

Form AR21

Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992

Annual Return for a Trade Union

Name of Trade Union:	Association (RBA)		
Year ended:	31st December 2025		
List no:	070R1052		
Head or Main Office address:	Attn: Mr D Pickles		
	7 First Avenue		
	Rainhill		
	Liverpool		
Postcode	L35 4LJ		
Website address (if available)			
Has the address changed during the year to which the return relates?	Yes	No <input checked="" type="text" value="X"/>	('X' in appropriate box)
General Secretary:	None appointed		
Telephone Number:	N/A		
Contact name for queries regarding the completion of this return	David Pickles		
Telephone Number:	07836 295287		
E-mail:	david@the-rba.org		

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

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
	616				616
Total	616				A 616

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

616

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

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
DELEGATE	EMMA O'NEIL		31 December 2025
DELEGATE	JAMES SARGENT		31 December 2025
NON-EXECUTIVE OFFICER		DOUGLAS MAY	31 December 2025

State whether the union is:

a. A branch of another trade union?

Yes

No

x

If yes, state the name of that other union:

b. A federation of trade unions?

Yes

No

x

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.

[illegible]

General Fund

(see notes 13 to 18)

	£	£
Income		
From Members: Contributions and Subscriptions		86,489
From Members: Other income from members (specify)		
Total other income from members		
Total of all income from members		86,489
Investment income (as at page 12)		70,594
Other Income		
Income from Federations and other bodies (as at page 4)		
Income from any other sources (as at page 4)	8,123	
Total of other income (as at page 4)		8,123
Total income		165,206
Interfund Transfers IN		
Expenditure		
Benefits to members (as at page 5)		
Administrative expenses (as at page 10)		138,471
Federation and other bodies (specify)		
Total expenditure Federation and other bodies		
Taxation		
Total expenditure		138,471
Interfund Transfers OUT		
Surplus (deficit) for year		26,735
Amount of general fund at beginning of year		877,333
Amount of general fund at end of year		904,068

Analysis of income from federation and other bodies and other income

(see notes 19 and 20)

Description	£
Federation and other bodies	
Total federation and other bodies	
Any Other Sources	
Settlement Agreement Income	7,900
Bank interest received	223
Total other sources	8,123
Total of all other income	8,123

Analysis of benefit expenditure shown at the General Fund

(see notes 21 to 23)

			£
Representation –		brought forward	
Employment Related Issues		Advisory Services	
Representation –		Other Cash Payments	
Non Employment Related Issues			
		Education and Training services	
Communications			
		Negotiated Discount Services	
Dispute Benefits			
		Other Benefits and Grants (specify)	
		Death Claims	
		Gifts of comfort	
carried forward		Total (should agree with figure in General Fund)	

(See notes 21 and 23)

Fund 2		Fund Account	
Name:		£	£
Income			
From members			
Investment income (as at page 12)			
Other income (specify)			
Total other income as specified			
Total Income			
Interfund Transfers IN			
Expenditure			
Benefits to members			
Administrative expenses and other expenditure (as at page 10)			
Total Expenditure			
Interfund Transfers OUT			
Surplus (Deficit) for the year			
Amount of fund at beginning of year			
Amount of fund at the end of year (as Balance Sheet)			
Number of members contributing at end of year			

Fund 3		Fund Account	
Name:		£	£
Income			
From members			
Investment income (as at page 12)			
Other income (specify)			
Total other income as specified			
Total Income			
Interfund Transfers IN			
Expenditure			
Benefits to members			
Administrative expenses and other expenditure (as at page 10)			
Total Expenditure			
Interfund Transfers OUT			
Surplus (Deficit) for the year			
Amount of fund at beginning of year			
Amount of fund at the end of year (as Balance Sheet)			
Number of members contributing at end of year			

(See notes 21 and 23)

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

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

Fund 6		Fund Account	
Name:		£	£
Income			
	From members		
	Investment income (as at page 12)		
	Other income (specify)		
	Total other income as specified		
	Total Income		
	Interfund Transfers IN		
Expenditure			
	Benefits to members		
	Administrative expenses and other expenditure (as at page 10)		
	Total Expenditure		
	Interfund Transfers OUT		
	Surplus (Deficit) for the year		
	Amount of fund at beginning of year		
	Amount of fund at the end of year (as Balance Sheet)		
	Number of members contributing at end of year		

