

# DEMOCRATYS

England & Wales · Charity number 1203611

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2023-06-19

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** PO Box 762  
Farnham  
Surrey  
GU9 1RL

**Phone** 07771715541

**Email** [lucinda@democratys.org.uk](mailto:lucinda@democratys.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT:(A) THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT LIMITED TO: I. PROMOTING PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM; II. CONDUCTING AND DISSEMINATING RESEARCH IN RELATION TO METHODS OF INTERFERENCE IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM; AND (B) THE PROMOTION OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP AND CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT LIMITED TO ENCOURAGING AND FACILITATING INFORMED PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT BY THE PUBLIC IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

**Activities:** Democratys is a charitable organisation working to educate the public regarding the United Kingdom's democratic processes and how they are capable of being influenced or subject to interference. We focus on issues with the greatest impact on people's lives, highlighting attempted interference of our democratic institutions and regulatory architecture.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£68,510	£50,977	-	-
2023-12-31	£1,000	£372	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Baroness Nicola Ann Morgan of Cotes		2025-02-17
MARK HOWARD STEPHENS		2021-12-01
Sir Nicholas Barton Harvey BA Hons KB		2021-12-01
Stefan Tylney Cross KC (Hon)		2023-10-19

**DEMOCRATYS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1203611

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# Accounts

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**DEMOCRATYS**

**UNAUDITED RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**DEMOCRATYS  
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**Registered Charity number:** 1203611

**Registered Address:** PO Box 762, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 1RL

**Governing document:** Trust Deed dated June 2023

**Website:** [www.democratys.org.uk](http://www.democratys.org.uk)

**Trustees:**

Baroness Nicola Morgan

Stefan Cross KC

Mark Stephens CBE

Sir Nicholas Harvey KB

Appointed 17 February 2025

**Independent Examiner:**

C J Goodhead FCA, Knight Goodhead Limited, 7 Bournemouth Road,  
Chandler's Ford, Eastleigh, Hampshire SO53 3DA

**Banker:**

HSBC, 30 Princes Mead Shopping Centre, Farnborough, GU14 6YB

## **Development of Educational Programme and Launch of *Ctrl Alt Deceit: Democracy in Danger***

The year 2024 represented a key period of development and definition for Democratys, during which the trustees and senior team worked to determine the most effective way for the charity to deliver on its founding purpose: to educate the public on threats to democratic integrity in the United Kingdom and beyond.

Early in the year, the trustees and executive team explored a range of educational and outreach routes — including panel discussions, expert roundtables, media engagement, and digital communications — to assess how best to reach a broad audience and promote informed public debate. These discussions led to the decision to commission and launch a podcast series as the charity’s primary educational platform.

The outcome of this strategic work was the creation of ***Ctrl Alt Deceit: Democracy in Danger***, a podcast commissioned and produced by Democratys to explore the key questions shaping the health of democracy today. The podcast was conceived as an accessible, public-facing medium through which the charity could host informed conversations with leading journalists, policymakers and experts. Its central aim was to deepen understanding of how democratic systems can be influenced, undermined and distorted and to encourage greater civic awareness and engagement.

***Ctrl Alt Deceit: Democracy in Danger*** launched on **31 October 2024**, marking the formal start of Democratys’ public activity. The first season concluded on **21 December 2024** and established the charity’s educational footprint. Across its initial series of episodes, the podcast examined a broad spectrum of global and domestic issues affecting democracy, including:

1. US election interference, voting machine vulnerabilities, and the “who’s who” of disinformation.
2. Donald Trump’s political comeback, Project 2025, and the future of Ukraine.
3. Elon Musk and the emergence of the American oligarchy.
4. The chilling effect of lawfare on freedom of speech.
5. Hybrid warfare and the future of the Russian opposition.
6. China versus democracy and the fate of Jimmy Lai.
7. Prince Andrew allegations and the decline of investigative journalism.

While many of the subjects discussed were international in scope, each episode was designed to draw lessons for the UK, examining how these global trends in disinformation, political finance, lawfare and media control are manifesting in and threatening our own democratic institutions. In particular, the series highlighted how developments in the United States during 2024, including the run-up to the presidential election, offered stark parallels and warnings for democratic resilience in Britain.

Although the podcast launch came late in the financial year, much of the strategic planning, content development and operational groundwork was undertaken throughout 2024. This included establishing the charity’s advisory network, defining the educational

scope of its work, preparing fundraising approaches and completing key administrative tasks such as the set-up of the HSBC charity account and governance processes.

The activities of 2024 therefore represent the formative year of Democratys' operations - translating its founding mission into a public-facing programme and establishing a platform from which future educational and advocacy work would expand in 2025.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES ON THE UNAUDITED  
ACCOUNTS OF DEMOCRATYS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Democratys for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 4 to 7.

**RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT**

As the trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

I report in respect of my examination of the Trustee's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act;
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**C J Goodhead FCA**  
Knight Goodhead Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
7 Bournemouth Road  
Chandler's Ford  
Eastleigh  
Hampshire  
SO53 3DA

Dated: 27 October 2025

**DEMOCRATYS**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Notes	General funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
<i>Voluntary income</i>					
Donations	2	68,510	-	68,510	-
Bank interest		-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>68,510</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>68,510</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>					
Charitable activities	3(a)	50,977	-	50,977	-
Governance costs	3(b)	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>50,977</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>50,977</b>	<b>-</b>
Net of receipts / payments before transfers		17,533	-	17,533	-
Transfers between funds	4	-	-	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>17,533</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,533</b>	<b>-</b>
Total funds brought forward	4	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>17,533</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,533</b>	<b>-</b>

**DEMOCRATYS  
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	General funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>A CASH FUNDS</b>				
Cash at bank with immediate access	17,533	-	17,533	-
Bank deposits	-	-	-	-
	<b>17,533</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,533</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>B OTHER MONETARY ASSETS</b>				
Donations	13,000	-	13,000	-
Gift aid due to charity	-	-	-	-
Bank interest	-	-	-	-
	<b>13,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>C LIABILITIES</b>				
Independent examination	960	-	960	-
Podcast costs	21,000	-	21,000	-
Freelance costs	5,527	-	5,527	-
	<b>27,487</b>	<b>27,487</b>	<b>27,487</b>	<b>-</b>

All liabilities noted fall due for settlement within one year.

10/27/2025

The accounts were approved by the trustees on ..... and signed on their behalf by

TRUSTEE

Signed by:  
*Baroness Nicola Morgan*  
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TRUSTEE

Signed by:  
*[Signature]*  
EDF5A9A3442742E...

TRUSTEE

Signed by:  
*Sir Mel Hanvey*  
38E76724A934494...

TRUSTEE

Signed by:  
*[Signature]*  
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**DEMOCRATYS**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Charity Information**

Democratys is a CIO with the registered charity number 1203611. It was registered in England and Wales on 19 June 2023.

**Basis of Preparation**

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis with a statement of assets and liabilities.

**Fund Accounting**

Unrestricted funds are monies which can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the Trustees' discretion.

Donations earmarked by the donor for specific purposes are held within restricted funds.

**2 INCOME**

	<b>General funds £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
<b>Voluntary income</b>				
Donations	68,510	-	68,510	-
Gift aid refunds on donations	-	-	-	-
	<b>68,510</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>68,510</b>	<b>-</b>

**DEMOCRATYS**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**3 PAYMENTS**

	General funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>a) Charitable expenditure</b>				
Hire of Studio	648	-	648	-
Podcast costs	27,620	-	27,620	-
Bank Fees	45	-	45	-
IT & Website Costs	309	-	309	-
Hire of premises	577	-	577	-
Rent / Licence of Old Chambers	379	-	379	-
Freelance costs	19,575	-	19,575	-
Licences	1,824	-	1,824	-
	<b>50,977</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>50,977</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>b) Governance</b>				
Independent examination	-	-	-	-
Accounting software	-	-	-	-
	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

**DEMOCRATYS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1203611

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# Accounts

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# Democratys.

## Democratys Charity Annual Report 2023-2024

For the Trustees and Charity Commission

## Overview of Charity Activities 2023-2024

**Reporting Period:** 6th April 2023-5th April 2024

Democratys Charity commenced its activities in early 2024. As such, there were minimal activities conducted during this financial year, with the charity primarily focused on its establishment and setting up the necessary foundations for future initiatives. A key activity for this period was the "Advocate Breakfast" held in April 2024. This event brought together a pool of expert advocates who have agreed to represent the charity in furthering our mission and objectives. The breakfasts were an essential part of our organisational development, providing valuable insights into how we can best position ourselves for the year ahead and strengthen our advocacy network.

## Financial Spending and Donations 2023-2024

### **Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA):**

Total Spending for the Year: £372.28

### **Spending Breakdown:**

26th March 2024: Advocate Breakfast Deposit: £350

1st April 2024: HSBC Bank Charges: £5

4th April 2024: Activ Solutions (Microsoft Email Billing): £17.28

### **Total Donations for the Year:**

22nd March: Magic Strand Donation: £1,000

## Balance Sheet

As of 5th April 2024, the charity's funds reflect early-stage operational costs and the balance of the donation received:

Bank/Cash Balance at Period End: £627.72

This funding balance demonstrates the remaining funds after accounting for initial organisational expenditures.

## Cash Flow Statement

The cash flow for the 2023-2024 financial year primarily reflects early-stage operational costs, including set-up and infrastructure expenses. While the charity's activities were modest, they were focused on laying the foundation for future growth.

Since the close of this financial year, we have successfully secured significant funding, enabling us to launch our first major project. As a result, our cash flow has strengthened in the subsequent period, supporting expanded operations and increased impact. We are confident that the positive cash flow will continue as we implement our planned initiatives and extend our reach.


## Conclusion

This report summarises the financial activities of Democratys Charity in its first year of operation. Although the charity's activities were concentrated on organisational set-up and stakeholder engagement, we are pleased to report that we have made significant progress. We secured vital funding and launched our first major project in the subsequent year, accelerating our growth and impact.


We remain fully committed to transparency and regulatory compliance. Building on the solid foundations established in this financial year, we are excited about the future and our continued ability to make a positive impact. We look forward to expanding our initiatives and advancing our mission in the year ahead.

**The trustees hereby approve the accounts as an accurate reflection of the charity's financial position for the 6th April 2023-5th April 2024 period.**


*Mark Stephens*

Signed by:  
  
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*Stefan Cross*

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*Nick Harvey*

DocuSigned by:  
  
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