THE PORTLAND TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1106429

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	04699155
Registered	2004-10-26
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Acre House 11-15 William Road London NW1 3ER
Phone	02071827782
Website	www.portlandtrust.org

Activities

Objects: FOR SUCH EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE PURPOSES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES MAY IN THEIR ABSOLUTE DISCRETION THINK FIT.

Activities: The Portland Trust supports a number of projects in the furtherance of its charitable activities. Full details of these projects are given in the Trustees' Report included in the annual accounts.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Other Finance, Provides Human Resources, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- **Area of benefit:** IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES MAY IN THEIR ABSOLUTE DISCRETION THINK FIT.
- Israel
- Occupied Palestinian Territories
- Throughout London

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£2,912,147	£3,298,156	£2,241,086	13
2023-12-31	£5,389,924	£3,501,570	£2,627,095	15
2022-12-31	£2,624,817	£3,700,821	£738,741	14
2021-12-31	£3,092,057	£2,643,680	£1,814,745	14
2020-12-31	£3,287,233	£2,474,073	£1,366,368	15

Trustees

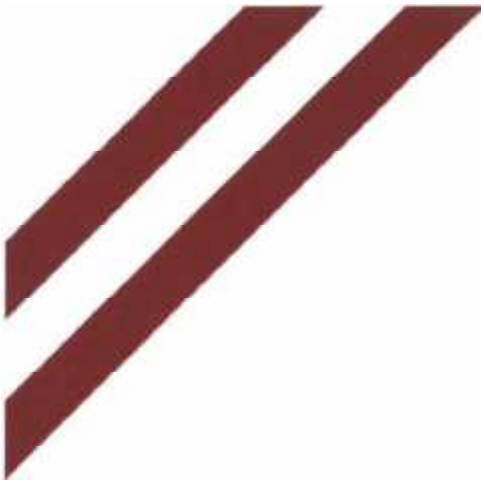
Name	Role	Appointed
SIR RONALD COHEN	Chair	2004-10-26
JONATHAN HAREL-COHEN		2023-01-01
Nicola Cobbold		2015-10-01
SIR HARRY SOLOMON		2004-10-26
SIR MICHAEL LAWRENCE DAVIS		2012-05-17

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THE PORTLAND TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1106429

Accounts



REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04699155 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1106429

Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements
for the
Year Ended 31 December 2024
for
The Portland Trust

THE PORTLAND TRUST

COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors	Ms N J Cobbold Sir R M Cohen Sir M L Davis Mr J M Harel-Cohen Ms G Sacks Sir H Solomon
Registered Company number:	04699155 (England and Wales)
Registered Charity number:	1106429
Registered office:	Acre House 11-15 William Road London NW1 3ER
Auditors	Goldwins Limited 75 Maygrove Road London NW6 2ER

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The Trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

Objectives and aims

The Portland Trust (hereinafter also referred to as "The Charity" or "Portland" or "The Trust" was incorporated on 17 March 2003 and gained charitable status in October 2004. The Portland Trust is a non-political organisation which is committed to driving initiatives that promote economic development, moderation and the resolution of conflict in the Middle East, in particular, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Significant activities

The Portland Trust is involved with a number of initiatives to further its charitable aims. These include designing and coordinating programmes that aim to assist in the development of the Palestinian private sector and to reduce poverty in Israel through social investment and social entrepreneurship and collaborating with key partners at local and international level who can implement them.

A full description of projects currently being supported is given later in this report. This includes programmes which received direct funding from The Portland Trust during 2024, as detailed in the notes to the Financial Statements, as well as initiatives where The Portland Trust plays an advisory role offering guidance and non-financial support.

Public benefit

The objects of the Charity are for such exclusively charitable purposes for the benefit of the public in any part of the world as the Trustees may in their absolute discretion think fit. When making decisions about the activities undertaken in furtherance of these objects, the Trustees follow the guidance issued by the Charity Commission regarding public benefit. This is demonstrated through involvement in projects benefiting society as a whole as detailed in this report.

Fundraising Declaration

The Portland Trust does not raise funds from the public and therefore has not subscribed to any fundraising standards or scheme for fundraising regulation.

Social investments

Working with local and international partners, The Portland Trust makes grants to develop the Palestinian private sector and the Israeli socio-economic periphery, mobilising additional resources and support where necessary.

In addition to making grants directly to beneficiaries, The Portland Trust may also make loans or investments where this is consistent with the Trust's charitable purposes and mission. Any programme related investment would be monitored regularly by the Trustees to ensure that funds, once invested, continue to be used in furtherance of approved activities.

Grantmaking

Grants may be made to organisations which The Portland Trust is working with on any project furthering the Charity's charitable aims. Such expenditure is listed in the notes to the Financial Statements.

Volunteers

With the exception of the Trustees, The Portland Trust had no volunteers in 2024.

Financial review

Financial position
As detailed in the Review of Activities and the Notes to the Financial Statements, The Portland Trust has driven and contributed to a number of initiatives. Sufficient income has again been secured to meet all of our commitments. At 31 December 2024 The Portland Trust had a liquid balance sheet with a cash position of £2,395,422 which helps to secure the Charity's plans to promote economic stability in the Middle East into 2025 and beyond.

Principal funding sources
The Portland Trust mainly receives funding from grant-making charities based in the United Kingdom and internationally.

Investment policy and objectives
The Trustees have regard to the liquidity requirements of the Charity and maintain a policy of keeping any surplus liquid funds on short-term deposit which can be accessed readily to enable a timely response to project needs.

Reserves policy
The Portland Trust carries out a blend of both long and short term projects. The Trustees have examined the requirement for free reserves, which are those unrestricted funds not designated for specific purposes or otherwise committed. The Trustees consider that generally, free reserves should be sufficient to cover approximately three months of regular operational expenditure which equates to approximately £350,000.

At 31 December 2024 unrestricted retained reserves totalled £1,383,773 and restricted retained reserves were £857,313. The free reserves at the year-end are considered adequate for this purpose and to carry out appropriate projects going forward.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document
The Charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees
The Trustees of the Charity have control of the Charity and its property and funds. The first Trustees were Sir Ronald Cohen and Sir Harry Solomon. Unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution, the number of Trustees is subject to a maximum of ten and minimum of two. Trustees may be individuals or bodies corporate.

Every Trustee signs a declaration of willingness to act as a Charity Trustee before being eligible to vote at any meeting of the Trustees. One third (or the number nearest to one third) of the Trustees retire at each Annual General Meeting, those in office retiring first and the choice between any of equal service being made by drawing lots unless they otherwise agree among themselves.

The members are entitled to appoint one or more Trustees (including themselves), to remove any Trustee so appointed and to appoint another Trustee in place of any Trustee so appointed who for any reason ceases to be a Trustee. A retiring Trustee is not eligible for reappointment unless such reappointment is approved by the Trustees.

On 8th January 2025 Steven Kaye stepped down from the Trust’s Board of Directors.

Organisational structure
The Trustees provide their services free of charge. The Portland Trust has branches in London, Tel Aviv and Ramallah. Baron Frankal, CEO runs the organisation from the London office where there are three employees. The Tel Aviv office, which opened in 2005, has six members of staff and is run by Rami Schwartz. The Ramallah office was opened in April 2006, has two members of staff, and is run by Shireen Shelleh under the chairmanship of Samir Hulileh.

Decision making
Whilst the Trustees are responsible for overseeing the activities and direction of the Charity, the Chief Executive and Managing Directors, together the Trust’s executive function, as well as the Ramallah Chairman, approve expenditure on the projects undertaken by The Portland Trust, subject to the oversight of the Board of Trustees and its duly-constituted Committees.

Induction and training of new trustees
All of the Trustees are experienced in charity matters and therefore no formal training takes place. When new issues and developments come to light the Trustees are made aware of these matters at their next meeting. Any new Trustee would be expected to have the same level of experience and knowledge as the existing Trustees.

Key management remuneration
The members of the Executive Committee comprise the key management personnel of The Portland Trust and are responsible for the direction, control and running of the Charity on a day to day basis.

All the Trustees provide their services free of charge. The pay of senior staff is reviewed annually, and rates are set at market rate for their role.

Related parties
With one exception, none of the Trustees received remuneration or other benefits from their work with The Portland Trust in 2024, although their expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as a Trustee may be paid by the Charity.

Trustees may hold a position of responsibility within organisations which receive funding from The Portland Trust. In such cases this is disclosed in the notes to the Financial Statements.

As agreed by all the Trustees at a Board of Trustees meeting on 25th April 2023, and in accordance with Charity Commission guidance, one of the Trustees, Nicola Cobbold receives remuneration for her non-Trustee work on the basis of a consultancy contract. Her total renumeration in 2024 was £9,500 (2023: 11,500).

Risk management
The Trustees regularly review the risks to which the Charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. No significant risks were identified during the year.

Trustees

The trustees who held office during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were as follows:

Ms N J Cobbold
Sir R M Cohen (Chair)
Sir M L Davis
Mr J M Harel-Cohen
Mr S J Kaye (Resigned 08 January 2025)
Ms G Sacks
Sir H Solomon

Strategic report

Achievement and performance

Charitable activities
As a charity, The Portland Trust's direct charitable expenditure mainly comprises staff costs, both those directly employed and those delivering projects and programmes .

A. Israel Programme

The Portland Trust is focused on enhancing economic opportunities in the Israeli social and geographic periphery, addressing Israeli Arab employment and business challenges and strengthening Arab municipal development. The Portland Trust's aim is to create a systemic change to integrate the Arab sector into the Israeli economy, generating employment opportunities and enhancing the lives and livelihood of Israeli Arabs whilst increasing their contribution to GDP. The Portland Trust has also developed interventions aimed at increasing economic participation and improved living standards amongst the ultra-Orthodox (Haredi) Jewish community.

The Sakhnin Regional Economic Cluster

This flagship project is about building regional economic clusters to address the gaps and imbalances between Arab and Jewish communities. Following a year-long strategic process, Portland chose to focus first on the Sakhnin area and the health sector. A new health and life sciences industrial park is now creating a new ecosystem and bringing together public and private healthcare service providers, health industry players, academia, research and innovation as a means to create job opportunities and high-quality employment in the area. This will serve 135,000 residents, potentially impacting positively on an additional 500,000 residents of adjacent areas.

MEDX Xelerator, a northern branch of the existing MEDX incubator, was launched in May 2022, through the leadership of the Trust, and with support from the Israel Innovation Authority (IIA). The facility is hosted in Sakhnin and is the first med-tech hub in an Arab city in Israel. The hub offers entrepreneurship training and mentoring programmes to both Jewish and Arab entrepreneurs based in northern Israel, providing a holistic and professional supporting environment. It also promotes the placement of technological personnel, with an emphasis on integrating employees and entrepreneurs from Arab society into companies in the fields of medical devices, digital health and software.

NorthMed Innovation Centre

In July 2022, The Portland Trust submitted a bid to a competitive IIA tender for a regional innovation and technological entrepreneurship centre in Arab society, part of IIA's plans to promote the development of entrepreneurs and quality jobs in Israel's Arab sector. In December 2022, Portland's consortium was announced as the successful bidder.

With the aim of developing an ecosystem that promotes innovation in overlooked areas, the Israeli Government, through the IIA and the Authority for Economic Development of Minority Sectors, awarded the group led by Portland a grant to encourage entrepreneurship and tech employment in the Arab sector. This grant has enabled the creation of a groundbreaking tech hub for innovation and employment in the north of Israel, at the heart of the Sakhnin Valley.

Portland, together with MEDX Xelerator, Alpha Omega, Galilee Clinical Bio Research and five leading hospitals and medical centres in northern Israel (Ziv, Poriya, Bnei Zion, Galilee Medical Center and Nazareth Hospital) all came together to launch the North-Med Innovation Center to promote entrepreneurship in the area, in domains such as medical devices, life science and software development. The North-Med Innovation Center also includes an employment centre that focuses on integrating technological talent from local communities into leading high-tech and med-tech companies, encouraging employers to open branches in the country's northern region.

Several major publicly traded Israeli tech companies agreed to open branches for local workers in the Sakhnin Valley. Starting with 15-40 employees at each company and increasing to over 100 as the success of the venture grows. Pagaya, a Fin-Tech company and GSOC Dev Centres opened a branch in Sakhnin, and the Trust remains confident that many other company branches will follow. Broadly, NorthMed's business model is forecast to arrive at break-even five years from inception.

Finally, the goal is also to establish a joined-up ecosystem, with its own common platform, that serves as a health industry business park. The Portland Trust has an agreement with the relevant local municipalities as to the best location for the park and has secured a real estate partner.

Maccabi Health Services has now opened a multidisciplinary medical centre in Sakhnin, offering advanced medical services and creating dozens of quality jobs in the area.

Beyond Dev

This project, established in cooperation with Eshkol Hasharon regional economic cluster, is run in conjunction with the Young Business Leadership, an NGO. It focuses on retraining university graduates; on placing engineers, computer science grads and non-STEM academics from Arab communities into automation testing and manual Quality Assurance (QA) positions; on integrating juniors into the industry (with upskilling and on-the-job training); and on the identification, training and integration of employees in IT and hi-tech firms. The programme is funded by the employers benefitting from the training, showing substantial "skin in the game". In keeping with Portland's established model, the project needs to break even within two years. The required philanthropic funding for three years has been secured, matched by two years of Government (IIA) funds.

The project has 3 main steps: scouting and recruiting candidates; professional and soft-skills training for three and a half months; and employee placement, supported by the Beyond Dev team in the first year of employment. The team includes a programme director, tech lead and recruiter. Training is based on a professional syllabus and informed by industry needs.

The first cohort of 15 completed the training programme in September 2022. As of end 2024, 45 graduates were integrated into high quality jobs within the various companies R&D teams, with 85% of Beyond Dev graduates successfully placed in a job.

Masterplan for Arab-Israeli Employment (Government Resolution 550)

Portland helped develop a comprehensive masterplan for the integration of Arab employees into the Israeli workforce, initially in partnership with the Israel Democracy Institute's (IDI) Arab-Jewish relations sector, Israeli Government ministries, NGOs, and private sector employers. The plan was presented to all relevant ministries in Israel - Economy, Labour, Welfare, Finance, Agriculture (relating to Bedouin population/community involvement) and Education, plus the MALAG (Israel's Council for Higher Education) as well as being endorsed by the National Committee of Heads of Arab Local Authorities.

The plan was extended and amended to reflect the impact of the pandemic on Arab citizens of Israel in areas such as education, welfare, employment and domestic violence. This was fully adopted by the relevant players. The chapters on employment and employment centres, education, welfare, and growth engines in Government Resolution 550, the 5-year plan for the Arab sector in Israel, were taken directly from the work carried out by The Portland Trust, along with our recommended priorities and KPIs. The Trust has representatives within the Employment Committee of the National Committee of Arab Heads of Councils, which is responsible for overseeing the Resolution's implementation, dealing with promotion of employment and integration of youth. As part of the committee, Portland works closely with the Councils, helping unlock areas of dispute, alerting the Council and preparing the data for the required dialogue between the relevant Government agencies. The Trust also supports the Council's Chairman in preparing for the meetings with Government officials. This work is very challenged in light of the current Government's attempt to withdraw budgets from programmes related to the Arab population.

Lotus

Throughout 2024, Portland continued to support this groundbreaking project in partnership with Lotus, an NGO run by Druze women based in Daliyat al-Karmel. Lotus fosters the first generation of orthodox Druze women to break the glass ceiling and achieve employment in hi-tech firms. This is accomplished by creating an environment in which the women maintain their traditions, by working in a women-only "safe space" inside the village. The Trust continues to facilitate and mentor the NGO's activity in all aspects, developing the next cohorts of the programme and matching graduates with roles in the Israeli tech sector.

105 women (a 90% placement rate) have been successfully placed as software developers and data analysts at several leading hi-tech firms - and these are roles which may otherwise have been outsourced from Israel. There are continuously high levels of employer satisfaction with their performance, and each position creates two additional peripheral positions in

the village. The Lotus NGO has now achieved financial sustainability and so is no longer dependent on philanthropic donations for the Daliyat al-Karmel branch operations.

Fursa

Fursa (meaning "opportunity") provides a scalable solution for quality employment for talented young Arab citizens of Israel who hold academic degrees in STEM subjects but have not succeeded in landing jobs in the tech sector, or finding quality employment in general.

The project leverages the Lotus model and know-how, delivering an intervention that addresses the tech sector's needs while taking into consideration the unique context of Arab society in Israel. This lack of integration, already acute in ordinary times, was exacerbated during the pandemic and also the global slowdown that has also affected the Israeli tech industry. This situation poses a double challenge to Arab youth, who experience the traditional barriers to integration in addition to the present lack of availability of junior-level positions and the unwillingness of employers to hire juniors in Israel, who prefer instead to recruit low-cost staff in offshore centres. Fursa identifies talented youth and provides the enabling support needed for their inclusion in hi-tech, within an appealing employment cost model for employers.

The programme placement rate is 92%, and by the end of 2024, 87 Fursa graduates had been employed as Devops engineers. All first four cohort graduates received their first salary increase after 6 months of work. Some Fursa graduates have already been nominated by their employers to become development leads, and Portland provides them with the relevant training to take on this opportunity. Fursa launched its 8th cohort in early 2025.

As with Lotus, it is important to note that 100% of the positions into which Fursa graduates are hired were previously planned to be subcontracted to Romania, Ukraine and India.

Samana

Taking the proven Portland model, in 2022 the Trust launched this new programme to integrate Bedouin women in Northern Israel into hi-tech. Samana is specifically designed to help overcome very real barriers that exist, for example Bedouin society is highly patriarchal, meaning Bedouin women need a male relative's permission for many routine actions, which will take into consideration factors like ensuring she is not alone, or in the absence of a family member, she is accompanied by several other approved women from her tribe. This makes travel outside the village very difficult and required that great thought went into the design of Samana, the new NGO we have established, and which means "our sky" in Arabic. 18 talented, educated, young women were placed into the hi-tech workforce from the first cohort, by operating a women-only hi-tech hub in the Bedouin village of Zarzir. Samana has a 100% placement rate so far. The second cohort brought the employment total to 30.

The Zarzir hub operates as a Centre of Excellence for QA and QA Automation for ERP and CRM systems, skills in high demand even in the global downturn that began in 2022. Solar Edge agreed to employ the entire first cohort: the best possible start, with good prospects of expanding to more graduates. Ensuring continuous learning and development, the local Fursa team has been brought in as an accelerator for the new Samana management team with their experience and best practice.

Tora Va'daat

Tora Va'Daat ("Torah and Knowledge") is creating a model group of high-tech professionals within the ultra-Orthodox Jewish community. It does so by supporting a group of brilliant and highly-motivated young men and providing them with the necessary tools and resources to attain a prestigious Computer Science BSc degree, fill leading industry positions and become role models in their communities. This innovative programme recruits ultra-Orthodox Jewish men, often unable to integrate into quality employment for lack of required credentials, let alone the School of Computer Science & Engineering at The Hebrew University (HBRU) – one of the world's top-rated academic institutes – and supports them through their studies. Tora Va'Daat creates a social and academic ecosystem that closes education gaps, reduces dropout rates from 46% to 36% and brings Haredi students to the level of their classmates, maximizing their chances of success and preparing them for leading roles in the high-tech industry.

68 students are taking part in the programme across 4 cohorts: the first cohort, of 16 participants, began in 2020 and in 2022 entered their third year; the second cohort, of 18, were in their second year, and the third cohort, of 15, started in Sept 2022, and 16 students started in December 2023 (a late start due to the war which delayed the start of the academic year). Overall, the students' achievements are on a par with their peers, with grade distribution similar to the general student body. In large part this is through close cooperation with the University and the academic support, which includes private tuition and mentorship from those ultra-orthodox students who are further advanced in the course and have successfully passed their exams. The financial support covers tuition fees and living expenses in the first year, and then later provides exposure to the

industry to prepare them to join it, including visits to Microsoft and Google's offices in Israel.

At the end of 2024, Portland had supported 65 Haredi students through three yearly cohorts, with a 90% retention rate and zero performance gap with other students

5-Tech and Athar

In 2024, The Portland Trust started two new initiatives with Druze men and Bedouin women, to scale the Charity's impact in Israel.

5-Tech works with the Druze community in the Galilee, home to some of the most talented young men. However, their integration into Israel's high-tech industry has been hindered by cultural and social barriers. 5-Tech creates tech career opportunities for graduates of the Druze community. Rooted in the Druze community and understanding its unique challenges and aspirations, 5-Tech integrates these young Druze men into the hi-tech industry in Israel, bridging cultural gaps and providing leading hi-tech companies with a yet untapped talent.

Athar is a groundbreaking initiative which aims to empower Academic Bedouin women from the Negev and integrate them into the hi-tech industry. Through a 400-hour bootcamp, Athar equips participants with essential skills and knowledge to excel in jobs.

Graduates integrate into leading hi-tech companies, while working in a state-of-the-art tech hub located in their home territory. The hub serves as a safe, women-only workspace, enabling graduates to work remotely or collaborate with other professionals in a supportive setting.

This programme was launched in early 2025, with 80% of the graduates from the first cohort integrated into the workforce within three months.

In total from the above programmes, 310 juniors have been employed in top R & D positions, 188 of whom were women and many of whom were promoted to mid-management positions. The retention rate was 94% after four years. Placement rates were high across the board from each project: with Samana at 100%, Lotus 90%, Fursa 87% and Beyond Dev 85%. Women made up 29% of tech positions in Israel and 62% in Portland programmes over the 5 years. For each employee in a core job, a further two peripheral jobs were created, therefore creating 930 jobs in total within the 5 years.

Social Finance Israel

During 2024, The Portland Trust continued to support and partner with Social Finance Israel (SFI), having played a leading role in its establishment in 2013 as a public benefit company and Israel's first social-financial intermediary.

SFI is the leading developer of Social Impact Bonds (SIBs) in Israel and is attracting new capital towards non-profit organisations and social enterprises tackling a range of high-priority social challenges. These include reducing the drop-out rate amongst higher education technology students, preventing the onset of Type 2 diabetes amongst pre-diabetics and enhancing educational attainment in mathematics for Bedouin high school students in the Negev.

In its first ten years, SFI initiated its five SIBs, the latest of which focused on reducing loneliness and isolation amongst the elderly. SFI created $594m of indirect value to the Israeli economy, involved 5,000 participants in pay-for-success projects and had 50+ consulting projects that influenced social sector budgets of tens of millions of dollars. It has nine active projects with an outcomes-based payment model (social and career impact bonds), and has raised $16.8m from impact investors and $7.6m from philanthropic funding.

B. Palestine Programme

Central to its objectives, The Portland Trust has worked for many years to help develop the Palestinian private sector by investigating and catalysing investment and job creation opportunities, aiming to promote long-term, sustainable growth in the Palestinian economy. The Portland Trust has partnered with local and international actors to drive development across various economic sectors including housing and construction, energy, water, agriculture and tourism. The Portland Trust continues to strengthen the foundations for sustainable growth, employment and stability.

The events of 7th October 2023, and its aftermath clearly impacted on the Trust's activity. However, the Trust remains resilient and has amended its work appropriately to keep delivering its objectives, and significant progress can be seen even in these turbulent conditions.

Economic Strategy

In 2013, The Portland Trust published the seminal Beyond Aid report. It became a widely referred-to blueprint to help drive investment, employment and growth in five key sectors in Palestine: agriculture, technology, tourism, construction and energy, and an unofficial guide for private sector development in Palestine. A decade later, the circumstances had changed, and all agreed that the right economic strategy for the next ten years looks different. The Portland Trust therefore kicked off work to coalesce the Palestinian private sector and commission a renewed strategy for long-term economic growth in Palestine. The Trust appointed a highly experienced, globally credible consultancy to undertake the research, consultation and drafting of this new economic strategy. Whilst the work changed significantly atter October 7 2023, the Trust persevered, and the outcome was a 25-year roadmap of economic growth for Palestine to maximum levels of potential GDP growth, employment and other key economic indicators.

Palestine Emerging

The Portland Trust was a driving force behind "Palestine Emerging", an initiative powered by a diverse coalition of Palestinian private sector leaders and technical organisations, international experts and global policy makers, working closely with the Palestinian Government.

By focusing on key foundations and drivers such as urban development, healthcare, reconstruction skills and renewable energy, Palestine Emerging aims to foster long-term growth, equity, and social cohesion, harnessing best-in-class global experts to tackle issues of post-conflict resolution that create the most value for the greatest number of people and will have maximum economic impact.

A Governing Council was established with seven Palestinians and three international members, as well as a wider 'International Advisory Group' of over 100 experts and interested parties. After an initial meeting in December 2023 (featured on the front page of the New York Times), Palestine Emerging has grown into a maturing coalition of partners, grouped around several 'Gamechangers' – each a large-scale, long-term economic initiative that will improve lives across the West Bank and Gaza. Further workshops in Washington DC, Cairo and London in 2024 and early 2025 progressed the projects significantly.

Healthcare Partnership and Transformation

The Portland Trust is using the latest technology as a Gamechanger for Palestinian Health. With the support of the leading private hospital group in the West Bank, the World Health Organisation, Harvard Medical School and others, a comprehensive Healthcare Partnership and Transformation strategy and detailed plan was delivered in December 2024, the culmination of several months of intensive work, including a dedicated health survey. Eight health catalysts were identified including a hybrid insurance model, digitisation of medical records, training and pharma exports.

The focus is on improving care quality and increasing access to it, with a Health Delivery Unit now being set up to implement the plans. A central team will manage stakeholder coordination supported by local representatives from the public and private sectors and funding partners. These representatives will lead the delivery of individual catalysts. International experts with experience in similar initiatives will provide advisory support.

In 2025 the health workstream will achieve: the establishment of a delivery unit equipped to deliver the eight healthcare transformation catalysts identified; the creation of a health insurance platform to double healthcare coverage in the West Bank, improving access for vulnerable Palestinians; and a healthcare bond to leverage additional financing.

Trade

The Portland Trust has begun a new initiative to help transform the West Bank into a productive, export-led economy. Palestinian trade experiences many challenges and barriers that prevent trade from being an economic driver, despite producing products attractive to foreign businesses and consumers. This has led to a growing deficit which hit -$7.5bn in 2022.

To boost trade and investment, improve competitiveness and reduce trading barriers, Portland has initiated a partnership with the International Chamber of Commerce to connect the Palestinian economy to international markets. Several bold initiatives are underway.

Trade goals for 2025 include: increased access to the combined populations of the country members of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), with 1.6bn consumers; fulfilment centres to streamline sales and delivery of Palestinian goods globally; global e-commerce recognition for Palestinian businesses on platforms like eBay, Amazon and crowdfunding platform Kickstarter; and a pilot for an industrial zone to showcase best practices in infrastructure and business ops.

Gaza Institute of Reconstruction

Another 'Gamechanger' the Trust is moving towards implementation is The Gaza Institute of Reconstruction (GIR). The aim of this project is to construct a major, vocational global centre of excellence to train world-class skilled leaders in physical and economic reconstruction and development. A partnership between global and Palestinian universities and the Ministry of Education is solidifying, with the goal now being to seek more project funding.

An all-day session in December 2024 hosted by George Mason University in Washington DC led to significant elaboration of the 2025 plan of work, with each institution committing to joint fundraising, curriculum design process and a series of practical workshops to build GIR's foundations, and the basis to get GIR included in broader reconstruction plans, including spatial and construction.

In 2025 the project seeks to: establish a sustainable leadership team to guide the initiative and pitch it to key stakeholders; connect a map of reconstruction mega-contractors and align training programmes with their operational needs and launch apprenticeship programmes to accelerate skill-building and workforce integration.

Palestinian Bank of Reconstruction and Development

One of the major "Gamechangers" that could enable the delivery of a successful economic strategy and mass economic reconstruction is the Palestinian-led Palestinian Bank of Reconstruction and Development (PBRD). This is a carefully-designed financial vehicle to co-ordinate key donors and sovereign development funding to avoid duplication, maximise impact, create critical momentum and leverage in global financial capital. Working to the long-term Palestinian economic and spatial plan, the initial PBRD design work, which took place in Q2-3 2024, was to ensure it is best-in-class for rigour, transparency, accountability and oversight, at the highest donor standards. Whilst its progress was stalled by the lack of a ceasefire in Gaza as 2024 wore on, and then by the change in US administration, the Trust continues to make the case that by setting up this dedicated institution the world will be signalling its serious, strategic and sustained intention to build back better.

Palestinian IT Sector

The Portland Trust maintained its commitment to generating employment in the Palestinian technology sector, throughout 2024.

Currently, there are over 600 tech companies in Palestine, employing over 8,500 workers. Most of these companies are micro businesses, with a small number of SMEs working in R&D software outsourcing for multinational corporations or providing business process outsourcing for services such as call centre support and data entry. In addition, there is a slowly emerging digital entrepreneurship scene, with growing investment and several early-stage start-ups.

Despite its potential, the tech sector remains small, constituting less than 0.4% of Palestinian GDP. Key impediments include the lack of exposure to international technological and talent development: according to employers, missing skills include both technical and business (soft skill) competencies. Also key are the legal framework and bureaucratic procedures: the World Bank's 2020 Doing Business Report ranked Palestine 117th on the ease of doing business index out of a total of 190 countries. Finally, the education system: formal education offers minimal interaction with technology and the private sector and does not incentivise problem-solving and innovation. With human capital regarded as the most important input for tech sector the education system is vital to the creation of a suitable and sustainable enabling environment.