Fund 7		Fund Account	
Name:		£	£
Income			
	From members		
	Investment income (as at page 12)		
	Other income (specify)		
	Total other income as specified		
	Total Income		
	Interfund Transfers IN		
Expenditure			
	Benefits to members		
	Administrative expenses and other expenditure (as at page 10)		
	Total Expenditure		
	Interfund Transfers OUT		
	Surplus (Deficit) for the year		
	Amount of fund at beginning of year		
	Amount of fund at the end of year (as Balance Sheet)		
	Number of members contributing at end of year		

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

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

Political fund account

(see notes 24 to 33)

£

£

Political fund account 1**To be completed by trade unions which maintain their own political fund**

Income		Members contributions and levies		
		Investment income (as at page 12)		
Other income (specify)				
			Total other income as specified	
			Total income	

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

Expenditure A (as at page i)	
Expenditure B (as at page ii)	
Expenditure C (as at page iii)	
Expenditure D (as at page iv)	
Expenditure E (as at page v)	
Expenditure F (as at page vi)	
Non-political expenditure (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	

Political fund account 2**To be completed by trade unions which act as components of a central trade union**

Income		
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
Expenditure		
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

[illegible]

Expenditure from the political fund not falling within section 72 (1) of the trade union & labour relations (consolidation) act 1992

For expenditure not falling within section 72 (1) the required information is-

(a) the nature of each cause or campaign for which money was expended, and the total amount expended in relation to each one		£

Total expenditure

(b) the name of each organisation to which money was paid (otherwise than for a particular cause of campaign), and the total amount paid to each one

£

Total expenditure

(c) the total amount of all other money expended

£

Total expenditure

Total of all expenditures

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

(see notes 34 and 35)

	£
Administrative Expenses	
Remuneration and expenses of staff	76,752
Salaries and Wages included in above	50,158
Auditors' fees	12,600
Legal and Professional fees	13,313
Occupancy costs	
Stationery, printing, postage, telephone, etc.	2,203
Expenses of Executive Committee (Head Office)	
Expenses of conferences	
Other administrative expenses (specify)	
Insurance	7,250
Sundry Expenses	1,313
Bank Charges	752
Certification Officers Levy	1,959
Other Outgoings	
Depreciation	7,513
Subscriptions	1,258
Profit / Loss on sale of fixed asset	-91
Outgoings on land and buildings (specify)	
Rental Property Expenses	13,644
Other outgoings (specify)	
Interest on overdue taxation	5
Total	138,471
Charged to: General Fund (Page 3)	138,471
Total	138,471

Analysis of officials' salaries and benefits
(see notes 36 to 46 below)

Office held	Gross Salary	Employers N.I. contributions	Benefits			Total
	£	£	Pension Contributions £	Other Benefits		£
				Description	Value	
					£	
President	41,538		8,000	Motor Costs	7,082	
				Class 1A NICs on car benefit	809	
				Private Medical	1,617	
				Class 1A NICs on healthcare	225	
						59,271

Analysis of investment income

(see notes 47 and 48)

	Political Fund £		Other Fund(s) £
Rent from land and buildings			46,672
Dividends (gross) from:			
Equities (e.g. shares)			
Interest (gross) from:			
Government securities (Gilts)			
Mortgages			
Local Authority Bonds			
Bank and Building Societies			
Other investment income (specify)			
Increase in value of investments			5,422
Increase in investment property valuation			18,500
			70,594
		Total investment income	70,594
		Credited to:	
		General Fund (Page 3)	70,594
		Political Fund	
		Total Investment Funds	70,594

Balance sheet as at

31st December 2024

(see notes 49 to 52)

