

**POLISH WOMEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION LIMITED**

**A company limited by guarantee**

**Trustees' report and financial statements**

**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**Charity Registration No. 227600**

**Company Registration No. 744304**

**Polish Women's Benevolent Association Ltd.**

**Zjednoczenie Polek w WB**

238/240 King Street, London W6 0RF

**Directors'/Trustees' Report 2024**

The Trustees' Annual Report for the purpose of Section 45 of The Charities Act 2006 and Directors' Report for the purpose of Section 415 of The Companies Act 2006.

**Constitution of the Charity**

The company is limited by Guarantee and not having a share capital. The Charity was incorporated a Limited Company on 17-12-1973.

Charity Registration No. 227600,

Company Registration No. 744304

The Trustees act as a Council of Management.

The Chairperson is Mrs. T. Lakomy, Honorary Secretary: Mrs K. Hill, Honorary Treasurer: Mrs. J. Kozminski

The Trustees are elected by The A.G.M., one third retiring annually in rotation according to length of service. Trustees being: Mrs S. Dembinska (resigned 30.01.2024), Mrs K. Hill, Mrs. J. Kaczorowska, Mrs J. Kozminski, Mrs. M. Kruczkowka-Young, Mrs T. Lakomy, Mrs E. Manias, Mrs I. Pietron, Dr J. Sabbat (appointed 6.12.2024), Ms M. Stenzel, Mrs I. Wolff.

**The offices and registered address of The Charity:** 238-246 King Street, London, W6 0RF

**Bankers:**

Cater Allen, Private Bank, 9, Nelson Street, Bradford, BD1 5AN

HSBC UK, 281 Chiswick High Street, W4 4HJ.

**Independent Examiner:**

Mrs B. Gabriel, Chartered Accountant

156 Clarence Avenue  
New Malden  
Surrey KT3 3DY

**Objectives of The Charity:**

The provision of benefit by means of monetary payments, or goods, services, facilities or otherwise, to persons of either sex, whether resident in the U.K, Poland or elsewhere and who are at the time of the provision of such benefits in the opinion of the Council of Management proper of charitable relief. The main object of The Association is the gratuitous relief of necessitous women, but any ancillary objects combined with the main object may also be carried out.

### **Statement of The Trustees Responsibilities:**

Company law requires The Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the results of the company for the year. In preparing these financial statements The Trustees are required to: -

1. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
2. make judgements and estimates that are responsible and prudent,
3. prepare the financial statements on the on-going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the 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 company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

### **Review of Activities and Policies**

In the past year the Association reviewed its aims and policies to ensure it was using its resources in the best possible way in the current financial climate, in order to face its many challenges.

The main thrust of its activities remains focused on people in Poland which is where the majority of requests for assistance arise. The Association also continues to make grants to people of Polish origin living east of the Polish border, in former Polish territories. These people often live in extreme poverty and approach the Association for basic necessities such as food, clothing and medicines. The association also supports Poles living in the U.K. with financial assistance, although this is a smaller part of its expenditure.

The Association continues to support young people in Poland by sending funds to schools and institutions and by sponsoring among others essay competitions and musical students. The Association offers support to students whose financial difficulties present an obstacle to the completion of their studies. This area of activity is seen as a pressing need.

The assistance that the Association provides consists of monetary grants in response to the, on average, approximately ten letters received each month, asking for assistance, due to the lack of provision of funds by the Authorities. In most cases, these come from mothers on behalf of their sick children, but also from other individuals as well as schools, parents' associations, orphanages and institutes for children with special needs. Grants are awarded for specific stated purposes such as respite care and holidays for children and their families, summer holidays for children, special medical care for children with disabilities, and for the purchase of food and clothing where necessary. Monetary grants to older people assist them with winter fuel bills, warm clothing and medication.