The Talent Acceleration Program (TAP)

After in-depth research and analysis of international tech training programmes the Trust developed a curriculum in line with international best practice, adapted to local circumstances. The Portland Trust worked with training partner Kiitos, a Palestinian-Dutch company with offices in Nablus and Amsterdam, as the lead service provider validating the Talent Acceleration Program (TAP). Each cohort of TAP trainees undertook a three-month intensive training course, comprising two technical tracks focusing on the development of skills most in demand internationally but lacking in the Palestinian tech sector. In addition, the curriculum incorporates career coaching and training in relevant soft skills deemed essential for employability, such as English language.

This innovative financial model, saw the creation of the first ever Income Sharing Agreement (ISA) in Palestine. The ISA contracts the trainees to repay a portion of the cost of training once they are employed, with the remainder to be covered by the IT outsourcing companies from their operating margin. So far TAP has created over 400 jobs in Palestine.

The UK-Palestinian Tech Hub

The Portland Trust has also helped add value to the Palestinian tech ecosystem through the UK-Palestinian Tech Hub. This has enabled Palestinians to draw on global experience and best-practice and help increase the concentration of founders and local entrepreneurial heroes through exposure to an international developer network and experienced capital, as well as closer ties to global research and innovation and market trend.

Work is also currently underway on a $75m 'Levant Fund', designed to unlock the next era of growth and reinvention in the Levant region. The Levant, encompassing Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria and the Levantine diaspora, is a region with abundant human capital and entrepreneurial energy amid systemic undercapitalisaton, conflict, institutional fragility and continuity of capital. The Levant Fund is therefore strategically tailored to address the unique challenges the region faces. As a full-spectrum fund, it is designed to catalyse a flow of capital that supports startups throughout their life cycle, avoiding premature exits, bridging funding gaps and benefiting from global exits whilst establishing a resilient entrepreneurial economy in the Levant. Fundraising will take place during the course of 2025.

New Private-Sector Pension Scheme

Over many years Portland has worked to move to the next stage in catalysing a large-scale voluntary private sector pension scheme. The work in 2024 reignited the Trust's past efforts in this area, which ultimately did not come to fruition due to the passing and subsequent withdrawal of the national Social Security Law by the Palestinian Authority in 2019. This new effort is designed with careful awareness of the local context and past obstacles to success in this area. Several rounds of discussions were held with Palestinian private sector leaders and publicly listed companies.

With a pension scheme again on the national agenda in 2024, Portland was called on to explore the possibility of using state assets in a pension scheme context, which has been successfully seen in other examples in the developing world. With careful coordination, the Trust scoped out how best to progress with support to catalyse a pension scheme, although political uncertainties slowed the work. Together with the Coller Pension Institute, Portland conducted extensive research both on the necessary foundations for a new pension scheme and a comparison between defined contributions and defined benefit schemes in the Palestinian context. The research concluded that 70% of the workforce in Palestine territories do not have any pension coverage.

The result was the formulation of a pilot pension scheme, focusing on informal workers. As a part of this innovative voluntary scheme, up to 5,000 Palestinians will have access to secure pensions under their own control in the West Bank. It is hoped the pilot if successful will kickstart a privately-managed scheme open to all Palestinians, providing an incentive to save for old-age for informal sector workers, so giving a fishing rod, rather than a fish. Byproducts of a robust pensions system will be independence from public authorities and support for local financial development, to help build domestic capital for long-term investment projects.

The next stage of the work is a detailed design for the voluntary pilot pension scheme, including an operational plan, legal and regulatory requirements; an actuarial study setting out contribution and benefit rate options, with comprehensive benchmarking of best practices; and establishing a Trust body and Administrator Function, along with identifying and signing up the 2–5,000 Palestinians for the pilot and identification of international agencies and philanthropic partners willing to provide matching contributions.

Bridging Insights

The Portland Trust is acting as a fiscal agent for Bridging Insights. Using research, mapping and engagement, it aims to introduce a process towards conflict resolution that is research driven with specific focus on addressing trauma and fostering narrative change, building resilience through community led initiatives and cross-border cooperation promoting mutual understanding. Their Palestinian activities are funded by several donors including the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

2025 Activities

The Trust's activities have continued strongly into 2025, despite the extraordinarily difficult circumstances around delivery on the ground in the region. Inside Green Line Israel, as detailed above, the nine projects being delivered from Tel Aviv have continued to gather pace, momentum and credibility, with new cohorts and funding identified as they scale and succeed. In Palestine, the ongoing conflict clearly means that nothing can be delivered in Gaza, however it continues to be part of the overall strategic plans being developed, in particular around the Arab League's ("Egyptian") plan for reconstruction that the Trust's work is closely aligned with. A substantial team is now being stood up in Ramallah to deliver the detailed Healthcare Partnership and Transformation plans published at the end of 2024, both with Anera and the wider local Palestine Healthcare Partnership, and similar resource and plans are being brought to fruition in trade. The Portland Trust continues to work hard to deliver economic reconstruction and development in Palestine to benefit all.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of The Portland Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

The auditors, Goldwins Limited, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Report of the Trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 21 July 2025 and signed on the board's behalf by:

Ronald Cohen

Ronald Cohen (Jul 22, 2025 14:36 GMT+3)

.....

Sir R M Cohen - Chair



Independent Auditor's Report
To the members of
The Portland Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Portland Trust for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes. 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).

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of its income and expenditure 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 Companies Act 2006.

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 Charity 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 trustees' 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 charity'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 directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.



Independent Auditor's Report
To the members of
The Portland Trust

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) have 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 Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where 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 trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity'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 trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our 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 are set out below.



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

- We enquired of management, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
    - Detecting, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
    - Detecting of the risks of fraud and responding whether they have knowledge of any actual or suspected fraud;
    - The internal controls in place to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We performed analytical procedures to detect any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.

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. 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]. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity'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 charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Anthony Epton

Anthony Epton (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of
Goldwins Limited
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
75 Maygrove Road
West Hampstead
London NW6 2EG

22 July 2025



Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total funds	2023 Total funds
		£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from					
Donations and legacies	2	1,150,439	1,517,947	2,668,386	5,357,818
Investment income	3	243,761	-	243,761	32,106
Total		1,394,200	1,517,947	2,912,147	5,389,924
Expenditure on					
Charitable activities	4				
Project expenditure		852,092	1,889,711	2,741,803	2,770,120
Support cost		328,483	227,870	556,353	731,450
Total		1,180,575	2,117,581	3,298,156	3,501,570
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		213,625	(599,634)	(386,009)	1,888,354
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		1,170,148	1,456,947	2,627,095	738,741
Total funds carried forward		1,383,773	857,313	2,241,086	2,627,095

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	14,048	4,273
Investments	11	5	5
		14,053	4,278
Current assets			
Debtors	12	101,673	124,389
Cash at bank		2,395,422	2,761,229
		2,497,095	2,885,618
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(270,062)	(262,801)
Net current assets		2,227,033	2,622,817
Total assets less current liabilities		2,241,086	2,627,095
NET ASSETS		2,241,086	2,627,095
Funds	15		
Unrestricted funds		1,383,773	1,170,148
Restricted funds		857,313	1,456,947
Total funds		2,241,086	2,627,095

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 21st July 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

Ronald Cohen
Ronald Cohen (Jul 22, 2025 14:36 GMT+3)

.....
Sir R M Cohen - Trustee

.....
Sir M L Davis – Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Cash Flow Statement
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	(594,709)	1,755,651
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		(594,709)	1,755,651
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(14,862)	(1,141)
Interest received		55,559	32,106
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		40,697	30,965
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(365,807)	1,786,616
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		2,761,229	974,613
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		2,395,422	2,761,229

The notes form part of these financial statements



Notes to the Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 December 2024

1. Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(386,009)	1,888,354
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	5,086	5,165
Interest received	(55,559)	(32,106)
Investment income	(188,202)	-
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	22,716	(5,017)
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	7,259	(100,745)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	(594,709)	1,755,651

2. Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 1/1/24 £	Cash flow £	At 31/12/24 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	2,761,229	(365,807)	2,395,422
Total	2,761,229	(365,807)	2,395,422

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

The Financial Statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.
Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

Going concern
The accounts are prepared on the basis that the Charity has adequate resources to continue to operate.
The Trustees have reviewed and considered the relevant information, including the budget and future cash flows in making their assessment. Based on these assessments the Trustees have concluded that they can continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty
Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experiences and reasonable expectations of future events. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the accounting period in which the revision is made.

The Portland Trust has a potential obligation to reinstate its London offices to the original layout. The Trustees do not believe that a significant liability for this exists at the year end.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies: Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the Statement of Financial Activity when receivable and only when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.

Investment Income
Investment income is accounted for in the period that the Charity is entitled to receipt.

Expenditure
Recognition of expenditure
Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Expenditure on charitable activities
These comprise the costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and charitable activities services in the furtherance of its objects, including the making of grants and governance costs.

Other expenditure These are support costs not allocated to a particular activity.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Improvements to property	- 20% straight line on cost
Furniture, Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on reducing balance and 6 years straight line on coast



1. Accounting policies - continued

Computer equipment - 20% on reducing balance

Taxation
The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds: These are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.

Restricted funds: These are available for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

Foreign currencies
Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are translated at the rates of exchange prevailing at the end of the reporting period.

Transactions in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are recorded at the rate of exchange on the date that the transaction occurred.

All exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at net income/expenditure.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments
Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. In the event that lease incentives are received to enter into operating leases, such incentives are recognised as a liability. The aggregate benefit of incentives is recognised as a reduction of rental expense on a straight-line basis.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

The charity contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme under the automatic enrolment regime. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they relate.

Financial instruments
The charitable company only has financial assets and liabilities off a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments, which are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value. These include debtors, bank and cash balances and creditors.

Trade and other debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts.

Trade and other creditors
Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

There are no key judgments.

2. Donations and legacies

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	2,668,386	5,357,818

3. Investment income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Investments	188,802	-
Deposit account interest	55,559	32,106
	243,761	32,106

4. Charitable activities costs

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 5)	Totals
	£	£	£
Project expenditure	2,741,803	-	2,741,803
Support cost	-	556,353	556,353
	2,741,803	556,353	3,298,156

5. Support costs

	Administrative costs	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Support cost	536,467	19,886	556,353
	536,467	19,886	556,353

6. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024	2023
	£	£
Auditors remuneration- Current year	8,750	8,000
Depreciation - owned assets	5,086	5,165
Other operating leases	234,250	234,801

7. Trustees' remuneration and benefits

There were no Trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Trustees' expenses

The Portland Trust pays for Trustee indemnity insurance. Travel expenditure totalling £1,560 (2023: £8,357) was paid on behalf of Trustees' during the year.

8. Staff costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	877,875	774,673
Social security costs	241,223	129,531
Other pension costs	3,866	4,680
	1,122,964	908,884

The total employee benefits including pension contributions and employers' national insurance of the key management personnel were £448,311 (2023: £445,190).

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
UK	3	5
Israel	7	6
Palestine	3	4
	13	15

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2024	2023
£80,001 - £90,000	1	1
£90,001-£100,000	1	1
£170,001-£180,000	1	1
£190,001-£200,000	1	1
	4	4

9. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments from			
Donations and legacies	2,454,031	2,903,787	5,357,818
Investment income	32,106	-	32,106
Total	2,486,137	2,903,787	5,389,924

9. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities - continued

	Restricted Funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
Expenditure on Charitable activities			
Project expenditure	1,178,554	1,591,566	2,770,120
Support cost	731,450	-	731,450
TOTAL	1,910,004	1,591,566	3,501,570
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	576,133	1,312,221	1,888,354
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward	594,015	144,726	738,741
Total funds carried forward	1,170,148	1,456,947	2,627,095

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Improvements to property	Furniture, Fixtures and fittings	Computer equipment	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2024	35,409	45,865	49,581	130,855
Additions	-	7,294	7,568	14,862
Disposals	-	(3,830)	(16,817)	(20,647)
At 31 December 2024	35,409	49,329	40,332	125,070
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2024	35,409	43,590	47,583	126,582
Charge for year	-	1.756	3.330	5,086
Disposals	-	(3,830)	(16,817)	(20,647)
At 31 December 2024	35,409	41,516	34,096	111,021
Net book value				
As at 31 December 2024	-	7,813	6,235	14,048
As at 31 December 2023	-	2,275	1,998	4,273

11. Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments £
Cost	
At 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024	5
Net book value	
At 31 December 2024	5
At 31 December 2023	5

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

During 2007 The Portland Trust was offered the opportunity to acquire a private equity partnership in Apax Europe VII founder LP at a cost of 6 Euros. Any distributions from this investment are dependent on the performance of the Apax Europe VII Fund over time. The timing and quantification of any future distributions cannot reliably be determined by the Trustees. The investment is therefore held at cost in the balance sheet at 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023. The Trust received a distribution in the current year of £188,202 (2023: £nil) from Apax Europe VII founder LP. Additional distributions may be received in the future. There are no commitments or liabilities associated with this investment.

During 2013 The Portland Trust invested NIS1 in purchasing 11% of the shares of Social Finance Israel, a public benefit company. The value of this investment is £nil as no future monetary benefit will be received.

12. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	44,785	66,924
Prepayments and accrued income	31,888	32,465
	76,673	99,389
Amounts falling due after more than one year: Other debtors	25,000	25,000
Aggregate amounts	101,673	124,389

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Social security and other taxes	33,002	34,238
Other creditors	49,438	60,325
Accruals and deferred income	187,622	168,238
	270,062	262,801

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Fixed assets	5,274	8,774	14,048	4,273
Investments	5	-	5	5
Current assets	1,648,556	848,539	2,497,095	2,885,618
Current liabilities	(270,062)	-	(270,062)	(262,801)
	1,383,773	857,313	2,241,086	2,627,095

15. Movement in funds

	At 1/1/24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/24 £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	1,170,148	213,625	1,383,773
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	1,456,947	(599,634)	857,313
TOTAL FUNDS	2,627,095	(386,009)	2,241,086

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	1,394,200	(1,180,575)	213,625
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	1,517,947	(2,117,581)	(599,634)
TOTAL FUNDS	2,912,147	(3,298,156)	(386,009)

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/1/23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/23 £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	594,015	576,133	1,170,148
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	144,726	1,312,221	1,456,947
TOTAL FUNDS	738,741	1,888,354	2,627,095

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	2,486,137	(1,910,004)	576,133
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	2,903,787	(1,591,566)	1,312,221
TOTAL FUNDS	5,389,924	(3,501,570)	1,888,354

16. Related party disclosures

During the year, Sir R Cohen made donations totalling £504,009 (2023: £1,354,050).

In the prior year, The Portland Trust received a loan of £350,000 from Sir R Cohen, who is a Trustee of the charity. The loan was interest free and was repaid in full during the year. No loans were received in the current year.

The Lady Judith Solomon Charitable Foundation (formerly Heathside Charitable Trust), of which Sir H Solomon is also a Trustee donated £37,500 (2023: £62,500) to The Portland Trust.

The Davis Foundation, of which Sir M Davis is also a Trustee donated £60,000 (2023: £120,000).

The Portland Trust received donations of £381,000 (NIS 1,833,900) from Yad Hanadiv (2023: £397,272 (NIS 1,835,000)) of which Sir R Cohen was formerly a Trustee until December 2023.

The Portland Trust received donations of £78,190 from The Aimwell Charitable Trust (2023: £161,827) of which Steven Kaye is a Trustee.

In 2024, the Charity paid £7,200 (2023: £7,860) to Portland Place Capital for bookkeeping and IT support. In 2024, expenditure of £12,392 (2023: £13,244) was paid via recharges to Portland Place Capital. Included in this amount was £4,532 (2023: £5,384) relating to private healthcare. This expenditure was charged at cost and offered an opportunity to achieve cost savings not otherwise available. Sir R Cohen is a shareholder of Portland Place Capital Ltd.

The Portland Trust acts as a fiscal agent for Bridging Insights. Nicola Cobbold is a member of the Board of Bridging Insights.

Sir R Cohen is Chair of Social Finance Israel of which The Portland Trust and Mrs N Cobbold are founding shareholders. In 2024 The Portland Trust made a donation of £190,223 (2023: £nil) to SFI.

The Portland Trust has a 30% interest in an Israeli company called NorthMed Innovation Center Limited. There are two directors of the company who represent the interests of the Portland Trust. The company commenced trading during the prior year but did not make a profit in the current or prior period.

During the year, Nicola Cobbold received remuneration for non-Trustee work on the basis of a consultancy contract as agreed by the board in 2023. Her total renumeration in 2024 was £9,500 (2023: 11,500).

17. Ultimate controlling party

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital; thus no single party controls the company.

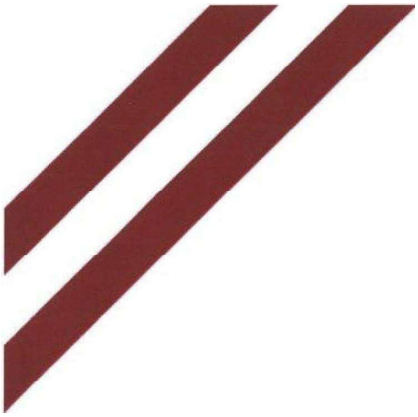


	2024 £	2023 £
Income and endowments		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	2,668,386	5,357,818
Investment income		
Dividends	188,202	-
Deposit account interest	55,559	32,106
Total incoming resources	2,912,147	5,389,924
Expenditure		
Charitable activities		
Wages	418,407	774,673
Social security	34,907	129,531
Pensions	3,866	4,680
Israel projects	1,603,562	1,252,925
Palestine projects	681,061	608,311
	2,741,803	2,770,120
Administrative costs		
Rent	188,991	234,250
Insurance	16,490	22,042
Light and heat	1,351	5,688
Telephone	8,853	19,120
Postage and stationery	58,976	48,419
Sundries	16,320	30,093
Premises costs	32,424	54,699
Subscription fees	1,416	1,200
Improvements to property	-	-
Fixtures and fittings	564	536
Computer equipment	4,522	4,629
Travel	51,719	60,045
Canteen	905	920
Meetings	21,762	12,348
Computers	29,510	39,653
Bank charges	31,715	87,001
Accountancy and legal fees	118,056	45,435
Exchange rate movements	(47,107)	45,971
	536,467	712,049
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	19,886	19,401
	19,886	19,401
Total resources expended	3,298,156	3,501,570
Net (expenditure)/income	(386,009)	1,888,354

THE PORTLAND TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1106429

Accounts



REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04699155 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1106429

Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements
for the
Year Ended 31 December 2023
for
The Portland Trust

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The Trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

Objectives and aims
The Portland Trust was incorporated on 17 March 2003 and gained charitable status on October 2004. The Portland Trust is a non-political organisation which is committed to driving initiatives that promote economic development, moderation and the resolution of conflict in the Middle East, in particular, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Significant activities
The Portland Trust is involved with a number of initiatives to further its charitable aims. These include designing and coordinating programmes that aim to assist in the development of the Palestinian private sector and to reduce poverty in Israel through social investment and social entrepreneurship and collaborating with key partners at local and international level who can implement them.

A full description of projects currently being supported is given later in this report. This includes programmes which received direct funding from The Portland Trust during 2023, as detailed in the notes to the Financial Statements, as well as initiatives where The Portland Trust plays an advisory role offering guidance and non-financial support.

Public benefit
The objects of the Charity are for such exclusively charitable purposes for the benefit of the public in any part of the world as the Trustees may in their absolute discretion think fit. When making decisions about the activities undertaken in furtherance of these objects, the Trustees follow the guidance issued by the Charity Commission regarding public benefit. This is demonstrated through involvement in projects benefiting society as a whole as detailed in this report.

Fundraising Declaration
The Portland Trust does not raise funds from the public and therefore has not subscribed to any fundraising standards or scheme for fundraising regulation.

Social investments
Working with local and international partners, The Portland Trust helps to develop the Palestinian private sector and the Israeli socio-economic periphery, mobilising additional resources and support where necessary.

In addition, The Portland Trust may also make loans or investments where this is consistent with the Trust's charitable purposes and mission. Any programme related investment would be monitored regularly by the Trustees to ensure that funds, once invested, continue to be used in furtherance of approved activities.

Grantmaking
Grants may be made to organisations which The Portland Trust is working with on any project furthering the Charity's charitable aims. Such expenditure, if made, will be listed in the notes to the Financial Statements.

Volunteers
With the exception of the Trustees, The Portland Trust had no volunteers in 2023.



Financial review

Financial position
As detailed in the Review of Activities and the Notes to the Financial Statements, The Portland Trust has driven and contributed to a number of initiatives. Sufficient income has again been secured to meet all of our commitments. At 31 December 2023 The Portland Trust had a liquid balance sheet with a cash position of £2,761,229 which helps to secure the Charity's plans to promote economic stability in the Middle East into 2024 and beyond.

Principal funding sources
The Portland Trust mainly receives funding from grant-making charities based in the United Kingdom and internationally.

Investment policy and objectives
The Trustees have regard to the liquidity requirements of the Charity and maintain a policy of keeping any surplus liquid funds on short-term deposit which can be accessed readily to enable a timely response to project needs.

Reserves policy
The Portland Trust carries out a blend of both long and short term projects. The Trustees have examined the requirement for free reserves, which are those unrestricted funds not designated for specific purposes or otherwise committed. The Trustees consider that generally, free reserves should be sufficient to cover approximately three months of regular operational expenditure which equates to approximately £420,000.

At 31 December 2023 unrestricted retained reserves totalled £1,170,148 and restricted retained reserves were £1,456,947. The free reserves at the year-end are considered adequate for this purpose and to carry out appropriate projects going forward.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document
The Charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees
The Trustees of the Charity have control of the Charity and its property and funds. The first Trustees were Sir Ronald Cohen and Sir Harry Solomon. Unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution, the number of Trustees is subject to a maximum of ten and minimum of two. Trustees may be individuals or bodies corporate.

Every Trustee signs a declaration of willingness to act as a Charity Trustee before being eligible to vote at any meeting of the Trustees. One third (or the number nearest to one third) of the Trustees retire at each Annual General Meeting, those in office retiring first and the choice between any of equal service being made by drawing lots unless they otherwise agree among themselves.

The members are entitled to appoint one or more Trustees (including themselves), to remove any Trustee so appointed and to appoint another Trustee in place of any Trustee so appointed who for any reason ceases to be a Trustee. A retiring Trustee is not eligible for reappointment unless such reappointment is approved by the Trustees.

On 1 January 2023, three new Trustees joined the Trust's board: Jonathan Harel-Cohen, Steven Kaye and Gila Sacks.

Organisational structure
The Trustees provide their services free of charge. The Portland Trust has branches in London, Tel Aviv and Ramallah. Baron Frankal, CEO runs the organisation from the London office where there are four employees. The Tel Aviv office, which opened in 2005, has six members of staff and is run by Rami Schwartz. The Ramallah office was opened in April 2006, has four members of staff, and until October 2023 was run by Yahya Shunnar under the chairmanship of Samir Hulileh.

Decision making
Whilst the Trustees are responsible for overseeing the activities and direction of the Charity, the Chief Executive and Managing Directors, together the Trust's executive function, as well as the Ramallah Chairman, approve expenditure on the projects undertaken by The Portland Trust, subject to the oversight of the Board of Trustees and its duly-constituted Committees.

Induction and training of new trustees
All of the Trustees are experienced in charity matters and therefore no formal training takes place. When new issues and developments come to light the Trustees are made aware of these matters at their next meeting. Any new Trustee would be expected to have the same level of experience and knowledge as the existing Trustees.

Key management remuneration
The members of the Executive Committee comprise the key management personnel of The Portland Trust and are responsible for the direction, control and running of the Charity on a day to day basis.

All the Trustees provide their services free of charge. The pay of senior staff is reviewed annually, and rates are set at market rate for their role.

Related parties
With one exception, none of the Trustees received remuneration or other benefits from their work with The Portland Trust in 2023, although their expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as a Trustee may be paid by the Charity.

Trustees may hold a position of responsibility within organisations which receive funding from The Portland Trust. In such cases this is disclosed in the notes to the Financial Statements.

As agreed by all the Trustees at a Board of Trustees meeting on 25th April 2023, and in accordance with Charity Commission guidance, one of the Trustees, Nicola Cobbold also receives remuneration for her non-Trustee work on the basis of a consultancy contract. Her total renumeration in 2023 was £ 11,500.

During the year, the Portland Trust received a loan of £350,000 from Sir Ronald Cohen to support the short term cashflow of the Portland Trust. The loan was interest free and was fully repaid by the year end.

Risk management
The Trustees regularly review the risks to which the Charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. No significant risks were identified during the year.

Reference and administrative details

Registered Company number
04699155 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1106429

Registered office
Acre House
11-15 William Road
London
NW1 3ER

Trustees
Ms N J Cobbold
Sir R M Cohen (Chair)
Sir M L Davis
Sir H Solomon
Mr J M Harel-Cohen (appointed 1 January 2023)
Mr S J Kaye (appointed 1 January 2023)
Ms G Sacks (appointed 1 January 2023)

Auditors
Goldwins Limited
75 Maygrove Road
London
NW6 2ER

Strategic report

Achievement and performance

Charitable activities
As a charity, The Portland Trust's direct charitable expenditure mainly comprises staff costs, both those directly employed those who are part of projects.

A. Israel Programme

The Portland Trust is focused on enhancing economic opportunities in the Israeli social and geographic periphery, addressing Israeli Arab employment and business challenges and strengthening Arab municipal development. The Portland Trust's aim is to create a systemic change to integrate the Arab sector into the Israeli economy, generating employment opportunities and enhancing the lives and livelihood of Israeli Arabs whilst increasing their contribution to GDP. The Portland Trust has also developed interventions aimed at increasing economic participation and improved living standards amongst the ultra-Orthodox (Haredi) Jewish community.

The Sakhnin Regional Economic Cluster

This flagship project aims to build regional economic clusters to address the gaps and imbalances between Arab and Jewish communities. Following a year-long strategic process, The Portland Trust chose to focus first on the Bikat Sakhnin area and the health sector. A new health and life sciences industrial park is now creating a new ecosystem and bringing together public and private healthcare service providers, health industry players, academia, research and innovation as a means to create job opportunities and high-quality employment in the area. This will serve 135,000 residents, potentially impacting positively on an additional 500,000 residents of adjacent areas.

MEDX Xelerator, a northern branch of the existing MEDX incubator, was launched in May 2022, through the leadership of the Portland Trust, and with support from the Israel Innovation Authority (IIA). The facility is hosted in Sakhnin and is the first med-tech hub in an Arab city in Israel. The hub offers entrepreneurship training and mentoring programmes to both Jewish and Arab entrepreneurs based in northern Israel, providing a holistic and professional supporting environment. It also promotes the placement of technological personnel, with an emphasis on integrating employees and entrepreneurs from Arab society into companies in the fields of medical devices, digital health and software.

NorthMed Innovation Centre

In July 2022, The Portland Trust submitted a bid to a competitive IIA tender for a regional innovation and technological entrepreneurship centre in Arab society, part of IIA's plans to promote the development of entrepreneurs and quality jobs in Israel's Arab sector. In December 2022, The Portland Trust's consortium was announced as a successful bidder.

With the aim of developing an ecosystem that promotes innovation in overlooked areas, the Israeli government, through the IIA and the Authority for Economic Development of Minority Sectors, awarded the group led by The Portland Trust, a grant to encourage entrepreneurship and tech employment in the Arab sector. This grant has enabled the creation of a groundbreaking tech hub for innovation and employment in the north of Israel, at the heart of the Sakhnin Valley.

The Portland Trust, together with MEDX Xelerator, Alpha Omega, Galilee Clinical Bio Research and five leading hospitals and medical centres in northern Israel (Ziv, Poriya, Bnei Zion, Galilee Medical Center and Nazareth Hospital) all came together to launch the North-Med Innovation Center to promote entrepreneurship in the area, in domains such as medical devices, life science and software development. The North-Med Innovation Center also includes an employment centre that focuses on integrating technological talent from local communities into leading high-tech and med-tech companies, encouraging employers to open branches in the country's northern region.

Two major publicly-traded Israeli tech companies have agreed to open branches for local workers in the Sakhnin Valley. The plan is to start with 15-40 employees at each company and grow to over 100 within the following two years, as the success of the venture becomes evident. To date, Pagaya, a Fin-Tech company, has opened a branch in Sakhnin and employs around 16 members of staff. Whilst there have been some delays by other companies who had already committed to the venture due to global market fluctuations and more recently to the atrocities of October 7th and the war that has followed, the Portland Trust remains confident this will come to fruition and other company branches will follow. Broadly, NorthMed's business model is forecast to arrive at break-even five years from inception.

Finally, the goal is also to establish a joined-up ecosystem, with its own common platform, that serves as a health industry business park. The Portland Trust has an agreement with the relevant local municipalities as to the best location for the park and has secured a real estate partner (Zim Urban), although issues are still being worked through with the regional planning committee by Portland's team and partners.

Beyond Dev

This project, established in cooperation with Eshkol Hasharon regional economic cluster, is run in conjunction with the Young Business Leadership, an NGO. It focuses on retraining university graduates, placing engineers, computer science grads and non-STEM academics from Arab communities into automation testing and manual Quality Assurance (QA) positions, on integrating juniors into the industry (with upskilling and on-the-job training), and on the identification, training and integration of employees in IT and hi-tech firms. The programme is funded by the employers benefitting from the training, showing substantial "skin in the game". In keeping with Portland's established model, the project needs to break even within two years. The required philanthropic funding for three years has been secured, matched by two years of Government (IIA) funds.

The project has 3 main steps: scouting and recruiting candidates; professional and soft-skills training for three and a half months; and employee placement, supported by the Beyond Dev team in the first year of employment. The team includes a programme director, tech lead and recruiter. Training is based on a professional syllabus and informed by industry needs.