Previous Year		£	£
831,650	Fixed Assets (at page 14)		852,734
	Investments (as per analysis on page 15)		
27,231	Quoted (Market value £ (32,653)		32,653
	Unquoted		
	Total Investments		32,653
	Other Assets		
27,178	Loans to other trade unions		25,963
	Sundry debtors		
	Cash at bank and in hand		
	Income tax to be recovered		
	Stocks of goods		
	Others (specify)		
5,454	Prepayments		7,986
5,587	Accrued Income		6,062
	Settlement agreement debtors		2,000
38,219	Total of other assets		42,011
897,100	Total assets		927,398
877,333	General fund (page 3)		904,068
	Political Fund Account		
	Liabilities		
	Amount held on behalf of central trade union political fund		
41	Purchase Creditors		730
665	Sundry Creditors		1,075
18,660	Accruals		20,725
401	PAYE Creditor		800
£19,767	Total liabilities		23,330
	Total assets		927,398

Fixed assets account

(see notes 53 to 57)

	Land and Freehold £	Buildings Leasehold £	Furniture and Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Not used for union business £	Total £
Cost or Valuation						
At start of year	806,500		3,667	27,646		837,813
Additions			610	29,646		30,256
Disposals			-1,359	-27,646		-29,005
Revaluation/Transfers	18,500					18,500
At end of year	825,000		2,917	29,646		857,563
Accumulated Depreciation						
At start of year			2,131	4,032		6,163
Charges for year			351	7,162		7,513
Disposals			-1,359	-7,487		-8,847
Revaluation/Transfers						
At end of year			1,123	3,706		4,829
Net book value at end of year	825,000		1,794	25,940		852,734
Net book value at end of previous year	806,500		1,536	23,614		831,650

Analysis of investments

(see notes 58 and 59)

Quoted		All Funds Except Political Funds £	Political Fund £
	Equities (e.g. Shares)		
	Hargreaves lansdown	32,653	
	Government Securities (Gilts)		
	Other quoted securities (to be specified)		
	Total quoted (as Balance Sheet)	32,653	
	Market Value of Quoted Investment	32,653	
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

☐

No

☒

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

☐

No

☒

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)

	All funds except Political Funds	Political Funds £	Total Funds £
Income			
From Members	86,489		86,489
From Investments	70,594		70,594
Other Income (including increases by revaluation of assets)	8,123		8,123
Total Income	165,206		165,206
Expenditure (including decreases by revaluation of assets)			
Total Expenditure	138,471		138,471
Funds at beginning of year (including reserves)	877,333		877,333
Funds at end of year (including reserves)	904,068		904,068
Assets			
	Fixed Assets		852,734
	Investment Assets		32,653
	Other Assets		42,011
	Total Assets		927,398
Liabilities		Total Liabilities	23,330
Net Assets (Total Assets less Total Liabilities)			904,068

Summary sheet

(see notes 62 to 73)

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

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

(see notes 74 to 80)

Did the union hold any ballots in respect of industrial action during the return period?		No
If Yes How many ballots were held:		
For each ballot held please complete the information below:		
Ballot 1		
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 2		
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 3		
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 & Industrial Action: If you have 6 or more entries for either of these, please complete the Excel Spreadsheet

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

Ballots & 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 accounting policies are in the accounts, and the accounts have been attached as appendix 1.

Accounting policies
(see notes 84 and 85)

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:	Signed by:  A33B1D2F1B2A41D...	Chairman's Signature:	
			(or other official whose position should be stated)
	Name: James Buchanan (Vice President)		Name: David Pickles (President)
	Date: 16/4/2026		Date: 17/3/2026

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		No	
Has the list of officers in post been completed? (see Page 2 and Note 12)	Yes		No	
Has the return been signed? (see Pages 23 and 25 and Notes 86 and 95)	Yes		No	
Has the auditor's report been completed? (see Pages 20 and 21 and Notes 2 and 77)	Yes		No	
Is a rule book enclosed? (see Notes 8 and 88)	Yes		No	
A member statement is: (see Note 80)	Enclosed		To follow	
Has the summary sheet been completed? (see Page 17 and Notes 7 and 62)	Yes		To follow	
Has the membership audit certificate been completed? (see Page i to iii and Notes 97 and 103)	Yes		No	

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)

Question 1 - Yes, a copy of the audit report in the financial statements is attached.

Question 2 - Yes, a copy of the audit report in the financial statements is attached.

Signature(s) of auditor or auditors:

Signed by:
Jonathan Aikens
92DE1D422B5C43D...

