25
Membership audit certificate.....	i-iii
Guidance on completion.....	26

# Return of Members

(see notes 10 and 11)

	Number of members at the end of the year				
	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	Irish Republic	Elsewhere Abroad (including Channel Islands)	Totals
	15,041	294			15,335
<b>Total</b>	15,041	294			A 15,335

Number of members at end of year contributing to the General Fund

15,335

Number of members included in totals box 'A' above for whom no home or authorised address is held:

None

## Change of Officers

Please complete the following to record any changes of officers during the twelve months covered by this return

Position Held	Name of Officer ceasing to hold Office	Name of Officer Appointed	Date of change
SWU Executive	Lewis Roberts	N/A	30th August 2024

State whether the union is:

a. A branch of another trade union?

Yes

No

If yes, state the name of that other union:

b. A federation of trade unions?

Yes

No

If yes, state the number of affiliated unions:

and names:

# Officers in post

(see note 12)

Please complete list of all officers in post at the end of the year to which this return relates.

Name of Officer	Position held and date elected
Gerry Madden	Tresurer / NI Rep 30/09/2023
Dave Callow	Chair / England Rep 30/09/2022
Angi Naylor	Vice Chair / UK Rep 30/09/2022
James Birchall	UK Rep 30/09/2022
Chrissie Beatty	UK Rep 30/09/2022
Rebecca Austin	UK Rep 30/09/2022
Lewis Roberts (Resigned 30/08/24)	UK Rep 30/09/2022
Ann Marie Hayes	UK Rep 30/09/2022
Anna Collins	Wales Rep 30/09/2022
Tina Peterson	England Rep 30/09/2022
Silvio Gigante	Scotland Rep 30/09/2022



## Analysis of income from federation and other bodies and other income

(see notes 19 and 20)

Description	£
<b>Federation and other bodies</b>	
Representation fees	-2,558
<b>Total federation and other bodies</b>	
	<b>-2558</b>
<b>Any Other Sources</b>	
Fair Value gains on investments	7,013
<b>Total other sources</b>	
	<b>7,013</b>
<b>Total of all other income</b>	
	<b>4,455</b>

## Analysis of benefit expenditure shown at the General Fund

(see notes 21 to 23)

			£
Representation – Employment Related Issues		<b>brought forward</b>	26,163
GFTU Membership fee	16,569	Advisory Services	
Representation – Non Employment Related Issues		Other Cash Payments	
Communications		Education and Training services	
Advertising and marketing	9,594	Negotiated Discount Services	
Dispute Benefits		Other Benefits and Grants (specify)	
		Officials' salaries	200,525
		AGM costs	4,567
		Awards and donations	2,000
<b>carried forward</b>	26,163	<b>Total (should agree with figure in General Fund)</b>	233,255





(See notes 21 and 23)

Fund 4		Fund Account	
Name:		£	£
<b>Income</b>			
	From members		
	Investment income (as at page 12)		
	Other income (specify)		
		<b>Total other income as specified</b>	
		<b>Total Income</b>	
		Interfund Transfers IN	
<b>Expenditure</b>			
	Benefits to members		
	Administrative expenses and other expenditure (as at page 10)		
		<b>Total Expenditure</b>	
		Interfund Transfers OUT	
		<b>Surplus (Deficit) for the year</b>	
		<b>Amount of fund at beginning of year</b>	
		<b>Amount of fund at the end of year (as Balance Sheet)</b>	
		<b>Number of members contributing at end of year</b>	

Fund 5		Fund Account	
Name:		£	£
<b>Income</b>			
	From members		
	Investment income (as at page 12)		
	Other income (specify)		
		<b>Total other income as specified</b>	
		<b>Total Income</b>	
		Interfund Transfers IN	
<b>Expenditure</b>			
	Benefits to members		
	Administrative expenses and other expenditure (as at page 10)		
		<b>Total Expenditure</b>	
		Interfund Transfers OUT	
		<b>Surplus (Deficit) for the year</b>	
		<b>Amount of fund at beginning of year</b>	
		<b>Amount of fund at the end of year (as Balance Sheet)</b>	
		<b>Number of members contributing at end of year</b>	