The first cohort of 15 completed the training programme in September 2022, and the latest cohort started in the summer of 2023. Currently 36 graduates have been integrated into high quality jobs within the various companies' R&D teams.

Masterplan for Arab-Israeli Employment (Government Resolution 550)

The Portland Trust helped develop a comprehensive masterplan for the integration of Arab employees into the Israeli workforce, initially in partnership with the Israel Democracy Institute's (IDI) Arab-Jewish relations sector, Israeli Government ministries, NGOs, and private sector employers. The plan was presented to all relevant ministries in Israel - Economy, Labour, Welfare, Finance, Agriculture (relating to Bedouin population/community involvement) and Education, as well as the MALAG (Israel's Council for Higher Education) as well as being endorsed by the National Committee of Heads of Arab Local Authorities.

The plan was extended and amended to reflect the impact of the pandemic on Arab citizens of Israel in areas such as education, welfare, employment and domestic violence. This was fully adopted by the relevant players. The chapters on employment and employment centres, education, welfare, and growth engines in Government Resolution 550, the 5-year plan for the Arab sector in Israel, were taken directly from the work carried out by the Portland Trust, along with our recommended priorities and KPIs. The Portland Trust has representatives within the Employment Committee of the National Committee of Arab Heads of Councils, which is responsible for overseeing the Resolution's implementation, dealing with promotion of employment and integration of youth. As part of the committee, Portland works closely with the Councils, helping unlock areas of dispute, alerting the Council and preparing the data for the required dialogue between the relevant Government agencies. The Trust also supports the Council's Chairman in preparing for the meetings with Government officials. Recently, in light of the current Government's attempt to withdraw budgets from programmes, related to the Arab population, additional work is being carried out to protect the resolution's implementation and it's already committed budgets.

Lotus

Throughout 2023, The Portland Trust continued to support this groundbreaking project in partnership with Lotus, an NGO run by Druze women based in Daliyat al-Karmel. Lotus fosters the first generation of orthodox Druze women to break the glass ceiling and achieve employment in hi-tech firms. This is accomplished by creating an environment in which the women maintain their traditions, by working in a women-only "safe space" inside the village. The Portland Trust continues to facilitate and mentor the NGO's activity in all aspects, developing the next cohorts of the programme and matching graduates with roles in the Israeli tech sector.

90 women (a 90% placement rate) have been successfully placed as software developers and data analysts at several leading hi-tech firms - and these are roles which may otherwise have been outsourced from Israel. There are continuously high levels of employer satisfaction with their performance, and each position creates two additional peripheral positions in the village. The Lotus NGO has now achieved financial sustainability and so is no longer dependent on philanthropic donations for the Daliyat al-Karmel branch operations.



Fursa

Fursa (meaning "opportunity") provides a scalable solution for quality employment for talented young Arab citizens of Israel who hold academic degrees in STEM subjects but have not succeeded in landing jobs in the tech sector, or finding quality employment in general.

The project leverages the Lotus model and know-how, delivering an intervention that addresses the tech sector's needs while taking into consideration the unique context of Arab society in Israel. This lack of integration, already acute in ordinary times, was exacerbated during the pandemic and also the global slowdown that has also affected the Israeli tech industry. This situation poses a double challenge to Arab youth, who experience the traditional barriers to integration in addition to the present lack of availability of junior-level positions and the unwillingness of employers to hire juniors in Israel, who prefer instead to recruit low-cost staff in offshore centres. Fursa identifies talented youth and provides the enabling support needed for their inclusion in hi-tech, within an appealing employment cost model for employers.

The programme placement rate is 92%, and so far, 75 FURSA graduates have been employed as Devops engineers. All first four cohort graduates received their first salary increase after 6 months of work. Some Fursa graduates have already been nominated by their employers to become development leads, and Portland provides them with the relevant training to take on this opportunity.

As with Lotus, it is important to note that 100% of the positions into which Fursa graduates are hired were previously planned to be subcontracted to Romania, Ukraine and India.

Samana

Taking the proven Portland model, in 2022 the Trust launched this new programme to integrate Bedouin women in Northern Israel into hi-tech. Samana is specifically designed to help overcome very real barriers that exist, for example Bedouin society is highly patriarchal, meaning Bedouin women need a male relative's permission for many routine actions, which will take into consideration factors like ensuring she is not alone, or in the absence of a family member, she is accompanied by several other approved women from her tribe. This makes travel outside the village very difficult and required that great thought went into the design of Samana, the new NGO we have established, and which means "our sky" in Arabic. So far 18 talented, educated, young women have been placed into the hi-tech workforce by operating a women-only hi-tech hub in the Bedouin village of Zarzir. Samana has a 100% placement rate so far. The second cohort is planned for the second half of 2024.

The Zarzir hub operates as a Centre of Excellence for QA and QA Automation for ERP and CRM systems, skills in high demand even in the global downturn that began in 2022. Solar Edge agreed to employ the entire first cohort: the best possible start, with good prospects of expanding to more graduates in upcoming cohorts. Ensuring continuous learning and development, the local Fursa team has been brought in as an accelerator for the new Samana management team with their experience and best practice.

Tora V'daat

Tora V'Daat ("Torah and Knowledge") is creating an elite group of high-tech professionals within the ultra-Orthodox Jewish community. It does so by supporting a group of brilliant and highly-motivated young men, and providing them with the necessary tools and resources to attain a prestigious Computer Science BSc degree, fill leading industry positions and become role models in their communities. This innovative programme recruits ultra-Orthodox Jewish men, often unable to integrate into quality employment for lack of required credentials, let alone the School of Computer Science & Engineering at The Hebrew University (HBRU) – one of the world's top-rated academic institutes – and supports them through their studies. Tora V'Daat creates a social and academic ecosystem that closes education gaps, reduces dropout rates from 46% to 36% and brings Haredi students to the level of their classmates, maximizing their chances of success and preparing them for leading roles in the high-tech industry.

68 students are currently taking part in the programme across 4 cohorts: the first cohort, of 16 participants, began in 2020 and in 2022 entered their third year; the second cohort, of 18, were in their second year, and the third cohort, of 15, started in Sept 2022, and 16 students started in December 2023 (a late start due to the war which delayed the start of the academic year). To date, the programme has a 90% retention rate. Overall, the students' achievements are on a par with their peers, with grade distribution similar to the general student body. In large part this is through close cooperation with the University and the academic support, which includes private tuition and mentorship from those ultra-orthodox students who are further advanced in the course and have successfully passed their exams. The financial support covers tuition fees and living expenses in the first year, and then later provides exposure to the industry to prepare them to join it, including visits to Microsoft and Google's offices in Israel.



Social Finance Israel

During 2023, The Portland Trust continued to support and partner with Social Finance Israel (SFI), having played a leading role in its establishment in 2013 as a public benefit company and Israel's first social-financial intermediary.

SFI is the leading developer of Social Impact Bonds (SIBs) in Israel and is attracting new capital towards non-profit organisations and social enterprises tackling a range of high-priority social challenges. These include reducing the drop-out rate amongst higher education technology students, preventing the onset of Type 2 diabetes amongst pre-diabetics and enhancing educational attainment in mathematics for Bedouin high school students in the Negev.

Most recently SFI initiated its fifth SIB, which focuses on reducing loneliness and isolation amongst the elderly.

B. Palestine Programme

Central to its objectives, The Portland Trust has worked for many years to help develop the Palestinian private sector by investigating and catalysing investment and job creation opportunities, aiming to promote long-term, sustainable growth in the Palestinian economy. The Portland Trust has partnered with local and international actors to drive development across various economic sectors including housing and construction, energy, water, agriculture and tourism. The Portland Trust continues to strengthen the foundations for sustainable growth, employment and stability.

The events of 7th October 2023, and its aftermath have clearly impacted on The Portland Trust's activity. The Trust remains resilient and continually reviews and adjusts its work appropriately to try to continue delivering its objectives notwithstanding the very challenging realities.

Palestinian IT Sector

The Portland Trust maintained its commitment to generating employment in the Palestinian technology sector, and this formed a strong focus of its programme in 2023.

Currently, there are over 600 tech companies in Palestine, employing over 8,500 workers. Most of these companies are micro businesses, with a small number of SMEs working in R&D software outsourcing for multinational corporations or providing business process outsourcing for services such as call centre support and data entry. In addition, there is a slowly emerging digital entrepreneurship scene, with growing investment and several early-stage start-ups.

Despite its potential, the tech sector remains small, constituting less than 0.4% of Palestinian GDP. Key impediments include: the lack of exposure to international technological and talent development: according to employers, missing skills include both technical and business (soft skill) competencies. Also key is the legal framework and bureaucratic procedures: the World Bank's 2020 Doing Business Report ranked Palestine 117th on the ease of doing business index out of a total of 190 countries. Finally, the education system: formal education offers minimal interaction with technology and the private sector and does not incentivise problem-solving and innovation. With human capital regarded as the most important input for tech sector development, modernising the education system is vital to the creation of a suitable and sustainable enabling environment.

In 2023 The Portland Trust continued its efforts to catalyse accelerated growth in the Palestinian tech sector by developing scalable solutions for matching international employers with well-vetted and locally trained talent, and with other efforts, elaborated in its brief on the Palestinian tech ecosystem, highlighting how growth can be encouraged and identifying opportunities for and obstacles to expansion.

The Talent Acceleration Program (TAP)

The Portland Trust conducted in-depth research and analysis of international tech training programmes to develop a curriculum in line with international best practice, adapted to local circumstances. In particular, the initiative addresses the skills gap between Palestinian university graduates and commercial market requirements and most significantly builds the capacity of local service providers to deliver the training.

The Portland Trust worked with training partner Kiitos, a Palestinian-Dutch company with offices in Nablus and Amsterdam, as the lead service provider validating the programme with potential demand-side clients and other regional and international training providers. Each cohort of trainees undertook a three-month intensive training course, comprising two technical tracks focusing on the development of skills most in demand internationally but lacking in the Palestinian tech

sector. In addition, the curriculum incorporates career coaching and training in relevant soft skills deemed essential for employability, such as English language.

The innovative financial model, developed by The Portland Trust, saw the creation of the first ever Income Sharing Agreement (ISA) in Palestine. The ISA contracts the trainees to repay a portion of the cost of training once they are employed, with the remainder to be covered by the IT outsourcing companies from their operating margin.

By the end of 2023 The Portland Trust had made significant progress in its objective of creating jobs in Palestinian small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in IT outsourcing (ITO) firms, based in underserved regions of the West Bank. The initiative is now part of a wider portfolio of projects to catalyse the growth of the Palestinian tech sector, making a significant contribution to GDP.

The 2022 fourth cohort of 30 trainees, was the largest yet, and shows the success of the iterative process the Trust deployed to learn, improve and develop the programme with smaller cohorts, until it was robustly ready to scale. Portland has appreciably impacted the local market, with sixteen local companies benefitting from hiring out of the programme. Of these, half of the formal partners have signed partnership agreements and so contribute a "success-fee" to the programme for each resource hired. This includes leading outsourcing companies such as Asal, Exalt, ITG, Foothill, and ProGineer.

In 2023 TAP created 400 jobs in Palestine and launched a digital marketing track.

The UK-Palestinian Tech Hub

One identified area where the Trust considered it could add real value to the Palestinian tech ecosystem is through helping create strong and sustainable links, business and investment flows with the global level London/UK tech sector. This enables Palestinians to draw on global experience and best practice and help increase the concentration of founders and local entrepreneurial heroes through exposure to an international developer network and experienced capital, as well as closer ties to global research and innovation and market trend.

To achieve this, together with the British Consulate General in Jerusalem, the UK-Palestinian Tech Hub was created. Its first activity was to bring nine carefully-selected Palestinian start-ups to a well curated visit to London in October 2022, designed to facilitate partnerships with potential sectoral partners, investors and other relevant connections. The participants met with over 100 technology experts, companies and institutions on their 3-day visit, with several positive technological and financial cooperation follow-up activities ensuing, as well as establishing a great first impression of how the Hub can help the Palestinian tech ecosystem.

In 2023 two further visits were made, including to London Tech Week in June.

Type 2 Diabetes among Palestinian Refugee Women

In 2022 The Portland Trust closed the first Social Impact Bond (SIB) in Palestine and the Arab world, to address the growing Type 2 Diabetes epidemic in Palestine. The SIB was a structured intervention for 150 pre-diabetic women in West Bank refugee camps, designed to lead to sustained weight loss and preventing the onset of diabetes, resulting in significant positive public health outcomes and substantial financial savings for the national healthcare budget.

The programme consisted of an intensive nutritional educational course and regular physical exercise, with 14 core sessions (one 2 hour session per week) taking place over 3 months, focused on educating patients on sound nutritional habits and various topics on nutrition and physical exercise that enable weight management. This was followed by monthly follow-up sessions face-to-face for 32 months to ensure commitment, as well as 150 minutes of exercise per week to develop exercise habits. The outcome metric was the number and percentage of participants achieving a weight loss of 5% or more. The intervention was delivered by Juzoor, a local public health organisation with a strong track record of working with women in impoverished areas. To support service delivery, The Portland Trust secured the commitment of the Paltel Group, the largest telecom provider in Palestine, for an outcome payment for the first cohort totalling $150,000-$250,000. The Portland Trust also succeeded in raising $150,000 in investment for the SIB from the Bank of Palestine, the largest national bank.

The project has now been brought to a conclusion. Due to COVID-19, the delivery of the initiative was affected with women unable physically to exercise in line with diet intervention plans. As a result, many women regained weight they had lost. However, the need for the intervention was more evident, with women having limited agency during the lockdown period to prioritise their own health. The situation prevented regular face to face monitoring during the year, making it very difficult for Juzoor to provide the optimal assistance and motivation for the women. Furthermore, a financial crisis within the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) impacted the work of its clinics where much of Juzoor's intervention takes



place. Juzoor sought to mitigate some of these constraints remotely. A strong "lessons learned" closure report was produced as part of Portland's project management cycle.

Tech Training Development Impact Bond (DIB)

Following earlier supporting work on the successful World Bank bond, in 2023 the Trust continued work on structuring and fundraising for a $10 million Development Impact Bond (DIB) in Palestine to increase the supply and quality of tech talent, as well as the value proposition of the Palestinian tech sector in the global market. This was based on ongoing market analysis of the shortage of appropriately-skilled, job-ready tech talent, and the learned experience of the pilot - and pioneering - Talent Acceleration Platform.

In order to really scale up, and most effectively impact the market, Portland partnered with Anera, a large American sustainable development NGO with sizable operations in the region in the fields of education and job creation. This is with a view to building a broader collaboration to accelerate and drive tech training and related activity further and faster and including more "verticals" across various technical tracks. This cooperation sought to bring together the collective experience, wide market knowledge of the market and the fundraising capabilities of both parties to better drive growth of high-quality IT training in Palestine. Social Finance UK proved specialist support. Unfortunately due to events in the regions this project was not concluded.

Economic Strategy for Palestine

Almost ten years ago The Portland Trust published the seminal Beyond Aid report. It became a widely referred-to blueprint to help drive investment, employment and growth in five key sectors in Palestine: agriculture, technology, tourism, construction and energy, an unofficial guide for private sector development in Palestine. A decade later, the circumstances had changed, and all agreed that the right economic strategy for the next ten years looked different. The Portland Trust therefore reconvened the Palestinian private sector and commissioned the original consulting firm to review the successes and failures of the original strategy and develop a renewed strategy for long-term economic growth in Palestine.

The outcome was a 10-15 year roadmap of economic growth for Palestine to maximum levels of potential GDP growth, employment and other key economic indicators. The plan known as "Forward" was due to be released at an all-day conference in Bethlehem at the end of October 2023. Again, the events in the region meant that both the event and much of the data and plans became very quickly outdated. However when the new "Palestine Emerging" work on economic reconstruction and development was drafted (see below), this work was duly incorporated.

New Private-Sector Pension Scheme

Over many years The Portland Trust worked to catalyse a large-scale voluntary private sector pension scheme. The Trust's past efforts in this area ultimately did not come to fruition due to the passing and subsequent withdrawal of the national Social Security Law by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) in 2019.

A new effort was reignited in 2023, designed with careful awareness of the local context and past obstacles to success in this area. Several rounds of discussions were held with Palestinian private sector leaders and publicly listed companies.

In 2023, a pension scheme and social security once again came onto the Palestinian Authority's agenda, with a new initiative under consideration. Portland was called on to explore the possibility of using state assets in a pension scheme context, which has been successfully seen in other examples in the developing world.

As a result, with careful coordination and working with the Coller Pension Institute, The Portland Trust conducted extensive research both on the necessary foundations for a new pension scheme and a comparison between defined contributions and defined benefit schemes in the Palestinian context.

ORCAM

In 2023, The Portland Trust designed, secured the funding and successfully implemented a project aimed at improving the lives of visually impaired people in the West Bank and East Jerusalem and increasing their chances of accessing education and employment. This was done with a wearable assistive technology device called *OrCam My Eye*. This provided increased independence to people who are blind, visually impaired, or have reading challenges. The device reads printed and digital text aloud, from any surface, has a facial recognition function and can identify products, paper currency and colours.

The project was implemented by offering training for professionals and volunteers who helped distribute the devices, and training for beneficiaries to ensure they used the devices efficiently, and a hotline for enquiries.

The project resulted in improvement of the daily life of the visually impaired people. 73% of the participants reported they were less dependent on others, with 22% reporting they were more independent than ever before.

In total 1,000 visually impaired people in the West Bank and Jerusalem received a visual aid device to help them manage their daily and professional life. Indirect beneficiaries reached more than 2,034 individuals, counting only the household members of visually impaired people who depend on a single source of income. 100% of participants were trained to effectively use the device. Around 62% were working-age participants, and 48% of those aged over 20, reported they were more likely to find a job because of the device. 35.6% of the participants were students, now with an improved likelihood of finishing their education. The programme is intended to continue in 2024 when circumstances allow.

Palestinian Economic Bulletin

The Portland Trust published the monthly Palestinian Economic Bulletin, which reports on key economic developments in Palestine, until October 2023. The Bulletin was distributed to over 1,200 international and local subscribers and is broadly recognised as the only English-language monthly publication focusing on the Palestinian economy. The Portland Trust also published an Arabic-language version of the Bulletin.

2024 Activities

Whilst many activities lapsed in the wake of the ongoing war in Gaza and the extremely strained circumstances in the West Bank, The Portland Trust continued those of its activities that were possible, including the development of a pension scheme. This moved in the direction of a specific pilot, aimed at a sample of 2-5,000 Palestinians, and initial steps were taken in the first quarter of the year to seek the right partners both on the ground in Palestine and internationally in terms of an experienced platform provider, with several quotes and demonstrations sought, as well as match-funding for participants' contributions.

In December 2023, the Trust convened a significant strategic meeting in London between Palestinian leadership, international financial institutions and global economic experts. From this came the parameters for a major plan, fit for the new circumstances, for Palestinian economic reconstruction and development. Over the next months, various working groups and related organisations, together with an Editorial Board, put together this plan, which became known as "Palestine Emerging" and was published at the end of April 2024, featuring on the front page of the New York Times, the Economist, the Independent and other global press. A second closed-door workshop took place in Washington in early March, attended by 58 people, including from the US Government and relevant global institutions, as well as the original Palestinian private sector and global expert participants. Over the remainder of 2024, various for a based on the key "Gamechanger" interventions outlined in the work have progressed work in each of these areas, including on a Gaza Interim Spatial Plan, the Palestinian Healthcare Partnership, trade and currency reforms, the Gaza Technical University of Reconstruction and the Palestinian bank of Reconstruction and Development

At this stage several key interventions, the so-called "Gamechangers" were developed. The foundational work, elaborating the overall plan, was published at the end of April 2024, and can be found at palestine-emerging.org, together with a broader catalogue of work as a resource in the field of Palestinian economic reconstruction and development planning. The plan was widely covered in the international press. The work since then has focused on catalysing and progressing a forum for each Gamechanger intervention, and whilst the continuing war and consequent economic devastation for the Palestinian economy has hindered progress, various efforts continue with key milestones and a further workshop in Washington in December 2024.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of The Portland Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and

explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors
The auditors, Goldwins Limited, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Report of the Trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 26 September 2024 and signed on the board's behalf by:

Mick Davis
Mick Davis (Sep 26, 2024 13:44 GMT+1)
.....
Sir M L Davis - Trustee

26/09/24



Independent Auditor's Report
To the members of
The Portland Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Portland Trust for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes. 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).

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of its income and expenditure 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 Companies Act 2006.

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 Charity 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 trustees' 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 charity'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 directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.



Independent Auditor's Report
To the members of
The Portland Trust

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) have 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 Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where 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 trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity'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 trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our 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 are set out below.

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

- We enquired of management, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
    - Detecting, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
    - Detecting of the risks of fraud and responding whether they have knowledge of any actual or suspected fraud;
    - The internal controls in place to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.



- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We performed analytical procedures to detect any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.

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. 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]. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity'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 charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Anthony Epton

Anthony Epton (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of
Goldwins Limited
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
75 Maygrove Road
West Hampstead
London NW6 2EG

Date: 26 September 2024



Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Income and endowments from					
Donations and legacies	2	2,454,031	2,903,787	5,357,818	2,624,812
Investment income	3	32,106	-	32,106	5
Total		2,486,137	2,903,787	5,389,924	2,624,817
Expenditure on					
Charitable activities	4				
Project expenditure		1,178,554	1,591,566	2,770,120	3,181,660
Support cost		731,450	-	731,450	519,161
Total		1,910,004	1,591,566	3,501,570	3,700,821
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		994,253	849,101	1,888,354	(1,076,004)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		594,015	144,726	738,741	1,814,745
Total funds carried forward		1,170,148	1,456,947	2,627,095	738,741

The notes form part of these financial statements



Balance Sheet 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	4,273	8,295
Investments	11	5	5
		4,278	8,300
Current assets			
Debtors	12	124,389	119,372
Cash at bank		2,761,229	974,613
		2,885,618	1,093,985
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(262,801)	(363,544)
Net current assets		2,622,817	730,441
Total assets less current liabilities		2,627,095	738,741
NET ASSETS		2,627,095	738,741
Funds	15		
Unrestricted funds		1,170,148	594,015
Restricted funds		1,456,947	144,726
Total funds		2,627,095	738,741

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 26 September 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

Nicola Cobbold

Nicola Cobbold (Sep 26, 2024 16:05 GMT+1)

Ms N J Cobbold – Trustee

26/09/24

Mick Davis

Mick Davis (Sep 26, 2024 13:44 GMT+1)

Sir M L Davis – Trustee

26/09/24

The notes form part of these financial statements



Cash Flow Statement
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	1,755,651	(911,614)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		1,755,651	(911,614)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(1,141)	(5,521)
Interest received		32,106	5
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		30,965	(5,516)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		1,786,616	(917,130)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		974,613	1,891,743
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		2,761,229	974,613

The notes form part of these financial statements



Notes to the Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 December 2023

1. Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	1,888,354	(1,076,004)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	5,165	11,352
Interest received	(32,106)	(5)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(5,017)	22,123
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	(100,745)	130,920
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	1,755,651	(911,614)

2. Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 1/1/23 £	Cash flow £	At 31/12/23 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	974,613	1,786,616	2,761,229
Total	974,613	1,786,616	2,761,229

The notes form part of these financial statements



1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

The Financial Statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.
Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

Going concern
The accounts are prepared on the basis that the Charity has adequate resources to continue to operate.
The Trustees have reviewed and considered the relevant information, including the budget and future cash flows in making their assessment. Based on these assessments the Trustees have concluded that they can continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty
Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experiences and reasonable expectations of future events. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the accounting period in which the revision is made.

The Portland Trust has a potential obligation to reinstate its London offices to the original layout. The Trustees do not believe that a significant liability for this exists at the year end.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies: Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the Statement of Financial Activity when receivable and only when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.

Investment Income
Investment income is accounted for in the period that the Charity is entitled to receipt.

Expenditure
Recognition of expenditure
Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Expenditure on charitable activities
These comprise the costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and charitable activities services in the furtherance of its objects, including the making of grants and governance costs.

Other expenditure These are support costs not allocated to a particular activity.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Improvements to property	- 20% straight line on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 20% on reducing balance

Taxation
The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.



1. **Accounting policies - continued**

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds: These are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.

Restricted funds: These are available for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

Foreign currencies
Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are translated at the rates of exchange prevailing at the end of the reporting period.

Transactions in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are recorded at the rate of exchange on the date that the transaction occurred.

All exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at net income/expenditure.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments
Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. In the event that lease incentives are received to enter into operating leases, such incentives are recognised as a liability. The aggregate benefit of incentives is recognised as a reduction of rental expense on a straight-line basis.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

The charity contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme under the automatic enrolment regime. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they relate.

Financial instruments
The charitable company only has financial assets and liabilities off a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments, which are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value. These include debtors, bank and cash balances and creditors.

Trade and other debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts.

Trade and other creditors
Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

There are no key judgments.

2. Donations and legacies

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations	5,357,818	2,624,812

3. Investment income

	2023	2022
	£	£
Investments	-	-
Deposit account interest	32,106	5
	32,106	5

4. Charitable activities costs

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 5)	Totals
	£	£	£
Project expenditure	2,770,120	-	2,770,120
Support cost	-	731,450	731,450
	2,770,120	731,450	3,501,570

5. Support costs

	Administrative costs	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Support cost	712,049	19,401	731,450
	712,049	19,401	731,450

6. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Auditors remuneration- Current year	8,000	8,000
Depreciation - owned assets	5,165	11,352
Other operating leases	234,250	254,801



7. Trustees' remuneration and benefits

There were no Trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Trustees' expenses

The Portland Trust pays for Trustee indemnity insurance. Travel expenditure totaling £8,357 (2022: £3,482) was paid on behalf of Trustees' during the year.

8. Staff costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	774,673	661,624
Social security costs	129,531	193,057
Other pension costs	4,680	4,566
	908,884	859,247

The total employee benefits including pension contributions and employers' national insurance of the key management personnel were £445,190 (2022: £167,256).

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
UK	5	5
Israel	6	5
Palestine	4	4
	15	14

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2023	2022
£90,001 - £100,000	1	1
£100,001-£110,000	-	1
£110,001-£120,000	-	-
Over £120,000	3	2
	4	4

9. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments from			
Donations and legacies	964,190	1,660,622	2,624,812
Investment income	5	-	5
Total	964,195	1,660,622	2,624,817
Expenditure on			
Charitable activities			
Project expenditure	1,410,914	1,770,746	3,181,660
Support cost	519,161	-	519,161



9. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities - continued

	Restricted Funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
TOTAL	1,930,075	1,770,746	3,700,821
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(965,880)	(110,124)	(1,076,004)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward	1,559,895	254,850	1,814,745
Total funds carried forward	594,015	144,726	738,741

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Improvements to property	Fixtures and fittings	Computer equipment	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2023	35,409	45,192	51,718	132,319
Additions	-	673	470	1,143
Disposals	-	-	(2,607)	(2,607)
At 31 December 2023	35,409	45,865	49,581	130,855
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2023	35,409	41,216	47,399	124,024
Charge for year	-	2,374	2,791	5,165
Disposals	-	-	(2,607)	(2,607)
At 31 December 2023	35,409	43,590	47,583	126,582
Net book value				
As at 31 December 2023	-	2,275	1,998	4,273
As at 31 December 2022	-	3,976	4,319	8,295

11. Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments £
Cost	
At 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	5
Net book value	
At 31 December 2023	5
At 31 December 2022	5

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

During 2007 The Portland Trust was offered the opportunity to acquire a private equity partnership in Apax Europe VII founder LP at a cost of 6 Euros. Any distributions from this investment are dependent on the performance of the Apax Europe VII Fund over time. The timing and quantification of any future distributions cannot reliably be determined by the Trustees. The investment is therefore held at cost in the balance sheet at 31 December 2023 and 31 December 2022. The Trust did not receive a distribution in the current or previous year from Apax Europe VII Founder LP. Additional distributions may be received in the future. There are no commitments or liabilities associated with this investment.

During 2013 The Portland Trust invested NIS1 in purchasing 11% of the shares of Social Finance Israel, a public benefit company. The value of this investment is £nil as no future monetary benefit will be received.

12. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	66,924	10,802
Prepayments and accrued income	32,465	36,424
	99,389	47,226
Amounts falling due after more than one year: Other debtors	25,000	72,146
Aggregate amounts	124,389	119,372

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Social security and other taxes	34,238	37,012
Other creditors	60,325	49,696
Accruals and deferred income	168,238	276,836
	262,801	363,544



14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Fixed assets	4,273	-	4,273	8,295
Investments	5	-	5	5
Current assets	1,428,671	1,456,947	2,885,618	1,093,985
Current liabilities	(262,801)	-	(262,801)	(363,544)
	1,170,148	1,456,947	2,627,095	738,741



15. Movement in funds

	At 1/1/23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/23 £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	594,015	576,133	1,170,148
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	144,726	1,312,221	1,456,947
TOTAL FUNDS	738,741	1,888,354	2,627,095

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	2,486,137	(1,910,004)	576,133
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	2,903,787	(1,591,566)	1,312,221
TOTAL FUNDS	5,389,924	(3,501,570)	1,888,354

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/1/22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/22 £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	1,559,895	(965,880)	594,015
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	254,850	(110,124)	144,726
TOTAL FUNDS	1,814,745	(1,076,004)	738,741

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	964,195	(1,930,075)	(965,880)
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	1,660,622	(1,770,746)	(110,124)
TOTAL FUNDS	2,624,817	(3,700,821)	(1,076,004)



16. Related party disclosures

During the year, The Portland Trust received a donation of £nil (2022: £250,000) from The R and S Cohen Foundation, a charity of which Sir R Cohen is also a Trustee. Sir R Cohen made further donations totaling £1,354,050 (2022: $275,000).