Name(s):

Moore Kingston Smith LLP

Profession(s) or Calling(s):

ACA

Address(es):

Moore Kingston Smith LLP

4 Victoria Square

St Albans

Hertfordshire

Postcode

AL1 3TF

Date

16/4/2026

Contact name for inquiries and
telephone number:

jaikens@mks.co.uk

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

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 reportign period proceding the one to which this audit relates was the total membership of the trade union greater than 10,000?

No

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 inforamation 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	
Name	
Address	
Date	
Contact name and telephone number	

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 it members and secured, so far as is reasonably practicable, that the entries in the register are accurate and up-to-date?

Yes

If "No" Please explain below:

Signature	DocuSigned by:  2C28FEB5927A4B5...
Name	David Pickles
Office held	President
Date	17/3/2026

Trade Union Registration No. 070R1052

**THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES'
ASSOCIATION**

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

UNION INFORMATION

Council Members	Mr. D. Pickles - President Mr J Buchanan
Trade Union number	070R1052
Auditor	Moore Kingston Smith LLP 4 Victoria Square St Albans Hertfordshire United Kingdom AL1 3TF
Bankers	Royal Bank of Scotland Liverpool Csc Stephenson Way Wavertree Liverpool Merseyside United Kingdom L13 1HE

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

CONTENTS

	Page
Report of the Council	1
Council's responsibilities statement	2
Independent auditor's report	3 - 7
Income and expenditure account	8
Statement of financial position	9
Notes to the financial statements	10 - 15

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

The Council present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Principal activities

The principal activity of the Association is to assist and represent its members. It is an employers association regulated under Part II of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

President

The President of the Union is:
Mr. D. Pickles

Disclosure of information to the auditors

The members of the Association have taken steps that they ought to have taken in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Association's auditors are aware of that information. The Council confirm that there is no relevant information that it knows of and of which the auditors are unaware.

17/3/2026

Approved by the President on and signed on its behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

.....2C28FFB5927A4B5.....
Mr. D. Pickles
President
Date: 17/3/2026

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

We are required by law to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Association and the surplus or deficit of the Association for that period. In preparing these financial statements, we are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Association will continue in business.

We are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Association's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Association and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992. We are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Association and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the Council

DocuSigned by:



.....2C28FFB5927A4B51.....

Mr. D. Pickles - President

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Retail Book, Stationery and Allied Trades Employees' Association (the 'Association') for the year ended 31 December 2025 which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account, Statement of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Financial Position and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 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 December 2025 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of 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 council'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 council 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 annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The council are responsible for the other information contained within the annual 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 there is 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.

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the association and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in Council report.

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:

- 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 council's remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Council

As explained more fully in the council's responsibilities statement set out of page 2, the association 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 council 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 council are responsible for assessing the 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 council either intend to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

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 aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK) we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purposes of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the council.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the council's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

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.

The objectives of our audit in respect of fraud, are; to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses to those assessed risks; and to respond appropriately to instances of fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both management and those charged with governance of the association.

Our approach was as follows:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements applicable to the association and considered that the most significant are trade union legislation, UK financial reporting standards as issued by the Financial Reporting Council, GDPR and Trade Union Legislation.
- We obtained an understanding of how the association complies with these requirements by discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We assessed the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, including the risk of material misstatement due to fraud and how it might occur, by holding discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We inquired of management and those charged with governance as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Based on this understanding, we designed specific appropriate audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

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.

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the association's members, as a body, in accordance with Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992. Our audit work has been undertaken for no purpose other than to draw to the attention of the association's members those matters which we are required to include in an auditor's report addressed to them. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to any party other than the association and association's members as a body, for our work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signed by:


92DE1D422B5C43D...

Jonathan Aikens (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Moore Kingston Smith LLP
Statutory Auditor

16/4/2026
.....

