

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 13353590 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1194509

**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 July 2025
for
SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD**

Knox Cropper LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
153 -155 London Road
Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire
HP3 9SQ

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025**

	Page
Reference and Administrative Details	1
Report of the Trustees	2 to 10
Report of the Independent Auditors	11 to 12
Statement of Financial Activities	13
Balance Sheet	14
Cash Flow Statement	15
Notes to the Cash Flow Statement	16
Notes to the Financial Statements	17 to 25

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

**Reference and Administrative Details
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025**

TRUSTEES

M Dunwell (resigned 30.9.24)
B A C Hudson (resigned 31.12.25)
C Adams (resigned 30.6.25)
G Firmin
S M E Islam (resigned 30.6.25)
R Alam
J Alfert
J Braithwaite (appointed 1.10.24)
A R Tanim (resigned 30.6.25)
P Kelly (appointed 1.1.26)
C R Taylor (appointed 1.7.25)
S E Tucker (appointed 1.7.25)

REGISTERED OFFICE

Student Centre South Bank University
103 Borough Road
Elephant And Castle
London
SE1 0AA

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER 13353590 (England and Wales)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1194509

AUDITORS

Knox Cropper LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
153 -155 London Road
Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire
HP3 9SQ

SOLICITORS

Wrigley's Solicitors LLP
19-21 Cookridge Street
Leeds LS2 3AG

BANKERS

HSBC PLC
28 Borough High Street
Southwark
London SE1 1IB

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025**

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 July 2025. 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).

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Review of activities

South Bank Students Union had a successful year, improving results and achieving the majority of KPIs and exceeding target in 25% of cases. See Table. 1

Table. 1	2023	2024	
	Actual	Target	Actual
Overall students engaged in SU-led activity	55%	55%	68%
International students engaged in SU-led activity	64%	70%	71%
Apprentice / PT students engaged in SU-led activity	30%	30%	33%
First years engaged in SU-led activity	78%	75%	82%
Students receiving SU support to help stay in study	40%	45%	48%
Students engaged in SU-led academic enhancement activity	31%	35%	35%
Students voted in an SU election	2142	1600	1620
Students engaged in SU-led recreational activity	39%	40%	35%
Student insights collected	1962	2000	2039
Student insights reported and acted on	77% 82%	75% 80%	90% 79%
No of course reps	499	500	537
Divisions represented across student voice	100%	100%	100%
Courses with student representation	90%	90%	90%
Staff engagement	100%	90%	97%
Income from commercial services	£78k	£75k	£85k
External financial audit	Pass	Pass	Pass
SBSU positively contributes to students' academic success	77%	> 3%	75%

Student Voice and Representation

The Union's success is built on strong student participation in its activities and initiatives. By involving students in a wide range of programmes, the Union is able to collect valuable feedback that informs improvements to the student experience and aligns with the University's strategic aims. Participation in these opportunities, including support services and initiatives to enhance academic success, also plays a key role in supporting student progression and retention.

The Union continued its strong upward trajectory in student engagement throughout 2024/25, with over two thirds of LSBU students engaging with the Students' Union at least once during the academic year. Engagement grew steadily across the year and was significantly boosted through targeted phone banks, elections and academic enhancement activity, engaging many students for the first time. Notably, engagement among apprentices, international students, Croydon and Havering students, and first-year students increased substantially over the course of the year, with several stretch targets ultimately being met or exceeded.

Course-level representation remained a core strength of the Union's work. By the end of the year, 88% of courses had active student representation across all divisions, with 100% of course reps supported by the Union. This was underpinned by the election and training of nearly 500 course representatives, delivery of over 30 training sessions, and a second annual Course Rep Conference. Feedback from both students and staff confirmed that recent changes to student voice structures - replacing formal course boards with more regular, informal meetings - have resulted in faster issue resolution and more meaningful dialogue between students and academic teams.

Alongside representative structures, the Union continued to collect and act on student insight at scale, exceeding its target of 2,000 student views collected during the year. By year end, the Union was reporting on the vast majority of views received, with high levels of action taken in partnership with the University. This depth and breadth of insight has strengthened the Union's ability to influence institutional decision-making and improve the student experience.

A major strategic milestone this year was the completion and implementation of the Union's governance and democracy review. Following extensive consultation with over 1,400 students and stakeholders, new Articles and bye-laws were approved and came into effect from July 2025. The first elections under the new structure demonstrated improved fairness and cross-school participation, laying the foundations for more sustainable and inclusive democratic engagement in future years.

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

The Students' Union has once again played a key role in boosting student employability by offering opportunities that complement academic learning and help students build vital professional and life skills. In 2024/25, more than 500 students collectively gained over 70,000 hours of voluntary experience, and the Union also provided over 15,000 hours of flexible, paid employment to both current students and recent graduates, supporting not just their career development but also their financial wellbeing. SBSU is proud that 50% of its full-time staff are either recent LSBU graduates or students on placement, working alongside a strong team of part-time student staff.

Student Support and Outreach

The Union played a significant role in the University's retention and student success strategies throughout the year. Building on previous success, multiple targeted phone banks were delivered, including early engagement calls, resit support, apprenticeship outreach, poor attendance interventions and NSS completion activity. In total, several thousand students were contacted, with consistently high satisfaction rates reported among students who received this support, and strong evidence that the calls contributed positively to continuation and progression.

The Union Advice Service continued to support students with complex academic and disciplinary cases, including appeals, fitness to practise and withdrawal reviews. While overall demand fluctuated across the year, the service maintained high impact, with advice service users consistently reporting that the support they received was a key factor in enabling them to continue their studies. The Union also began developing more proactive and preventative advice models to further strengthen its contribution to student retention in future years.

Student Communities, Activities and Belonging

The Union delivered a wide-ranging programme of academic and non-academic activity designed to build belonging, support retention and enhance the student experience. Academic enhancement activity was delivered across all schools, including guest speaker events, course-based socials and a large-scale academic street festival which alone engaged over 900 students. Academic engagement targets were exceeded by year end, balancing areas where non-academic engagement fell slightly short of stretch targets.

Alongside this, the Union supported a vibrant programme of non-academic events and community-led activity, including Freshers, Re-Freshers, Varsity, Iftar, cultural celebrations and collaborative events with other London students' unions. These programmes played a key role in helping students build social connections and feel part of the LSBU community, particularly at transition points in the academic year.

Organisational Health and Sustainability

The Union maintained a strong focus on organisational health and sustainability throughout the year. Staff engagement remained sector-leading, with 100% participation in staff engagement surveys and engagement scores consistently around 97-100%, significantly outperforming sector benchmarks. This achievement was recognised nationally, reinforcing SBSU's reputation as an employer of choice within the students' union sector.

Financially, the Union achieved a clean external audit and met its income targets, ending the year with a small surplus. Income diversification through commissioned work with the University, consultancy activity and commercial operations strengthened financial resilience, while trustees progressed important work on reserves policy and long-term sustainability.

Despite a small decline in the Union's NSS score from 77% to 75%, the Union continued to perform strongly relative to the sector. Early analysis suggests this dip may be linked to broader institutional sentiment and reduced opportunities to engage students during the NSS campaign. Encouragingly, a survey of LSBU colleagues found that over 90% agreed the Students' Union makes a positive contribution to student success, underlining the Union's strong institutional relationships and impact.

The Union has met all of its reporting obligations with a code of practice return presented to Governors in February 2025 along with audited financial statements. Both of the elections run this year were signed off as fair by the external returning officer (NUS) and the Union has also benefitted from university colleagues attending its Trustee Board.

New operational KPIs for 25/26 have been set and progress is being reported to trustees quarterly.