During the year, The Portland Trust received a loan of £350,000 (2022: £nil) from Sir R Cohen, who is a Trustee of the charity. The loan was interest free and was repaid in full during the year.

The Heathside Charitable Trust, of which Sir H Solomon is also a Trustee donated £62,500 (2022: £50,000) to The Portland Trust.

The Davis Foundation, of which Sir M Davis is also a Trustee donated £120,000 (2022: £Nil). Sir M Davis made a further donation of £50,000 (2022: £nil).

The Portland Trust received donations of £397,272 (NIS 1,835,000) from Yad Hanadiv (2022: £367,285 (NIS 1,344,000)) of which Sir R Cohen was a Trustee in the period.

The Portland Trust received donations of £161,827 from The Aimwell Charitable Trust (2022: £164,051) of which Steven Kaye is a Trustee.

In 2023, the Charity paid £7,860 (2022: £7,860) to Portland Place Capital for bookkeeping and IT support. In 2023, expenditure of £13,244 (2022: £12,868) was paid via recharges to Portland Place Capital. Included in this amount was £5,384 (2022: £5,008) relating to private healthcare. This expenditure was charged at cost and offered an opportunity to achieve cost savings not otherwise available. Sir R Cohen is a shareholder of Portland Place Capital Ltd.

Sir R Cohen is Chair of Social Finance Israel of which The Portland Trust and Mrs N Cobbold are founding shareholders. In 2023 The Portland Trust made a donation of $nil (2022: $500,000) to SFI.

The Portland Trust has a 30% interest in an Israeli company called NorthMed Innovation Center Limited. There are two directors of the company who represent the interests of the Portland Trust. The company commenced trading during the year but did not make a profit in the period ending 31 December 2023.

17. Ultimate controlling party

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital; thus no single party controls the company.

THE PORTLAND TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1106429

Accounts



REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04699155 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1106429

Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022 for The Portland Trust

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The Trustees who are also directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2022. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

Objectives and aims
The Portland Trust (also referred to in this report as “Portland”, “the Trust” and “the Charity”) was incorporated on 17 March 2003 and gained charitable status on 26 October 2004. The Portland Trust is a non-political organisation which is committed to driving initiatives that promote economic development, moderation and the resolution of conflict in the Middle East, in particular, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Significant activities
The Portland Trust is involved in a number of initiatives to further its charitable aims. These include designing and coordinating programmes to enhance the development of the Palestinian private sector, as well as programmes to facilitate socio-economic mobility by making economic opportunity more accessible to Arab communities and other minorities in Israel. To further its aims, Portland partners at the local and international level who share its vision and can implement initiatives to further these aims.

A full description of projects currently being supported is given later in this report. This includes programmes which received direct funding from The Portland Trust during 2022, as detailed in the notes to the Financial Statements, as well as initiatives where The Portland Trust plays an advisory role offering guidance and non-financial support.

Public benefit
The objects of the Charity are for such exclusively charitable purposes for the benefit of the public in any part of the world as the Trustees may in their absolute discretion think fit. When making decisions about the activities undertaken in furtherance of these objects, the Trustees follow the guidance issued by the Charity Commission regarding public benefit.

Fundraising Declaration
The Portland Trust does not raise funds from the public and therefore has not subscribed to any fundraising standards or scheme for fundraising regulation.

Social investments
Working with local and international partners, The Portland Trust makes grants to develop the Palestinian private sector and the Israeli socio-economic periphery, mobilising additional resources and support where necessary.

In addition to making grants directly to beneficiaries, The Portland Trust also may make loans or investments where this is consistent with the Trust's charitable purposes and mission. Any Programme Related Investment would be monitored regularly by the Trustees to ensure that funds once invested continue to be used in furtherance of approved activities. The Social Investment Policy is reviewed annually or if there are significant changes in the Charity's commitments or activities.

Grantmaking
Grants may be made to organisations which The Portland Trust is working with on any project furthering the Charity's charitable aims. Such expenditure is listed in the notes to the Financial Statements.

Volunteers
With the exception of the Trustees, The Portland Trust had no volunteers in 2022.

Financial review

Financial position

As detailed in the Review of Activities and the Notes to the Financial Statements, The Portland Trust has driven and contributed to a number of initiatives. Sufficient income has again been secured to meet all of our commitments. At 31 December 2022 The Portland Trust had a liquid balance sheet with a cash position of £974,613 which helps to secure the Charity's plans to promote economic stability in the Middle East into 2023 and beyond.

Principal funding sources

The Portland Trust mainly receives funding from grant-making charities based in the United Kingdom and internationally. In addition, in 2020 and 2021 The Portland Trust received significant income from investments as detailed in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

Investment policy and objectives

The Trustees have regard to the liquidity requirements of the Charity and maintain a policy of keeping any surplus liquid funds on short-term deposit which can be accessed readily to enable a timely response to project needs.

Reserves policy

The Portland Trust carries out a blend of both long and short term projects. The Trustees have examined the requirement for free reserves, which are those unrestricted funds not designated for specific purposes or otherwise committed. The Trustees consider that generally, free reserves should be sufficient to cover approximately three months of regular operational expenditure which equates to approximately £350,000.

At 31 December 2022 unrestricted retained reserves totalled £594,019 and restricted retained reserves were £144,726.

The free reserves at the year-end are considered adequate for this purpose and to carry out appropriate projects going forward.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The Charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Trustees of the Charity have control of the Charity and its property and funds. The first Trustees were Sir Ronald Cohen and Sir Harry Solomon. Unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution, the number of Trustees is subject to a maximum of ten and minimum of two. Trustees may be individuals or bodies corporate.

Every Trustee signs a declaration of willingness to act as a Charity Trustee before being eligible to vote at any meeting of the Trustees. One third (or the number nearest to one third) of the Trustees retire at each Annual General Meeting, those in office retiring first and the choice between any of equal service being made by drawing lots unless they otherwise agree among themselves.

The members are entitled to appoint one or more Trustees (including themselves), to remove any Trustee so appointed and to appoint another Trustee in place of any Trustee so appointed who for any reason ceases to be a Trustee. A retiring Trustee is not eligible for reappointment unless such reappointment is approved by the Trustees.

On 1 January 2023, three new Trustees joined the Trust’s board: Jonathan Harel-Cohen, Steven Kaye and Gila Sacks.

Organisational structure

The Trustees provide their services free of charge. The Portland Trust has offices in London, Tel Aviv and Ramallah. Baron Frankal, CEO runs the organisation from the London office where there are four employees. The Tel Aviv office, which opened in 2005, has five members of staff and is run by Rami Schwartz. The Ramallah office was opened in April 2006, has five members of staff, and in 2022 was run by Yahya Shunnar under the chairmanship of Samir Hulileh.

Decision making

Whilst the Trustees are responsible for overseeing the activities and direction of the Charity, the Chief Executive and Managing Directors, together the Trust’s executive function, as well as the Ramallah Chairman, approve expenditure on the projects undertaken by The Portland Trust, subject to the oversight of the Board of Trustees and its duly-comprised Committees.

Induction and training of new trustees

All of the Trustees are experienced in charity matters and therefore no formal training takes place. When new issues and

developments come to light the Trustees are made aware of these matters at their next meeting. Any new Trustee would be expected to have the same level of experience and knowledge as the existing Trustees.

Key management remuneration
The members of the Executive Committee comprise the key management personnel of The Portland Trust and are responsible for the direction, control and running of the Charity on a day to day basis.

All the Trustees provide their services free of charge. The pay of senior staff is reviewed annually, and rates are set at market rate for their role.

Related parties
None of the Trustees received remuneration or other benefits from their work with The Portland Trust in 2022, although their expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as a Trustee may be paid by the Charity.

Trustees may hold a position of responsibility within organisations which receive funding from The Portland Trust. In such cases this is disclosed in the notes to the Financial Statements.

Risk management
The Trustees regularly review the risks to which the Charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. No significant risks were identified during the year.

Reference and administrative details
Registered Company number
04699155 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1106429

Registered office
54 Portland Place
London
W1B 1DY

Trustees
Ms N J Cobbold
Sir R M Cohen
(Chair)
Sir M L Davis
Sir H Solomon

In addition, three new Trustees joined the Trust as of 1 January 2023:

Mr J M Harel-Cohen
Mr S J Kaye
Ms G Sacks

Company Secretary
Mr S D Clarke

Auditors
Goldwins Limited
75 Maygrove Road
London
NW6 2EG

Strategic report

Achievement and performance

Charitable activities
As a charity, The Portland Trust's direct charitable expenditure mainly comprises staff costs, both those directly employed those who are part of projects.

A. Israel Programme

The Portland Trust is focused on enhancing economic opportunities in the Israeli social and geographic periphery, addressing Israeli Arab employment and business challenges and strengthening Arab municipal development. The Portland Trust identifies opportunities and enhances the lives and livelihood of Palestinian Israeli Arabs, Druze and Bedouin, whilst increasing their contribution to GDP. The Portland Trust has also developed interventions aimed at increasing economic participation and improved living standards amongst the ultra-Orthodox (Haredi) Jewish community.

The Sakhnin Regional Economic Cluster
This flagship project is about building regional economic clusters to address the gaps and imbalances between Arab and Jewish communities. Following a year-long consultation process, Portland chose to focus first on the Sakhnin Valley area. The aim is to create a systemic change to integrate local Arab communities into the Israeli economy, generating employment in the health sector. A new health and life sciences industrial park is now being built in the area, creating a new ecosystem which brings together public and private healthcare service providers, health industry players, academia, research and innovation as a means to create significant job opportunities and high-quality employment in the area. This will serve 135,000 residents, potentially impacting positively on an additional 500,000 residents of adjacent areas.

As a strong testament to The Portland Trust's work, our Sakhnin Valley plan was included in Israel's five-year national plan for the Arab sector, which was approved in 2022 as Government Resolution 550. This means that the necessary funding has been allocated for the next five years in the Government of Israel budget. Portland is working with several Israeli Government ministries to ensure financial resources are sustained. Details are included in the elements below.

MEDX Xelerator, a northern branch of the existing MEDX incubator, was launched in May 2022, through the leadership of the Trust, and with support from the Israel Innovation Authority (IIA). The facility is hosted in Sakhnin and is the first med-tech hub in an Arab city in Israel. The hub offers entrepreneurship training and mentoring programmes to both Jewish and Arab entrepreneurs based in northern Israel, providing a holistic and professional support environment. It also promotes the placement of technological personnel, with an emphasis on integrating employees and entrepreneurs from Arab society into companies in the fields of medical devices, digital health and software. As of the end of 2022, the incubator had lined up 2 early-stage companies to base their operations there, with an additional 13 entrepreneurial ventures in the pipeline.

The Sakhnin Municipality is also a partner, and in June 2022 provided space for hosting the opening event of the northern branch. There is additional support from other municipalities, including Arabe, Misgav & Kaukab.

NorthMed Innovation Centre
In July 2022, Portland submitted a bid to a competitive IIA tender for a regional innovation and technological entrepreneurship centre in Arab society, part of IIA's plans to promote the development of entrepreneurs and quality jobs in Israel's Arab sector. In December 2022, Portland's consortium was announced as a successful bidder.

Building on the incubator, Portland, together with MEDX, Alpha Omega (Israel's largest Arab-led tech company) and Galilee CBR, partnered with the five leading hospitals in Northern Israel to establish a new innovation centre. NorthMed will promote and boost entrepreneurship and innovation stemming from northern Israel, developing the ecosystem needed in areas such as medical devices, life sciences and software development. The centre will also house an employment centre (NEC, the North Employment Centre), which will incentivise hi-tech companies to open branches or hubs in the region and employ local talent, in a model similar to the Trust's other successful employment programmes. The partnership has now been expanded to include private sector partners: in the medical field, such as Schneider Medical Centre, Sheba Hospital and Cleveland Clinic Ventures; finance, including Sancta Capital and Venture Souq (2 Gulf VCs) and Israel's Hapoalim Bank; and others, namely CBG Bostonix Limited, Boston Scientific and Rani Zim Ltd.

Two major publicly-traded Israeli tech companies have already agreed to open branches for local workers in the Sakhnin Valley. One, Finastra, has committed to opening a branch that will employ 40 employees in Sakhnin. The plan is to start with 15-40 employees at each company and grow to over 100 within the following two years, as the success of the venture becomes evident. While there have been some delays in opening these branches due to global market fluctuations, the Trust remains confident this will come to fruition and other branches will follow. Broadly, NorthMed's business model is forecast to arrive at break-even five years from inception.

Finally, the goal is also to establish a joined-up ecosystem, with its own common platform, which serves as a health industry business park. The Portland Trust has an agreement with the relevant local municipalities as to the best location for the park and has secured a real estate partner (Zim Urban), although issues are still being worked on with the regional planning committee by Portland's team and partners.

Beyond Dev
This project, spearhead of the Eshkol Hasharon regional economic cluster, is run in conjunction with Young Business Leadership, an NGO fostering leadership and excellence among Israeli teens of different backgrounds. Beyond Dev aims to place non-STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) graduates from Arab communities into automation testing and manual Quality Assurance (QA) positions. Beyond Dev integrates juniors into the tech industry through upskilling and on-the-job training. The programme is funded by the employers benefitting from the training. In keeping with Portland's established model, the project aims to break even within two years. The required philanthropic funding for three years has been secured, matched by two years of Government (IIA) funds.

The project has 3 main stages: scouting and recruiting candidates; professional and soft-skills training for three and a half months; and employee placement, supported by the Beyond Dev team in the first year of employment. The team includes a programme director, tech lead and recruiter. Training is based on a professional syllabus and informed by industry needs.

The first cohort, of 15, completed the training programme in September 2022, with 12 graduates placed in jobs as of the end of 2022. A second cohort concluded in early 2023.

Masterplan for Arab-Israeli Employment (Government Resolution 550)
Portland has developed a comprehensive masterplan for the integration of Arab employees into the Israeli workforce, in partnership with the Israel Democracy Institute's (IDI) Arab-Jewish relations sector, Israeli Government ministries, NGOs, and private sector employers. The plan has been presented to all relevant ministries in Israel - Economy, Labour, Welfare, Finance, Agriculture (relating to Bedouin population/community involvement) and Education, as well as the MALAG (Israel's Council for Higher Education) and has been endorsed by the National Committee of Heads of Arab Local Authorities. The plan, including context for each policy, has been submitted for publication, to enable policymakers to better understand Arab communities when formulating policy and better implement the project's recommendations.

The plan has been extended and amended to reflect the impact of the pandemic on Arab citizens of Israel in areas such as education, welfare, employment and domestic violence. This was fully adopted by the relevant players. The chapters on employment and employment centres, education, welfare, and growth engines in Government Resolution 550, the 5-year plan for the Arab sector in Israel, were taken directly from the work carried out by The Portland Trust, along with our recommended priorities and KPIs. The Trust has representatives within the Employment Committee of the National Committee of Arab Heads of Councils, which is responsible for overseeing the Resolution's implementation, dealing with promotion of employment and integration of youth. As part of the committee, Portland works closely with the Councils, helping unlock areas of dispute, alerting the Council and preparing the data for the required dialogue between the relevant Government agencies. The Trust also supports the Council's Chairman in preparing for meetings with Government officials.

Lotus
Throughout 2022, Portland was working on this groundbreaking project in partnership with Lotus, an NGO run by Druze women based in Daliyat al-Karmel. Lotus fosters the first generation of orthodox Druze women to break the glass ceiling and achieve employment in hi-tech firms. This is accomplished by creating an environment in which the women maintain their traditions, by working in a women-only "safe space" inside the village. The Trust continues to facilitate and mentor the NGO's activity in all aspects, developing the next cohorts of the programme and matching graduates with roles in the Israeli tech sector.

79 women (a 90% placement rate) have already been successfully placed as software developers and data analysts at one of our partner firms - and these are roles which may otherwise have been outsourced from Israel. There are continuously high levels of employer satisfaction with their performance, and each position creates two additional peripheral positions in the village. The first cohort of Lotus graduates were directly employed (rather than being subcontracted), which means a salary hike of over 50% in the women's first 2 and a half years in their roles: their salaries are now NIS 16-18K monthly. A new QA training course was launched in April 2022, with 15 participants. The participants' placements were finalised at the end of the year.

Overall, the programme has more than 80 graduates, which is planned to rise to 100 by the end of 2023. Furthermore, a new branch is expected to open in the Galilee at the end of 2023 or early 2024. The Lotus NGO has now achieved financial sustainability and so is no longer dependent on philanthropic donations for the Daliyat al-Karmel branch's operations.

Fursa
Fursa (meaning "opportunity") aims to provide a scalable solution for quality employment for talented young Arab citizens of Israel who hold academic degrees in STEM subjects but have not succeeded in landing jobs in the tech sector, or finding quality employment in general.

The project leverages the Lotus model and know-how, delivering an intervention that addresses the tech sector's needs while taking into consideration the unique context of Arab society in Israel. This lack of integration, already acute in ordinary times, was exacerbated during the pandemic and also the global slowdown that has also affected the Israeli tech industry this year. This situation poses a double challenge to Arab youth, who experience the traditional barriers to integration in addition to the

present lack of availability of junior-level positions and the unwillingness of employers to hire juniors in Israel, who prefer instead to recruit low-cost staff in offshore centres. Fursa identifies talented youth and provides the enabling support needed for their inclusion in hi-tech, within an appealing employment cost model for employers.

The first five cohorts, totalling 58 graduates, comprise 33% women. The programme placement rate is 92%. All first and second cohort graduates have already received their first salary increase after 6 months of work. The sixth cohort launched in November 2022, and so despite the slowdown affecting the global and local market, there are now some 80 Fursa graduates employed in the Israeli tech industry. This is projected to rise to between 120 and 150 by the end of 2023. Some Fursa graduates have already been nominated by their employers to become development leads, and Portland will provide them with the relevant training to take on this opportunity.

As with Lotus, it is important to note that 100% of the positions into which Fursa graduates are hired were previously planned to be subcontracted to Romania, Ukraine and India. The Fursa NGO met its financial sustainability goal, as planned, by the end of 2022, two years from inception.

Samana
Taking the proven Portland model, in 2022 the Trust launched this new programme to integrate Bedouin women in Northern Israel into the tech industry. Samana is specifically designed to help overcome very real cultural barriers that prevent highly educated women from Galilee Bedouin communities from accessing suitable employment opportunities.

Samana ("our sky" in Arabic) aims to equip Bedouin women with the skills needed to successfully work in the tech industry, as well as providing them with an environment in which their cultural traditions can be maintained.

As part of the project, 30 talented, educated young women will be employed in the tech workforce at a women-only tech hub in the village of Zarzir, with a target placement rate of 90 percent. Modelled on Lotus, the hub is a high-specification facility equipped with top-of-the-range technology, which can function as a remote working hub for employers. The hub will operate as a Centre of Excellence specialising in QA and QA automation for ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) and CRM (Customer Relationship Management) systems, skills that remain in demand even in the current global downturn.

Samana is very much designed for hi-tech employers, who will ensure its sustainability. SolarEdge has agreed to employ the entire first cohort, in the best possible start for the project. Positioned to take advantage of the Israeli Government's incentive system, Samana is forecast to be financially sustainable within 2 years, relying (like Lotus and Fursa) on employers paying the NGO an ongoing monthly payment for support services, and participants (from the second cycle) paying a fee. Ensuring continuous learning and development, the local Fursa team is being brought in as an accelerator for the new Samana management team with their experience and best practice. The first cohort launched in December 2022.

Torah V'Daat
Since 2020, The Portland Trust has been running a successful initiative to enable ultra-Orthodox Jewish men to pursue a BSc degree in Computer Science at the Hebrew University, with guaranteed well-paid employment in the tech sector upon completing the programme. This is providing a designated track for these Haredi men to join one of the world's top-rated universities, the first such initiative in its field. The project, led by the Hebrew University, provides academic and social support, as well as financial support (led by Portland) to the students, helping them focus on successfully completing their degrees and then integrating them into leading global tech firms upon graduation.

49 students are currently taking part in the programme across 3 cohorts. To date, the programme has a 97% retention rate. Overall, the students' achievements are on a par with their peers, with grade distribution similar to that of the general student body. In large part this is through close cooperation with the University and academic support, which includes private tuition and mentorship from ultra-Orthodox professionals in the industry. The financial support covers tuition fees and living expenses in the first year, and then later provides exposure to the industry to prepare them to join it, including visits to Microsoft and Google's offices in Israel.

Social Finance Israel
During 2022, The Portland Trust continued to support and partner with Social Finance Israel (SFI), having played a leading role in its establishment in 2013 as a public benefit company and Israel's first social-financial intermediary.

SFI is the leading developer of Social Impact Bonds (SIBs) in Israel and is attracting new capital towards non-profit organisations and social enterprises tackling a range of high-priority social challenges. These include reducing the drop-out rate amongst higher education technology students, preventing the onset of Type 2 diabetes amongst pre-diabetics and enhancing educational attainment in mathematics for Bedouin high school students in the Negev.

In 2022, SFI initiated its fifth SIB, which focuses on reducing loneliness and isolation amongst the elderly.

The Negev and Galilee Loan Guarantee Project
In 2021, the Koret Israel Economic Development Fund (KIEDF) made the fifth and final instalment of its 5-year repayment to The Portland Trust.

B. Palestine Programme

Central to its objectives, The Portland Trust has worked for many years to help develop the Palestinian private sector by investigating and catalysing investment and job creation opportunities, aiming to promote long-term, sustainable growth in the Palestinian economy. The Portland Trust has partnered with local and international actors to drive development across various economic sectors, including housing and construction, energy, water, agriculture, and tourism. The Portland Trust continues to strengthen the foundations for sustainable growth, employment and stability, informed by up-to-date research.

Palestinian IT Sector

As recommended in the Beyond Aid report (The Portland Trust, 2013), The Portland Trust maintained its commitment to generating employment in the Palestinian technology sector, and this formed the principal focus of its programme in 2022.

Currently, there are over 600 tech companies in Palestine, employing over 8,500 workers. Most of these companies are micro businesses, with a small number of SMEs working in R&D software outsourcing for multinational corporations or providing business process outsourcing for services such as call centre support and data entry. In addition, there is a slowly emerging digital entrepreneurship scene, with growing investment and several early-stage start-ups. With human capital regarded as the most important input for tech sector development, modernizing and updating the tech training offerings in Palestine is vital to the creation of a suitable and sustainable enabling environment for growth.

The Palestinian tech sector remains small, constituting less than 0.4% of Palestinian GDP. Nonetheless, Palestine has a sizable talent pool to draw on, with relatively high levels of academic attainment. Currently, all thirteen universities in the West Bank and Gaza have IT departments, with around 1,500 students graduating annually. However, the unemployment rate among Computer Science graduates remains high, at 45% in Gaza and 18% in the West Bank, and with only around 10% of tech graduates typically securing employment within the sector each year.

To address the skills gap needed to attain employment in the industry, in 2022 The Portland Trust focused its efforts on catalysing growth in the Palestinian tech sector by developing scalable solutions for training and placing Palestinian talent in tech industry jobs, both locally and internationally.

In April 2022, the Trust published a policy brief on the Palestinian tech ecosystem, the first of its “Thinking Portland” series. This informed our programme of work, highlighting how growth can be encouraged and identifying opportunities for and obstacles to expansion.

Throughout 2022, the Trust continued with its efforts to boost employment in IT outsourcing. Despite some operational difficulties, the outsourcing model continues to show it has a high potential to address business needs given the global trend towards remote working, combined with competitive rates for outsourcing. Through its work, Portland seeks to strengthen the capacity of local providers to deliver graduate tech training to international standards, on a commercially sustainable basis. In parallel, it aims to increase market exposure and business development for local IT companies to help secure outsourcing contracts. This also generates increased employment opportunities for programme participants, directly improving their lives and livelihood whilst boosting sectoral growth more broadly.

Talent Development

In 2022, Portland also focused its efforts on talent development. It conducted in-depth research and analysis of international tech training programmes and developed a training curriculum in line with international standards and best practice, adapted to local needs and circumstances. Specifically, the curriculum addresses the skills gap Palestinian university graduates face when entering the job market. No less significantly, Portland has worked to enchance the capacity of local service providers to deliver the training.

The Portland Trust worked with training partner Kiitos, a Palestinian-Dutch company with offices in Nablus and Amsterdam, as the lead service provider. The Portland Trust and Kiitos designed a selection process to recruit STEM graduates with high technical competencies to upskill them and prepare them for employment. Training was designed to be project-based, with trainees working on live, client-based projects alongside senior developers and team leads.

The Trust continued through 2022 to validate the programme with potential demand-side clients and other regional and international training providers. Each cohort of trainees undertook a three-month intensive training course, comprising two technical tracks focusing on the development of skills most in demand internationally but lacking in the Palestinian tech sector. In addition, the curriculum incorporated career coaching and training in relevant soft skills deemed essential for employability, such as English language.

In order to mitigate personal financial constraints, the programme was designed to include the provision of stipends of between $300-$600 to trainees to enable them to complete the programme.

Whilst other local training initiatives rely entirely on donor grants for funding, The Portland Trust engaged with the private sector, policy makers, the World Bank and a range of international donors to design a commercially self-sustaining financing model. As such, the cost of training can be treated as an impact investment rather than a grant, to be repaid with interest

to the investor(s) upon the successful placement in employment of the graduates of the programme.

This innovative financial model, developed by The Portland Trust, saw the creation of the first ever Income Sharing Agreement (ISA) in Palestine. The ISA contracts the trainees to repay a portion of the cost of training once they are employed, with the remainder to be covered by the IT outsourcing companies from their operating margin.

The Talent Acceleration Platform (TAP)
By the end of 2022 Portland had made significant progress with this pilot programme, creating over 40 jobs in Palestinian small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in IT outsourcing (ITO) firms, based in underserved regions of the West Bank. The initiative is now part of a wider portfolio of projects to catalyse the growth of the Palestinian tech sector, making a significant contribution to GDP.

The size of TAP cohorts grew steadily throughout 2022. In subsequent cohorts, TAP also expanded its focus to include sought-after fields in the tech industry other than web development, such as sales. This shows the success of the iterative process the Trust deployed to learn, improve and develop the programme with smaller cohorts, until it was ready to scale in both size and focus to meet demand. Portland has appreciably impacted the local market, with sixteen local companies currently benefitting from hiring out of the programme. Of these, half of the formal partners have signed partnership agreements and so contribute a "success-fee" to the programme for each resource hired. This includes leading outsourcing companies such as Asal, Exalt, ITG, Foothill, and ProGineer.

In 2022, the programme was renamed the Talent Acceleration Platform (TAP) and maintained its model as an intensive three-month bootcamp led by international industry experts specifically adapted to demand-side and client needs. It combines cutting edge technical skills with business acumen and soft skills to accelerate Palestinian developers and ready them for employment with local, Israeli, and international clients, where TAP places them. Alongside the curriculum, the trainees are placed on live client projects to which they contribute as near-full time employees, completing technical tasks according to client specifications and feedback using scrum methodology. In 2022 the Trust succeeded in ensuring that TAP was sustainable without depending on further funding from the Portland Trust, although we have maintained a supportive stance.

The Professional Training and Upskilling Academy
Further to close consultation with local industry partners and other key stakeholders, the Portland Trust also worked in 2022 on putting forward an ambitious project proposal for a large-scale, first-of-its-kind training and upskilling academy to train and place tech talent in Palestine as a provider.

Learning from and building on TAP, the Training Academy would upskill thousands of engineers in the West Bank and Gaza to international standards by providing technical and professional training for graduates of tech-related disciplines. This would equip Palestinian talent, and the Palestinian tech sector more widely, with the competitive technical and soft skills necessary to service local and international markets. Portland carefully gauged private sector interest through several rounds of meetings with the Palestinian Information Technology Association (PITA), the representative agency of the Palestinian tech sector. Talks also took place in 2022 between Portland and leading Palestinian IT companies, including outsourcing companies and training service providers, over sector-side requirements. PITA distributed the project proposal to their wider membership, numbering over 150 companies, for further input, feedback and participation, and the proposal was adapted accordingly. A trial cohort run by a highly-rated Israeli training provider, Elevation, took place in Rawabi at the end of 2022.

The UK-Palestinian Tech Hub
One identified area where the Trust considered it could add real value to the Palestinian tech ecosystem is through helping create strong and sustainable links, business and investment flows with the London/UK tech sector. This enables the Palestinians to draw on global experience and best-practice and helps increase the concentration of founders and local entrepreneurial heroes through exposure to an international developer network and experienced capital, as well as developing closer ties to global research and innovation and market trend.

To achieve this, together with the British Consulate General in Jerusalem, the UK-Palestinian Tech Hub has been created. Its first activity was bringing nine carefully selected Palestinian start-ups to a well-curated visit to London in October 2022, designed to facilitate partnerships with potential sectoral partners, investors and other relevant partners. The participants met with over 100 technology experts, companies and institutions on their 3-day visit, with several positive technological and financial cooperation follow-up activities ensuing. Two further successful visits took place in March and June 2023.

The Hub is currently in the process of being structured and socialised, with Board members being sought from the London tech community.

Mentoring Platform
Portland supported the development of a mentoring platform, a mobile and web application to enable experienced professionals in the UK and global tech industries to volunteer their time and expertise to support Palestinian founders and tech talent. A partnership with Palestinian startup incubator Intersect, the platform was in production throughout late 2022 and early 2023 and is expected to go live in late 2023.