4 Victoria Square
St Albans
Hertfordshire
United Kingdom
AL1 3TF

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Contributions from members		86,489	83,603
Administrative expenses		(138,466)	(163,103)
Other operating income		54,572	48,975
Operating surplus/(deficit)	3	2,595	(30,525)
Interest receivable and similar income		223	645
Interest payable and similar expenses		(5)	-
Increase or decrease in value of investments		5,422	3,577
Fair value gains and losses on investment properties	7	18,500	-
Surplus/(deficit) before taxation		26,735	(26,303)
Tax on surplus/(deficit)		-	-
Surplus/(deficit) for the financial year		26,735	(26,303)

The income and expenditure account includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
The notes on pages 9 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	6		27,734		25,150
Investment properties	7		825,000		806,500
Investments	8		32,653		27,231
			<u>885,387</u>		<u>858,881</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	9	16,048		11,041	
Cash at bank and in hand		25,963		27,178	
			<u>42,011</u>		<u>38,219</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(23,330)		(19,767)	
Net current assets			<u>18,681</u>		<u>18,452</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>904,068</u>		<u>877,333</u>
Reserves					
Income and expenditure account			<u>904,068</u>		<u>877,333</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to section 1A of FRS 102.

17/3/2026

The financial statements were approved by the Council and authorised for issue on and are signed on its behalf by:

DocuSigned by:



2C28FFB5627A4B5:.....

Mr. D. Pickles - President

Signed by:



A32B1D2F4B2A41D:.....

Mr J Buchanan

Trade Union No. 070R1052

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1 Accounting policies

Union information

The Retail Book, Stationery and Allied Trades Employees' Association is an employees association Trade Union, whose address is PO Box 3855, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN4 4EB.

1.1 Accounting convention

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the requirements of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992. The disclosure requirements of section 1A of FRS 102 have been applied other than where additional disclosure is required to show a true and fair view.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Union. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the president has a reasonable expectation that the union has adequate resources, sufficient net assets and the ability to sell or raise funds against investment properties if necessary, to continue in operational existence for at least 12 months from the date of signing. Thus the president continues to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Income and expenditure

Income and expenses are included in the financial statements as they become receivable or due.

Expenses include VAT where applicable as the Union cannot reclaim it.

1.4 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures, fittings & equipment	20% straight line basis
Motor vehicles	25% straight line basis

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is credited or charged to surplus or deficit.

1.5 Investment properties

Investment property, which is property held to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation, is initially recognised at cost, which includes the purchase cost and any directly attributable expenditure. Subsequently it is measured at fair value at the reporting end date. The surplus or deficit on revaluation is recognised in the income and expenditure account.

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.6 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting period end date, the Union reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss.

An impairment loss is recognised immediately in surplus or deficit, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease.

Recognised impairment losses are reversed if, and only if, the reasons for the impairment loss have ceased to apply.

1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank and in hand are basic financial assets and include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

1.8 Financial instruments

The Union has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 Section 1A to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Union's statement of financial position when the Union becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are measured at transaction price.

Classification of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the Union after deducting all of its liabilities.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, bank loans, and loans are recognised at transaction price.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers.

Changes in the fair value of derivatives that are designated and qualify as fair value hedges are recognised in profit or loss immediately, together with any changes in the fair value of the hedged asset or liability that are attributable to the hedged risk.

Under CTA10/s981 the Union is exempt from tax on non-trading income and chargeable gains.

1.9 Employee benefits

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense, unless those costs are required to be recognised as part of the cost of stock or fixed assets.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Union is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

1.11 Leases

Rental income from operating leases is recognised on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease. Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating and arranging an operating lease are added to the carrying amount of the leased asset and recognised on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1.12 Investments

Listed investments are initially stated at cost. Subsequently they are measured at market value at the reporting end date. The surplus or deficit on revaluation is recognised in the income and expenditure account.

2 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Union's accounting policies, the Council are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

One such judgement made is that, based on 3rd party valuations obtained by the Council, the values of the investment properties as at 31 December 2025 have increased by £18,500 since the last valuation estimated by the president as at 31 December 2022.

3 Operating surplus/(deficit)

	2025	2024
	£	£
Operating surplus/(deficit) for the year is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable to the Union's auditor for the audit of the Union's financial statements	12,600	12,000
	<u>12,600</u>	<u>12,000</u>
Administrative expenses includes the following:		
Allowances and expenses		
- president's expenses	10,073	14,848
- vice president's expenses	1,023	1,170
- delegates' expenses	77	786
- other expenses	131	516
	<u>11,304</u>	<u>17,320</u>

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

4 Employees

The average monthly number of persons employed by the Union during the year was 2 (2024 - 2).

