

# THE SOCIAL POLICY ASSOCIATION

England & Wales · Charity number 528347

## Details

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Other names	SOCIAL ADMINISTRATION ASSOCIATION
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1968-11-11
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Website	<a href="http://www.social-policy.org.uk/">http://www.social-policy.org.uk/</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND LEARNING AND IN PARTICULAR TO ADVANCE TEACHING RESEARCH AND THE DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION.

**Activities:** To advance education and learning and in particular to advance teaching, research and dissemination of knowledge in the field of social policy and administration.

## Classification

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- **How:** Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

## Geography

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- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£219,392	£218,290	-	-
2024-12-31	£182,645	£146,775	-	-
2023-12-31	£164,219	£163,964	-	-
2022-12-31	£106,396	£69,552	-	-
2021-12-31	£81,675	£36,018	-	-
2020-12-31	£39,322	£31,502	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Professor Ann Marie Gray</b>	Chair	2022-07-07
Dr Alessio D'Angelo		2023-07-05
Dr Alexandra Chapman		2023-07-05
Dr Chui Man Chau		2018-07-07
Dr Clementine Hill O'Connor		2025-07-02
Dr Colin Clark		2024-07-04
Dr Dianne-Dominique Theakstone		2024-07-04
Dr Elizabeth Bailey		2024-07-04
Dr Enrico Reuter		2018-07-09
Dr Gideon James Calder		2020-07-07
Dr Hayley Bennett		2023-07-05
Dr Lee James Gregory		2022-09-23
Dr Markus Johannes Ketola		2018-07-07
Dr Stephen Patrick Rolfe		2022-07-07
Ewan Robertson		2022-01-28
Folasade Ajose		2022-09-23
Janice Scott Tripney		2022-07-07
Naomi Lisle Finch		2022-07-07
Professor Athina Vlachantoni		2025-07-02
Professor Christina Pantazis		2025-07-02

**THE SOCIAL POLICY ASSOCIATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 528347

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# Accounts

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**Charity Registration Number : 528347**

# **The Social Policy Association**

**Annual Report and Financial Statements**

**for the Year Ended 31 December 2025**

**Barnett Ravenscroft Limited**

13 Portland Road

Egbaston

Birmingham

B16 9HN

# **The Social Policy Association**

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## The Social Policy Association

### Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Professor Ann Marie Gray, Chair Dr Gideon James Calder, Vice Chair Dr Stephen Rolfe, Secretary Prof Athina Vlachantoni, Treasurer Dr Alexandra Chapman, Membership Dr Naomi Finch, Marketing Mr Ewan Robinson, Communication Dr Janice Tripney, Publications Dr Hayley Bennett, Awards Dr Colin Clark, Conferences Dr Alessio D'Angelo, Impact and Engagement and Journal Editor Prof Christina Pantazis, Strategy Folsade Ajose, UG/PGR/ECR Dr Clemmie Hill O'Connor, UG/PGR/ECR Dr Dianne-Dominique Theakstone, Equalities Dr Alexander Chapman, Teaching and Learning Dr Enrico Reuter, Teaching and Learning Dr Chui Man (Ruby) Chau, International Dr Elizabeth Bailey, International Dr Lee James Gregory Dr Markus Ketola
Other Officers	Baroness Doreen Lawrence, President
Charity Number	528347
Principle Office	10 Queen Street Place London EC4R 1BE
Bankers	Triodos CAF Bank (Charities Aid Foundation) The Charity Bank
Independent Examiner	Ben Eley FCA Barnett Ravenscroft 13 Portland Road Egbaston Birmingham B16 9HN

**The Social Policy Association**  
**Trustees Report for the year ended**  
**30 June 2025**

The trustees present their report and financial statements of the church for the year ending 31st December 2025.

**Objectives and activities**

**Objects and aims**

The Social Policy Association (SPA), formerly the Social Administration Association was founded in 1967 and is a registered charity. Its objectives are:

- ~ To advance education and learning and in particular to advance teaching, research and the dissemination of knowledge in the field of social policy and administration.
- ~ To organise or assist in organising lectures, classes, meetings, conferences and other courses of study for the benefit of its members.
- ~ To conduct or commission research and publish its results.
- ~ To print, publish and distribute books and other publications that facilitate networks within, and encourage the development of, the field of social policy.
- ~ To make representation to government and other relevant agencies about the activities of the association.
- ~ To spend funds and employ people in order to further the purposes of the association.