The Association continues to pursue a policy of providing direct assistance to those who are in need, as far as this is possible without the use of intermediaries. However, The Association continues to maintain close co-operation with other charities engaged in similar work, so as to avoid duplication of service. Occasionally, the Association makes monetary grants in conjunction with other charitable organisations. Consultation with these organisations also enables the Association to remain fully aware of general trends and specific needs as reflected by the charitable activities carried out by others as well as of their programmes and plans for future activities. It should be stressed that all the Trustees, and all the Association's helpers work on a voluntary basis as the Association has no employees. The possibility of the Association becoming an employer has been raised but at present it is felt that this is not desirable. The trustees confirm that they have regard for the public benefit.



In 2024 funds were received from the Marek & Malgosia Wieliczko Fund, to be administered by the Association. Based on the Grant Agreement the funds are to continue to be used for the original purpose of relieving financial hardship amongst Polish people living in Poland. The funds are held in a restricted fund and grants approved and recorded accordingly.

### **Risk**

The Association is satisfied that it has in place a system of good internal finances in accordance with SORP requirements. The finances of the Association's properties and of its charitable work are transparent at all times. An important aspect of risk prevention is that all volunteers who assist the Association in its offices are known personally to the Trustees.

The two areas in which the Association is most exposed to risk are fraudulent requests for assistance and risk from investments.

The Association places great stress on vigorous and thorough verification of all requests for help, but is always aware that there is the possibility that requests for grants may be fraudulent. With this in mind, procedures are in place for the thorough and effective investigation of persons requesting any form of assistance, as also for following up on the delivery of relief. Organisations applying for help on behalf of individuals are also carefully scrutinised. The procedures used are constantly monitored and reviewed.

The Association has in place an Investment Policy and a Risk Policy. The investment of The Association's funds is under constant review. The trustees are aware of the current state of the markets and continue to rely on professional advice to ensure that the investments are sound and yielding a competitive rate of return.

The Association considers that due to its scrupulous verification of all requests received, it is not exposed to risks of either money laundering or terrorism. With regard to data protection and confidentiality, every possible care is taken to avoid risk in this area.

The Association is satisfied that it does everything possible to remain aware of and to minimise risks which may arise in the course of its work.

### **Future Plans**

The present needs of beneficiaries of The Association's charitable assistance, particularly in Poland and Eastern Europe continue and, in many cases, have increased; so regular evaluation of the Association's work is still necessary. Existing projects and resources continue to be appraised. Helping students, either at school or in higher education, from disadvantaged backgrounds remains a high priority. There have been fewer requests from Poland this year but The Association continues to support those deemed genuine as well as requests from Poles in the UK.

### **Independent Examiner**

Mrs. B. Gabriel, Chartered Accountant, continues to act as the Independent Examiner of the accounts, .

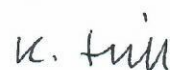
By Order of the Board:



Chair

T. Lakomy

7.7.2025



Secretary

K. Hill

7.7.2025

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
POLISH WOMEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION LIMITED  
(Charity No. 227600)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the period ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 5 to 10.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiners statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met.

*B. Gabriel*

Mrs. B. Gabriel  
Chartered Accountant  
156 Clarence Avenue  
New Malden KT3 3DY  
Date 7. 7. 2025

**POLISH WOMEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	2024 Unrestricted Fund £	2024 Restricted Fund £	2023 Unrestricted Fund £
<b>Income from:</b>				
Donations		-	205,631	2,593
Members subscriptions		190	-	255
Investments – interest	2	14,105	630	13,850
<b>Total income</b>		<u>14,295</u>	<u>206,261</u>	<u>16,698</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Raising funds	3	1,500	-	1,500
Charitable activities	4	49,004	61,114	72,897
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>50,504</u>	<u>61,114</u>	<u>74,397</u>
Net gains on investments		<u>9,222</u>	-	<u>10,145</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>(26,987)</u>	<u>145,147</u>	<u>(47,554)</u>
Fund balance 1 January 2024		<u>349,687</u>	-	<u>397,241</u>
<b>Fund balance 31 December 2024</b>		<u><u>322,700</u></u>	<u><u>145,147</u></u>	<u><u>349,687</u></u>