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Total	2	2

5 Revaluation of investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Fair value gains/(losses)		
Changes in the fair value of investment properties	18,500	-

6 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 January 2025	3,667	27,646	31,313
Additions	610	29,646	30,256
Disposals	(1,359)	(27,646)	(29,005)
At 31 December 2025	2,918	29,646	32,564
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 January 2025	2,131	4,032	6,163
Depreciation charged in the year	351	7,162	7,513
Eliminated in respect of disposals	(1,359)	(7,487)	(8,846)
At 31 December 2025	1,123	3,707	4,830
Carrying amount			
At 31 December 2025	1,795	25,939	27,734
At 31 December 2024	1,536	23,614	25,150

7 Investment property

	2025 £
Fair value	
At 1 January 2025	806,500
Revaluation	18,500
At 31 December 2025	825,000

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

7 Investment property (Continued)

Investment property comprises of 5 residential properties (2024 - 5 residential properties). The fair value of the investment properties has been arrived based on 3rd party valuations obtained by the Council.

On historical cost basis these would have been included at an original cost of £625,294 (2024 - £625,294).

8 Fixed asset investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Listed Investments	32,653	27,231

Movements in fixed asset investments

	Listed Investments £	Total £
Cost or valuation		
At 1 January 2025	27,231	27,231
Valuation changes	5,422	5,422
At 31 December 2025	32,653	32,653
Impairment		
At 1 January 2025	-	-
At 31 December 2025	-	-
Carrying amount		
At 31 December 2025	32,653	32,653
At 31 December 2024	27,231	27,231

9 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	2,000	-
Prepayments and accrued income	14,048	11,041
	16,048	11,041

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	730	41
Taxation and social security	800	401
Other creditors	1,075	665
Accruals and deferred income	20,725	18,660
	<u>23,330</u>	<u>19,767</u>

11 Related party transactions

During the year, the President received a salary of £41,538 (2024 - £41,538). Other expenses incurred on behalf of the President during the year amounted to £10,073 (2024 - £15,098). The President has a binding commitment to repay £250 to the union in the event of his resignation of employment.

In addition to this, there were family member transactions totalling £8,790 (2024 - £8,238) and expenses incurred on behalf of the Council Members amounted to £582.

12 Honoraria

During the year £nil (2024 - £nil) was paid in respect of the Council, except for Mr. D. Pickles, the President, who is also a Council Member and disclosed in note 11.

**THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES'
ASSOCIATION**

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

DETAILED TRADING AND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

		2025		2024
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Contributions from members		86,489		83,603
Other operating income				
Rent received	46,672		44,825	
Settlement agreement	7,900		4,150	
		54,572		48,975
Administrative expenses				
Per attached schedule		(138,466)		(163,103)
Operating surplus/(deficit)		2,595		(30,525)
Interest receivable and similar income				
Interest received	223		645	
		223		645
Interest payable and similar expenses				
Interest on overdue taxation		(5)		-
Other gains and losses				
OGL - Change in fair value of investment property	18,500		-	
Increase or decrease in value of investments	5,422		3,577	
		23,922		3,577
Surplus/(deficit) before taxation	30.91%	26,735	31.46%	(26,303)

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

SCHEDULE OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Administrative expenses		
Wages and salaries	50,158	49,606
Staff pension costs	8,000	8,000
Employee's healthcare	1,842	1,768
Maintenance of rental properties	13,644	13,342
Insurance	7,250	6,914
Motor running expenses	7,891	11,474
Subscriptions	1,258	1,510
Legal fees	4,800	16,643
Certification levy	1,959	4,508
P.A.Y.E. administration fees	389	379
Accountancy fees	6,984	6,768
Accountancy services	1,140	1,242
Audit fees	12,600	12,000
Bank charges	752	803
Printing, postage and stationery	454	522
Telephone	1,749	2,344
Allowances and expenses	8,861	14,190
Sundry expenses	1,313	1,084
Depreciation	7,513	6,232
(Profit) or loss on sale of tangible assets	(91)	3,774
	<u>138,466</u>	<u>163,103</u>