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

Engagement
80% Students Engaged in SU-led activity
40% of Apprentices/PT engaged in SU-led activity
75% of International engaged in SU-led activity
85% of First years engaged in SU-led activity
55% Students receive high quality SU Support and advice to help them stay in study
35% Students engaged in SU-led academic based activity
20% students involved in academic activity programme
16% students engaged in the Spring election
40% Students engaged in SU-led recreational activity.
25% students involved in SU (non-academic) community activity
85% First years enrolled by the end of week 2 engaged in SU led welcome activity
Student Satisfaction & Retention Impact
70% Students think SU positively contributes to their academic success
2000 Student views collected
75% views reported and 80% acted on
100% course reps supported
100% divisions/schools represented across student voice tracker
SU Activity delivered across 100% subjects/divisions
90% students called rate SU phone bank as helpful factor for continuing their studies
80% SU Advice Service users rate the service as helpful factor for continuing their studies
SU supported appeal cases have 10% higher success rate
Critical Factors
90% KPIs Achieved, 20% Exceeded *
90% Staff think SBSU is a great place to work
Achieve IIP Accreditation
Income targets met (Total)
95% Compliance audits completed, 90% passed
External Finance Audit passed
85% LSBU Partners are satisfied with the SU's contribution to student success

Financial Review

The Union's gross income from all sources this year totalled £1,437,846 (2024: £1,441,350). Total expenditure this year spent on a wide-range of student benefits and revenue-generating activity was £1,339,623 (2024: £1,344,200) leaving an operational surplus for the year of £98,223 (2024: £97,150).

Once the movements in relation to the Unions' membership of the Students' Union Superannuation scheme are taken into account the Union had an increase its net funds of £98,223 (2024: increase of £361,266).

Designated (unrestricted) funds relating to the ongoing costs associated with facilities improvements amounted to £55,672 (2024: £69,154). This fund relates to the Union's investments in its fixed assets.

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

The Union also holds reserves to cover unexpected eventualities and also ensure there are sufficient reserves to resource planned capital expenditure. General Fund reserves at the 31 July 2025 were £600,669 (2024: £533,785) which has been designated as a protected minimum amount (shown as "Accumulated Funds").

The Union is currently affiliated to the National Union of Students (NUS), for which the total subscription costs amounted to £31,233 (2024: £31,857) for the year, and no donations were made during the year to any external institutions out of SBSU's own resources.

Funds Held as Custodian Trustee

In addition to the grant-support funds it disburses to Clubs and Societies, SBSU acts as custodian for funds raised by the Clubs and Societies themselves. Club and Society funds are treated as restricted funds, which are included in restricted funds in the accounts. The holding of club and society balances is subject to the same safeguards as balances belonging to the Union, but their funds are accounted for separately to ensure that balances are appropriately protected. Restricted society fund balances were £724 (2024: £1,051).

Future Funding

The Board confirms that SBSU has sufficient funds to meet all its obligations. The Union is in receipt of a recurring block grant from the University which represents its principal source of funding, with the amount subject to annual confirmation. For accounting year 2024-2025 the Union has been awarded a block grant of £960,000.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustee board are responsible for the Union's risk management. The senior management team have delegated authority for identifying and reporting on the risks facing the organisation to the Trustees as they arise in relation to items of business at the Board. In addition, the senior management team provide information on risk to enable Trustees to undertake an annual review. The Trustee Board examines the Union's major strategic, business and operational risks on an annual basis. The Trustees confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reporting which allows them to take the necessary steps to mitigate any risks.

The principal risks and uncertainties currently facing the Union are considered to be:

- Declining participation in the Union's democratic processes has resulted over recent years in a lack of diversity and cross-school representation within the Union's major decision making bodies. To counter this, Trustees commissioned a full review of these processes in 2023/24 and a new model of delivery has been developed which will roll out in the academic year 2025/26, to ensure delivery is sustainable for the future.
- A reduction in funding from the University due to LSBU's financial challenges. Despite this however, the Union have a strong relationship with the University's executive and Governors and have had ongoing conversations throughout the year concerning funding and are fully included into the University's finance planning process enabling us to negotiate and plan for increases or decreases in our funding allocation.
- Reputational damage in the unlikely event of a high-profile activity by a trustee or student representative. Induction for Trustees and representatives includes full information of the responsibilities within the role and we work closely with all of them to ensure they are fully aware of Union activity. Regular updates with trustees ensure that trustees have the opportunity to work through the organisation to meet any objective they may have.

Overall, we work very closely with the University, students and Trustees to ensure that we have knowledge of their activity. We use our plans and strategies to manage risk including the Union's reserves strategy, strategic plans, maintaining effective internal controls, risk registers, incident-reporting and monitoring systems and insurance cover wherever appropriate.

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.

Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel include the Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive and paid sabbatical officers.

South Bank University Students' Union (SBSU) employs a Chief Executive to work closely with the Trustees and ensure effective management of the Union.

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Decision making

The Union is constituted under the Education Act 1994 as a charity. The Union's charitable objects are:

- . promoting the interests and welfare of Students at London South Bank University during their course of study and representing, supporting and advising Students;
- . being the recognised representative channel between Students and London South Bank University and any other external bodies; and
- . providing social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities and forums for discussions and debate for the personal development of its Students.

In furtherance of these aims the trustees have complied with their duty in s.17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's published general guidance concerning the operation of the public benefit requirement under that Act.

In pursuit of these aims for the public benefit, SBSU:

- . Ensures the diversity of its membership is recognised, valued and supported;
- . Has established departments and services for use by its members and to support its work with the University and other organisations on behalf of students.

These include the Union's Representation and Advice, Communications, Central Services and Student Activities Departments. The Union's Sabbatical Officers and Council members are the students' representatives on all major University committees and the University's Board of Governors, and are supported by members of the union's staff team that act as a secretariat.

SBSU changed its legal form to a Company Limited by Guarantee in 2021. It was formally registered by the Charity Commission on 18 May 2021 and registered by Companies House on 23 April 2021. The transfer of deeds was effective from 31 August 2021.

The Union represents its members (London South Bank University's students) on relevant local, national and international issues by maintaining contact with student representatives. Such contact ensures that the Union can take into account students' requirements and cater effectively for their needs.

Student representatives are present on the University's policy/strategy making Boards/Committees and are also members of Course Boards within the University's faculties ("Schools").

In 2024/25 SBSU was administered by its Trustee Board of 4 Sabbatical Officers, and up to 4 Students and 4 External trustees, for the purposes of the Charities Acts. The four Sabbatical posts were President, Vice Presidents of Education, Activities and Employability and Welfare and Equalities. The Sabbatical posts were remunerated as authorised by the Education Act and an individual's term of office cannot exceed two years duration; an Officer can be re-elected for a maximum of two terms in the same or different positions.

As charity Trustees, all Trustees receive a comprehensive training programme into their legal and administrative responsibilities at the start of their term of office, with ongoing guidance as and when required for issues arising during their term. Trustee knowledge and skills are evaluated at regular intervals and training is designed around the specific needs of individuals and the Board as a whole. Through the Union's membership of the National Union of Students, Trustees have access to expert advice and guidance, conferences, and training.

The Trustees meet throughout the year to receive reports from individual Officers and Union employees to review the Union's performance and administration. Recommendations for Union policy are made to the Trustee Board to consider and approve policy. Key information is provided to Trustees which includes accounts, the strategic plan, and an organisational diagram.

The President and Union Council Chair are required to sit on the University's Board of Governors.

Union Council membership comprised of the Sabbatical Officers together with Volunteer Student Representative Officers and the Student Governors (which included the Union's Sabbatical President)

Student Representatives commenced their terms of office subject to completion of an appropriate course of training.