Social Impact Investment
In addition to designing and introducing the first Income Sharing Agreement (ISA) as part of its commitment to ensuring impact-based investment for the development of the tech sector as highlighted above, The Portland Trust continued to play a leading market-building role for the promotion of social impact investing in Palestine. This innovative financial mechanism can help leverage previously untapped capital, foster innovation, and enable donors to shift their approach to development by focusing on measurable outcomes.

Type 2 Diabetes among Palestinian Refugee Women
In January 2019, The Portland Trust launched the first Social Impact Bond (SIB) in Palestine and the Arab world, to address the growing Type 2 Diabetes epidemic in Palestine. The SIB was a structured intervention for 150 pre-diabetic women in West Bank refugee camps, designed to lead to sustained weight loss and preventing the onset of diabetes, resulting in significant positive public health outcomes and substantial financial savings for the national healthcare budget.

The programme consisted of an intensive nutritional educational course and regular physical exercise, with 14 core sessions (one 2-hour session per week) taking place over 3 months, focused on educating patients on sound nutritional habits and various topics on nutrition and physical exercise that enable weight management. This was followed by monthly follow-up sessions face-to-face for 32 months to ensure commitment, as well as 150 minutes of exercise per week to develop exercise habits. The outcome metric was the number and percentage of participants achieving a weight loss of 5% or more. The intervention was delivered by Juzoor, a local public health organisation with a strong track record of working with women in impoverished areas. To support service delivery, The Portland Trust secured the commitment of the Paltel Group, the largest telecom provider in Palestine, for an outcome payment for the first cohort totalling $150,000-$250,000. The Portland Trust also succeeded in raising $150,000 in investment for the SIB from the Bank of Palestine, the largest national bank.

In 2022, the project was brought to a conclusion. COVID-19 affected the delivery of the initiative, with women unable physically to exercise in line with diet intervention plans. As a result, many women regained weight they had lost. The project succeeded in creating a new health awareness among women in some of Palestine's most underserved locales, highlighting the need for similar interventions. It also paved the way to unlocking savings for Government and international bodies. A strong "lessons learned" closure report was produced for the project as part of Portland's enhanced project management cycle.

Tech Training Development Impact Bond (DIB)
In 2022 the Trust began work on structuring and fundraising for a $10 million Development Impact Bond (DIB) in Palestine to increase the supply and quality of tech talent, as well as the value proposition of the Palestinian tech sector in the global market. This was based on ongoing market analysis of the shortage of appropriately skilled, job-ready tech talent, and the learned experience of the pilot - and pioneering
- Talent Acceleration Platform.

In order to really scale up and most effectively impact the market, Portland partnered with Anera, a large American sustainable development NGO with sizable operations in the region in the fields of education and job creation. This is with a view to building a broader collaboration to accelerate and drive tech training and related activity further and faster and including more "verticals" across various technical tracks. This cooperation seeks to bring together the collective experience, wide market knowledge of the market and the fundraising capabilities of both parties to better drive growth of high-quality IT training in Palestine. Though ambitious, the realistic aim is for the enhanced, expanded enlarged programme to commence in late 2023. Anera also brings the experience of their "Plus" programme.

The DIB will fund training, upskilling and placement of Palestinians in well-paid employment (the main outcome indicator) according to the dynamic needs of both local and international companies, especially those interested in setting up, offshoring and siting R&D activity in Palestine. Portland and Anera are currently in talks with several potential investors and outcome payers whose prestige and in-kind support would be a major boost to the DIB's credibility and speed of delivery. Additionally, Social Finance UK is providing specialist support.

Building on the team on the ground that will be needed to establish and run the investor led SPV, which is in the process of being established, Portland is also seeking to create a foundation that can accommodate other, blended finance solutions. As well as the capabilities to deliver the DIB, the structure is being designed to scale to absorb the construction and delivery of other financial instruments in Palestine, i.e., vehicle(s) appropriate to deploy equity, debt, loans, grant and other capital flows into Palestine for the purposes of supporting the tech ecosystem. These may include e.g. a venture capital fund with public/international/blended investment, conditional grant schemes and co-investment programmes, first loss guarantee and other loan guarantee schemes, other social investments and other measures to reduce the cost of borrowing for tech companies in Palestine and that increase local market liquidity and available growth capital.

Economic Strategy for Palestine
Almost ten years ago, The Portland Trust, together with McKinsey & Company, published its seminal 'Beyond Aid' report. It became a widely referred-to blueprint to help drive investment, employment and growth in five key sectors in Palestine: agriculture, technology, tourism, construction and energy, and served as an unofficial guide for private sector development in Palestine.

A decade later, the circumstances have changed, and Portland has been leading a process to bring together Palestinian private sector stakeholders to draw up an up-to-date strategy for long-term economic growth. To this effect, Portland has again appointed McKinsey & Company to undertake the research, consultation and drafting of this new economic strategy, taking into account the lessons learnt from the previous experience and plan.

The outcome being worked towards is a 10-15 year roadmap of economic growth for Palestine that enables it to realise the maximum levels of potential GDP growth, employment and other key economic indicators. The preconditions and plans required to progress and succeed, such as the consideration of internal and external constraints, will be clearly set out, alongside the steps that need to be taken to overcome these and drive growth. The data and economic analysis in the evidence base of the report will be open-source and will be accessible on Portland's website.

The initial scoping of the strategy began at the end of 2022, with research and consultation work taking place throughout the first half of 2023. As at the date of audit, work on the strategy was underway, with the report presenting the strategy and recommended initiatives for development due to be launched in October 2023.

New Private-Sector Pension Scheme
Over many years Portland has worked to move to the next stage in catalysing a large-scale voluntary private sector pension scheme. This would reignite the Trust's past efforts in this area, which ultimately did not come to fruition due to the passing and subsequent withdrawal of the national Social Security Law by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) in 2019.

A new effort was started in 2022, based on a different concept, designed with careful awareness of the local context and past obstacles to success in this area. In 2022, Portland held several rounds of discussions with Palestinian private sector leaders and publicly listed companies with a critical mass of interest and identified a potential pool of 15-20K employees to whom such a pension fund could be opened for on a voluntary basis, translating into an initial potential pension pot of some $100m. Next steps were to form an exploratory committee of representatives of leading private sector companies for further consultations, and parallel discussions with the Ministry of Labour, to ensure the legal framework is appropriate and stable.

As of mid-2022, a pension scheme once again came onto the Palestinian Authority's agenda, with an initiative under consideration. Portland was also called on to explore the possibility of using state assets in a pension scheme context, which has been successfully seen in other examples in the developing world. With careful coordination therefore, the Trust ended 2022 scoping out how best to progress with support to catalyse a private pension scheme.

Enhancing Palestinian Paediatrics
Palestine has severe and growing paediatric healthcare needs, while Tel Aviv's Schneider Children's Medical Centre is one of the foremost paediatric care centres in the world, providing specialist care inter alia for children from all over the world. After detailed discussions, Portland has brought together several parties - including the Palestinian Authority Ministry of Health - to implement a multi-year programme of training medical staff and providing locally unavailable paediatric procedures to enhance capabilities in Palestine. Portland has appointed a specialist project manager to put in place robust procedures and processes and to establish strong working relationships. The Portland team is currently delineating the areas of a pilot we have agreed to support and needs to fundraise accordingly, as well as ensuring the appropriate agreement has all the appropriate KPIs, measurements and transparent facilitations, agreed by all sides.

C. Publications, Research and Events

Palestinian Economic Bulletin
The Portland Trust continued throughout 2022 to publish the monthly Palestinian Economic Bulletin, which reports on key economic developments in Palestine. The Bulletin is distributed to over 1,200 international and local subscribers and is broadly recognised as the only English-language monthly publication focusing on the Palestinian economy. The Portland Trust also publishes an Arabic-language version of the bulletin, with a view to expanding readership regionally. Currently, over 20% of the Bulletin's readers access it in Arabic.

As well as 12 editions of Bulletin, in 2022 the Trust also piloted a version of the publication in Hebrew and specifically designed for the Israeli market ("The Palestinian Economy Today") where traditionally the Bulletin has not had much traction, although economic policymakers there are a key target to receive information on the Palestinian Economy. The pilot was successful, receiving over 700 hits on the publication page (deemed high for a new publication) and over 800 YouTube hits for the video/podcast version. It also received positive feedback from stakeholders in the industry/business community, which shared the publication internally and found it (according to feedback) helpful and useful. Positive interest and feedback were also received from decision makers and several international bodies.

2023 Activities
In the first half of 2023, Portland made progress on drafting a renewed economic strategy for Palestine, moving towards an October 2023 publication date and setting up the delivery unit for implementation. As at the date of audit, it was working towards building an investor-led SPV in Palestine, as well as researching suitable possibilities for a viable funded private pension system there. It also made progress on developing a mentoring app to connect Palestinian tech talent with mentors

in the global industry, due to launch in Q4 of 2023. The Tech Training Development Impact Bond has received high interest from an initial investor, and there are several projects in the pipeline awaiting funding potential. The Bulletin has continued to be published and has received increased attention. In Israel, the Fursa and Beyond Dev programmes have continued to expand its employer's circle, mitigating a general freeze on hiring through more accurate targeting of employers' needs, the Northern Growth Engine has seen positive progress in the Regional Industrial Park, the Trust continues to promote the Arab Masterplan with the Israeli Government and the second cohort of Tora v'Daat students performed well-above peer group average, with a lower drop-out rate than comparable Haredi programmes. All first cycle Samana graduates were successfully placed and the NorthMed Innovation Centre had a successful opening in May, with several pipeline projects progressing well with regard to hi-tech anchors.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of The Portland Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

The auditors, Goldwins Limited, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Report of the Trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 19 July 2023 and signed on the board's behalf by:

Ronald Cohen
Ronald Cohen (Aug 18, 2023 17:11 GMT+3)

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Sir R M Cohen - Chair

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of The Portland Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:
- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 Companies Act 2006.

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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company 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 Trustees' 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 charitable company'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 Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information
The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify 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.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006
In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:
- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees 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 charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report or the Strategic Report included within the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where 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 trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities
The Trustees (who are also the directors of The Portland Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

Our 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 a Report of the Independent Auditors 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 to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities including fraud.

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk 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 and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit.

However, it is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the audit engagement team:

- obtained an understanding of the nature of the sector, including the legal and regulatory frameworks that the charitable company operates in and how the charitable company is complying with the legal and regulatory frameworks:
- Inquired of management, and those charged with governance, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud;
- Discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and where the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud.

As a result of these procedures we consider the most significant laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements are FRS 102,Charities SORP (FRS 102) Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, the charitable company's governing document, and tax legislation. We performed audit procedures to detect non-compliance which may have a material impact on the financial statements which included reviewing the financial statements including the Trustees' Report and remaining alert to any new or unusual transactions which may not be in accordance with the governing documents.

The audit engagement team identified the risk of management override of controls and as they area where the financial statements were most susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud, Audit procedures performed included but were not limited to testing manual journal entries, and other adjustments, evaluating the business rationale in relation to any significant, unusual transactions and transactions entered into outside the normal course of business, and challenging any judgments and estimates.

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 involved internal 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. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Use of our report
This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



THE PORTLAND TRUST

Anthony Epton (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and
on behalf of Goldwins Limited
Statutory Auditor

75 Maygrove Road
London
NW6 2EG

19 July 2023

THE PORTLAND TRUST

Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Income and endowments from					
Donations and legacies	2	964,190	1,660,622	2,624,812	2,740,858
Investment income	3	5	-	5	351,199
Total		964,195	1,660,622	2,624,817	3,092,057
Expenditure on Charitable activities	4				
Project expenditure		1,410,914	1,770,746	3,181,660	2,282,148
Support cost		519,161	-	519,161	361,532
Total		1,930,075	1,770,746	3,700,821	2,643,680
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(965,880)	(110,124)	(1,076,004)	448,377
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		1,559,895	254,850	1,814,745	1,366,368
Total funds carried forward		594,015	144,726	738,741	1,814,745

The notes form part of these financial statements

THE PORTLAND TRUST

Balance Sheet
31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	8,295	14,126
Investments	11	5	5
		8,300	14,131
Current assets			
Debtors	12	119,372	141,495
Cash at bank		974,613	1,891,743
		1,093,985	2,033,238
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(363,544)	(232,624)
Net current assets		730,441	1,800,614
Total assets less current liabilities		738,741	1,814,745
NET ASSETS		738,741	1,814,745
Funds	15		
Unrestricted funds		594,015	1,559,895
Restricted funds		144,726	254,850
Total funds		738,741	1,814,745

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 19 July 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

Ronald Cohen
Ronald Cohen (Aug 18, 2023 17:11 GMT+3)

.....
Sir R M Cohen – Trustee

.....
Sir M L Davis- Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

THE PORTLAND TRUST

Cash Flow Statement
for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	(911,614)	514,363
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		(911,614)	514,363
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(5,521)	(3,819)
Interest received		5	-
Net cash used in investing activities		(5,516)	(3,819)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(917,130)	510,544
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		1,891,743	1,381,199
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		974,613	1,891,743

The notes form part of these financial statements

THE PORTLAND TRUST

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
for the year ended 31 December 2022

1. Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(1,076,004)	448,377
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	11,352	14,391
Interest received	(5)	-
Decrease in debtors	22,123	38,746
Increase in creditors	130,920	12,849
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	(911,614)	514,363

2. Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 1/1/22 £	Cash flow £	At 31/12/22 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	1,891,743	(917,130)	974,613
	1,891,743	(917,130)	974,613
Total	1,891,743	(917,130)	974,613

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

The Financial Statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.
Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

Going concern
The accounts are prepared on the basis that the Charity has adequate resources to continue to operate.
The Trustees have reviewed and considered the relevant information, including the budget and future cash flows in making their assessment. Based on these assessments the Trustees have concluded that they can continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty
Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experiences and reasonable expectations of future events. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the accounting period in which the revision is made.

The Portland Trust has a potential obligation to reinstate its London offices to the original layout. The Trustees do not believe that a significant liability for this exists at the year end.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies: Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the Statement of Financial Activity when receivable and only when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.

Investment Income
Investment income is accounted for in the period that the Charity is entitled to receipt.

Expenditure
Recognition of expenditure
Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Expenditure on charitable activities
These comprise the costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and charitable activities services in the furtherance of its objects, including the making of grants and governance costs.

Other expenditure These are support costs not allocated to a particular activity.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Improvements to property	- 20% straight line on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 20% on reducing balance

Taxation
The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

1. Accounting policies - continued

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds: These are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.

Restricted funds: These are available for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

Foreign currencies
Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are translated at the rates of exchange prevailing at the end of the reporting period.

Transactions in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are recorded at the rate of exchange on the date that the transaction occurred.

All exchange differences are are taken into account in arriving at net income/expenditure.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments
Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. In the event that lease incentives are received to enter into operating leases, such incentives are recognised as a liability. The aggregate benefit of incentives is recognised as a reduction of rental expense on a straight-line basis.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

The charity contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme under the automatic enrolment regime. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they relate.

Financial instruments
The charitable company only has financial assets and liabilities off a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments, which are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value. These include debtors, bank and cash balances and creditors.

Trade and other debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts.

Trade and other creditors
Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

There are no key judgments.

2. Donations and legacies

	2022	2021
	£	£
Donations	2,624,812	2,740,858

3. Investment income

	2022	2021
	£	£
Investments	-	351,169
Deposit account interest	5	30
	5	351,199

Investment income of £351,169 (€408,167) was received in 2021 as a consequence of a distribution from a private equity investment held by the Charity, see note 11.

4. Charitable activities costs

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 5)	Totals
	£	£	£
Project expenditure	3,029,388	152,272	3,181,660
Support cost	-	519,161	519,161
	3,029,388	671,433	3,700,821

5. Support costs

	Management	Finance	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Project expenditure	17,039	135,233	-	152,272
Support cost	387,863	30,699	100,599	519,161
	404,902	165,932	100,599	671,433

6. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2022	2021
	£	£
Auditors remuneration- Current year	8,000	8,000
Auditors remuneration - under provision 2020	-	15,282
Depreciation - owned assets	11,352	14,391
Other operating leases	254,801	246,194

7. Trustees' remuneration and benefits

There were no Trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Trustees' expenses

The Portland Trust pays for Trustee indemnity insurance. No travel expenses were paid on behalf of Trustees' during the year.

8. Staff costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	661,624	490,633
Social security costs	193,057	52,987
Other pension costs	4,566	2,727
	859,247	546,347

The total employee benefits including pension contributions and employers' national insurance of the key management personnel were £167,256 (2021: £217,282).

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2022	2021
UK	5	5
Israel	5	5
Palestine	4	4
	14	14

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2022	2021
£90,001 - £100,000	-	-
£100,001-£110,000	-	-
£110,001-£120,000	1	1
Over £120,000	3	2
	4	3

9. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments from			
Donations and legacies	1,330,016	1,410,842	2,740,858
Investment income	351,199	-	351,199
Total	1,681,215	1,410,842	3,092,057
Expenditure on Charitable activities			
Project expenditure	940,945	1,341,203	2,282,148
Support cost	361,532	-	361,532

9. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Total	1,302,477	1,341,203	2,643,680
NET INCOME	378,738	69,639	448,377
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward	1,181,157	185,211	1,366,368
Total funds carried forward	1,559,895	254,850	1,814,745

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Improvements to property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
Cost				
At 1 January 2022	35,409	45,182	46,207	126,798
Additions	-	10	5,511	5,521
At 31 December 2022	35,409	45,192	51,718	132,319
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2022	31,278	39,232	42,162	112,672
Charge for year	4,131	1,984	5,237	11,352
At 31 December 2022	35,409	41,216	47,399	124,024
Net book value				
At 31 December 2022	-	3,976	4,319	8,295
At 31 December 2021	4,131	5,950	4,045	14,126

11. Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments £
Cost	
At 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022	5
Net book value	
At 31 December 2022	5
At 31 December 2021	5

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

11. Fixed asset investments - continued

During 2007 The Portland Trust was offered the opportunity to acquire a private equity partnership in Apax Europe VII founder LP at a cost of 6 Euros. Any distributions from this investment are dependent on the performance of the Apax Europe VII Fund over time. The timing and quantification of any future distributions cannot reliably be determined by the Trustees. The investment is therefore held at cost in the balance sheet at 31 December 2021 and 31 December 2020. The Trust received a distribution of €408,166 in June and September 2021 from Apax Europe VII Founder LP and additional distributions may be received in the future. There are no commitments or liabilities associated with this investment.

During 2013 The Portland Trust invested NIS1 in purchasing 11% of the shares of Social Finance Israel, a public benefit company. The value of this investment is £nil as no future monetary benefit will be received.

12. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	10,802	9,607
Prepayments and accrued income	36,424	59,166
	47,226	68,773
Amounts falling due after more than one year:		
Other debtors	72,146	72,722
Aggregate amounts	119,372	141,495

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Social security and other taxes	37,012	24,368
Other creditors	49,696	34,241
Accruals and deferred income	276,836	174,015
	363,544	232,624

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Fixed assets	8,295	-	8,295	14,126
Investments	5	-	5	5
Current assets	949,259	144,726	1,093,985	2,033,238
Current liabilities	(363,544)	-	(363,544)	(232,624)
	594,015	144,726	738,741	1,814,745

15. Movement in funds

	At 1/1/22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/22 £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	1,559,895	(965,880)	594,015
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	254,850	(110,124)	144,726
TOTAL FUNDS	1,814,745	(1,076,004)	738,741

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	964,195	(1,930,075)	(965,880)
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	1,660,622	(1,770,746)	(110,124)
TOTAL FUNDS	2,624,817	(3,700,821)	(1,076,004)

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/1/21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/21 £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	1,181,157	378,738	1,559,895
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	185,211	69,639	254,850
TOTAL FUNDS	1,366,368	448,377	1,814,745

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	1,681,215	(1,302,477)	378,738
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	1,410,842	(1,341,203)	69,639
TOTAL FUNDS	3,092,057	(2,643,680)	448,377

THE PORTLAND TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1106429

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04699155 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1106429

Report of the Trustees and

Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

for

THE PORTLAND TRUST

Goldwins Limited
75 Maygrove Road
London
NW6 2EG

THE PORTLAND TRUST

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for the year ended 31 December 2021

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Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 December 2021

The Trustees, who are also directors of The Portland Trust (the Charity) for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2021. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

Objectives and aims

The Portland Trust was incorporated on 17 March 2003 and gained charitable status on October 2004. The Portland Trust is a non-political organisation which is committed to driving initiatives that promote economic development, moderation and the resolution of conflict in the Middle East, in particular, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Significant activities

The Portland Trust is involved with a number of initiatives to further its charitable aims. These include designing and coordinating programmes that aim to assist in the development of the Palestinian private sector and to reduce poverty in Israel through social investment and social entrepreneurship and collaborating with key partners at local and international level who can implement them.

A full description of projects currently being supported is given later in this report. This includes programmes which received direct funding from The Portland Trust during 2021 as detailed in the notes to the Financial Statements, as well as initiatives where The Portland Trust plays an advisory role offering guidance and non-financial support.

Public benefit

The objects of the Charity are for such exclusively charitable purposes for the benefit of the public in any part of the World as the Trustees may in their absolute discretion think fit. When making decisions about the activities undertaken in furtherance of these objects, the Trustees follow the guidance issued by the Charity Commission regarding public benefit. This is demonstrated through involvement in projects benefiting society as a whole as detailed in this report.

Fundraising Declaration

The Portland Trust does not raise funds from the public and therefore has not subscribed to any fundraising standards or scheme for fundraising regulation.

Social investments

Working with local and international partners, The Portland Trust makes grants to develop the Palestinian private sector and the Israeli socio-economic periphery, mobilising additional resources and support where necessary.

In addition to making grants directly to beneficiaries, The Portland Trust may also make loans or investments where this is consistent with the Trust's charitable purposes and mission. Any Programme Related Investment would be monitored regularly by the Trustees to ensure that funds once invested continue to be used in furtherance of approved activities. The Social Investment Policy is reviewed annually or if there are significant changes in the Charity's commitments or activities.

Grantmaking

Grants may be made to organisations which The Portland Trust is working with on any project furthering the Charity's charitable aims. Such expenditure is listed in the notes to the Financial Statements.

Volunteers

With the exception of the Trustees, The Portland Trust had no volunteers in 2021.

Strategic report
Achievement and performance
Charitable activities
The Portland Trust's direct charitable expenditure mainly comprises its staff costs. Other costs are accounted for on a project basis, as detailed in Note 4 to the Financial Statements.

A. Palestine Programme

Over the years, The Portland Trust has worked to help develop the Palestinian private sector by investigating and catalysing investment and job-creation opportunities, aiming to promote sustainable growth in the Palestinian economy. The Portland Trust has partnered with local and international actors to drive development across various economic sectors including housing and construction, energy, water, agriculture and tourism.

1. Palestinian IT Sector

As recommended in the Beyond Aid report (The Portland Trust, 2013), the Trust has maintained its commitment to generating employment in the Palestinian technology sector, and this formed the principal focus of its programme in 2021.

Currently, there are over 600 tech companies in Palestine, employing over 8,500 workers. Most of these companies are micro businesses, with a small number of SMEs working in R&D software outsourcing for multinational corporations or providing business process outsourcing for services such as call centre support and data entry. In addition, there is a slowly emerging digital entrepreneurship scene with growing investment and several early-stage start-ups.

Despite its potential, the tech sector remains small, constituting less than 0.4% of Palestinian GDP. Key impediments include:

- lack of exposure to international technological and talent development: according to employers, missing skills include both technical and business (soft skill) competencies;
- legal framework and bureaucratic procedures: the World Bank's 2020 Doing Business Report ranked Palestine 117th on the ease of doing business index out of a total of 190 countries; and
- the education system: formal education offers minimal interaction with technology and the private sector and does not incentivise problem-solving and innovation. With human capital regarded as the most important input for tech sector development, modernising the education system is vital to the creation of a suitable and sustainable enabling environment.

Notwithstanding, Palestine has a sizable talent pool with relatively high levels of academic attainment. Currently, all thirteen universities in the West Bank and Gaza have IT departments, with around 1,500 students graduating annually. However, the unemployment rate among Computer Science graduates remains high, standing at 45% in Gaza and 18% in the West Bank, with only 10% of tech graduates typically securing employment within the sector each year.

As such, in 2021 The Portland Trust focused its efforts on catalysing accelerated growth in the Palestinian tech sector by developing scalable solutions for matching international employers with well-vetted and locally trained talent.

Catalysing IT Outsourcing Growth Through Addressing Geographical Disparities

In 2021, The Portland Trust identified an opportunity to boost employment in IT outsourcing both in Nablus, Hebron, Ramallah and Rawabi.

Despite the operational difficulties introduced by the global pandemic and resultant economic crisis in 2021, the outsourcing model has a high potential to address business needs given the global trend for adopting remote working combined with more competitive rates for international outsourcing clients in the chosen cities.

In essence, The Portland Trust initiative set out to strengthen the capacity of local providers to deliver graduate tech training to international standards, on a commercially sustainable basis. In parallel, it aimed to increase market exposure and business development for local IT companies to help secure outsourcing contracts, generating increased employment opportunities for programme participants, directly improving their lives and livelihood whilst boosting the growth of the sector more broadly.

In 2021, The Portland Trust focused on three core workstreams in preparation for the formal launch of the programme, namely talent development, business development and sustainable financial structuring.

Talent Development: The Portland Trust conducted in-depth research and analysis of international tech training programmes and developed a curriculum in line with international best practice adapted to local circumstances. In particular, it addresses the skills gap between Palestinian university graduates and commercial market requirements and most significantly builds the capacity of local service providers to deliver the training.

The Portland Trust selected a Nablus-based IT company as the training partner; Kiitos, a Palestinian-Dutch company with offices in Nablus and Amsterdam as the lead service provider. The Portland Trust worked with Kiitos to design a selection process to recruit STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) graduates with high technical competencies to upskill them and prepare them for employment. Training was designed to be project-based, with trainees working on live, client-based projects alongside senior developers and team leads.

The Portland Trust continued to validate the programme with potential demand-side clients and other regional and international training providers throughout the year. Having considered various models, it was ultimately agreed that each cohort of trainees should undertake a three-month intensive training course, comprising two technical tracks focusing on the development of skills most in demand internationally but lacking in the Palestinian tech sector. In addition, the curriculum would incorporate career coaching and training in relevant soft skills deemed essential for employability, such as English language.

In order to mitigate personal financial constraints, the programme was designed to include the provision of stipends of between $300 and $600 to trainees to enable them to complete the programme. The Portland Trust ran 3 cohorts in 2021 of 15, 15, and 10 participants, of which 31 were successfully placed in the first instance.

Business Development: In parallel with its work to develop the training programme, The Portland Trust offered advice and guidance to IT outsourcing companies to help develop their operational capacity and to assist them in preparing to compete for international contracts.

To that end, The Portland Trust took the lead in the creation of a competitive pricing model based on its analysis of international cost comparisons, facilitated resource sharing agreements between IT outsourcing companies to help achieve scale, and secured soft commitments for interviews from companies willing to consider hiring trainees upon completion of the programme.

Sustainable Financial Structuring: Through its strategic commitment to partner with local Palestinian training providers, The Portland Trust was able in 2021 to design a programme that conforms to international best practices, whilst simultaneously achieving cost savings appropriate for local market conditions. The pilot training programme cost significantly less than other international bootcamps/training programmes currently offered in Palestine, Israel and the region which range from $8,000-$12,000 per person.

In addition, whilst other training initiatives rely entirely on donor grants for funding, The Portland Trust engaged with the private sector, policy makers, the World Bank and a range of international donors during 2021 to design a commercially self-sustaining financing model. As such, the cost of training would be treated as an impact investment rather than a grant, to be repaid with interest to the investor(s) upon the successful placement in employment of the graduates of the programme.

This innovative financial model, developed by The Portland Trust, saw the creation of the first ever Income Sharing Agreement (ISA) in Palestine. The ISA contracts the trainees to repay a portion of the cost of training once they are employed, with the remainder to be covered by the IT outsourcing companies from their operating margin.

The Talent Acceleration Program (TAP)

The Portland Trust made significant progress in firming up its plans towards its initial aim of creating 300 jobs in Palestinian small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in IT outsourcing (ITO) firms, based in underserved regions of the West Bank in two years. The initiative is now part of a wider portfolio of projects to catalyse the growth of the Palestinian tech sector, leading to the employment of thousands of developers and making a significant contribution to GDP.

Already into its fourth cohort, the programme, now named the Talent Acceleration Program (TAP), is an intensive three-month bootcamp led by international industry experts and specifically adapted to demand-side and client needs. It combines cutting edge technical skills with business acumen and soft skills to accelerate Palestinian developers and ready them for employment with local, Israeli, and international clients in which TAP places them. Alongside the curriculum, the trainees are placed on live client projects to which they contribute as near-full time employees, completing technical tasks according to client specifications and feedback using scrum methodology.

In 2021, 40 fresh graduates were trained, with a placement rate of 87% into well-paid, full-time employment, a rate expected to increase as more trainees from the third cohort are being placed in jobs. The fourth cohort of 30 trainees, is the largest yet, and shows the success of the iterative process the Trust has deployed to learn, improve and develop the programme with smaller cohorts, until it is robustly ready to scale.