(See notes 21 and 23)

Fund 8		Fund Account		
Name:		£	£	
<b>Income</b>	From members			
	Investment income (as at page 12)			
	Other income (specify)			
	<b>Total other income as specified</b>			
	<b>Total Income</b>			
	Interfund Transfers IN			
<b>Expenditure</b>	Benefits to members			
	Administrative expenses and other expenditure (as at page 10)			
		<b>Total Expenditure</b>		
		Interfund Transfers OUT		
		<b>Surplus (Deficit) for the year</b>		
		<b>Amount of fund at beginning of year</b>		
	<b>Amount of fund at the end of year (as Balance Sheet)</b>			
	<b>Number of members contributing at end of year</b>			

Fund 9		Fund Account		
Name:		£	£	
<b>Income</b>	From members			
	Investment income (as at page 12)			
	Other income (specify)			
	<b>Total other income as specified</b>			
	<b>Total Income</b>			
	Interfund Transfers IN			
<b>Expenditure</b>	Benefits to members			
	Administrative expenses and other expenditure (as at page 10)			
		<b>Total Expenditure</b>		
		Interfund Transfers OUT		
		<b>Surplus (Deficit) for the year</b>		
		<b>Amount of fund at beginning of year</b>		
	<b>Amount of fund at the end of year (as Balance Sheet)</b>			
	<b>Number of members contributing at end of year</b>			

## Political fund account

(see notes 24 to 33)

£

£

<b>Political fund account 1</b>		<b>To be completed by trade unions which maintain their own political fund</b>	
	<b>Income</b>	Members contributions and levies	
		Investment income (as at page 12)	
	Other income (specify)		
		Total other income as specified	
		Total income	
<b>Expenditure under section (82) of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 on purposes set out in section (72) (1) where consolidation of expenditures from the political funds exceeds £2,000 during the period</b>			
	<b>Expenditure A</b> (as at page i)		
	<b>Expenditure B</b> (as at page ii)		
	<b>Expenditure C</b> (as at page iii)		
	<b>Expenditure D</b> (as at page iv)		
	<b>Expenditure E</b> (as at page v)		
	<b>Expenditure F</b> (as at page vi)		
	<b>Non-political expenditure</b> (as at page vii)		
		Total expenditure	
		Surplus (deficit) for year	
		Amount of political fund at beginning of year	
		Amount of political fund at the end of year (as <u>Balance Sheet</u> )	
		Number of members at end of year contributing to the political fund	
		Number of members at end of the year not contributing to the political fund	
		Number of members at end of year who have completed an exemption notice and do not contribute to the political fund	
<b>Political fund account 2</b>		<b>To be completed by trade unions which act as components of a central trade union</b>	
<b>Income</b>	Contributions and levies collected from members on behalf of central political fund		
	Funds received back from central political fund		
	Other income (specify)		
		Total other income as specified	
		Total income	
<b>Expenditure</b>	Expenditure under section 82 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (specify)		
	Administration expenses in connection with political objects(specify)		
	Non-political expenditure		
		Total expenditure	
		Surplus (deficit) for year	
		Amount held on behalf of trade union political fund at beginning of year	
		Amount remitted to central political	
		Amount held on behalf of central political fund at end of year	
		Number of members at end of year contributing to the political fund	
		Number of members at end of the year not contributing to the political fund	
		Number of members at end of year who have completed an exemption notice and do not therefore contribute to the political fund	





### **Political fund account expenditure (c)**

Expenditure under section 72 (1) (a) of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (consolidation) Act.

To be completed where total expenditure from the political fund exceeds £2,000 during the period to which return relates.