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

In 2024/25, following a full review of the Union's representation and governance structures, the student membership and University Board of Governors approved a new representation structure aimed to be more accessible and relevant to the needs of the current student body. This was formalised by both bodies approving a new set of Articles of Association in October 2024 and January 2025 respectively, which was then ratified by Trustees on 28 January 2025, with changes taking effect from 1 July 2025. The changes are:

- Union Trustee Board to comprise of:
 - o 3 x External Trustees - Recruited (One to act as Chair)
 - o SU President - Elected (Vice Chair)
 - o Up to 4 Student Trustees - Recruited
- Removal of three full-time Sabbatical Officer posts (Vice Presidents of Education, Activities and Employability and Welfare and Equalities)
- Implementation of part-time (paid) Lead Representatives for each School
- Removal of Union Council

SBSU also employs a number of non-student full and part-time staff for the sake of continuity in the management of its many activities. Such staff are accountable to the Chief Executive for the performance of their duties. The overview of the staff structure is:

Chief Executive

- Deputy Chief Executive
- Student Voice & Outreach Manager
- Representation Team
- Partnership Team
- Advice Manager
- Advice Team
- Head of People & Organisational Performance
 - People & Office Team
- Head of Commercial Operations
 - Communications Team
- Student Activities Team
- Finance Manager
- Finance Team

Key management remuneration

The remuneration of key management personnel is set by the Board, with the policy objective of ensuring that they are provided with appropriate incentives to encourage enhanced performance and are, in a fair and responsible manner, rewarded for their individual contributions to the Union's success. The appropriateness and relevance of their remuneration is reviewed annually by a remuneration committee which is a sub-committee of the Trustee Board, and will include job market analysis and reference to comparisons with other unions to ensure that the Union remains sensitive to the broader issues of pay and employment conditions elsewhere.

We aim to recruit, subject to experience, at the lower to medium point within a band, providing scope to be rewarded for excellence. Delivery of the Union's charitable vision and purpose is primarily dependent on our key management personnel and staff costs are the largest single element of our charitable expenditure.

Relationship with the University

SBSU is established in the University's Memorandum and Articles of Association in that there shall be a Students' Union. The Union receives a Subvention/Block Grant from the University, and in-kind support related to utilities, some security staff and the majority of the costs associated with cleaning and premises maintenance. The non-monetary support is intrinsic to the relationship between the University and SBSU. As recommended by the Charities SORP an estimated value to SBSU for this free serviced accommodation has been included in the accounts at an estimated value (based on prior year space charge calculations). Although SBSU undertakes some income generating activities, it is dependent on the University's financial support.

The trustees consider it reasonable to anticipate that this or equivalent support from the University will continue for the foreseeable future, as the Education Act 1994 imposes a duty on the University to ensure the financial viability of its student representative body in one form or another. The trustees therefore consider the Union to be financially viable for the foreseeable future.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trustee board are responsible for the Union's risk management. The senior management team have delegated authority for identifying and reporting on the risks facing the organisation to the Trustees as they arise in relation to items of business at the Board. In addition, the senior management team provide information on risk to enable Trustees to undertake an annual review. The Trustee Board examines the Union's major strategic, business and operational risks on an annual basis. The Trustees confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reporting which allows them to take the necessary steps to mitigate any risks.

The principal risks and uncertainties currently facing the Union are considered to be:

. Declining participation in the Union's democratic processes has resulted over recent years in a lack of diversity and cross-school representation within the Union's major decision making bodies. To counter this, Trustees commissioned a full review of these processes in 2023/24 and a new model of delivery has been developed which will roll out in the academic year 2025/26, to ensure delivery is sustainable for the future.

. A reduction in funding from the University due to LSBU's financial challenges. Despite this however, the Union have a strong relationship with the University's executive and Governors and have had ongoing conversations throughout the year concerning funding and are fully included into the University's finance planning process enabling us to negotiate and plan for increases or decreases in our funding allocation.

. Reputational damage in the unlikely event of a high-profile activity by a trustee or student representative. Induction for Trustees and representatives includes full information of the responsibilities within the role and we work closely with all of them to ensure they are fully aware of Union activity. Regular updates with trustees ensure that trustees have the opportunity to work through the organisation to meet any objective they may have.

Overall, we work very closely with the University, students and Trustees to ensure that we have knowledge of their activity. We use our plans and strategies to manage risk including the Union's reserves strategy, strategic plans, maintaining effective internal controls, risk registers, incident-reporting and monitoring systems and insurance cover wherever appropriate.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of South Bank Students' Union Ltd 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. Under that law, the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).

Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they 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 Charities 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.

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025**

AUDITORS

The auditors, Knox Cropper 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 17.2.26 and signed on the board's behalf by:



J Braithwaite - Trustee

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of South Bank Students' Union Ltd

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of South Bank Students' Union Ltd (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 July 2025 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 July 2025 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.

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.

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of South Bank Students' Union Ltd

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.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- The Charity is required to comply with charity law and, based on our knowledge of its activities, we identified that the legal requirement to accurately account for any restricted funds was of key significance.
- We gained an understanding of how the charity complied with its legal and regulatory framework, including the requirement to properly account for any restricted funds, through discussions with management and a review of the documented policies, procedures and controls.
- The audit team, which is experienced in the audit of charities, considered the charity's susceptibility to material misstatement and how fraud may occur. Our considerations included the risk of management override.
- Our approach was to check that all restricted income was properly identified and separately accounted for and to ensure that only valid and appropriate expenditure was charged to restricted funds. This included reviewing journal adjustments and unusual transactions.

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

A further description of our responsibilities 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.



Stephen Anderson FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Knox Cropper LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
153 -155 London Road
Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire
HP3 9SQ

Date:23 February 2026

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	1,355,616	-	1,355,616	1,341,078
Charitable activities	5				
Student Activities		-	3,375	3,375	5,907
Other trading activities	3	66,151	-	66,151	84,873
Investment income	4	10,233	-	10,233	9,492
Other income		2,471	-	2,471	-
Total		<u>1,434,471</u>	<u>3,375</u>	<u>1,437,846</u>	<u>1,441,350</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	6	25,050	-	25,050	35,588
Charitable activities	7				
Student Activities		338,947	3,702	342,649	425,575
Advice & Representation		579,936	-	579,936	571,785
Communications & Marketing		391,988	-	391,988	311,252
Total		<u>1,335,921</u>	<u>3,702</u>	<u>1,339,623</u>	<u>1,344,200</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		98,550	(327)	98,223	97,150
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit schemes		-	-	-	264,116
Net movement in funds		98,550	(327)	98,223	361,266
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		(815,482)	1,051	(814,431)	(1,175,697)
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>(716,932)</u>	<u>724</u>	<u>(716,208)</u>	<u>(814,431)</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

**Balance Sheet
31 July 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	13	55,672	-	55,672	69,154
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	14	3,785	-	3,785	1,500
Debtors	15	11,934	-	11,934	19,921
Cash at bank and in hand		669,273	724	669,997	562,343
		684,992	724	685,716	583,764
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	16	(84,324)	-	(84,324)	(48,928)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		600,668	724	601,392	534,836
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		656,340	724	657,064	603,990
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES	17	(1,373,272)	-	(1,373,272)	(1,418,421)
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		(716,932)	724	(716,208)	(814,431)
FUNDS	18				
Unrestricted funds				(716,932)	(815,482)
Restricted funds				724	1,051
TOTAL FUNDS				(716,208)	(814,431)

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 17.2.26 and were signed on its behalf by:


J Braithwaite - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

**Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025**

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>97,421</u>	<u>9,633</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>97,421</u>	<u>9,633</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(1,693)
Interest received		<u>10,233</u>	<u>9,492</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities		<u>10,233</u>	<u>7,799</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>107,654</u>	<u>17,432</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>562,343</u>	<u>544,911</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>669,997</u>	<u>562,343</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

**Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025**

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	98,223	97,150
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	13,483	14,504
Interest received	(10,233)	(9,492)
Defined benefit scheme adjustments	(45,150)	(66,213)
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	(2,285)	1,278
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	7,987	(9,454)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	35,396	(18,140)
Net cash provided by operations	<u>97,421</u>	<u>9,633</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.8.24	Cash flow	At 31.7.25
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>562,343</u>	<u>107,654</u>	<u>669,997</u>
	<u>562,343</u>	<u>107,654</u>	<u>669,997</u>
Total	<u>562,343</u>	<u>107,654</u>	<u>669,997</u>

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.