Portland has appreciably impacted the local market, with twelve local companies currently benefitting from hiring out of the programme, up from five in the first cohort. Of these, half of the formal partners have signed partnership agreements and so contribute a "success-fee" to the programme for each resource hired. This includes leading outsourcing companies such as Asal, Exalt, ITG, Foothill, and ProGineer. More hiring partners are currently being onboarded with a recent roadshow by Kiitos Technologies, with whom Portland has partnered. The repayment scheme, the first in the market, is working, and Portland has recouped some 60% of the cost of the first TAP cohort through personal and company repayments, in addition to repayments from the second cohort underway since January 2022.

These recycled funds are re-invested in an "evergreen" model, and so help finance the scaling up of the programme, ultimately creating a sustainable financing model and allowing the programme to expand into new and cutting-edge demand-driven technical skills.

2. Social Impact Investment

In addition to designing and introducing the first Income Sharing Agreement (ISA) as part of its commitment to ensuring impact-based investment for the development of the tech sector as highlighted above, The Portland Trust continued to play a leading market-building role for the promotion of social impact investing in Palestine. This innovative financial mechanism can help leverage previously untapped capital, foster innovation, and enable donors to shift their approach to development by focusing on measurable outcomes.

Type 2 Diabetes among Palestinian Refugee Women

In January 2019, The Portland Trust launched the first Social Impact Bond (SIB) in Palestine and the Arab world, to address the growing Type 2 Diabetes epidemic in Palestine. The SIB is a three-year structured intervention for 150 pre-diabetic women in West Bank refugee camps, leading to sustained weight loss and preventing the onset of diabetes, resulting in significant positive public health outcomes and substantial financial savings for the national healthcare budget. The intervention is being delivered by Juzoor, a local public health organisation with a strong track record of working with women in impoverished areas. To support service delivery, The Portland Trust secured the commitment of the Paltel Group, the largest telecom provider in Palestine, for an outcome payment for the first cohort totalling $150,000-$250,000. The Portland Trust also succeeded in raising $150,000 in investment for the SIB from the Bank of Palestine, the largest national bank.

In 2021, The Portland Trust continued to monitor the project. Due to COVID-19, however, the delivery of the initiative was affected with women unable physically to exercise in line with diet intervention plans. As a result, many women regained weight they had lost. The need for this intervention is now more evident than ever, with women having limited agency during the lockdown period to prioritise their own health.

The situation prevented regular face to face monitoring during the year, making it very difficult for Juzoor to provide the optimal assistance and motivation for the women. Furthermore, a financial crisis within the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) impacted the work of its clinics where much of Juzoor's intervention takes place. Juzoor sought to mitigate some of these constraints remotely. The programme is currently being evaluated.

World Bank Development Impact Bond to Address Youth Unemployment

The Portland Trust supported the World Bank in developing its first ever Development Impact Bond (DIB), addressing high youth unemployment in Palestine, launched in November 2019. The Bank partnered with the Ministry of Finance and Planning (MoF), Social Finance UK, and DAI to provide 1,500 young Palestinians aged 18-29 years with skills training and training-to-employment support, over a period of three years.

An initial investment of $1.8 million was secured from four local and international investors who provided financing to delivery organisations for interventions that supported participants' transition to employment. If the project achieves the agreed employment results, independently verified, then the MoF will repay investors, drawing on a $5 million outcomes fund earmarked by the World Bank from its West Bank and Gaza Trust Fund. The DIB approach is expected to incentivise increased flexibility and adaptation both in training methods and in responding to evolving employer needs.

The DIB's first cycle targeted employment creation in both nursing, supporting hospitals seeking to improve care quality standards, and health and safety inspectors in the construction and industrial sectors. In 2021, more than 300 youth received training and are now in the internship phase, preparing them for employment.

Agriculture Impact Fund

Portland has been working to establish the first specialised agriculture impact fund in Palestine, in partnership with Oxfam International and Dimensions Consulting. This $5-$7 million impact investment vehicle (with an aspiration to subsequently scale to $50m) aimed to maximise positive and measurable social impact, while addressing the critical funding gap for agriculture businesses. An initial donor meeting was held in September 2021, where donors including the EU, IFC/World Bank, Spanish Development Agency, SIDA and SDC expressed serious interest.

Working with Dimensions, a local consultancy Portland contracted, a technical paper was drafted, setting out parameters on fund structure, corporate governance, potential pipeline, asset classes and impact measurement and assessment, and a proposal was then put together to seek funding. A further presentation was then made to donors, and Portland and Oxfam proceeded with stakeholder discussions through bilateral meetings to align requirements to potential funders. Further work was done by a cohort of London Business School graduates placed at Portland.

Gaza Solar

Palestine imports 95.9% of its electricity needs from external sources. Only 2.3% is generated domestically. The situation is particularly severe in the Gaza Strip. For the past decade, Gaza has suffered chronic electricity shortages, which further undermine already fragile living conditions. Two million Gaza residents struggle with regular blackouts, sometimes lasting for 12 hours per day, including in summer. Providing the Gaza Strip with an uninterrupted power supply would require about 600 megawatts of electricity per year. Today, Gaza receives only 180 megawatts, of which 120 come directly from Israel and 60 are generated by Gaza's own power plant, though from Qatari-funded fuel provided by Israel. The intense bombings of the last round of fighting in May 2021 caused the destruction of several hundred homes and further restricted electricity distribution across several areas of Gaza, due to the suspension of the main feeder lines, all of which has reduced electricity supply now to around 92 megawatts.

Portland's research into the feasibility of solar energy schemes has resulted in identifying a high-impact solution. The establishment of a state-of-the-art solar power plant would have a capacity of 50 megawatts, based on a set of realistic assumptions used in our financial feasibility study, which are now being validated with external stakeholders. The next step is a study to examine the status of the grid and associated technical feasibility and identifying a private sector champion to drive the initiative forward through pre-approvals.

B. Israel Programme

The Portland Trust is focused on enhancing economic opportunities in the Israeli social and geographic periphery, addressing Israeli Arab employment and business challenges and strengthening Arab municipal development. The Portland Trust's aim is to create a systemic change to integrate the Arab sector into the Israeli economy, generating employment opportunities and enhancing the lives and livelihood of Israeli Arabs whilst increasing their contribution to GDP. During 2019, The Portland Trust also began to develop interventions aimed at increasing economic participation and improved living standards amongst the ultra-Orthodox (Haredi) Jewish community.

Strategic report

1. Developing a Regional Economic Growth Strategy for the Arab sector in Israel

Building on Israeli Government Resolution 922, a five-year plan which aimed to address the socio-economic gaps between Arabs and Jews in Israel, The Portland Trust embarked on the development of a private sector led framework for regional economic growth for the Arab sector.

In 2019, The Portland Trust conducted a thorough analysis of regional strengths and weaknesses, including in relation to Arab-Jewish integration. Based on this study, a pilot region was selected in Sakhnin, including the communities of Sakhnin, Misgav, Arraba, Dir Hana, Kfar Manda, Kaukab and Sha'ab. The Trust identified health services and digital health/MedTech as the growth engine. Recommendations included the building of a tech compound specialising in medicine and healthcare, building centres for health services with an emphasis on typical ailments, and establishing elderly care facilities. The Trust formulated a detailed implementation plan, and a small delivery team was appointed alongside the establishment of a strategic partners coalition to bolster government involvement in order to advance the implementation of the plan.

Throughout 2021, The Portland Trust continued to make good progress with the plan's implementation, strengthening its collaboration with key partners and identifying projects for development in Sakhnin valley. These included an accelerator programme to support local clinicians operating in adjacent hospitals, assisting them to develop their innovative ideas into clinical proofs of concept. The goal was to create the seeds for future companies which will operate in the area. The Trust developed plans to further expand the programme to include an innovation lab in collaboration with the Israeli Innovation Authority (IIA).

The Israeli Minister of the Economy and the Director General have expressed support for the programme and adopted it as a flagship project in collaboration with the Authority for Economic Development of Minorities. A cross-governmental committee was established to promote the initiative. The Portland Trust continued to deepen its partnership with the local municipalities and established a local steering committee which includes the municipalities' representatives, as a means to receive their feedback, support and engagement with these endeavours.

The Portland Trust continues to expand the programme to incorporate a Medtech innovation "combinator" (a type of tech accelerator), in collaboration with the IIA and Medx (https://www.medxelerator.com). Additional projects include a pharmaceutical compounding facility which will provide services to the local hospitals and community, a pharmaceutical consulting and logistics centre and a genomics lab.

As a strong testament to The Portland Trust's work, its Sakhnin Valley plan was included in Israel's recently-approved five-year national plan for the Arab sector, Government Resolution 550. This means that the necessary funding was allocated in the 2021 budget, ensuring the work will continue to implement the plan. Details include:

- local Health-Focused Combinator: aiming to specifically promote and support physicians and Medtech entrepreneurship efforts in the area. The Portland Trust signed an agreement with MedX, a leading MedTec incubator in the centre, which specialises in medical devices and digital health to pen a northern innovation hub;
- establishment of a life sciences laboratory: considering the establishment of a laboratory for life sciences as part of the northern branch of Medx. The lab will be used for the research by Medx entrepreneurs and other northern entrepreneurs who can use the laboratory as a service attracting them to this area;
- bio design activity in Sakhnin Valley: The Portland Trust is in the midst of agreeing on principles for operating the programme in Sakhnin Valley towards the end of the current year;
- innovation and Technological Entrepreneurship Centre in Arab Society: The Innovation Authority launched a set of tenders for a five-year programme. The Portland Trust will work with Medx, the Northern hospitals and others to submit the tender. The Entrepreneurship Centre alongside the Medx northern innovation hub has the potential to fundamentally impact MedTech entrepreneurship in the Arab Community and
- a local A&E (emergency care centre) and Physicians' Clinic Hub: efforts to promote and support the initiative are ongoing. Discussions are in progress with Clalit Health Fund, which see the need for such a facility in the area.

Finally, The Portland Trust started work to expand the programme to include an additional economic cluster in the Eshkol Hasharon region, in cooperation with the local municipalities there. KPMG Israel was selected to advise on the project and the process of identifying the economic growth engines for this region began in October 2020.

The principles of the programme include: integration of juniors in the industry (including upskilling and on-the-job training); retraining of academic graduates into QA and Automatic-QA high-tech professions; and identification, training and integration of employees in IT and high-tech firms, working in a hybrid mode of operation. The programme's financial fundamentals are funding of the training by the employers, showing substantial "skin in the game".

In keeping with The Portland~~'s~~ Trust's established model, within two years, the initiative will need to break even via its own channels of income. The required needed philanthropic funding for three years has been secured, matched by two years of Government funds to execute the programme.

The process includes 3 main steps:
- scouting and recruitment of candidates;
- professional and soft training for 3.5 months; and
- employee placement, accompanied by the "Beyond Dev" (as in development) team in the first year of employment.

A team was recruited (programme director, tech lead, talent sourcer) and a work plan for the first training cycle crafted, with a professional syllabus according to industry needs. The first training will be launched in April 2022, with 15-20 participants. The Beyond Dev programme plans for 40-50 employed graduates in 2022 and an additional 80-100 in 2023, doubling in 2024.

2. Lotus Project for Orthodox Druze Women

A population of about 400 young orthodox Druze women, who have successfully graduated from high school in science tracks, live in the Israeli periphery. In 2019, The Portland Trust partnered with Lotus, a local NGO run by Druze women based in Isfiya, which aims to create the first generation of orthodox Druze women to break the glass ceiling and achieve quality employment in hi-tech firms. This will be accomplished only if their traditions are maintained, working in a women-only "safe space" inside the village.

With the support of The Portland Trust, Lotus initiated an eight-month programme, during which women with a high potential to succeed in hi-tech positions were identified and trained to become Full-Stack developers. In addition to training, in 2019 Lotus was lent two rooms in a private house to establish the first hi-tech co-working space in a Druze village designated for women. The women were able to work full time for leading hi-tech firms from the improvised Lotus "tech hub".

The first cohort consisted of fourteen participants, aged 18-32, all of whom graduated from Lotus in August 2019 and were employed by industry leaders Amdocs, Mellanox and Oranbit, following extensive interviewing and testing processes. The graduates earn a starting monthly salary of 11,000 NIS, representing a four-fold increase on their previous salaries.

During 2021, The Portland Trust built on its partnership with Lotus, facilitating and mentoring the NGO's activity, developing the next cohorts of the programme and matchmaking for employment in the hi-tech sector. A second cohort of women were recruited and started training~~,~~ in October 2019, leading to fifteen graduates securing employment during 2020. The success of such placements amplifies the strength and sustainability of the Lotus model. A third cohort of seventeen women was selected and commenced training in late 2020.

The establishment of a new, dedicated 500m² Lotus Hub was completed in mid-2020, enabling Lotus to relocate to the first, purpose-built, women only tech hub in the Arab sector. The hub is fully furnished and equipped, funded entirely by donations from hi-tech firms and private donors.

The Portland Trust ~~is~~ continues to work on this project in partnership with Lotus, to create the first generation of Orthodox Druze women to break the glass ceiling and achieve employment in high-tech firms inside the village.

54 women are already successfully integrated into high-tech positions in our partner firms: Amdcos, Radcom, Netafim, Finastra, Vayar, Algosec, Incredibuild, Sapiens, SeeTree and Oranbit as software developers and data analysts. Furthermore, each position creates an additional two peripheral positions in the village. It is important to note that 85% of the positions into which Lotus graduates are hired, were previously sub-contracted to Romania, Ukraine and India. The first cohort was "transformed" from being employed as subcontractor (due to the Government's incentive model) to being directly employed by the hi-tech firm which is the core of The Portland Trust's model. The women's salaries were hiked to NIS 16-18K monthly, representing an increase of over 50% salary rise in 2 and a half years' work.

A new branch is planned to open in the Galilee toward the end of 2022, when Lotus will grow to around 100 employed women. The Lotus NGO has achieved financial sustainability and is no longer dependent on philanthropy for the Carmel branch's operation.

3. Fursa

In 2021, The Portland Trust launched a new initiative, Fursa, which aims to provide a scalable solution of quality employment for talented young Arab Israelis, who have graduated from scientific academic degrees, but failed to integrate into the hi-tech sector, or quality employment in general. The programme leverages the Lotus model and know-how for the design of an intervention that addresses the needs of the hi-tech sector, while taking into consideration the context of Arab society in Israel.

The Portland Trust established and registered Fursa as an NGO, and in November 2020 finalised the selection process of a first cohort of thirteen participants from a group of 150 candidates, all of whom are Computer Science graduates from leading universities, including the Technion, Tel Aviv University and the Hebrew University. The first group were certified as DevOps experts ready for employment in hi-tech firms.

Throughout 2021 Fursa continued to provide a scalable solution for quality employment of talented young Arab-Israelis, who have graduated from scientific academic degrees, but failed to integrate into the hi-tech sector, or quality employment in general.

The project leverages the Lotus model and know-how for the design of an intervention that addresses the hi-tech sector's needs, whilst taking into consideration the context of Arab society in Israel. This lack of integration is common in regular times but has been exacerbated during COVID-19 (and will probably remain so for some time), when new graduates in general are struggling to find their first job. This situation poses a double challenge for Arab youth, who experience the traditional barriers to integration in addition to the current lack of junior positions and the unwillingness of employers to hire juniors in Israel, preferring instead to recruit low-cost staff from offshore centres. Fursa works to identify talented youth and the enabling factors needed for their inclusion in high-tech, within an appealing employment cost model for the employers.

The first three cohorts, totalling 40 graduates, have been placed and are working to the great satisfaction of the employers. All graduates from cycles 1 and 2 received their first salary increase after 6 months of work. The fourth training cohort of Computer Science graduates, with 19 students, was 70% are women. There is already an over subscription of employers for these future graduates. The fifth cohort, DevOps, will start in May 2022, and two large employers are currently considering employing the whole group. By the end of 2022, there will be well over 100 Fursa graduates employed in hi-Tech.

Some of the Fursa graduates have already been nominated by their employers to become Dev leads. The Portland Trust will provide them with the relevant training. Leveraging Bank Hapoalim, Portland conducted a family economy management, pension and savings plans session. Similar to Lotus, it is noteworthy that 100% of the positions to which Fursa graduates are hired were previously planned to be sub-contracted to Romania, Ukraine and India.

4. Nation-wide Academic Plan for the Education of Haredi Youth in Computer Science and their Placement in Leading Jobs in the Hi-tech Sector

Following the development of its vision and preliminary planning and scoping work in 2020, The Portland Trust launched an initiative to enable Haredi men to study for a full BSc degree in Computer Science at the Hebrew University, with guaranteed employment in leading hi-tech jobs with high salaries. For the first time, a designated track for Ultra-Orthodox men is being conducted in one of the world's top-rated universities. The programme provides academic, social, and financial support to its participants, helping them to focus on successfully completing their degree and integrating into leading global hi-tech firms upon graduation.

Given that the focus of the programme is on future employment in leading hi-tech firms, the sector has been involved in the initiative from the outset, to ensure the industry's ability to influence the course content and later to recruit the students. The programme provides scholarships and social loans to students who have made a significant commitment to completing the preparatory track and psychometric tests to be accepted by the Hebrew University.

The first cohort, which started in October 2020, moved smoothly into its second academic year, and consists of 16 students. The second cohort is 18 students. The distribution of grades is generally similar to the heterogeneous class, in large part down to the close cooperation with the Hebrew University Rector and Dean's offices and academic support, which includes private lessons and mentors from the Haredi community. The economic support includes tuition and a living expenses scholarship.

New Initiatives in the programme include connections to the industry, i.e. preparation for integration into high-tech, such as a visit to Microsoft and a skills workshop by Google and an advanced English bootcamp for second year students, which is run by the US Embassy.

The total contribution to Israel's economy by the end of the tenth year will be approximately NIS 825.5 million, with a recurring annual impact from year ten of NIS 221 million.

Social Finance Israel

During 2021, The Portland Trust continued to support and partner with Social Finance Israel (SFI), having played a leading role in its establishment in 2013 as a public benefit company and Israel's first social-financial intermediary.

SFI is the leading developer of Social Impact Bonds (SIBs) in Israel and attracts new capital for non-profit organisations and social enterprises tackling a range of high-priority social challenges. These include reducing the drop- out rate amongst higher education technology students, preventing the onset of Type 2 diabetes amongst pre-diabetics and enhancing educational attainment in maths for Bedouin high school students in the Negev.

During 2021, SFI worked with various partners to address national challenges in diverse areas such as education, economic mobility and preventative health, many of them worsened by the COVID pandemic. In 2021, SFI managed six outcomes-based financing projects, and was in the process of developing 21 more. They advised 26 key clients across sectors on how to become more effective and impactful and awarded the Midot Seal of Effectiveness to 97 not-for-profit organisations.

Also in 2021, SFI launched a Social Impact Bond to reduce the loneliness of 200 elderly people in Tel Aviv. This project was an opportunity to launch the first-ever crowdfunding campaign to raise capital for a SIB, which was oversubscribed and created over 200 new micro-impact investors in Israel. This is one way in which SFI pursues its mission of growing the impact investing market in Israel, alongside additional activities such as 52 publications and a 34% increase in social media engagement.

To date, SFI has had 4,650 direct beneficiaries of its Impact Bonds. In addition, an NIS 21m of grant capital has enabled the development of innovative models and programs which raised NIS 49m from impact investors and NIS 75m in commitments from public entities for outcomes payments. These programs generated NIS 97m in cashable savings to the Israeli Government, so generating nearly NIS 1.8 billion in economic value for Israeli society at large.

The Negev and Galilee Loan Guarantee Project

The Koret Israel Economic Development Fund (KIEDF) made the fifth instalment of its 5-year repayment to The Portland Trust in 2021.

C. Publications, Research and Events

Palestinian Economic Bulletin

The Portland Trust continues to publish the monthly Palestinian Economic Bulletin, which reports on key economic developments in Palestine. The Bulletin is distributed to over 1,200 international and local subscribers and is broadly recognised as the only English-language monthly publication focusing on the Palestinian economy. The Portland Trust also publishes an Arabic-language version of the bulletin, with a view to expand readership regionally. In 2021, over 20% of the Bulletin's readers access was in Arabic.

Financial review
Financial position
As detailed in the Review of Activities and the Notes to the Financial Statements, The Portland Trust has driven and contributed to a number of initiatives. Sufficient income has again been secured to meet all of our commitments. At 31 December 2021, The Portland Trust had a liquid balance sheet with a cash position of £1,891,743 which helps to secure the Charity's plans to promote economic stability in the Middle East into 2021 and beyond.

Principal funding sources
The Portland Trust mainly receives funding from grant-making charities based in the United Kingdom and internationally. In addition, in 2020 and 2021 The Portland Trust received significant income from investments as detailed in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

Investment policy and objectives
The Trustees have regard to the liquidity requirements of the Charity and maintain a policy of keeping any surplus liquid funds on short-term deposit which can be accessed readily to enable the timely response to project needs.

Strategic report

Financial review

Reserves policy

The Portland Trust carries out a blend of both long and short-term projects. The Trustees have examined the requirement for free reserves which are those unrestricted funds not designated for specific purposes or otherwise committed. The Trustees consider that generally, free reserves should be sufficient to cover approximately three months of regular operational expenditure which equates to approximately £350,000.

At 31 December 2021 unrestricted retained reserves totalled £1,559,895 and restricted retained reserves were £254,850.

The free reserves at the year-end are considered adequate for this purpose and to carry out appropriate projects going forward.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

The Trustees of the Charity have control of the Charity and its property and funds. The first Trustees were Sir Ronald Cohen and Sir Harry Solomon. Unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution, the number of Trustees is subject to a maximum of ten and minimum of two. Trustees may be individuals or bodies corporate.

Every Trustee signs a declaration of willingness to act as a Charity Trustee before being eligible to vote at any meeting of the Trustees. One third (or the number nearest to one third) of the Trustees retire at each Annual General Meeting, those in office retiring first and the choice between any of equal service being made by drawing lots unless they otherwise agree among themselves.

The members are entitled to appoint one or more Trustees (including themselves), to remove any Trustee so appointed and to appoint another Trustee in place of any Trustee so appointed who for any reason ceases to be a Trustee. A retiring Trustee is not eligible for reappointment unless such reappointment is approved by the Trustees.

Organisational structure

The Trustees provide their services free of charge. The Portland Trust has offices in London, Tel Aviv and Ramallah. In September 2021, Baron Frankal was appointed to replace Douglas Krikler as CEO, and runs the organisation from the London office where there are four employees. The Tel Aviv office, which opened in 2005, has five members of staff and is run by Rami Schwartz. The Ramallah office was opened in April 2006, has six members of staff, and is run by Yahya Shunnar under the chairmanship of Samir Hulileh.

Decision making

Whilst the Trustees are responsible for overseeing the activities and direction of the Charity, the Executive Committee approves expenditure on the projects undertaken by The Portland Trust. This committee comprises Trustee representatives and senior executives from each operating branch.

Induction and training of new Trustees

All of the Trustees are experienced in charity matters and therefore no formal training takes place. When new issues and developments come to light the Trustees are made aware of these matters at their next meeting. Any new Trustee would be expected to have the same level of experience and knowledge as the existing Trustees.

Key management remuneration

The members of the Executive Committee comprise the key management personnel of The Portland Trust and are responsible for the direction, control and running of the Charity on a day-to-day basis.

All the Trustees provide their services free of charge. The pay of senior staff is reviewed annually, and rates are set at market rate for their role.

Structure, governance and management
Related parties
None of the Trustees receive remuneration or other benefits from their work with The Portland Trust, although their expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as a Trustee may be paid by the Charity.

Trustees may hold a position of responsibility within organisations which receive funding from The Portland Trust. In such cases this is disclosed in the notes to the Financial Statements.

Risk management
The Trustees regularly review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. No significant risks were identified during the year.

COVID-19
There was no major adverse impact on fundraising in 2021 as a result of COVID-19, and project implementation was only marginally affected, e.g. with one US donor dropping off and some difficulties experienced in some of the projects, e.g. by service-providers ability to physically engage and drop-off in hiring.

The Trustees recognise the risk to fundraising and income as a result of COVID-19 and manage this risk by monitoring the activities and finances of the organisation through regular, detailed monthly management accounts including cash flow and project funding.

The Trustees have reviewed the reserves policy and do not feel that any amendments are required in light of COVID-19.

The Trustees recognise that there is a risk to the delivery of the Charity's projects as a result of COVID-19. They manage this risk through the preparation and discussion of a detailed quarterly programme update which highlights progress and any matters of concern in each project area. No action has been necessitated by COVID-19 during this time with regard to project implementation.

The Trustees recognise that there is a risk to the ability of the staff of the organisation to carry out their work effectively as a result of COVID-19. In light of the imposition of lockdowns in the UK, Israel and Palestine, the organisation has adapted to a flexible way of working across its three offices. All staff have the ability to work remotely and have done so effectively. The organisation has not furloughed any staff nor made any staff redundant across the three offices as a result of COVID-19.

The Trustees recognise the potential ongoing impact of COVID-19 and will continue to monitor associated financial and operational risks through the above measures in place.

Reference and administrative details
Registered Company number
04699155 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1106429

Registered office
New Derwent House
69-73 Theobalds Road
London
WC1X 8TA

Trustees
Ms N J Cobbold
Sir R M Cohen
Sir M L Davis
Sir H Solomon

Company Secretary
Mr S D Clarke

Reference and administrative details
Auditors
Goldwins Limited
75 Maygrove Road
London
NW6 2EG

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities
The Trustees (who are also the directors of The Portland Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors
The auditors, Goldwins Limited, have been appointed on an interim basis and will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Report of the Trustees, approved by order of the board of Trustees, as the company directors, on and signed on the board's behalf by:

Sir Ronald Cohen
.....
Sir R M Cohen - Trustee

21 July 2022

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of The Portland Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:
- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 Companies Act 2006.

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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company 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 Trustees' 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 charitable company'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 Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information
The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify 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.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006
In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:
- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees 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 charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report or the Strategic Report included within the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where 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 Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees
As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 Trustees 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 Trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company'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 Trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our 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 a Report of the Independent Auditors 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 are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The objectives of our audit are to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, to perform audit procedures to help identify instances of non-compliance with other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements, and to respond appropriately to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified during the audit.

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk 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 and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit.

However, it is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the audit engagement team:
- obtained an understanding of the nature of the sector, including the legal and regulatory frameworks that the charitable company operates in and how the charitable company is complying with the legal and regulatory frameworks;
- inquired of management, and those charged with governance, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including any known actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud;
- discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and where the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud.

As a result of these procedures we consider the most significant laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements are FRS 102, Charities SORP (FRS 102), Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, the charitable company's governing document, and tax legislation. We performed audit procedures to detect non-compliances which may have a material impact on the financial statements which included reviewing the financial statements including the Trustees' Report, and remaining alert to any new or unusual transactions which may not be in accordance with the governing documents.

The audit engagement team identified the risk of management override of controls and as the area where the financial statements were most susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud. Audit procedures performed included but were not limited to testing manual journal entries and other adjustments, evaluating the business rationale in relation to any significant, unusual transactions and transactions entered into outside the normal course of business, and challenging any judgments and estimates.

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. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Anthony Epton

Anthony Epton (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Goldwins Limited
Statutory Auditor
Chartered
Accountants 75
Maygrove Road
London
NW6 2EG

Date: 27 July 2022

THE PORTLAND TRUST

Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Income and endowments from					
Donations and legacies	2	1,330,016	1,410,842	2,740,858	2,242,972
Investment income	3	351,199	-	351,199	1,044,261
Total		1,681,215	1,410,842	3,092,057	3,287,233
Expenditure on					
Charitable activities	4				
Project expenditure		940,945	1,341,203	2,282,148	1,977,524
Support cost		361,532	-	361,532	496,549
Total		1,302,477	1,341,203	2,643,680	2,474,073
NET INCOME		378,738	69,639	448,377	813,160
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		1,181,157	185,211	1,366,368	553,208
Total funds carried forward		1,559,895	254,850	1,814,745	1,366,368

The notes form part of these financial statements

THE PORTLAND TRUST

Balance Sheet
31 December 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	14,126	24,698
Investments	11	5	5
		14,131	24,703
Current assets			
Debtors	12	141,495	180,241
Cash at bank		1,891,743	1,381,199
		2,033,238	1,561,440
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(232,624)	(219,775)
Net current assets		1,800,614	1,341,665
Total assets less current liabilities		1,814,745	1,366,368
NET ASSETS		1,814,745	1,366,368
Funds	15		
Unrestricted funds		1,559,895	1,181,157
Restricted funds		254,850	185,211
Total funds		1,814,745	1,366,368

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 21st July 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

Ronald Cohen
Ronald Cohen (Jul 27, 2022 13:57 GMT+3)
.....
Sir R M Cohen - Trustee

sir Harry solomon
sir Harry solomon (Jul 27, 2022 15:23 GMT+1)
.....
Sir Harry Solomon - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

THE PORTLAND TRUST

Cash Flow Statement
for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	514,363	1,045,921
Net cash provided by operating activities		514,363	1,045,921
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(3,819)	(9,534)
Net cash used in investing activities		(3,819)	(9,534)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		510,544	1,036,387
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		1,381,199	344,812
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		1,891,743	1,381,199

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 December 2021

1. Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	448,377	813,160
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	14,391	14,826
Decrease in debtors	38,746	236,100
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	12,849	(18,165)
Net cash provided by operations	514,363	1,045,921

2. Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 1/1/21 £	Cash flow £	At 31/12/21 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	1,381,199	510,544	1,891,743
	1,381,199	510,544	1,891,743
Total	1,381,199	510,544	1,891,743

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

The Financial Statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.
Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

Going concern
The accounts are prepared on the basis that the Charity has adequate resources to continue to operate.
The Trustees have reviewed and considered the relevant information, including the budget and future cash flows in making their assessment. In particular, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, they have taken into account the impact on the Charity and measures it can take to mitigate the impact. Based on these assessments the Trustees have concluded that they can continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty
Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experiences and reasonable expectations of future events. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the accounting period in which the revision is made.