**POLISH WOMEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	£	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
			Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Unrestricted Fund
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Furniture, equipment	8		-	-	-
Quoted investments	9		307,984	112,944	298,763
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Trade and other receivables	10	1,836		-	1,834
Cash at bank and in hand		13,399		32,203	49,610
		-----		-----	-----
		15,235		32,203	51,444
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES – amounts falling due within one year</b>	11	(519)		-	(520)
		-----		-----	-----
			14,716	32,203	50,924
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			£322,700	£145,147	£349,687
			=====	=====	=====
<b>UNRESTRICTED ACCUMULATED FUND</b>					
Balance 1 January 2024			349,687	-	397,241
Net movement in fund			(26,987)	145,147	(47,554)
			-----	-----	-----
Balance at 31 December 2024			£322,700	£145,147	£349,687
			=====	=====	=====

The Trustees consider that the Company is entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and members have not required the Company to obtain an audit for the period to 31 December 2024 in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A – small entities.

The financial statements were approved by the board and were signed on its behalf on

7.7.2025

T. LAKOMY



-Trustee

**POLISH WOMEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**1.1. Accounting convention**

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102"), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

**1.2. Going concern**

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties regarding the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern and have prepared these accounts on this basis.

**1.3 Charitable funds**

All funds are unrestricted.

**1.4 Incoming resources**

Income is accounted for on a receivable basis, gross of VAT as the Charity is not VAT registered.

Income from donations is recognised when receivable where possible, and when the Charity's entitlement to receipt becomes unconditional.

**1.5 Resources expended**

All resources expended are accounted for on an accrual basis.

Costs of raising funds are those associated with investment income.

Charitable activities include costs of services, support services and depreciation.

**1.6 Furniture and equipment**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Furniture and equipment      over three years

**1.7 Fixed investments**

Investments are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their market value as at the balance sheet date using quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

**1.8 Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and deposits held with banks.



1.9 Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount.

2. INVESTMENTS

Income from listed investments £14,105 (2023 - £13,850)

3. RAISING FUNDS

Investment management costs £1,500 (2023- £1,500)

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Un Restricted £	Restricted £	Un Restricted £
Donations and Aid	35,934	61,000	60,287
Rent and service charges	10,433	-	9,301
Printing postage and stationery	18	-	65
Support costs (see below)	2,619	-	3,244
	-----	-----	-----
	49,004	61,000	72,897
Support costs			
Bank charges	195	114	220
Examiner's fee	500	-	450
Sundry office expenses	1,924	-	2,574
	-----	-----	-----
	2,619	114	3,244
	=====	=====	=====

5. TRUSTEES

None of the Trustees received any remuneration during the current year or previous year.

6. EMPLOYEES

The Charity did not have any employees.

7. NET GAINS ON INVESTMENTS

Revaluation and net Gains on investments £9,222 (2023 – 10,145)

8. FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT

	£
Cost	
At 1 January 2024 and December 2024	<u>2,200</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024	<u>2,200</u>
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2023 and 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>

9. FIXED ASSETS INVESTMENTS

Quoted investments: Unrestricted £307,984, Restricted £112,944 (2023 - Unrestricted £298,763)

10. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other receivables	1,753	1,753
Prepayment	83	81
	<u>1,836</u>	<u>1,834</u>

11. CURRENT LIABILITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals	<u>519</u>	<u>520</u>

12. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS, GUARANTEES AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There are no financial commitments, guarantees and contingent liabilities.

13. RELATED PARTIES

There has been no related party transaction during the year.

#### 14. COMPANY INFORMATION

The Charity is a private company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office and principle place of business is 238/246 King Street, London W6 0RF.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Institute. Monetary amounts in these accounts are rounded to the nearest £.