Expenditure in connection with the registration of electors, the candidature of any person, the selection of any candidate or the holding of any ballot by the union in connection with any election to a political office

Title and Date of election	Name of political party/organisation	Name of candidate, organisation or political party (see 33(iii))	£
<b>Total</b>			











## Analysis of administrative expenses and other outgoings excluding amounts charged to political fund accounts

(see notes 34 and 35)

	£
<b>Administrative Expenses</b>	
Remuneration and expenses of staff	19,575
Salaries and Wages included in above	[REDACTED]
Auditors' fees	6,900
Legal and Professional fees	5,515
Occupancy costs	8,445
Stationery, printing, postage, telephone, etc.	
Expenses of Executive Committee (Head Office)	
Expenses of conferences	
Other administrative expenses (specify)	
Bank charges	181
Insurance	3,359
Campaigning and training	43,567
Investment manager fees	598
Website	3,223
Subscriptions	988
<b>Other Outgoings</b>	
Depreciation	198
Outgoings on land and buildings (specify)	
Other outgoings (specify)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>92,549</b>
Charged to:	
General Fund (Page 3)	92,549
<b>Total</b>	<b>92,549</b>



# Analysis of investment income

(see notes 47 and 48)

	Political Fund £		Other Fund(s) £
Rent from land and buildings			
Dividends (gross) from:			
Equities (e.g. shares)			3
Interest (gross) from:			
Government securities (Gilts)			
Mortgages			
Local Authority Bonds			
Bank and Building Societies			5,048
Other investment income (specify)			
			5,051
		Total investment income	5,051
		Credited to:	
		General Fund (Page 3)	5,051
		Political Fund	
		Total Investment Funds	5,051



# Fixed assets account

(see notes 53 to 57)

	Land and Buildings		Furniture and Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Not used for union business £	Total £
	Freehold £	Leasehold £				
<b>Cost or Valuation</b>						
At start of year						
Additions			600			600
Disposals						
Revaluation/Transfers						
At end of year			600			600
<b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>						
At start of year			198			198
Charges for year			198			198
Disposals						
Revaluation/Transfers						
At end of year			396			396
<b>Net book value at end of year</b>						
Net book value at end of year			204			204
<b>Net book value at end of previous year</b>						
Net book value at end of previous year			402			402



## Analysis of investments

(see notes 58 and 59)

Quoted	All Funds Except Political Funds £	Political Fund £
Equities (e.g. Shares)		
Listed investments	59,867	
Government Securities (Gilts)		
Other quoted securities (to be specified)		
Cash trading account	34	
Total quoted (as Balance Sheet)	59,901	
Market Value of Quoted Investment	53,483	
Unquoted		
Equities		
Government Securities (Gilts)		
Mortgages		
Bank and Building Societies		
Other unquoted investments (to be specified)		
Total unquoted (as Balance Sheet)		
Market Value of Unquoted Investments		

## Analysis of investment income (controlling interests)

(see notes 60 and 61)

**Does the union, or any constituent part of the union, have a controlling interest in any limited company?**

Yes <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>	No <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>
---	--

If YES name the relevant companies:

Company name	Company registration number (if not registered in England & Wales, state where registered)

**Are the shares which are controlled by the union registered in the names of the union's trustees?**

Yes <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>	No <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>
---	--

If NO, state the names of the persons in whom the shares controlled by the union are registered.

Company name	Names of shareholders

# Summary sheet

(see notes 62 to 73)

	<b>All funds except Political Funds £</b>	<b>Political Funds £</b>	<b>Total Funds £</b>
<b>Income</b>			
From Members	376,997		376,997
From Investments	5,051		5,051
Other Income (including increases by revaluation of assets)	4,455		4,455
<b>Total Income</b>	386,503		386,503
<b>Expenditure</b> (including decreases by revaluation of assets)			
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	371,668		371,668
<b>Funds at beginning of year</b> (including reserves)	411,696		411,696
<b>Funds at end of year</b> (including reserves)	426,531		426,531
<b>Assets</b>			
Fixed Assets			204
Investment Assets			59,901
Other Assets			398,583
		<b>Total Assets</b>	458,688
<b>Liabilities</b>		<b>Total Liabilities</b>	32,157
<b>Net Assets (Total Assets less Total Liabilities)</b>			426,531