The Portland Trust has a potential obligation to reinstate its London offices to the original layout. The Trustees do not believe that a significant liability for this exists at the year end.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies: Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the Statement of Financial Activity when receivable and only when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.

Investment Income
Investment income is accounted for in the period that the Charity is entitled to receipt.

Expenditure
Recognition of expenditure
Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Expenditure on charitable activities
These comprise the costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and charitable activities services in the furtherance of its objects, including the making of grants and governance costs.

Other expenditure These are support costs not allocated to a particular activity.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Improvements to property	-	20% straight line on cost
Fixtures and fittings	-	20% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	-	20% on reducing balance

Taxation
The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

1. Accounting policies - continued

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds: These are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.

Restricted funds: These are available for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

Foreign currencies
Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are translated at the rates of exchange prevailing at the end of the reporting period.

Transactions in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are recorded at the rate of exchange on the date that the transaction occurred.

All exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at net income/expenditure.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments
Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. In the event that lease incentives are received to enter into operating leases, such incentives are recognised as a liability. The aggregate benefit of incentives is recognised as a reduction of rental expense on a straight-line basis.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

The charity contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme under the automatic enrolment regime. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they relate.

Financial instruments
The charitable company only has financial assets and liabilities off a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments, which are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value. These include debtors, bank and cash balances and creditors.

Trade and other debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts.

Trade and other creditors
Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

There are no key judgments.

2. Donations and legacies

	2021	2020
	£	£
Donations	2,740,858	2,242,972

3. Investment income

	2021	2020
	£	£
Investments	351,169	1,044,261
Deposit account interest	30	-
	351,199	1,044,261

Investment income of £351,169 (€408,167) was received in 2021 as a consequence of a distribution from a private equity investment held by the Charity, see note 11.

4. Charitable activities costs

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 5)	Totals
	£	£	£
Project expenditure	2,015,048	267,100	2,282,148
Support cost	96,806	264,726	361,532
	2,111,854	531,826	2,643,680

5. Support costs

	Management	Finance	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Project expenditure	267,100	-	-	267,100
Support cost	93,261	75,550	95,915	264,726
	360,361	75,550	95,915	531,826

6. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2021	2020
	£	£
Auditors remuneration- Current year	9,600	14,400
Auditors remuneration - under provision 2020	15,282	-
Depreciation - owned assets	14,391	12,588
Other operating leases	246,194	215,601

7. Trustees' remuneration and benefits

There were no Trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2021 nor for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Trustees' expenses

The Portland Trust pays for Trustee indemnity insurance. No travel expenses were paid on behalf of Trustees' during the year.

8. Staff costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	490,633	970,547
Social security costs	52,987	86,296
Other pension costs	2,727	3,540
	546,347	1,060,383

The total employee benefits including pension contributions and employers' national insurance of the key management personnel were £217,282 (2020: £227,600).

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2021	2020
UK	5	4
Israel	5	5
Palestine	4	6
	14	15

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2021	2020
£60,001 - £70,000	-	1
£70,001 - £80,000	-	1
£110,001-£120,000	1	-
Over £120,000	2	3
	3	5

9. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments from			
Donations and legacies	1,387,072	855,900	2,242,972
Investment income	1,044,261	-	1,044,261
Total	2,431,333	855,900	3,287,233
Expenditure on Charitable activities			
Project expenditure	1,121,099	856,425	1,977,524
Support cost	496,549	-	496,549

9. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Total	1,617,648	856,425	2,474,073
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	813,685	(525)	813,160
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward	367,472	185,736	553,208
Total funds carried forward	1,181,157	185,211	1,366,368

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Improvements to property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
Cost				
At 1 January 2021	35,409	43,114	44,456	122,979
Additions	-	2,068	1,751	3,819
At 31 December 2021	35,409	45,182	46,207	126,798
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2021	24,195	33,870	40,216	98,281
Charge for year	7,083	5,362	1,946	14,391
At 31 December 2021	31,278	39,232	42,162	112,672
Net book value				
At 31 December 2021	4,131	5,950	4,045	14,126
At 31 December 2020	11,214	9,244	4,240	24,698

11. Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments £
Cost	
At 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2021	5
Net book value	
At 31 December 2021	5
At 31 December 2020	5

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

11. Fixed asset investments - continued

During 2007 The Portland Trust was offered the opportunity to acquire a private equity partnership in Apax Europe VII founder LP at a cost of 6 Euros. Any distributions from this investment are dependent on the performance of the Apax Europe VII Fund over time. The timing and quantification of any future distributions cannot reliably be determined by the Trustees. The investment is therefore held at cost in the balance sheet at 31 December 2021 and 31 December 2020. The Trust received a distribution of €408,166 in June and September 2021 from Apax Europe VII Founder LP and additional distributions may be received in the future. There are no commitments or liabilities associated with this investment.

During 2013 The Portland Trust invested NIS1 in purchasing 11% of the shares of Social Finance Israel, a public benefit company. The value of this investment is £nil as no future monetary benefit will be received.

12. Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	9,607	70,705
Prepayments and accrued income	59,166	38,767
	68,773	109,472
Amounts falling due after more than one year:		
Other debtors	72,722	70,769
Aggregate amounts	141,495	180,241

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Social security and other taxes	24,368	32,047
Other creditors	34,241	31,747
Accruals and deferred income	174,015	155,981
	232,624	219,775

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Fixed assets	14,126	-	14,126	24,698
Investments	5	-	5	5
Current assets	1,778,388	254,850	2,033,238	1,561,440
Current liabilities	(232,624)	-	(232,624)	(219,775)
	1,559,895	254,850	1,814,745	1,366,368

15. Movement in funds

	At 1/1/21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/21 £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	1,181,157	378,738	1,559,895
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	185,211	69,639	254,850
TOTAL FUNDS	1,366,368	448,377	1,814,745

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	1,681,215	(1,302,477)	378,738
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	1,410,842	(1,341,203)	69,639
TOTAL FUNDS	3,092,057	(2,643,680)	448,377

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/1/20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/20 £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	367,472	813,685	1,181,157
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	185,736	(525)	185,211
TOTAL FUNDS	553,208	813,160	1,366,368

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	2,431,333	(1,617,648)	813,685
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	855,900	(856,425)	(525)
TOTAL FUNDS	3,287,233	(2,474,073)	813,160

16. Related party disclosures

During the year, The Portland Trust received a donation of £500,000 (2020: £500,000) from The R and S Cohen Foundation, a charity of which Sir R Cohen is also a Trustee.

The Heathside Charitable Trust, of which Sir H Solomon is also a Trustee donated £50,000 (2020: £50,000) to The Portland Trust.

The Davis Foundation, of which Sir M Davis is also a Trustee donated £100,000 (2020: £150,000).

The Portland Trust received donations of £323,828 (NIS 1,440,000) from Yad Hanadiv (2020: £269,274 (NIS 1,187,805)) of which Sir R Cohen is a Trustee.

In 2021, the Charity paid £7,200 to Portland Place Capital for bookkeeping and IT support. In 2021, expenditure of £4,062 was paid via recharges to Portland Place Capital. The £4,062 relates to private healthcare. This expenditure was charged at cost and offered an opportunity to achieve cost savings not otherwise available. Sir R Cohen is a shareholder of Portland Place Capital Ltd.

Sir R Cohen is Chair of Social Finance Israel of which The Portland Trust and Mrs N Cobbold are founding shareholders. In 2021 The Portland Trust made a grant of $250,000 (2020: $250,000) to SFI.

17. Ultimate controlling party

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital; thus no single party controls the company.

THE PORTLAND TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1106429

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04699155 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1106429

Report of the Trustees and

Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

for

THE PORTLAND TRUST

RSM UK Audit LLP
25 Farringdon Street
London
EC4A 4AB

THE PORTLAND TRUST

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for the year ended 31 December 2020

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The Trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities
Objectives and aims
The Portland Trust was incorporated on 17 March 2003 and gained charitable status on October 2004. The Portland Trust is a non-political organisation which is committed to driving initiatives that promote economic development, moderation and the resolution of conflict in the Middle East, in particular, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Significant activities
The Portland Trust is involved with a number of initiatives to further its charitable aims. These include designing and coordinating programmes that aim to assist in the development of the Palestinian private sector and to reduce poverty in Israel through social investment and social entrepreneurship and collaborating with key partners at local and international level who can implement them.

A full description of projects currently being supported is given later in this report. This includes programmes which received direct funding from The Portland Trust during 2020 as detailed in the notes to the Financial Statements, as well as initiatives where The Portland Trust plays an advisory role offering guidance and non-financial support.

Public benefit
The objects of the Charity are for such exclusively charitable purposes for the benefit of the public in any part of the World as the Trustees' may in their absolute discretion think fit. When making decisions about the activities undertaken in furtherance of these objects, the Trustees follow the guidance issued by the Charity Commission regarding public benefit. This is demonstrated through involvement in projects benefiting society as a whole as detailed in this report.

Fundraising Declaration
The Portland Trust does not raise funds from the public and therefore has not subscribed to any fundraising standards or scheme for fundraising regulation.

Social investments
Working with local and international partners, The Portland Trust makes grants to develop the Palestinian private sector and the Israeli socio-economic periphery, mobilising additional resources and support where necessary.

In addition to making grants directly to beneficiaries, The Portland Trust also may make loans or investments where this is consistent with the Trust's charitable purposes and mission. Any Programme Related Investment would be monitored regularly by the Trustees to ensure that funds once invested continue to be used in furtherance of approved activities. The Social Investment Policy is reviewed annually or if there are significant changes in the Charity's commitments or activities.

Grantmaking
Grants may be made to organisations which The Portland Trust is working with on any project furthering the Charity's charitable aims. Such expenditure is listed in the notes to the Financial Statements.

Volunteers
With the exception of the Trustees, The Portland Trust had no volunteers in 2020.

Strategic report
Achievement and performance
Charitable activities
As an 'action tank,' The Portland Trust's direct charitable expenditure mainly comprises its staff costs. Other costs are accounted for on a project basis, as detailed in Note 4 to the Financial Statements.

A. Palestine Programme

Over the years, The Portland Trust has worked to help develop the Palestinian private sector by investigating and catalysing investment and job creation opportunities, aiming to promote sustainable growth in the Palestinian economy. The Portland Trust has partnered with local and international actors to drive development across various economic sectors including housing and construction, energy, water, agriculture, tourism, and technology.

The Portland Trust continues to strengthen the foundations for sustainable growth, employment and stability.

1. Palestinian IT Sector

As recommended in the Beyond Aid report (The Portland Trust, 2013), The Portland Trust maintained its commitment to generating employment in the Palestinian technology sector, and this formed the principal focus of its programme in 2020.

Currently, there are over 600 tech companies in Palestine, employing over 8,500 workers. Most of these companies are micro businesses, with a small number of SMEs working in R&D software outsourcing for multinational corporations or providing business process outsourcing for services such as call centre support and data entry. In addition, there is a slowly emerging digital entrepreneurship scene with growing investment and several early-stage start-ups.

Despite its potential, the tech sector remains small, constituting less than 0.4% of Palestinian GDP. Key impediments include:

Lack of exposure to international technological and talent development: According to employers, missing skills include both technical and business (soft skill) competencies.
Legal framework and bureaucratic procedures: The World Bank's 2020 Doing Business Report ranked Palestine 117th on the ease of doing business index out of a total of 190 countries.
The education system: Formal education offers minimal interaction with technology and the private sector and does not incentivise problem-solving and innovation. With human capital regarded as the most important input for tech sector development, modernising the education system is vital to the creation of a suitable and sustainable enabling environment.

Notwithstanding, Palestine has a sizable talent pool with relatively high levels of academic attainment. Currently, all thirteen universities in the West Bank and Gaza have IT departments, with 2,500 students graduating annually. However, the unemployment rate among Computer Science graduates remains high, standing at 45% in Gaza and 18% in the West Bank, with only 10% of tech graduates typically securing employment within the sector each year.

As such, in 2020 The Portland Trust focused its efforts on catalysing accelerated growth in the Palestinian tech sector by developing scalable solutions for matching international and Israel-based employers with well-vetted and locally trained talent.

Catalysing IT Outsourcing Growth Through Addressing Geographical Disparities

In early 2020, The Portland Trust identified an opportunity to boost employment in IT outsourcing by focusing on the cities of Nablus and Hebron in the north and south of the West Bank respectively. These two municipalities account for the majority of Palestinian tech graduates but provide little scope for employment as the bulk of top job opportunities are concentrated in the central towns of Ramallah and Rawabi.

Despite the operational difficulties introduced by the global pandemic and resultant economic crisis in 2020, the outsourcing model has a high potential to address business needs given the global trend for adopting remote working combined with more competitive rates for international outsourcing clients in the chosen cities.

Strategic report

In essence, The Portland Trust initiative set out to strengthen the capacity of local providers to deliver graduate tech training to international standards, on a commercially sustainable basis. In parallel, it aimed to increase market exposure and business development for local IT companies to help secure outsourcing contracts, generating increased employment opportunities for programme participants, directly improving their lives and livelihood whilst boosting the growth of the sector more broadly.

In 2020, The Portland Trust focused on three core workstreams in preparation for the formal launch of the programme, namely talent development, business development and sustainable financial structuring.

Talent Development: The Portland Trust conducted in-depth research and analysis of international tech training programmes and developed a curriculum in line with international best practice adapted to local circumstances. In particular, it addresses the skills gap between Palestinian university graduates and commercial market requirements and most significantly builds the capacity of local service providers to deliver the training.

In October 2020, The Portland Trust selected two Nablus based IT companies as the training partners; Kiitos, a Palestinian-Dutch company with offices in Nablus and Amsterdam as the lead service provider, supported by Radix Technologies. The Portland Trust worked with Kiitos and Radix to design a selection process to recruit STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) graduates with high technical competencies to upskill them and prepare them for employment. Training was designed to be project-based, with trainees working on live, client-based projects alongside senior developers and team leads.

The Portland Trust continued to validate the programme with potential demand-side clients and other regional and international training providers throughout the year. Having considered various models, it was ultimately agreed that each cohort of trainees should undertake a three-month intensive training course, comprising two technical tracks focusing on the development of skills most in demand internationally but lacking in the Palestinian tech sector. In addition, the curriculum would incorporate career coaching and training in relevant soft skills deemed essential for employability, such as English language.

In order to mitigate personal financial constraints, the programme was designed to include the provision of stipends of between $300-$600 to trainees to enable them to complete the programme.

Business Development: In parallel with its work to develop the training programme, during 2020 The Portland Trust offered advice and guidance to IT outsourcing companies in Nablus and Hebron to help develop their operational capacity and to assist them in preparing to compete for international contracts.

To that end, The Portland Trust took the lead in the creation of a competitive pricing model based on its analysis of international cost comparisons, facilitated resource sharing agreements between IT outsourcing companies to help achieve scale, and secured a soft commitment for interviews from a Swiss FinTech company willing to consider hiring trainees upon completion of the programme.

Also during 2020, The Portland Trust began to review sales presentations and client pitch decks for early stage IT outsourcing companies in Nablus, to ensure the quality and professionalism of marketing material required to attract a pipeline of work from Israel and the rest of the world.

Sustainable Financial Structuring: Through its strategic commitment to partner with local Palestinian training providers, The Portland Trust was able in 2020 to design a programme that conforms to international best practices, whilst simultaneously achieving cost savings appropriate for local market conditions. The pilot training programme will cost $2,500 per person, significantly less than other international bootcamps/training programmes currently offered in Palestine, Israel and the region which range from $8,000-$12,000 per person.

In addition, whilst other training initiatives rely entirely on donor grants for funding, The Portland Trust engaged with the private sector, policy makers, the World Bank and a range of international donors during 2020 to design a commercially self-sustaining financing model. As such, the cost of training would be treated as an impact investment rather than a grant, to be repaid with interest to the investor(s) upon the successful placement in employment of the graduates of the programme.

This innovative financial model, developed by The Portland Trust, saw the creation of the first ever Income Sharing Agreement (ISA) in Palestine. The ISA contracts the trainees to repay a portion of the cost of training once they are employed, with the remainder to be covered by the IT outsourcing companies from their operating margin.

Strategic report
2. Social Impact Investment

In addition to designing and introducing the first Income Sharing Agreement (ISA) as part of its commitment to ensuring impact-based investment for the development of the tech sector as highlighted above, The Portland Trust continued to play a leading market-building role for the promotion of social impact investing in Palestine. This innovative financial mechanism can help leverage previously untapped capital, foster innovation, and enable donors to shift their approach to development by focusing on measurable outcomes.

Type 2 Diabetes among Palestinian Refugee Women

In January 2019, The Portland Trust launched the first Social Impact Bond (SIB) in Palestine and the Arab world, to address the growing Type 2 Diabetes epidemic in Palestine. The SIB aims to provide a structured intervention for 150 pre-diabetic women in West Bank refugee camps over a three-year period, leading to sustained weight loss and preventing the onset of diabetes, resulting in significant positive public health outcomes and substantial financial savings for the national healthcare budget. The intervention is being delivered by Juzoor, a local public health organisation with a strong track record of working with women in impoverished areas. To support service delivery, The Portland Trust secured the commitment of the Paltel Group, the largest telecom provider in Palestine, for an outcome payment for the first cohort totalling $150,000-$250,000. The Portland Trust also succeeded in raising $150,000 in investment for the SIB from the Bank of Palestine, the largest national bank.

In 2020, The Portland Trust continued to monitor the project. Due to the periodic COVID-19 lockdowns, however, the delivery of the initiative was affected with women unable physically to exercise in line with diet intervention plans. As a result, many women regained weight they had lost. The need for this intervention is now more evident than ever, with women having limited agency during the lockdown period to prioritise their own health.

In October 2020, 77 women from the various cohorts provided their weight measurements, of whom 36 women maintained their 5-7% weight loss goal (47% of participants). The repeated, full or partial lockdowns prevented regular face to face monitoring during the year, making it very difficult for Juzoor to provide the optimal assistance and motivation for the women. Furthermore, a financial crisis within the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) impacted the work of its clinics where much of Juzoor's intervention takes place. Juzoor sought to mitigate some of these constraints through supplying weighing scales and continuing to provide nutritional tips and physical activity motivational videos remotely.

World Bank Development Impact Bond to Address Youth Unemployment

The Portland Trust supported the World Bank to develop its first ever Development Impact Bond (DIB) addressing high youth unemployment in Palestine, launched in November 2019. The Bank partnered with the Ministry of Finance and Planning (MoF), Social Finance UK, and DAI to provide 1,500 young Palestinians aged 18-29 years with skills training and training-to-employment support, over a period of three years.

An initial investment of $1.8 million was secured from four local and international investors who will provide financing to delivery organisations for interventions that support participants' transition to employment. If the project achieves the agreed employment results, independently verified, then the MoF will repay investors, drawing on a $5 million outcomes fund earmarked by the World Bank from its West Bank and Gaza Trust Fund. The DIB approach is expected to incentivise increased flexibility and adaptation both in training methods and in responding to evolving employer needs.

The DIB's first cycle targeted employment creation in both nursing, supporting hospitals seeking to improve care quality standards, and health and safety inspectors in the construction and industrial sectors. In 2020, more than 300 youth received training and are now in the internship phase, preparing them for employment.

B. Israel Programme

The Portland Trust is focused on enhancing economic opportunities in the Israeli social and geographic periphery, addressing Israeli Arab employment and business challenges and strengthening Arab municipal development. The Portland Trust's aim is to create a systemic change to integrate the Arab sector into the Israeli economy, generating employment opportunities and enhancing the lives and livelihood of Israeli Arabs whilst increasing their contribution to GDP. During 2019, The Portland Trust also began to develop interventions aimed at increasing economic participation and improved living standards amongst the ultra-Orthodox (Haredi) Jewish community.

Strategic report

1. Developing a Regional Economic Growth Strategy for the Arab sector in Israel

Building on Israeli Government Resolution 922, a five-year plan which aimed to address the socio-economic gaps between Arabs and Jews in Israel, The Portland Trust embarked on the development of a private sector led framework for regional economic growth for the Arab sector.

In 2019, The Portland Trust conducted a thorough analysis of regional strengths and weaknesses, including in relation to Arab-Jewish integration. Based on this study, a pilot region was selected in southeast Akko/Sakhnin, including the communities of Sakhnin, Misgav, Arraba, Dir Hana, Kfar Manda, Kaukab and Sha'ab. The Portland Trust identified health services and digital health/MedTech as the growth engine. Recommendations included the building of a tech compound specialising in medicine and healthcare, building centres for health services with an emphasis on typical ailments, and establishing elderly care facilities. The Portland Trust formulated a detailed implementation plan, and a small delivery team was appointed alongside the establishment of a strategic partners coalition to bolster government involvement in order to advance the implementation of the plan.

Throughout 2020, The Portland Trust continued to make good progress with the plan's implementation, strengthening its collaboration with key partners and identifying projects for development in Sakhnin valley. These include an accelerator programme to support local clinicians operating in adjacent hospitals, assisting them to develop their innovative ideas into clinical proofs of concept. The goal is to create the seeds for future companies which will operate in the area. The Portland Trust developed plans to further expand the programme to include an innovation lab in collaboration with the Israeli Innovation Authority. Additional projects which The Portland Trust identified in 2020 include a pharmaceutical compounding facility to provide services to the local hospitals and community, a pharmaceutical consulting and logistics centre and a genomics lab. The Portland Trust also identified significant potential in establishing an orthodontal ecosystem in the region, based on a collaboration between the Galilee hospital, the Bar Ilan Medical Faculty in Zafed and the dental private sector.

The Portland Trust presented the plan at a meeting with the Minister of Economy and his Director General. The Minister expressed support for the programme and instructed the Director General to adopt it as a flagship project in collaboration with the Authority for Economic Development of Minorities, and to establish a cross-governmental committee to promote the initiative. The Portland Trust continued to deepen its partnership with the local municipalities and established a local steering committee which includes the municipalities' representatives, as a means to receive their feedback, support and engagement with these endeavours.

Finally, during 2020 The Portland Trust worked to expand the programme to include an additional economic cluster in the Eshkol Hasharon region, in cooperation with the local municipalities there. KPMG Israel was selected to advise on the project and the process of identifying the economic growth engines for this region began in October.

2. Urban Planning and Affordable Housing for Arab Youth

During 2019, The Portland Trust advocated for a national plan to develop new urban neighbourhoods in existing Arab cities and large villages. The objectives of this initiative were: to create affordable housing for the younger generation; overcome registration issues; enable modern urban planning; put in place new financial models to enable the development and marketing of neighbourhoods on private/national land; provide youth with homeowner financing in the form of loans and mortgages; and provide access to improved education, health services, employment, and academic centres.

Two privately owned sites in Taybeh and Baqa al-Gharbiyye were identified as potential locations for the projects. An area of 50 dunams was earmarked to include a modern compound of residential units, commercial and public spaces. A visit took place in 2019 with Investment Company IBI, Social Venture Fund and others. The model was completed in 2019, and zoning permission processes began as a consequence.

At the start of 2020, The Portland Trust pursued its negotiation with the landowner with the aim of reaching an agreement by the middle of the year, enabling the preparation of an approved plan with work commencing on the ground in 2021. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the timetable was delayed. The landowner who had been interested in the plan decided not to proceed for the time being. As explained below, The Portland Trust will continue to explore options and will resume planning once an appropriate alternative site has been identified.

Strategic report
3. Lotus Project for Orthodox Druze Women

A population of about 400 young orthodox Druze women, who have successfully graduated from high school in science tracks, live in the Israeli periphery. In 2019, The Portland Trust partnered with Lotus, a local NGO run by Druze women based in Isfiya, which aims to create the first generation of orthodox Druze women to break the glass ceiling and achieve quality employment in hi-tech firms. This will be accomplished only if their traditions are maintained, working in a women-only "safe space" inside the village.

With the support of The Portland Trust, Lotus initiated an eight-month programme, during which women with a high potential to succeed in hi-tech positions were identified and trained to become Full-Stack developers. In addition to training, in 2019 Lotus was lent two rooms in a private house to establish the first hi-tech co-working space in a Druze village designated for women. The women were able to work full time for leading hi-tech firms from the improvised Lotus "tech hub".

The first cohort consisted of fourteen participants, aged 18-32, all of whom graduated from Lotus in August 2019 and were employed by industry leaders Amdocs, Mellanox and Oranbit, following extensive interviewing and testing processes. The graduates earn a starting monthly salary of 11,000 NIS, representing a four-fold increase on their previous salaries.

During 2020, The Portland Trust built on its partnership with Lotus, facilitating and mentoring the NGO's activity, developing the next cohorts of the programme and matchmaking for employment in the hi-tech sector. A second cohort of women were recruited and started training in October 2019 leading to fifteen graduates securing employment during 2020. The success of such placements amplifies the strength and sustainability of the Lotus model. A third cohort of seventeen women was selected and commenced training in late 2020.

The establishment of a new, dedicated 500m² Lotus Hub was completed in mid-2020, enabling Lotus to relocate to the first, purpose-built, women only tech hub in the Arab sector. The hub is fully furnished and equipped, funded entirely by donations from hi-tech firms and private donors.

4. Fursa

In 2020, The Portland Trust launched a new initiative, Fursa, which aims to provide a scalable solution of quality employment for talented young Arab Israelis, who have graduated from scientific academic degrees, but failed to integrate into the hi-tech sector, or quality employment in general. The programme leverages the Lotus model and know-how for the design of an intervention that addresses the needs of the hi-tech sector, while taking into consideration the context of Arab society in Israel.

The historic lack of integration was exacerbated during 2020, with new graduates in general struggling to find their first job. This situation poses a double challenge for Arab youth who experience traditional barriers to integration in addition to the current lack of junior employment positions and an unwillingness of employers to hire juniors in Israel, preferring instead to recruit staff in low-cost, offshore centres such as India and Ukraine. Fursa works to identify talented youth and the enabling factors needed for their inclusion in hi-tech, within an appealing employment cost model for the employers.

The Portland Trust established and registered Fursa as an NGO, and in November 2020 finalised the selection process of a first cohort of thirteen participants from a group of 150 candidates, all of whom are Computer Science graduates from leading universities, including the Technion, Tel Aviv University and the Hebrew University. The first group will be certified as DevOps experts ready for employment in hi-tech firms.

5. A Path to Empowerment and Equality: A Master Plan for Employment of Arab Israeli Women

During 2019, The Portland Trust, in partnership with the Israel Democracy Institute (IDI), conducted in-depth research to determine how to bridge the economic gap between Israel's Arab and Jewish communities, focusing on women's employment. The Israeli government has acknowledged the importance of meeting the challenge of Arab women's employment and has allocated major funds to this issue through Government Resolution 922. The project aims to lay the groundwork for effective government policy by presenting recommendations to serve as a comprehensive master plan for a new government resolution and five-year plan. The proposal will include a set of concrete objectives and tools that the government will be asked to adopt.

Strategic report

Building on the foundations laid in 2019 through its comprehensive research, stakeholder engagement, sectoral mapping and the presentation of preliminary briefings to the Ministry of Finance, The Portland Trust continued throughout 2020 to lead the development of the strategic master plan.

During 2020, The Portland Trust held more than thirty meetings with officers from seven different ministries: Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Welfare, Ministry of Finance, MALAG (Council for Higher Education), and the Ministry of Agriculture (Bedouin population/community involvement). In January, The Portland Trust co-chaired a steering committee with representatives from each ministry, where each presented recommendations prepared by The Portland Trust. In February, the programme was presented to the Local Arab Municipalities Committee, to receive feedback and evolve the programme accordingly. Many of the chapters of the report were completed, with the approval of the steering committee, and preliminary documentation with background for each policy was submitted for publishing. The final work will enable policy makers to better understand Arab minorities when formulating policy.

In light of the COVID-19 crisis and political uncertainty following a series of inconclusive General Elections, most government professionals were unable to prioritise non-urgent matters. However, in informal conversations they expressed their continued commitment to the programme and to supporting its presentation to the Budget Division of the Finance Ministry, understanding that the Arab Israeli community will be amongst the populations most severely affected by the crisis. Moreover, they recognise the potential for the Arab Israeli community to contribute significantly to long-term economic growth, making this a sound investment.

Despite the challenges, the project continued to make good progress with all government agencies. The Portland Trust continued to present the master plan to key stakeholders in civil society, philanthropic and government circles, and actively to advocate for the full adoption of the programme by the Government.

6. Nation-wide Academic Plan for the Education of Haredi Youth in Computer Science and their Placement in Leading Jobs in the Hi-tech Sector

Following the development of its vision and preliminary planning and scoping work during 2019, The Portland Trust in 2020 launched an initiative to enable Haredi men to study for a full BSc degree in Computer Science at the Hebrew University with guaranteed employment in leading hi-tech jobs with high salaries. For the first time, a designated track for Ultra-Orthodox men is being conducted in one of the world's top-rated universities. The programme provides academic, social, and financial support to its participants, helping them to focus on successfully completing their BSc and integrating into leading global hi-tech firms upon graduation.

Given that the focus of the programme is on future employment in leading hi-tech firms, the hi-tech sector has been involved in the initiative from the outset, to ensure the industry's ability to influence the course content and later to recruit the students. The programme provides scholarships and social loans to students who have made a significant commitment to completing the preparatory track and psychometric tests to be accepted by the Hebrew University. The total contribution to the economy by the end of the tenth year will be approximately 825.5 million NIS with a recurring annual impact each year thereafter of 221 million NIS.