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.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

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	- Straight line over 15 years
Plant and machinery	- 25% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost
Computer equipment	- 25% - 50% on cost

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

London South Bank University Students' Union administers and accounts for a number of charitable funds, as follows: -

- (i) Unrestricted Funds representing unspent income which may be used for any activity/purpose at the Trustees' own discretion;
- (ii) Restricted funds raised and administered by London South Bank University Students' Union for specific purposes as determined by students, such as Club and Societies Accounts, as well as revenue received for purposes specified by the donor and also (if not material enough to require a separate column in the SoFA) any small capital grants received from the College.
- (iii) Custodian Funds entrusted to London South Bank University Students' Union for safekeeping, but not under its management control, e.g., annual RAG. Such custodian activities are disclosed in the Annual Report, but as the funds are not managed by London South Bank University Students' Union they cannot be included in the accounts.
- (iv) Designated Funds relating to amounts set aside from existing reserves to cover restructuring costs, including depreciation associated with refurbishment work.
- (v) Transfers from Unrestricted Funds to Designated Funds represent planned costs associated with restructuring which have been financed from the Union's reserves. These include capital refurbishment costs.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

Retirement benefits to employees of the Union are provided through two pension schemes, one defined benefit (SUSS), the other defined contribution (NUSPS).

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits****SUSS**

The Union participates in the Students' Union Superannuation Scheme (SUSS), a defined benefit scheme which is externally funded and contracted out of the State Second Pension. The fund is valued at least every three years by a professionally qualified independent actuary with the rates of contribution payable being determined by the trustees on the advice of the actuary.

The most recent valuation of the Scheme was carried out as at 30 June 2022 and showed that the market value of the Scheme's assets was £106,697,000 with these assets representing 44% of the value of benefits that had accrued to members after allowing for expected future increases in earnings. The deficit on an ongoing funding basis amounted to £136,645,000.

The 2022 valuation recommended a monthly contribution requirement by each participating Union intended to clear the ongoing funding deficit ending in 2037, increasing by 5% each year.

The scheme operates as a pooled arrangement, with contributions paid at a centrally agreed rate. As a consequence, no share of the underlying assets and liabilities can be directly attributed to the Union.

Under FRS 102, where a scheme participates in a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme that is in deficit and the employer has entered into an agreement to fund the deficit the entity shall recognise a liability for the contributions payable that arise from the agreement. As the agreement runs until 2037, a discount rate of 5% has been applied in determining the net present value of the contributions made in the period.

NUSPS

Since 1 October 2011, all participating employees have been in a new defined contribution pension scheme, National Union of Students Pension Scheme (NUSPS). Contributions are at the rate of 6% for the employer and 3% for the employee pensions costs are charged in the period in which the salaries to which they relate are payable.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Donations	1,129,997	1,115,459
Donated services and facilities	<u>225,619</u>	<u>225,619</u>
	<u>1,355,616</u>	<u>1,341,078</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fundraising events	13,483	6,115
Merchandising	36,308	44,682
Marketing	<u>16,360</u>	<u>34,076</u>
	<u>66,151</u>	<u>84,873</u>

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025**

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025 £	2024 £
Deposit account interest	<u>10,233</u>	<u>9,492</u>

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2025 £	2024 £
Clubs and Societies income	<u>3,375</u>	<u>5,907</u>
Activity Student Activities		

6. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	2025 £	2024 £
Merchandise	<u>25,050</u>	<u>35,588</u>

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 8) £	Totals £
Student Activities	73,309	269,340	342,649
Advice & Representation	86,140	493,796	579,936
Communications & Marketing	<u>257,315</u>	<u>134,673</u>	<u>391,988</u>
	<u>416,764</u>	<u>897,809</u>	<u>1,314,573</u>

8. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management £	Finance £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Student Activities	211,616	21,756	35,968	269,340
Advice & Representation	387,968	39,885	65,943	493,796
Communications & Marketing	<u>105,811</u>	<u>10,878</u>	<u>17,984</u>	<u>134,673</u>
	<u>705,395</u>	<u>72,519</u>	<u>119,895</u>	<u>897,809</u>

Activity	Basis of allocation
Management	Based on usage
Finance	Based on usage
Governance costs	Based on usage

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Auditors' remuneration	9,369	9,617
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>13,482</u>	<u>14,504</u>

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

The following transactions took place with sabbatical officers in the year ended the 31st July, 2025.

Sabbatical Post	Salary	Employers Pension	Employers NIC	Total
C Adams	£24,442	-	£2,428	£26,870
R Alam	£26,780	-	£2,716	£29,496
A Tanim	£24,867	-	£2,491	£27,358
S Islam	£24,867	-	£2,491	£27,358
Total	£100,956	-	£10,126	£111,082

Trustees' expenses

Trustees expenses paid during the year were £135 (2024: £1,179).

11. STAFF COSTS

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	756,518	769,109
Social security costs	73,586	67,454
Other pension costs	12,531	10,383
	<u>842,635</u>	<u>846,946</u>

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

	2025 <u>28</u>	2024 <u>32</u>
Average employees		

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

	2025	2024
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

Included within staff costs above is the remuneration of the Senior Management Team which amounted to £151,337 for the year ended 31 July 2025.

12. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	1,341,078	-	1,341,078
Charitable activities			
Student Activities	-	5,907	5,907
Other trading activities	84,873	-	84,873
Investment income	<u>9,492</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,492</u>
Total	<u>1,435,443</u>	<u>5,907</u>	<u>1,441,350</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	35,588	-	35,588

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025**

12. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
Charitable activities			
Student Activities	420,503	5,072	425,575
Advice & Representation	571,785	-	571,785
Communications & Marketing	311,252	-	311,252
Total	<u>1,339,128</u>	<u>5,072</u>	<u>1,344,200</u>
NET INCOME	96,315	835	97,150
Other recognised gains/(losses)			
Actuarial gains on defined benefit schemes	264,116	-	264,116
Net movement in funds	360,431	835	361,266
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	(1,175,913)	216	(1,175,697)
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>(815,482)</u>	<u>1,051</u>	<u>(814,431)</u>

13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Improvements to property £	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1 August 2024 and 31 July 2025	<u>124,294</u>	<u>1,723</u>	<u>22,896</u>	<u>36,082</u>	<u>184,995</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 August 2024	64,729	1,723	17,351	32,038	115,841
Charge for year	<u>6,512</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,629</u>	<u>2,341</u>	<u>13,482</u>
At 31 July 2025	<u>71,241</u>	<u>1,723</u>	<u>21,980</u>	<u>34,379</u>	<u>129,323</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 July 2025	<u>53,053</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>916</u>	<u>1,703</u>	<u>55,672</u>
At 31 July 2024	<u>59,565</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,545</u>	<u>4,044</u>	<u>69,154</u>