# Summary sheet

(see notes 62 to 73)

	All funds except Political Funds £	Political Funds £	Total Funds £
<b>Income</b>			
From Members			
From Investments			
Other Income (including increases by revaluation of assets)			
<b>Total Income</b>			
<b>Expenditure</b> (including decreases by revaluation of assets)			
<b>Total Expenditure</b>			
<b>Funds at beginning of year</b> (including reserves)			
<b>Funds at end of year</b> (including reserves)			
<b>Assets</b>			
Fixed Assets			
Investment Assets			
Other Assets			
		<b>Total Assets</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>		<b>Total Liabilities</b>	
<b>Net Assets (Total Assets less Total Liabilities)</b>			

(see notes 74 to 80)

<b>Did the union hold any ballots in respect of industrial action during the return period?</b>	<input type="text" value="No"/>
If Yes How many ballots were held: <input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/>	
For each ballot held please complete the information below:	
<b>Ballot 1</b>	
Number of individual who were entitled to vote in the ballot	<input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/>
<b>Number of votes cast in the ballot</b>	<input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/>
Number of Individuals answering "Yes" to the question	<input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/> <sup>1</sup>
Number of individuals answering "No" to the question	<input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/> <sup>2</sup>
Number of invalid or otherwise spoiled voting papers returned	<input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/> <sup>3</sup>
	<b>1-3 should total "Number of votes cast"</b>
Were the number of votes cast in the ballot at least 50% of the number of individuals who were entitled to vote in the ballot	<input style="width: 60px;" type="text"/>
Does section 226(2B) of the 1992 Act apply in relation to this ballot (see notes 76-80)?	<input style="width: 60px;" type="text"/>
If yes, were the number of individuals answering "Yes" to the question (or each question) at least 40% of the number of individuals who were entitled to vote in the ballot	<input style="width: 60px;" type="text"/>
<b>Ballot 2</b>	
Number of individual who were entitled to vote in the ballot	<input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/>
<b>Number of votes cast in the ballot</b>	<input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/>
Number of Individuals answering "Yes" to the question	<input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/> <sup>1</sup>
Number of individuals answering "No" to the question	<input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/> <sup>2</sup>
Number of invalid or otherwise spoiled voting papers returned	<input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/> <sup>3</sup>
	<b>1-3 should total "Number of votes cast"</b>
Were the number of votes cast in the ballot at least 50% of the number of individuals who were entitled to vote in the ballot	<input style="width: 60px;" type="text"/>
Does section 226(2B) of the 1992 Act apply in relation to this ballot (see notes 76-80)?	<input style="width: 60px;" type="text"/>
If yes, were the number of individuals answering "Yes" to the question (or each question) at least 40% of the number of individuals who were entitled to vote in the ballot	<input style="width: 60px;" type="text"/>
<b>Ballot 3</b>	
Number of individual who were entitled to vote in the ballot	<input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/>
<b>Number of votes cast in the ballot</b>	<input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/>
Number of Individuals answering "Yes" to the question	<input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/> <sup>1</sup>
Number of individuals answering "No" to the question	<input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/> <sup>2</sup>
Number of invalid or otherwise spoiled voting papers returned	<input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/> <sup>3</sup>
	<b>1-3 should total "Number of votes cast"</b>
Were the number of votes cast in the ballot at least 50% of the number of individuals who were entitled to vote in the ballot	<input style="width: 60px;" type="text"/>
Does section 226(2B) of the 1992 Act apply in relation to this ballot (see notes 76-80)?	<input style="width: 60px;" type="text"/>
If yes, were the number of individuals answering "Yes" to the question (or each question) at least 40% of the number of individuals who were entitled to vote in the ballot	<input style="width: 60px;" type="text"/>