The first cohort of nineteen students began the programme in October 2020. A Programme Director was appointed, jointly funded by The Portland Trust and the Hebrew University. Despite the considerable challenges, the support envelope designed by The Portland Trust proved significant in the success of the launch and early phase of the project.

7. Portland Campus

The Portland Campus is a management accelerator which equips talented social entrepreneurs with tools to improve their work and enhance the outcomes of the various social impact initiatives focused on economic development and quality employment opportunities, which The Portland Trust supports.

The first cohort of thirteen NGO leaders commenced in mid-October 2019 and concluded in February 2020. The participants were drawn from diverse backgrounds, including Bedouin, Druze, Muslim, Jewish Ultra-Orthodox and secular people from across Israel, all dealing with support for quality employment for disadvantaged communities. The programme provided the participants with the most up-to-date management methodologies, best practices, and an opportunity to engage in peer learning, sharing from their experience and creating a mutually supportive community. The participants' feedback on the content provided by The Portland Trust was excellent and proved both the necessity of this initiative, and the quality of the implementation.

Strategic report
Social Finance Israel

During 2020, The Portland Trust continued to support and partner with Social Finance Israel (SFI), having played a leading role in its establishment in 2013 as a public benefit company and Israel's first social-financial intermediary.

SFI is the leading developer of Social Impact Bonds (SIBs) in Israel and is attracting new capital towards non-profit organisations and social enterprises tackling a range of high-priority social challenges. These include reducing the drop-out rate amongst higher education technology students, preventing the onset of Type 2 diabetes amongst pre-diabetics and enhancing educational attainment in maths for Bedouin high school students in the Negev.

In 2020 SFI launched its fifth SIB which focuses on reducing loneliness and isolation amongst the elderly.

The Negev and Galilee Loan Guarantee Project

The Koret Israel Economic Development Fund (KIEDF) made the fourth instalment of its 5-year repayment to The Portland Trust in December 2020.

C. Publications, Research and Events

Palestinian Economic Bulletin

The Portland Trust continues to publish the monthly Palestinian Economic Bulletin, which reports on key economic developments in Palestine. The Bulletin is distributed to over 1,200 international and local subscribers and is broadly recognised as the only English-language monthly publication focusing on the Palestinian economy. In 2019, TPT started publishing an Arabic-language version of the bulletin, with a view to expand readership regionally. Currently, over 20% of the Bulletin's readers access it in Arabic.

In 2020, in addition to its regular reporting, the Bulletin provided in-depth economic analysis of the impact of COVID-19 on the Palestinian economy and the potential economic implications of Israeli annexation.

Financial review
Financial position
As detailed in the Review of Activities and the Notes to the Financial Statements, The Portland Trust has driven and contributed to a number of initiatives. Sufficient income has again been secured to meet all of our commitments. At 31 December 2020 The Portland Trust had a liquid balance sheet with a cash position of £1,381,199 which helps to secure the Charity's plans to promote economic stability in the Middle East into 2021 and beyond.

Principal funding sources
The Portland Trust mainly receives funding from grant-making charities based in the United Kingdom and internationally. In addition, in 2019 and 2020 The Portland Trust received significant income from investments as detailed in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

Investment policy and objectives
The Trustees have regard to the liquidity requirements of the Charity and maintain a policy of keeping any surplus liquid funds on short-term deposit which can be accessed readily to enable the timely response to project needs.

Reserves policy
The Portland Trust carries out a blend of both long- and short-term projects. The Trustees have examined the requirement for free reserves which are those unrestricted funds not designated for specific purposes or otherwise committed. The Trustees consider that generally, free reserves should be sufficient to cover approximately three months of regular operational expenditure which equates to approximately £350,000.

At 31 December 2020 unrestricted retained reserves totalled £1,181,157 and restricted retained reserves were £185,211.

The free reserves at the year-end are considered adequate for this purpose and to carry out appropriate projects going forward.

Strategic report
Future developments
A. Palestine Programme

Palestinian IT Outsourcing

Building on its extensive planning and preparation in 2020 as outlined above, The Portland Trust formally launched its new Talent Acceleration Programme (TAP) in February 2021. The intervention aims to create 200-300 jobs in Palestinian Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in IT outsourcing (ITO) firms based in underserved regions of the West Bank over the next two to three years. The initiative is expected to catalyse the growth of the sector, leading to the employment of thousands of developers over the coming decade and making a significant contribution to GDP.

During 2021, The Portland Trust will focus on the successful delivery of the TAP project in partnership with Kiitos Technologies, a Palestinian-Dutch company. Kiitos and the launch of TAP have been celebrated in the Netherlands and were highlighted in the newsletter of the Dutch Good Growth Fund (DGGF) under the auspices of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. TAP is supervised by an experienced team of local and international mentors.

The first TAP cohort comprises sixteen trainees (eight from Nablus, two from Hebron, and six from Gaza) over half of whom are women. The twelve-week intensive programme aims to accelerate their transition from fresh graduates to well-rounded tech professionals, ready for hire by 15th May 2021.

Trainees specialise in advanced front/back-end software development through a self-directed curriculum embedded within two live client projects for experiential learning. Trainees learn business acumen, soft skills, professional English language skills, and receive 1:1 career coaching.

Trainees are evaluated on job readiness at the end of each month, based on the previous month's overall engagement, client project work, presentations, and mock job interviews. Initial evaluations from Month 1 have shown impressive results where trainees are developing soft and technical skills at an accelerated pace. Based on Month 1 evaluations, one participant from Hebron dropped out of the ITO pilot but has committed to reapplying for the second cohort in June.

During 2021 and beyond, The Portland Trust will continue to work closely with partners and other stakeholders to scale up the training programme. The screening for the second cohort commenced on 12th April with an expected launch date of 15th June. A third cohort is planned for October 2021.

Very Large Systems Integration (VLSI) Labs & Design Verification

As reported previously, The Portland Trust has catalysed and facilitated the establishment of three VLSI labs at Palestinian universities, first at Al-Najjah University in Nablus, followed by the Arab American University in Jenin and Al Quds University in Abu Dis.

The Portland Trust remains committed to the successful deployment of these labs and in January 2021, in partnership with Mercy Corps, organised a Training of Trainers (ToT) programme led by Palestinian industry experts for the university faculty to improve their familiarity with leading-industry tools. Fifteen university professors participated in the month-long programme, comprising twelve, three-hour sessions. The training will enable the professors to utilise the labs efficiently and assist them in upgrading the computer engineering curriculum for the spring semester of 2021 to better devise market-driven courses.

The Portland Trust will continue to liaise closely with the universities to assist their use of the labs, and will explore the potential for the roll-out of further such labs at additional universities.

Exploring Tech Sector Development Opportunities

In line with its long-term, commitment to expanding capacity within the Palestinian tech sector, in early 2021 The Portland Trust began to explore with strategic partners the feasibility of establishing a Centre of Excellence to enable and support the technology start-up ecosystem in Palestine.

The aim of such a Centre would be to accelerate the introduction and adoption of emerging and transformational technologies in Palestine, such as data science, artificial intelligence and machine learning, and blockchain through multiple interventions. One such initiative currently under investigation is the development of training and certification in the form of a partnership between one of the most prestigious universities in the United States and a major Palestinian university.

Strategic report

During 2021, The Portland Trust will continue to support and facilitate the planning process and will take practical steps as required to enable implementation on the ground.

Type 2 Diabetes Development Impact Bond (DIB)

During 2021, The Portland Trust will continue to work with Juzoor to monitor the delivery of the Type 2 Diabetes DIB aimed at preventing the onset of the disease amongst pre-diabetic women in Palestinian refugee camps.

As reported above, the delivery of the intervention in 2020 was constrained by the COVID-19 pandemic, and it is hoped that the easing of restrictions in 2021 will enable the programme to return to its 2019 level of activity. The Portland Trust will regularly assess progress.

Gaza

The Portland Trust continues to promote the Gaza Vision outlined in its 2016 publication, Global Palestine, Connected Gaza and to support the efforts of the private sector coordinating committee to drive forward implementation. It also continues to focus on opportunities to develop project ideas in line with the Vision.

In particular, during 2021 The Portland Trust will work to develop initiatives that address the urgent need for access to electricity amongst the citizens of the Gaza Strip through innovative clean energy schemes.

B. Israel Programme

Developing a Regional Economic Growth Strategy for the Arab sector in Israel

During 2021, The Portland Trust continues to drive the implementation of its regional growth engines initiative outlined above.

To that end, operational meetings with the Director General and the Head of the Innovation Authority commenced in the first quarter of 2021. The Portland Trust will continue to work in partnership with the local municipalities and the overarching steering committee to ensure full stakeholder engagement.

The Portland Trust prioritising the following key initiatives:

a. Health related entrepreneurship launchpads: An operating model for each has been defined and the relevant government partner identified. The Portland Trust has facilitated a roadshow with several Israeli health-related venture capital funds to assess their potential. A collaboration agreement has been reached with Rambam hospital to foster an Accelerator and Incubator. The Portland Trust is leading the business modelling and working to identify private funding sources to match government funds.
b. Pharmaceutical compounding facility: A facility is being promoted in the area in collaboration with Rambam Hospital. Outreach is ongoing to private companies which may be interested in establishing the facility in the area.
c. Establishment of a local A&E (emergency care centre) and physicians' clinic/hub.
d. Medical simulation centre: A centre is being planned to serve as a training facility, in cooperation with Sheba hospital.

The Portland Trust is also continuing to work on the expansion of the initiative in the Eshkol Hasharon region which began in 2020 as reported above. The consulting partner, KPMG, has presented initial options regarding identifiable growth engines for the area. The Portland Trust has completed the second of four phases of the consulting process, reviewing the shortlist of three industry cluster options, which are currently being assessed and discussed by the steering committee.

Urban Planning and Affordable Housing for Arab Youth

As outlined above, notwithstanding the delay in the development of this initiative due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, The Portland Trust remains committed to its implementation in collaboration with the landowners, the municipality, and with official planning institutions.

Meetings already held indicate there remains great interest from the government, private sector and local leaders in the project. The Portland Trust will continue to work to identify an appropriate site for the launch of the scheme.

Strategic report

A Path to Empowerment and Equality: Master Plan for Employment of Arab-Israeli Women

During 2021, The Portland Trust continues to work towards the full adoption by the Government of its strategic master plan, as outlined above.

An additional project currently being validated in this context, is to promote the participation of the Arab sector and other minorities in Government Procurement tenders. Two aspects being explored are the inclusion of Arab and other minority-owned businesses as participants in tenders and to include employment of minorities as a criterion for companies submitting tenders. Both elements require legislation. The goal of The Portland Trust and the focus of its efforts for 2021 is to prepare the ground to make such a legislative move feasible.

Lotus Project for Orthodox Druze Women

During 2021, The Portland Trust continues to support the expansion of the Lotus project, building on the successful integration of thirty-three Druze women to date into hi-tech positions with our partner firms as software developers and data analysts.

The third cohort of seventeen participants are expected to graduate in the summer and start work by September 2021. The Portland Trust and Lotus remain on track to have sixty women employed by the end of 2021, and are developing plans to open a second Lotus branch in the Galilee in 2022.

Fursa

As outlined above, the first cohort of thirteen participants, all university Computer Science graduates, commenced the Fursa training in November 2020. All thirteen completed the course and were certified as DevOps experts in January 2021 and all have successfully integrated into leading hi-tech companies.

The second cohort of DevOps engineers started training in April and are expected to be placed in employment by the end of July. The goal of The Portland Trust is to have over fifty Fursa graduates placed in hi-tech companies by the end of 2021.

Creating an Ultra-Orthodox Elite: Complete Degree at Hebrew University and Employment in Global Hi-Tech Firms

As reported above, the first cohort of nineteen Haredi students began the BSc degree programme at the Hebrew University in October 2020.

Despite the difficulties of starting the academic year with remote learning as a result of the restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, at the end of the first semester seventeen students remain in the programme and their achievements so far match those of the general student population which is highly encouraging. The programme's support package has proven crucial in enabling these achievements.

During 2021, The Portland Trust continues to work closely with the Hebrew University to ensure the success of the programme and to prepare for the second intake of students for the 2021-2022 academic year.

The Negev and Galilee Loan Guarantee Project

KIEDF is expected to make the fifth instalment of its 5-year repayment to The Portland Trust in December 2021.

Social Finance Israel (SFI)

The Portland Trust continues to support the work of SFI during 2021.

Strategic report
C. Publications, Research and Events

Palestinian Economic Bulletin

To date in 2021, the Bulletin has reviewed the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) forecasts for economic growth prospects in 2021; covered the second annual International Conference for Entrepreneurship - Palestine (ICEP); reported on the agreement reached to raise the minimum monthly wage; provided an economic analysis of the trade deficit reduction to pre-2014 levels; reviewed the iPoke report on e-commerce and social media activity in Palestine during 2020; highlighted the establishment of "Al-Estiqlal Bank for Development and Investment"; and discussed an agreement for the development of the Gaza Marine gas field.

Structure, governance and management
Governing document
The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees
The Trustees of the Charity have control of the Charity and its property and funds. The first Trustees were Sir Ronald Cohen and Sir Harry Solomon. Unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution, the number of Trustees is subject to a maximum of ten and minimum of two. Trustees may be individuals or bodies corporate.

Every Trustee signs a declaration of willingness to act as a Charity Trustee before being eligible to vote at any meeting of the Trustees. One third (or the number nearest to one third) of the Trustees retire at each Annual General Meeting, those in office retiring first and the choice between any of equal service being made by drawing lots unless they otherwise agree among themselves.

The members are entitled to appoint one or more Trustees (including themselves), to remove any Trustee so appointed and to appoint another Trustee in place of any Trustee so appointed who for any reason ceases to be a Trustee. A retiring Trustee is not eligible for reappointment unless such reappointment is approved by the Trustees.

Organisational structure
The Trustees provide their services free of charge. The Portland Trust has offices in London, Tel Aviv and Ramallah. Douglas Krikler runs the organisation from the London office where there are four employees. The Tel Aviv office, which opened in 2005, has five members of staff and is run by Rami Schwartz. The Ramallah office was opened in April 2006, has six members of staff, and is run by Yahya Shunnar under the chairmanship of Samir Hulileh.

Decision making
Whilst the Trustees are responsible for overseeing the activities and direction of the Charity, the Executive Committee approves expenditure on the projects undertaken by The Portland Trust. This committee comprises Trustee representatives and senior executives from each operating branch.

Induction and training of new trustees
All of the Trustees are experienced in charity matters and therefore no formal training takes place. When new issues and developments come to light the Trustees are made aware of these matters at their next meeting. Any new Trustee would be expected to have the same level of experience and knowledge as the existing Trustees.

Key management remuneration
The members of the Executive Committee comprise the key management personnel of The Portland Trust and are responsible for the direction, control and running of the Charity on a day to day basis.

All the Trustees provide their services free of charge. The pay of senior staff is reviewed annually, and rates are set at market rate for their role.

Related parties
None of the Trustees receive remuneration or other benefits from their work with The Portland Trust, although their expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as a Trustee may be paid by the Charity.

Trustees may hold a position of responsibility within organisations which receive funding from The Portland Trust. In such cases this is disclosed in the notes to the Financial Statements.

Structure, governance and management

Risk management

The Trustees regularly review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. No significant risks were identified during the year.

COVID-19

There was no major adverse impact on fundraising in 2020 as a result of COVID-19, and project implementation was only marginally affected.

The Trustees recognise the risk to fundraising and income as a result of COVID-19 and manage this risk by monitoring the activities and finances of the organisation through regular, detailed monthly management accounts including cash flow and project funding.

The Trustees have reviewed the reserves policy and do not feel that any amendments are required in light of COVID-19.

The Trustees recognise that there is a risk to the delivery of the Charity's projects as a result of COVID-19. They manage this risk through the preparation and discussion of a detailed quarterly programme update which highlights progress and any matters of concern in each project area. No action has been necessitated by COVID-19 during this time with regard to project implementation.

The Trustees recognise that there is a risk to the ability of the staff of the organisation to carry out their work effectively as a result of COVID-19. In light of the imposition of lockdowns in the UK, Israel and Palestine, the organisation has adapted to a flexible way of working across its three offices. All staff have the ability to work remotely and have done so effectively. The organisation has not furloughed any staff nor made any staff redundant across the three offices as a result of COVID-19.

The Trustees recognise the potential ongoing impact of COVID-19 and will continue to monitor associated financial and operational risks through the above measures in place.

Reference and administrative details

Registered Company number
04699155 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1106429

Registered office
25 Farringdon Street
London
EC4A 4AB

Trustees
Ms N J Cobbold
Sir R M Cohen
Sir M L Davis
Sir H Solomon

Company Secretary
Mr S D Clarke

Auditors
RSM UK Audit LLP
25 Farringdon Street
London
EC4A 4AB

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Portland Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Statement of trustees' responsibilities - continued
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors
The auditors, RSM UK Audit LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on ....14th July 2021..... and signed on the board's behalf by:

Sir Ronald Cohen
.....
Sir R M Cohen - Trustee

Sir Harry Solomon
.....
Sir H Solomon - Trustee

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of The Portland Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:
- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2020 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 Companies Act 2006.

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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company 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 trustees' 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 charitable company'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 trustees 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 Trustees' Report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Trustees' 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.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006
In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:
- the information given in the Trustees' Report, which includes the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report included within the Trustees' Report have 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 charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report or the Strategic Report included within the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where 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 trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees
As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities set out on page 14, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 trustees 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 trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company'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 trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our 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 a Report of the Independent Auditors 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 are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The objectives of our audit are to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, to perform audit procedures to help identify instances of non-compliance with other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements, and to respond appropriately to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified during the audit.

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk 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 and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit.

However, it is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the audit engagement team:
- obtained an understanding of the nature of the sector, including the legal and regulatory frameworks that the charitable company operates in and how the charitable company is complying with the legal and regulatory frameworks;
- inquired of management, and those charged with governance, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including any known actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud;
- discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and where the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud.

As a result of these procedures we consider the most significant laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements are FRS 102, Charities SORP (FRS 102), Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, the charitable company's governing document, and tax legislation. We performed audit procedures to detect non-compliances which may have a material impact on the financial statements which included reviewing the financial statements including the Trustees' Report, and remaining alert to any new or unusual transactions which may not be in accordance with the governing documents.

The audit engagement team identified the risk of management override of controls and as the area where the financial statements were most susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud. Audit procedures performed included but were not limited to testing manual journal entries and other adjustments, evaluating the business rationale in relation to any significant, unusual transactions and transactions entered into outside the normal course of business, and challenging any judgments and estimates.

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. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Use of our report
This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

RSM UK Audit LLP

Malcolm Pirouet (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of RSM UK Audit LLP
25 Farringdon Street
London
EC4A 4AB

Date: .. 2 August 2021.....

THE PORTLAND TRUST

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
Income and endowments from					
Donations and legacies	2	**1,387,072**	**855,900**	**2,242,972**	1,350,330
Investment income	3	**1,044,261**	**-**	**1,044,261**	443,459
Total		**2,431,333**	**855,900**	**3,287,233**	1,793,789
Expenditure on					
Charitable activities	4				
Project expenditure		**1,121,099**	**856,425**	**1,977,524**	1,658,168
Support cost		**496,549**	**-**	**496,549**	610,898
Total		**1,617,648**	**856,425**	**2,474,073**	2,269,066
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		**813,685**	**(525)**	**813,160**	(475,277)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		**367,472**	**185,736**	**553,208**	1,028,485
Total funds carried forward		**1,181,157**	**185,211**	**1,366,368**	553,208

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	**24,698**	29,990
Investments	11	**5**	5
		24,703	29,995
Current assets			
Debtors	12	**180,241**	416,341
Cash at bank		**1,381,199**	344,812
		1,561,440	761,153
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	**(219,775)**	(237,940)
Net current assets		**1,341,665**	523,213
Total assets less current liabilities		**1,366,368**	553,208
NET ASSETS		**1,366,368**	553,208
Funds	15		
Unrestricted funds		**1,181,157**	367,472
Restricted funds		**185,211**	185,736
Total funds		**1,366,368**	553,208

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 14th July 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

Sir Ronald Cohen
.....
Sir R M Cohen - Trustee

Sir Harry Solomon
.....
Sir H Solomon - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Cash Flow Statement
for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	**1,045,921**	(309,378)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		**1,045,921**	(309,378)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		**(9,534)**	(2,766)
Net cash used in investing activities		**(9,534)**	(2,766)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		**1,036,387**	(312,144)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	2	**344,812**	656,956
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	2	**1,381,199**	344,812

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 December 2020

1. Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	**813,160**	(475,277)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**14,826**	15,965
Decrease in debtors	**236,100**	277,247
Decrease in creditors	**(18,165)**	(127,313)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	**1,045,921**	(309,378)

2. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

Included in purchase of tangible fixed assets is an amount due to exchange differences of £359 (2019: £nil).

Included in depreciation charges is an amount due to exchange differences of £2,237 (2019: £200).

3. Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 1/1/20 £	Cash flow £	At 31/12/20 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	**344,812**	**1,036,387**	**1,381,199**
	344,812	**1,036,387**	**1,381,199**
Total	**344,812**	**1,036,387**	**1,381,199**

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

The Financial Statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.
Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

Going concern
The accounts are prepared on the basis that the Charity has adequate resources to continue to operate.
The Trustees have reviewed and considered the relevant information, including the budget and future cash flows in making their assessment. In particular, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, they have taken into account the impact on the Charity and measures it can take to mitigate the impact. Based on these assessments the Trustees have concluded that they can continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty
Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experiences and reasonable expectations of future events. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the accounting period in which the revision is made.

The Portland Trust has a potential obligation to reinstate its London offices to the original layout. The Trustees do not believe that a significant liability for this exists at the year end.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies: Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the Statement of Financial Activity when receivable and only when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.

Investment Income
Investment income is accounted for in the period that the Charity is entitled to receipt.

Expenditure
Recognition of expenditure
Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Expenditure on charitable activities
These comprise the costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and charitable activities services in the furtherance of its objects, including the making of grants and governance costs.

Other expenditure These are support costs not allocated to a particular activity.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Improvements to property	- 20% straight line on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 20% on reducing balance

Taxation
The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

1. Accounting policies - continued

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds: These are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.

Restricted funds: These are available for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

Foreign currencies
Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are translated at the rates of exchange prevailing at the end of the reporting period.

Transactions in currencies other than the functional currency of the charity are recorded at the rate of exchange on the date that the transaction occurred.

All exchange differences are are taken into account in arriving at net income/expenditure.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments
Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. In the event that lease incentives are received to enter into operating leases, such incentives are recognised as a liability. The aggregate benefit of incentives is recognised as a reduction of rental expense on a straight-line basis.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

The charity contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme under the automatic enrolment regime. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they relate.

Financial instruments
The charitable company only has financial assets and liabilities off a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments, which are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value. These include debtors, bank and cash balances and creditors.

Trade and other debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts.

Trade and other creditors
Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

There are no key judgments.

2. Donations and legacies

	2020	2019
	£	£
Donations	**2,242,972**	1,350,330

3. Investment income

	2020	2019
	£	£
Investments	**1,044,261**	443,459

Investment income of £1,044,261 (€1,142,159) was received in 2020 as a consequence of a distribution from a private equity investment held by the Charity, see note 11.

4. Charitable activities costs

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 5)	Totals
	£	£	£
Project expenditure	**1,977,524**	**-**	**1,977,524**
Support cost	**-**	**496,549**	**496,549**
	1,977,524	**496,549**	**2,474,073**

5. Support costs

	Management	Finance	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Support cost	**337,863**	**78,999**	**79,687**	**496,549**

6. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2020	2019
	£	£
Auditors remuneration	**14,400**	15,175
Depreciation - owned assets	**12,588**	16,165
Other operating leases	**215,601**	225,093

7. Trustees' remuneration and benefits

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2020 nor for the year ended 31 December 2019.

7. Trustees' remuneration and benefits - continued

Trustees' expenses

The Portland Trust pays for Trustee indemnity insurance. No travel expenses were paid on behalf of trustees' during the year.

8. Staff costs

	2020	2019
	£	£
Wages and salaries	**970,547**	931,656
Social security costs	**86,296**	124,671
Other pension costs	**3,540**	2,654
	1,060,383	1,058,981

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2020	2019
UK	**4**	4
Israel	**5**	5
Palestine	**6**	6
	15	15

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2020	2019
£60,001 - £70,000	**1**	1
£70,001 - £80,000	**1**	1
Over £120,000	**3**	3
	5	5

9. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
Income and endowments from			
Donations and legacies	1,226,047	124,283	1,350,330
Investment income	443,459	-	443,459
Total	1,669,506	124,283	1,793,789
Expenditure on			
Charitable activities			
Project expenditure	1,052,592	605,576	1,658,168
Support cost	610,898	-	610,898
Total	1,663,490	605,576	2,269,066
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	6,016	(481,293)	(475,277)

9. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward	361,456	667,029	1,028,485
Total funds carried forward	367,472	185,736	553,208

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Improvements to property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
Cost				
At 1 January 2020	**35,409**	**37,820**	**50,096**	**123,325**
Additions	**-**	**5,493**	**3,681**	**9,174**
Disposals	**-**	**-**	**(9,879)**	**(9,879)**
Exchange differences	**-**	**(199)**	**558**	**359**
At 31 December 2020	**35,409**	**43,114**	**44,456**	**122,979**
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2020	**17,114**	**32,069**	**44,152**	**93,335**
Charge for year	**7,081**	**2,473**	**3,034**	**12,588**
Eliminated on disposal	**-**	**-**	**(9,879)**	**(9,879)**
Exchange differences	**-**	**(672)**	**2,909**	**2,237**
At 31 December 2020	**24,195**	**33,870**	**40,216**	**98,281**
Net book value				
At 31 December 2020	**11,214**	**9,244**	**4,240**	**24,698**
At 31 December 2019	18,295	5,751	5,944	29,990

11. Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments £
Cost	
At 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2020	**5**
Net book value	
At 31 December 2020	**5**
At 31 December 2019	5

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

11. Fixed asset investments - continued

During 2007 The Portland Trust was offered the opportunity to acquire a private equity partnership in Apax Europe VII founder LP at a cost of 6 Euros. Any distributions from this investment are dependent on the performance of the Apax Europe VII Fund over time. The timing and quantification of any future distributions cannot reliably be determined by the Trustees. The investment is therefore held at cost in the balance sheet at 31 December 2020 and 31 December 2019. The Trust received a distribution of €1,142,159 in March 2020 from Apax Europe VII Founder LP and additional distributions may be received in the future. There are no commitments or liabilities associated with this investment.

During 2013 The Portland Trust invested NIS1 in purchasing 11% of the shares of Social Finance Israel, a public benefit company. The value of this investment is £nil as no future monetary benefit will be received.

12. Debtors

	2020	2019
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	**70,705**	131,754
Prepayments and accrued income	**38,767**	215,216
	109,472	346,970
Amounts falling due after more than one year:		
Other debtors	**70,769**	69,371
Aggregate amounts	**180,241**	416,341

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	**32,047**	29,657
Other creditors	**31,747**	68,260
Accruals and deferred income	**155,981**	140,023
	219,775	237,940

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2020 Total funds	2019 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	**24,698**	**-**	**24,698**	29,990
Investments	**5**	**-**	**5**	5
Current assets	**1,376,229**	**185,211**	**1,561,440**	761,153
Current liabilities	**(219,775)**	**-**	**(219,775)**	(237,940)
	1,181,157	**185,211**	**1,366,368**	553,208

15. Movement in funds

	At 1/1/20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/20 £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	**367,472**	**813,685**	**1,181,157**
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	**185,736**	**(525)**	**185,211**
TOTAL FUNDS	**553,208**	**813,160**	**1,366,368**

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	**2,431,333**	**(1,617,648)**	**813,685**
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	**855,900**	**(856,425)**	**(525)**
TOTAL FUNDS	**3,287,233**	**(2,474,073)**	**813,160**

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/1/19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/19 £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	361,456	6,016	367,472
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	667,029	(481,293)	185,736
TOTAL FUNDS	1,028,485	(475,277)	553,208

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	1,669,506	(1,663,490)	6,016
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	124,283	(605,576)	(481,293)
TOTAL FUNDS	1,793,789	(2,269,066)	(475,277)

16. Related party disclosures

During the year, The Portland Trust received £500,000 (2019: £499,632) from The R and S Cohen Foundation, a charity of which Sir R Cohen is also a Trustee.

The Heathside Charitable Trust, of which Sir H Solomon is also a Trustee donated £50,000 (2019: £50,000) to The Portland Trust..

Sir M Davis is a Trustee of The Portland Trust and donated £150,000 (2019: £nil). In 2019, The Davis Foundation, of which Sir M Davis is also a Trustee, donated £200,000 to The Portland Trust.

The Portland Trust received donations of £269,274 (NIS 1,187,805) from Yad Hanadiv (2019: £83,827 (NIS 381,541)) of which Sir R Cohen is a Trustee.

In 2020, the Charity paid £7,793 to Portland Place Capital for bookkeeping and IT support. In 2020, expenditure of £264 was paid via recharges to Portland Place Capital. The £264 relates to private healthcare. This expenditure was charged at cost and offered an opportunity to achieve cost savings not otherwise available. Sir R Cohen is a shareholder of Portland Place Capital Ltd.

Sir R Cohen is Chair of Social Finance Israel of which The Portland Trust and Mrs N Cobbold are founding shareholders. In 2020 The Portland Trust made a grant of $250,000 to SFI.

17. Ultimate controlling party

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital; thus no single party controls the company.