14. STOCKS

	2025 £	2024 £
Stocks	<u>3,785</u>	<u>1,500</u>

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025**

15. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	5,408	13,897
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>6,526</u>	<u>6,024</u>
	<u>11,934</u>	<u>19,921</u>

16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	10,087	583
Social security and other taxes	20,359	16,071
VAT	15,635	1,772
Other creditors	7,442	4,790
Accruals and deferred income	<u>30,801</u>	<u>25,712</u>
	<u>84,324</u>	<u>48,928</u>

17. PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Provisions	<u>1,373,272</u>	<u>1,418,421</u>

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.8.24	Net movement	Transfers	At
	£	in funds	between	31.7.25
		£	funds	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	533,785	182,954	(136,070)	580,669
Facilities and refurbishment fund	69,154	(13,483)	-	55,671
Strategy fund	-	-	20,000	20,000
Pension deficit	<u>(1,418,421)</u>	<u>(70,921)</u>	<u>116,070</u>	<u>(1,373,272)</u>
	(815,482)	98,550	-	(716,932)
Restricted funds				
Clubs and Societies	1,051	(327)	-	724
	<u>(814,431)</u>	<u>98,223</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(716,208)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>(814,431)</u>	<u>98,223</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(716,208)</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	1,434,471	(1,251,517)	182,954
Facilities and refurbishment fund	-	(13,483)	(13,483)
Pension deficit	-	(70,921)	(70,921)
	1,434,471	(1,335,921)	98,550
Restricted funds			
Clubs and Societies	3,375	(3,702)	(327)
	<u>1,437,846</u>	<u>(1,339,623)</u>	<u>98,223</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,437,846</u>	<u>(1,339,623)</u>	<u>98,223</u>

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025**

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.8.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.7.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	490,871	154,553	(111,639)	533,785
Facilities and refurbishment fund	81,966	(14,504)	1,692	69,154
Pension deficit	<u>(1,748,750)</u>	<u>220,382</u>	<u>109,947</u>	<u>(1,418,421)</u>
	(1,175,913)	360,431	-	(815,482)
Restricted funds				
Clubs and Societies	216	835	-	1,051
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>(1,175,697)</u>	<u>361,266</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(814,431)</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	1,435,443	(1,280,890)	-	154,553
Facilities and refurbishment fund	-	(14,504)	-	(14,504)
Pension deficit	<u>-</u>	<u>(43,734)</u>	<u>264,116</u>	<u>220,382</u>
	1,435,443	(1,339,128)	264,116	360,431
Restricted funds				
Clubs and Societies	5,907	(5,072)	-	835
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,441,350</u>	<u>(1,344,200)</u>	<u>264,116</u>	<u>361,266</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.8.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.7.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	490,871	337,507	(247,709)	580,669
Facilities and refurbishment fund	81,966	(27,987)	1,692	55,671
Strategy fund	-	-	20,000	20,000
Pension deficit	<u>(1,748,750)</u>	<u>149,461</u>	<u>226,017</u>	<u>(1,373,272)</u>
	(1,175,913)	458,981	-	(716,932)
Restricted funds				
Clubs and Societies	216	508	-	724
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>(1,175,697)</u>	<u>459,489</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(716,208)</u>

SOUTH BANK STUDENTS' UNION LTD

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	2,869,914	(2,532,407)	-	337,507
Facilities and refurbishment fund	-	(27,987)	-	(27,987)
Pension deficit	-	(114,655)	264,116	149,461
	2,869,914	(2,675,049)	264,116	458,981
Restricted funds				
Clubs and Societies	9,282	(8,774)	-	508
TOTAL FUNDS	2,879,196	(2,683,823)	264,116	459,489

19. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The London South Bank University provides the Union with an annual grant as shown in the Statement of Financial Activities. The London South Bank University provides the Union with accommodation and a range of support services for which no actual charge is made, however the value of this support has been recognised in the accounts as a benefit in kind.

20. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

Defined benefit scheme - SUSS

The Union participates in the Students' Union Superannuation Scheme, which is a defined benefit scheme whose membership consists of employees of students' unions and related bodies throughout the country. Benefits in respect of service up to 30 September 2003 are accrued on a "final salary" basis, with benefits in respect of service from 1 October 2003 accruing on a Career Average Revalued Earnings (CARE) basis. With effect from 30 September 2011 the Scheme closed to future accrual.

The most recent valuation of the Scheme was carried out as at 30 June 2022 and showed that the market value of the Scheme's assets was £106,700,000 with these assets representing 44% of the value of benefits that had accrued to members after allowing for expected future increases in earnings. The deficit on an ongoing funding basis amounted to £136,600,000.

The assumptions which have the most significant effect upon the results of the valuation are those relating to the rate of return on investments and the rates of increase in salaries and pensions.

The following assumptions applied at 30 June 2022:-

- **Discount rate:** Bank of England gilt curve + 1.5% pa, linearly changing over a term of 13 years to gilts curve + 0.25% pa.
- **Pension increases:** A model of each increase, allowing for insurers' relative pricing of different caps and collars.

The 2022 Valuation recommended a monthly contribution requirement by each Participating Employer expressed in monetary terms intended to clear the ongoing funding deficit by 1 May 2037 and will increase by at least 5% each year.

These contributions also include an allowance for cost of the ongoing administrative and operational expenses of running the Scheme of £5,038 pa. Surpluses or deficits which arise at future valuations will also impact on the Union's future contribution commitment. In addition to the above contributions, the Union also pays its share of the Scheme's levy to the Pension Protection Fund.

The liability provided for in respect of the SUSS pension deficit increased to £1,373,272 (2024: £1,418,421) at 31 July 2025 (see note 17).

20. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued

Defined Contribution Pension Scheme

Since 1 October 2011, all participating employees have been in a new defined contribution pension scheme, the National Union of Students Pension Scheme (NUSPS). Contributions are at variable rates up to 6% for the employer and a minimum of 3% for the employee. The Union's cost of contribution for the year amounted to £12,531 (2024: £10,383).



**Southbank Students'
Union Limited**

Audit Findings Report

**Year Ended
31st July 2025**

Southbank Students' Union Limited
Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

The Board of Trustees

Southbank Students' Union Limited

3rd February 2026

Dear Trustees

Audit findings for the year ended 31st July 2025

This Audit Findings Report highlights the significant findings arising from the audit and sets out the key matters which we are required to formally report to those charged with governance in accordance with International Standard on Auditing (UK) 260.

As you will appreciate, our audit procedures are designed primarily to enable us to form an opinion on the accounts as a whole. Our procedures include such tests of the accounting records and internal control systems as are, in our opinion, necessary for audit purposes. Consequently, whilst our procedures may identify certain weaknesses which may exist, the audit procedures in themselves should not be relied upon to reveal all the weaknesses which may exist in the system.

This report has been prepared for your sole use and we assume no responsibility to any other party in respect of its contents. The report should not be disclosed to any third party without our prior written consent.

This report is not exhaustive and deals with only the more significant matters which came to our attention during the audit. Other matters of lesser significance have been discussed with the relevant staff during the course of our audit work.

In conclusion we would like to take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation to all your staff, particularly Amy and Eunice, for their assistance and co-operation during the course of our audit. If you have any queries on any of the points in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours Sincerely

Knox Cropper LLP

Southbank Students' Union Limited
Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

Contents

Audit Overview	Pages 3-4
Materiality and Audit Adjustments	Pages 5-6
Key Audit Risks and Conclusions	Pages 7-8
Internal Control Observations and Recommendations	Pages 9-10
Emerging Issues	Pages 11-15
Letter of Representation	Pages 16-18
Commentary on the Financial Statements	Pages 19-20

Southbank Students' Union Limited

Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

Audit Overview

General

The purpose of our audit is to gather sufficient evidence to allow us to conclude that the transactions and balances disclosed in the accounts are unlikely to be materially misstated, to establish that disclosures reflected in the accounts comply with the requirements of legislation and relevant accounting standards, to assess whether the accounting policies adopted are appropriate and consistently applied and to assess whether judgements exercised and estimates made in the preparation of the accounts are fair and reasonable.