**Ballot 4**

Number of individual who were entitled to vote in the ballot

**Number of votes cast in the ballot**

Number of Individuals answering "Yes" to the question  1

Number of individuals answering "No" to the question  2

Number of invalid or otherwise spoiled voting papers returned  3

**1-3 should total "Number of votes cast"**

Were the number of votes cast in the ballot at least 50% of the number of individuals who were entitled to vote in the ballot

Does section 226(2B) of the 1992 Act apply in relation to this ballot (see notes 76-80)?

If yes, were the number of individuals answering "Yes" to the question (or each question) at least 40% of the number of individuals who were entitled to vote in the ballot

**Ballot 5**

Number of individual who were entitled to vote in the ballot

**Number of votes cast in the ballot**

Number of Individuals answering "Yes" to the question  1

Number of individuals answering "No" to the question  2

Number of invalid or otherwise spoiled voting papers returned  3

**1-3 should total "Number of votes cast"**

Were the number of votes cast in the ballot at least 50% of the number of individuals who were entitled to vote in the ballot

Does section 226(2B) of the 1992 Act apply in relation to this ballot (see notes 76-80)?

If yes, were the number of individuals answering "Yes" to the question (or each question) at least 40% of the number of individuals who were entitled to vote in the ballot

**Ballot 6**

Number of individual who were entitled to vote in the ballot

**Number of votes cast in the ballot**

Number of Individuals answering "Yes" to the question  1

Number of individuals answering "No" to the question  2

Number of invalid or otherwise spoiled voting papers returned  3

**1-3 should total "Number of votes cast"**

Were the number of votes cast in the ballot at least 50% of the number of individuals who were entitled to vote in the ballot

Does section 226(2B) of the 1992 Act apply in relation to this ballot (see notes 76-80)?

If yes, were the number of individuals answering "Yes" to the question (or each question) at least 40% of the number of individuals who were entitled to vote in the ballot

**Ballots and Industrial Action: If you have 6 or more entries for either of these, please complete the Excel Spreadsheet**

(see note 81)

**\*Categories of Nature of Trade Dispute**

- A: terms and conditions of employment, or the physical conditions in which any workers require to work;
- B: engagement or non-engagement, or termination or suspension of employment or the duties of employment, of one or more workers;
- C: allocation of work or the duties of employment between workers or groups of workers;
- D: matters of discipline;
- E: a worker's membership or non-membership of a trade union;
- F: facilities for officials of trade unions;
  
- G: machinery for negotiation or consultation, and other procedures, relating to any of the above matters, including the recognition by employers or employers' associations of the right of a trade union to represent workers in such negotiation or consultation or in the carrying out of such procedures

**Did Union members take industrial action during the return period in response to any inducement on the part of the Union? YES/NO**

**No**

If **YES**, for each industrial action taken please complete the information below:

**Industrial Action 1**

1. please tick the nature of the trade dispute for which industrial action was taken using the categories\* below:

A  B  C  D  E  F  G

2. Dates of the industrial action taken:  to

3. Number of days of industrial action:

4. Nature of industrial action.

**Industrial Action 2**

1. please tick the nature of the trade dispute for which industrial action was taken using the categories\* below:

A  B  C  D  E  F  G

2. Dates of the industrial action taken:  to

3. Number of days of industrial action:

4. Nature of industrial action.

**Industrial Action 3**

1. please tick the nature of the trade dispute for which industrial action was taken using the categories\* below:

A  B  C  D  E  F  G

2. Dates of the industrial action taken:  to

3. Number of days of industrial action:

4. Nature of industrial action.

**use a continuation page if necessary**

**Industrial Action 4**

1. please tick the nature of the trade dispute for which industrial action was taken using the categories\* below:

A  B  C  D  E  F  G

2. Dates of the industrial action taken:  to

3. Number of days of industrial action:

4. Nature of industrial action.

**Industrial Action 5**

1. please tick the nature of the trade dispute for which industrial action was taken using the categories\* below:

A  B  C  D  E  F  G

2. Dates of the industrial action taken:  to

3. Number of days of industrial action:

4. Nature of industrial action.

**Industrial Action 6**

1. please tick the nature of the trade dispute for which industrial action was taken using the categories\* below:

A  B  C  D  E  F  G

2. Dates of the industrial action taken:  to

3. Number of days of industrial action:

4. Nature of industrial action.

**Industrial Action 7**

1. please tick the nature of the trade dispute for which industrial action was taken using the categories\* below:

A  B  C  D  E  F  G

2. Dates of the industrial action taken:  to

3. Number of days of industrial action:

4. Nature of industrial action.

**Industrial Action 8**

1. please tick the nature of the trade dispute for which industrial action was taken using the categories\* below:

A  B  C  D  E  F  G

2. Dates of the industrial action taken:  to

3. Number of days of industrial action:

4. Nature of industrial action.

**Ballots & Industrial Action- If you have 6 or more entries for either of these, please complete the Excel Spreadsheet**



## Notes to the accounts

(see notes 82 and 83)

**All notes to the accounts must be entered on or attached to this part of the return.**

The average monthly number of employees, including directors, during the year was 7 (2023 -11).

# Accounting policies

(see notes 84 and 85)

## 1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention unless otherwise specified within these accounting policies and in accordance with Section 1A of Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland and the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

The preparation of financial statements in compliance with FRS 102 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgement in applying the trade union's accounting policies.


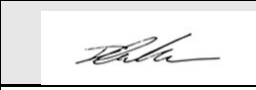
The following principal accounting policies have been applied:

## 2.2 Subscriptions

# Signatures to the annual return

(see notes 86 & 87)

**Including the accounts and balance sheet contained in the return. Please copy and paste your electronic signature here**

Secretary's Signature: 	Chairman's Signature: 
Name: John McGowan	Name: Dave Callow <small>(or other official whose position should be stated)</small>
Date: 28th February 2025	Date: 28th February 2025

# Checklist

(see notes 88 to 89)

(please tick as appropriate)

Has the return of change of officers been completed? (see Page 2 and Note 12)	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Has the list of officers in post been completed? (see Page 2 and Note 12)	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Has the return been signed? (see Pages 23 and 25 and Notes 86 and 95)	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Has the auditor's report been completed? (see Pages 20 and 21 and Notes 2 and 77)	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Is a rule book enclosed? (see Notes 8 and 88)	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
A member statement is: (see Note 80)	Enclosed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Has the summary sheet been completed? (see Page 17 and Notes 7 and 62)	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Has the membership audit certificate been completed? (see Page i to iii and Notes 97 and 103)	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

# Checklist for auditor's report

(see notes 90 and 96)

The checklist below is for guidance. A report is still required either set out overleaf or by way of an attached auditor's report that covers the 1992 Act requirements.

1. In the opinion of the auditors or auditor do the accounts they have audited and which are contained in this return give a true and fair view of the matters to which they related? (See section 36(1) and (2) of the 1992 Act and notes 92 and 93)

Please explain in your report overleaf or attached.

2. Are the auditors or auditor of the opinion that the union has complied with section 28 of the 1992 Act and has:

- a. kept proper accounting records with respect to its transactions and its assets and liabilities; and
- b. established and maintained a satisfactory system of control of its accounting records, its cash holding and all its receipts and remittances. (See section 36(4) of the 1992 Act set out in note 92)

Please explain in your report overleaf or attached

3. Your auditors or auditor must include in their report the following wording:

**In our opinion the financial statements:**

- give a true and fair view of the matters to which they relate to.
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the sections 28, 32 and 36 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (consolidation) Act 1992.

## Auditor's report (continued)

Please see attached Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of The Social Workers Union.