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets		27,734		25,150
Investment properties		825,000		806,500
Investments		32,653		27,231
		<u>885,387</u>		<u>858,881</u>
Current assets				
Debtors	16,048		11,041	
Cash at bank and in hand	25,963		27,178	
	<u>42,011</u>		<u>38,219</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year				
Taxation and social security	800		401	
Other creditors	1,805		706	
Accruals and deferred income	20,725		18,660	
	<u>23,330</u>		<u>19,767</u>	
Net current assets		18,681		18,452
Net assets		904,068		877,333
Provisions for liabilities		-		-
		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>
Reserves				
Income and expenditure account		904,068		877,333
Members' funds		904,068		877,333
		<u>904,068</u>		<u>877,333</u>

THE RETAIL BOOK, STATIONERY AND ALLIED TRADES EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT REQUIRED UNDER SECTION 32(A) OF THE TRADE UNION AND LABOUR RELATIONS (CONSOLIDATION) ACT 1992 (AS AMENDED)

Under the requirements of Section 32(a) of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (as amended), we are required to set out certain information concerning the financial affairs of the Association. Much of the information is contained in the summary financial statements which have been presented for a number of years. However, for completeness, we have set out below all the required information in respect of the period ended 31st December 2025.

	<u>General Fund</u>	
1. <i>Total income and expenditure</i>		
Income - From members	£86,486	
- From other sources	£78,717	
	<u>£165,206</u>	
Expenditure	£138,471	
	<u>£138,471</u>	
2. <i>Political Fund</i>		
The Association does not maintain a Political Fund.		
3. <i>Salaries and benefits</i>		
The salaries and benefits paid for by the Association for the President, General Secretary and Members of the Executive were as follows:-		
President		
- Salary	£41,538	
- Pension contributions	£8,000	
	<u>£49,538</u>	
- Car benefit	£7,891	
- Other benefits (private medical insurance)	£1,842	
	<u>£9,733</u>	
General Secretary		
- None employed during the year.		
Members of Executive		
- No salaries or benefits paid.		

4. *Audit report*

The full text of the Auditors' Report made in respect of the annual returns made by the Association to the Certification Officer for Trade Union and Employees' Association for the period ended 31st December 2025 is as follows:-

AUDITORS' REPORT MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 36 OF THE TRADE UNION AND LABOUR RELATIONS (CONSOLIDATION) ACT 1992

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Retail Book, Stationery and Allied Trades Employees' Association (the 'Association') for the year ended 31 December 2025 which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account, Statement of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Financial Position and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 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 December 2025 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of 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 council'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 council 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 annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The council are responsible for the other information contained within the annual 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 there is 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the association and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in Council report.

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:

- 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 council's remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Council

As explained more fully in the council's responsibilities statement set out of page 2, the association 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 council 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 council are responsible for assessing the 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 council either intend to liquidate the association 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 aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK) we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purposes of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the council.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the council's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a

material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

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.

The objectives of our audit in respect of fraud, are; to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses to those assessed risks; and to respond appropriately to instances of fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both management and those charged with governance of the association.

Our approach was as follows:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements applicable to the association and considered that the most significant are trade union legislation, UK financial reporting standards as issued by the Financial Reporting Council, GDPR and Trade Union Legislation.
- We obtained an understanding of how the association complies with these requirements by discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We assessed the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, including the risk of material misstatement due to fraud and how it might occur, by holding discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We inquired of management and those charged with governance as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Based on this understanding, we designed specific appropriate audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

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.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the association's members, as a body, in accordance with Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992. Our audit work has been undertaken for no purpose other than to draw to the attention of the association's members those matters which we are required to include in an auditor's report addressed to them. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to any party other than the association and association's members as a body, for our work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Moore Kingston Smith LLP
Statutory Auditors
4 Victoria Square
St Albans
Hertfordshire
AL1 3TF

Dated:.....16/04/2026.....

5. *Financial irregularities*

The Act referred to above states that:

“ A member who is concerned that some irregularity may be occurring, or has 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.”