Audit Report

We confirm that we have completed the audit to our satisfaction and intend to issue an unqualified audit opinion on the Financial Statements. This means that we have no material reservations over the figures or information disclosed in the financial statements.

The wording of our audit report is in accordance with the standard text for unqualified audit reports prescribed by the Financial Reporting Council. Our report also includes a section which is specific to this audit setting out our response to the risk of material misstatement in respect of irregularities arising from non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud.

Estimates and Judgments

The estimates and judgments made by management affecting the financial statements are in respect of the SUSS pension deficit provision, depreciation, accruals and prepayments.

We have concluded that management have exercised judgments and calculated estimates in a fair and reasonable way.

Accounting Policies and Disclosures

The accounting policies which have been adopted in the financial statements are in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice and are, in all material respects, appropriate to the organisation's operations and in compliance with FRS 102 and the Charity SORP 2019.

Adequate consideration was given to the potential impact of changes in legislation and accounting standards which arose during the year. No significant changes arose during the current year which affected the financial statements and therefore the form and content of the accounts are consistent with the preceding year.

Professional Ethics and Independence

We confirm our compliance with the Ethical Standard issued by the Financial Reporting Council.

We confirm that we have not carried out any non-audit work which could impair our independence and there are no other matters in relation to our audit engagement which we consider should be brought to your attention.

Other Audit Matters

In accordance with UK auditing standards, we confirm the following matters in relation to our audit of the financial statements:

- a) We have not identified or been made aware of any incidents of fraud or suspected fraud. We would emphasise that our work as auditor is not intended to identify any instances of fraud of a non-material nature and should not be relied upon for this purpose.
- b) We have not identified or been made aware of any incidents of non-compliance with laws and regulations which could have a material impact on the financial statements.
- c) We have not identified or been made aware of any related party transactions other than matters which have been disclosed in the financial statements.
- d) We have received all requested third-party confirmations which represent an essential element of our audit evidence.
- e) Apart from the matters set out in this report, there were no significant matters discussed with management during the audit which we are required to bring to your attention. There were no significant disagreements with management or any limitations placed on the scope of our work. No significant difficulties were encountered during the audit.

Southbank Students' Union Limited

Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

Materiality and Audit Adjustments

Materiality

Materiality is used both to plan the nature and extent of audit testing and to evaluate the effect of misstatement. In accordance with ISA (UK) 260 'Communication with those charged with governance', we are obliged to include details in this report of all unadjusted errors which are below materiality unless they are clearly trivial. Whilst our audit procedures are designed to identify misstatements which are material to our audit opinion, we also report to those charged with governance and management any uncorrected misstatements of lower value errors to the extent that our audit identifies these.

Omissions or misstatements are regarded as material if they would reasonably influence the users of the financial statements. The assessment of what is material is a matter of professional judgement.

Our assessment of materiality the year ended 31st July 2025 was calculated as follows:

	£	Explanation
Overall Materiality for the Financial Statements	21,568	Accounts materially misstated where total errors exceed this value
Performance Materiality	16,176	Work performed to capture individual errors at this level.
Triviality Level	1,078	Unadjusted errors above this level are reported.

Southbank Students' Union Limited

Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

Audit Adjustments

There were no material adjustments made to the financial statements arising from our audit work.

We confirm that no misstatements were detected during the audit which remain uncorrected in the financial statements other than matters which are both individually and cumulatively clearly trivial.

Reconciliation to Management Accounts

Below is a summary of the adjustments that management have made to the reported profit in the management accounts.

Description	£
Surplus per first draft of the accounts to 31 July 2025	53,401
SUSS pension deficit liability payments incorrectly posted to I&E	117,866
Unwinding of the discount on the SUSS pension deficit liability	(70,921)
Pension protection levy payment	(1,796)
Sports and societies income and expenditure movement in the year posted to reserves	(327)
Surplus per the final accounts	98,223

Southbank Students' Union Limited
Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

Key Audit Risks and Conclusions

The following schedule sets out the key risks which we identified as part of our audit planning. It sets out our approach to ensuring that these risks did not give rise to any material misstatement in the financial statements and our audit findings.

Risk		Audit Approach	Audit Findings
1	Completeness of income Completeness of income is always considered high risk and audit procedures need to be devised to address this risk.	We carried out testing on the various income streams and the controls around them. We also performed analytical procedures for testing income trends.	We are satisfied following the review of income documentation and analytical procedures that income is not materially mis-stated within the accounts.
2	Classification of income Income received by the Charity could be subject to restrictions and therefore income may need to be treated as restricted income.	We reviewed the underlying supporting documentation for income to ascertain whether restrictions applied and we reviewed expenditure from these funds to ascertain whether the imposed restrictions were being adhered to.	This was tested as part of our income and expenditure testing. Classification of income appears to be fairly stated in the accounts.
3	Payroll costs Payroll expenditure is a substantial part of total expenditure therefore this is an area, which although not a high risk area, will be thoroughly reviewed due to its materiality.	We performed a proof in total on the payroll costs by agreeing the payroll reports to the accounts. We also performed substantive testing on a sample of employees, including checking contracts of employment.	There were no issues noted during our audit testing. Payroll expenditure appears to be fairly stated in the accounts.

Southbank Students' Union Limited
Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

4 SUSS Pension deficit provision

The assumptions and calculations used may be inappropriate and may cause a material misstatement.

We checked the calculations and assumptions used for the pension deficit provision.

The assumptions used for the SUSS pension deficit calculation are appropriate and the calculation performed has been agreed. The SUSS pension deficit liability appears to be fairly stated in the accounts.

5 Management Override of Controls

This represents a key risk for all organisations and we are required to specifically check to ensure that there is no evidence of management override during the year.

We checked that controls were applied consistently throughout the year and reviewed a sample of journal adjustments to ensure they are valid.

We did not find any instances where management had overridden controls. However, we have included a point in the internal control observations and recommendations section below.

6 Related party transactions

Identification of all related party transactions conducted throughout the year.

We reviewed and assessed the controls in place to identify and disclose related party transactions and looked out for related party transactions during our review of the accounting records.

This was tested as part of our income and expenditure testing. We requested that related party declaration forms were completed by all trustees and senior management. No issues noted were noted.

7 VAT

There is a risk that VAT has been incorrectly accounted for.

During our income and expenditure testing we performed substantive tests, which included checking the accuracy and the treatment of the VAT recorded.

We are satisfied that VAT is not materially mis-stated within the accounts.

Southbank Students' Union Limited
Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

Internal Control Observations and Recommendations

We are required to report to you, in writing, significant deficiencies in the internal controls and the internal control environment that we have identified during the course of our audit. These matters are limited to those which we have concluded are of sufficient importance to be reported to you. Our audit cannot necessarily be expected to disclose all deficiencies in the system and, as a result, the matters reported may not be the only ones which exist.

We have categorised the internal control deficiencies using a colour-scale rating system. The key to which is as follows:

Control weakness is not significant but we recommend that it be addressed to comply with good practice	
Control weakness is serious and needs to be addressed	
Control weakness is of critical importance and needs to be addressed as a priority	

Matters Brought Forward from the Previous Year

Risk Rating	Observation	Recommendation	Management Response
	There were no outstanding points brought forward from previous years.		