Signature(s) of auditor or auditors:



Name(s):

Dains Audit Limited

Profession(s) or Calling(s):

Statutory Auditor  
Chartered Accountant

Address(es):

2 Chamberlain Square

Paradise Circus

Birmingham

Postcode

B3 3AX

Date

Contact name for inquiries and  
telephone number:

Andrew Morris FCA  
0845 555 8844

N.B. When notes to the account are referred to in the auditor's report a copy of those notes must accompany this return.

## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Social Workers Union (the 'trade union') for the year ended 30 September 2024, which comprise the Statement of income and retained earnings, the Balance sheet and the related notes, 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 trade union's affairs as at 30 September 2024 and of its profit 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 trade union in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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 officers' 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 trade union'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 officers with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

**Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the Officers' Report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's report thereon. The officers are responsible for the other information contained within the Officers' Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. 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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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 in this regard.

**Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Officers' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Officers' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the trade union and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Officers' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of officers' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the officers were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic report.

**Responsibilities of officers**

As explained more fully in the Officers' responsibilities statement set out on page 2, the officers are 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 officers 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 officers are responsible for assessing the trade 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 officers either intend to liquidate the trade 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 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:

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the senior statutory auditor ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the financial reporting legislation, Companies Act 2006, taxation legislation, anti-bribery, employment, and environmental and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

## The Social Workers Union

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of The Social Workers Union (continued)

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To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the company's legal advisors.

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 for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Auditor's report.

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the trade union's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the trade 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 trade union and the trade union's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Dains Audit Limited**

Statutory Auditor  
Chartered Accountants

Birmingham

5 February 2025



## Membership audit certificate

made in accordance with section 24ZD of the Trade Union and Labour  
Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992

(See notes 97 to 103)

At the end of the reporting period preceding the one to which this audit relates was the total membership of the trade union greater than 10,000?

**Yes**

If "YES" please complete SECTION ONE below or provide the equivalent information on a separate document to be submitted with the completed AR21

If "NO" please complete SECTION TWO below or provide the equivalent information on a separate document to be submitted with the completed AR21

## Membership audit certificate

### Section one

*For a trade union with more than 10,000 members, required by section 24ZB of the 1992 Act to appoint an independent assurer*

- 1 In the opinion of the assurer appointed by the trade union was the union's system for compiling and maintaining its register of the names and addresses of its members satisfactory to secure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that the entries in its register were accurate and up-to-date throughout the reporting period?

**Yes / No**

- 2 In the opinion of the assurer has he/she obtained the information and explanations necessary for the performance of his/her functions?

**Yes / No**

If the answer to **either** questions 1 or 2 above is "NO" the assurer must:

- (a) set out below the assurer's reasons for stating that
- (b) provide a description of the information or explanation requested or required which has not been obtained
- (c) state whether the assurer required that information or those explanations from the union's officers, or officers of any of its branches or sections under section 24ZE of the 1992 Act
- (d) send a copy of this certificate to the Certification Officer as soon as is reasonably practicable after it is provided to the union.

## Membership audit certificate (continued)

Signature of assurer		<i>Morrish Solicitors LLP</i>
Name	Daniel Kindell	
Address	c/o Morrish Solicitors LLP, Oxford House, Oxford Row, Leeds LS1 3BE	
Date	24th Feb 2025	
Contact name and telephone number	Daniel Kindell, Partner, Head of Employment. Tel: 0113 297 9878 Mobile: 07736 490357	

## Membership audit certificate

### Section two

For a trade union with no **more than 10,000 members** at the end of the reporting period preceding the one to which this audit relates.

To the best of your knowledge and belief has the trade union during this reporting period complied with its duty to compile and maintain a register of the names and addresses of its members and secured, so far as is reasonably practicable, that the entries in the register are accurate and up-to-date?

**Yes / No**

If "No" Please explain below:

[Large greyed-out area for explanation]

Signature	
Name	
Office held	
Date	