Southbank Students' Union Limited
Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

Matters Arising in the Current Year

Risk Rating	Observation	Recommendation	Management Response
 1	Controls over bank payments We noted that there was no dual authorisation in place for bank payments. The CEO, Finance Manager and Finance Officer all have access to the bank and have the ability to make bank payments without secondary approval. We can confirm that we did not find any issues or unauthorised bank payments during our audit work.	We recommend that the controls of the bank account are amended to prevent one person being able to upload and make a payment without secondary approval.	

Emerging Issues

Charity Legislation

Charities Act 2022

- The provisions of the Charities Act 2022 have now been fully implemented.
- The Act does not impose any additional obligations on charity trustees. Instead, it simplifies the administrative steps which trustees are required to take when making certain decisions.
- The main provisions which were implemented in October 2022 were:
 - The power to pay trustees for the supply of goods to the charity
 - A simplified process for dealing with situations where an appeal fails to raise sufficient funds or raises too much
 - The power to make certain ex-gratia payments without charity commission approval
- The main provisions which were implemented during 2023 were:
 - The power to spend small permanent endowments and borrow up to 25% from any permanent endowment
 - A relaxation of the requirements when charities are selling land, including a widening of the list of experts who can advise, and discretions on how to advertise.
- The main provision implemented in March 2024 was:
 - The power to make amendments to the charity's governing document without Charity Commission approval, except for 'regulated alterations' (such as a change to the objects) which will continue to require approval.

Company Law legislation: Companies House Reform

Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act

- The provisions of the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 are in the process of being implemented, enhancing Companies House's role in ensuring the accuracy of the register.
- Under the provisions, Companies House has greater powers to query, challenge and remove information on the register which appears to be inaccurate or inconsistent.
- With effect from Autumn 2025, identification checks will be carried out on all existing directors, persons with significant control and officials with responsibility for filing with Companies House, such as a company secretaries. This will affect all charitable companies, trading subsidiaries, and corporate trustee companies.

Southbank Students' Union Limited

Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

- The provisions relating to the requirement to file all accounts using approved software is not expected to be implemented until late in 2026.

Employment and Payroll Legislation

- The salary costs of charities will have increased from April 2025 due to the increased rate and lower threshold for employers' national insurance and increases to the national minimum wage.
- A number of changes to employee rights have also already been implemented including the right to request flexible working hours, redundancy protection for employees on maternity leave and statutory right to a week's unpaid carers leave.
- **The Employment Rights Bill** contains provisions to provide employees with rights and protection from their first day of employment, including parental leave, sick pay and protection from unfair dismissal. Sick pay will also be reformed with no lower earnings limit or waiting period. Significant changes to zero hours contracts are also proposed.
- From 6 April 2027, all benefits will be required to be processed through the payroll instead of through P11Ds, with the exception of beneficial loans and living accommodation. This will require up to date and accurate information being available in real time.

Accounting and Reporting

Changes to Charity Financial Reporting

- **Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102** has been updated and is effective for accounting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2026. All charity Financial Statements are required to comply with FRS 102. The two principal changes in the updated standard are:
 - The requirement to account for most operating leases, including property leases, on the balance sheet. As a result, for those charities that lease assets, there will be an increase in assets and liabilities on the balance sheet.
 - The requirement to implement a five-step revenue recognition model for income derived from exchange contracts (trading/business income). Charities will need to carefully assess their revenue recognition accounting policies to ensure they are compliant with the new requirements.
- **The Charity Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)** is in the process of being updated and a consultation draft was issued in March 2025 (available at [charity-sorp.org](https://www.charity-sorp.org)). Its effective implementation date will also be for accounting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2026. The draft revised SORP:
 - Incorporates the changes to FRS 102, referred to above.

Southbank Students' Union Limited

Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

- Categorises charities into 3 tiers, based on their income, which determines the amount of disclosure required. For example, in future, only charities with income exceeding £15m will be required to produce a cash flow statement.
- Substantially revises the reporting requirements of the Trustees Report with a greater focus on impact reporting and areas considered to be of key concern to stakeholders including sustainability reporting, going concern reporting, reserve reporting and additional details about volunteers.

Consultation on Charity Financial Thresholds

- In April 2025, the Department of Culture Media and Sport commenced a consultation into raising a number of financial thresholds to reflect inflation since the thresholds were first set. These thresholds include the financial thresholds above which charities must:
 - Register with the Charity Commission
 - Submit an annual return
 - Prepare accounts on the accruals basis
 - Have an independent examination of their financial statements
 - Have an audit of their financial statements
- The government response to the consultation is planned for September 2025.

The Charities (Annual Return) Regulations 2024

- These regulations came into force on 1 January 2025, outlining the information required for annual returns for financial years ending on or after this date. New questions include details on high-value donations and whether charity property is held by a holding trustee.

Recent Charity Commission Guidance

Updated Guidance on Charities and Investment (CC14)

- This revised guidance was drafted in August 2023 following the **Butler-Sloss** case.
- The guidance makes it clear that trustees have discretion to take other factors into account, apart from maximising financial return, when setting the investment policy. Such factors may include:
 - Avoiding investments which conflict with the charity's objects
 - Avoiding investments which might cause reputational damage
- However, trustees' personal opinions or preferences should not be taken into account.

Southbank Students' Union Limited

Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

Updated Guidance on Decision Making for Charity Trustees (CC27)

- This updated guidance, which was issued in September 2024, states that the trustee decision making process should follow 7 key principles.
- Trustees should clearly record their decisions and take responsibility for them, 'jointly' and 'collectively', even where delegated.

Updated Guidance on Trustee Meetings (CC48)

- Trustees should review their Governing Document to consider whether it needs to be updated in relation to Trustee Meetings, including procedures for on-line meetings and decision making by telephone and e-mail.
- Changes such as these to the Governing Document no longer need approval from the charity commission.

Guidance on Internal Controls (CC8)

- The restructured guidance, which was issued in April 2023, is now more concise and it covers issues that were not in existence or widely relevant to the sector when first drafted. New sections cover the use of mobile payments systems, such as Google Pay and Apple Pay, and the receipt of donations in the form of cryptoassets, such as cryptocurrency and NFTs.
- Existing advice on more traditional risks, including the risks relating to fundraising and public collections, making payments to related parties, and operating internationally has been updated. There is also a new section on accepting hospitality.

Guidance on Social Media Use

- This guidance, which was issued in September 2023, recognises the increasing importance of the use of social media to engage with beneficiaries and the wider public. However, it also highlights the risks and the need for mitigation.
- The guidance states that where social media is used by the charity, there should be a policy in place (appropriate for the size of the charity) to mitigate the risk of reputational damage and to assist the charity to promote its charitable purposes.

Guidance on Accepting or Refusing Donations

- Although there is an expectation that Charities will accept most donations, there may be occasions when Trustees refuse a donation. A decision to refuse a donation may be for operational reasons (for example, the conditions attached are unacceptable) or for reputational reasons (the donor may not be acceptable).
- Trustees should base any decision on the best interests of the charity and should not take into account personal opinions.



Southbank Students' Union Limited

Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

Cyber Security

The Charity Commission has issued further updated guidance on the measures Charities should take to mitigate the threat from cybercrime and on how to report incidents of suspected and actual cybercrime.

Governance Codes

Revised Charity Governance Code

A new version of the Charity Governance Code is expected in 2025, offering updated best practice guidelines. This will help charities review their governance structures, ensuring they are transparent and accountable. Charities should review the updated code upon its release while continuing to utilise the existing code.

<https://www.charitygovernancecode.org/en/front-page>

Review of the Code of Fundraising Practice

The Code of Fundraising Practice is undergoing a comprehensive review, with a 'soft launch' scheduled for 2025. The revised Code aims to be more principles-based, shorter, and easier to use, with new rules on unstaffed collections and fundraising platforms. A six-month transition period will follow the launch.

<https://www.fundraisingregulator.org.uk/more-from-us/get-involved/code-review-2022-24>

Southbank Students' Union Limited

Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

Letter of Representation

International auditing standards require us to obtain, from the trustees, a number of specific representations and also confirmation of any other material representation given to us during the course of our audit which forms part of our audit evidence. The representations should be made on the basis of enquiries of management and staff with relevant knowledge and expertise.

The following is the full list of representations which we will require to be formally provided to us in a letter, signed on behalf of the trustees, prior to signing our audit report.

Confirmation of Responsibilities

1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities as trustees under the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act") for preparing financial statements, for the year ended 31st July 2025, which give a true and fair view in accordance with the financial reporting framework (FRS 102 and the Charity SORP).
2. We confirm that all accounting records have been made available to you for the purpose of your audit, in accordance with your terms of engagement, and that all the transactions undertaken by the charity have been properly reflected and recorded in the accounting records. All other records and related information, including minutes of all management and Trustees' meetings, have been made available to you. We have given you unrestricted access to persons within the charity in order to obtain audit evidence and have provided any additional information that you have requested for the purposes of your audit.
3. We acknowledge our legal responsibilities regarding disclosure of information to you as auditors and confirm that:
 - so far as each Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which you as auditors are unaware; and
 - each Trustee has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that you are aware of that information.

Estimates and Judgments

4. We confirm that the methods, significant assumptions and source data used by us in making accounting estimates, and their disclosure in the financial statements, are appropriate and in compliance with the recognition, measurement and disclosure requirements of FRS 102.
5. We confirm that all known actual or possible litigation and claims, the implication of which should be considered when preparing the financial statements, have been disclosed to you and have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with FRS102 and the Act.

Southbank Students' Union Limited

Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

Post Balance Sheet Events and Commitments

6. We confirm that there have been no events since the balance sheet date which necessitate revision of the figures in the financial statements, or inclusion of a note thereto, other than those matters which have already been disclosed or included in the financial statements.
7. We confirm that the charity has not contracted for any capital expenditure other than as disclosed in the financial statements.
8. We confirm that we have no plans or intentions that may materially alter the carrying value and, where relevant, the fair value measurements or classification of assets and liabilities reflected in the financial statements.

Related Parties

9. We confirm that we are aware of the definition of a related party as set out in FRS102 and the charity SORP.
10. We confirm that we have disclosed to you all related parties and related party transactions relevant to the charity and that we are not aware of further related party transactions other than those already disclosed in the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of FRS102 and the Act.
11. We confirm that the charity has not had, at any time during the year, an arrangement, transaction or agreement to provide credit facilities for trustees, nor to provide guarantees of any kind on behalf of the trustees, except as disclosed in the financial statements.

Laws, Regulations and Contractual Agreements

12. We confirm that we are not aware of any possible or actual instance of non-compliance with those laws and regulations which provide a legal framework within which the charity conducts its operations, non-compliance with which could affect the financial statements.
13. The charity has complied with all aspects of contractual and other agreements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance.

Internal Control and Fraud

14. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design and implementation of controls to prevent and detect fraud and we confirm that we have assessed the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud and that we have made this assessment available to you. We also confirm that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, there have been no significant deficiencies in internal control during the year.

Southbank Students' Union Limited

Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

15. We confirm that we have disclosed to you our knowledge of any actual or suspected instances of fraud involving management, employees with a significant role in internal control, and others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. We also confirm that we have disclosed to you our knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud, affecting the financial statements, which have been communicated by employees, former employees, regulators or others.

Going Concern

16. We confirm that, having considered financial projections which reflect the charity's expectations and intentions for a period of at least twelve months from the date on which the financial statements are expected to be approved, in our opinion, the charity's financial statements should be prepared on the going concern basis.

Uncorrected Misstatements

17. We confirm that, in our opinion, the effects of any uncorrected misstatements which have been set out in the Audit Findings Report, are immaterial, both individually and in aggregate, to the financial statements as a whole.

Southbank Students' Union Limited

Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

Commentary on the Financial Statements

The accounts have been drawn up on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (Charities SORP 2019 - FRS 102) and relevant legislation. The accounts consist of:

- The Report of the Trustees, which affords the trustees the opportunity to explain the Union's objectives for the year and its achievements and in particular how it has delivered public benefit. It also allows them to comment on financial performance for the year and financial position at the year end as well as making a range of disclosures required either by law or by accounting standards.
- An Auditors' report, which explains the scope of the audit, the nature of the auditors' responsibilities and expresses the audit opinion.
- A Statement of Financial Activities, which analyses incoming resources and resources expended by the Union arriving at a net result thereby providing a measure of financial performance.
- A Balance Sheet, which analyses the Union's assets and liabilities at the year end, thereby providing a measure of financial position at that date.
- A Cash Flow Statement and notes, which analyses the Union's movement in cash during the year.
- Notes to the accounts, which provide an indication of the accounting policies adopted and provide further analysis of the figures disclosed in the primary statements.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

Net movement in total funds for the year showed a surplus of £98k in comparison to a surplus of £361k last year.

Total Income decreased slightly from £1,441k to £1,438k. The decrease in income is the result of the following:

1. Donations and legacies income increased from £1,341k to £1,356k. The block grant from the University decreased from £1,010k to £960k. The space grant remained the same this year, £226k, which relates to the space used by the Union. Additional grants were received this year of £170k from the University.
2. Income from Student Activities decreased from £6k last year to £3k this year. This income represents funds raised by the various clubs and societies of the Union.
3. Income from other trading activities decreased to £66k from £85k. This includes Merchandise sales of £36k, Fundraising events income of £13k and Marketing income of £16k.
4. Investment income was £10k compared with £9k last year.
5. Other income was £2k compared to nil last year.

Southbank Students' Union Limited

Audit Findings Report for the year ended 31st July 2025

Expenditure for the year also decreased slightly from £1,344k to £1,340k. The main expenditure variances are explained below:

1. Student activities costs decreased from £426k to £343k.
2. Advice and representation expenditure increased from £572k to £580k.
3. Communications and marketing expenditure increased from £311k to £392k.
4. Included in the above expenditure headings are wages and salary costs of £843k, which has decreased from £847k.

There is no actuarial gain on the SUSS pension scheme this year because the discount rate of 5% is the same as last year and the increase in contributions also increased by 5%. There was a gain of £264k last year. The contributions are now due to end in May 2037.

BALANCE SHEET

The net book value of fixed assets has decreased from £69k to £56k. There were no additions this year and the depreciation charge for the year was £13k.

Net current assets, the principal balance sheet measure of short to medium term solvency, have increased from £535k to £601k. There is a sound margin of solvency with cash and bank balances alone being sufficient to cover creditors by a factor of 8:1.

The stock figure of £3k relates to retail stocks and has increased from £1.5k. Debtors have decreased from £20k to £12k, which relates to prepayments of £7k and trade debtors of £5k. Cash and bank balances have increased from £562k to £670k.

Creditors have increased to £84k from £49k. Creditors are mainly made up of accruals, which have increased from £26k to £31k, and trade creditors that have increased from £0.5k to £10k. Social security of £20k, VAT of £16k and other creditors of £7k make up the remainder of the balance.

Provisions for liabilities represents the calculated deficit funding contributions the Union must make in respect of the SUSS scheme. This has decreased from £1,418k to £1,373k. The decrease is mainly represented by the unwinding of the discount, of £71k, which net off against the contributions made to SUSS of £118k.

As a result of the above, the total funds have increased by £98k, from a negative £814k to a negative £716k. All funds are unrestricted except for £1k of restricted funds.