**Public benefit**

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

**Achievements and performance**

We are pleased to report that the finances of the association continue to be healthy and sound. As of 31st December 2025, the end of our financial year, we had total assets of: £155,505.93 (CAF) + £142,351.93 (Triodos) + £85,000 (Charity Bank) = £382,857.86 compared with £380,683.79 in 2024, £345,886 in 2023, and £345,632 in 2022. In 2025, our total income was £219,393.22, compared to £182,645 in 2024 and £164,219 in 2023) and our total expenditure was £218,289.86, compared to £146,775 in 2024 and £163,964 in 2023; meaning that the movement totalled +£1,103.36 (-£35,870 in 2024 and £255 in 2023). The association deposited £85,000 into a savings account with Charity Bank, and as of Dec 2025 had £142,351.93 in a savings account with Triodos Bank. These deposits are currently captured in the total expenditure as outgoing transfers. In 2025, the association received an income of £3,759.84 from the Charity Bank (in return to a £85,000 deposit to a one-year fixed term savings account). In 2025, the association recorded £3,796.69 from Triodos Bank in interest. In 2025, the association committed more funds toward Opportunity Grants, continued to support existing Social Policy Groups and expanded its support to more Social Policy Groups.

**Trends in income**

Conference income in 2025 made up just over 72% of our overall income (in 2024 it was 63%). The share of income generated from members' subscriptions in 2025 was just under 19% (in 2024 it was at 20% and in 2023 it was at 22%), while royalty payments made 6.5% of total income (in 2024 it was 10% of the overall income, and in 2023 it was 15%). The income from membership was £40,649.26 in 2025, compared to £38,659.17 in 2024 and £36,638 in 2023. The income from royalties was £13,924.96 in 2025 compared to £18,709.61 in 2024 and £21,724 in 2023.

**The Social Policy Association**  
**Trustees Report for the year ended**  
**30 June 2025**

**Conference income**

Conference income in 2025 was £156,379.72, compared to 2024 when it was £120,383.61 and 2023 when it was £101,506. The full expenditure for the 2025 conference was £133,521.35, compared to 2024 (£52,494.27) and 2023 (£91,234). The 2025 conference surplus was £22,858.37. We will continue to use the 'in-house' model to run our annual conferences (including the Annual Conferences of 2026 and 2027).

**Membership income**

The income generated from members' subscriptions in 2025 was at £40,649 demonstrating a steady increase from 2024 (£38,659), 2023 (£36,638) and 2022 (£34,612).

Membership income is determined both by the rate but also the level that members contribute at. We continue to monitor and review the fee structure but we do also want to take into consideration the financial circumstances within the sector. We will continue to monitor the membership rates and we will revisit their pricing, after taking into consideration inflation and wider financial circumstances.

**Details of members end of December 2025**

Total members: 653

This is up on the membership reported in 2022 of 561, 2023 of 607 and 2024 of 631. The overall increase in membership is welcome and continues each year.

Type of membership	Fees £	Number 2022	Number 2023	Number 2024	Number 2025
UK Band 1	£40	136	99	131	133
UK Band 2	£75	51	57	50	47
UK Band 3	£95	124	138	135	136
UK Band 4	£125	97	117	118	118
International Band 1 (inc PhD)	£40	36	50	51	62
International Band 2	£75	16	18	18	21
International Band 3	£95	30	49	41	43
International Band 4	£125	19	34	35	35
UK Organisation	£100	8	10	9	9
International Organisation	£50	-	-	-	0
Economic South	£10	40	35	27	29
Early Career Transition	£40	-	-	16	20
Missing Data		4	-	-	
		<b>561</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>653</b>

\* Note that UK Band 1 in this table include UK PhD students and Undergraduate students

\* Early Career Transition Band was introduced in 2024

**Royalties and publication costs**

Income from royalties was £13,924.96 in 2025 (compared to £18,709.61 in 2024 and £21,724 in 2023). This includes royalties paid in respect of our journals (Cambridge University Press) plus other publications (e.g. our joint publications with Policy Press). The income from royalties was lower in 2025 than the cost of Open Access publication of Social Policy Review and sharing a printed copy with members (£19,923.93).

**The Social Policy Association**  
**Trustees Report for the year ended**  
**30 June 2025**

**Administrative costs**

In 2025, the SPA made a considerable payment to cover administrative support costs, with Miss Victoria Duffy (Ulster University) providing valuable assistance and support to the SPA executive team. The full cost of the administrative support offered by Miss Duffy was reconciled in 2025.

**2025 Opportunity Grants**

In March and October 2025 the SPA again made calls for applicants for Opportunity Grants. This scheme is designed to enable events promoting social policy by – for example – helping to showcase research, exploring issues in learning and teaching, beginning conversations, making connections between different academic perspectives, and bringing together academics, students, practitioners, service-users, policymakers and others with a stake in social policy.

As in 2023 and 2024, for these calls we again split the grants into two tiers: Category A (up to £1,000) and Category B (up to £5,000). The subject-matter was open, but with three priority areas identified as focal points for engagement: early career researchers; the third sector; local public sector organisations.

**March 2025 call**

In this round the panel approved three applications – all in category B – to a total expenditure of £10,680.

Category	Lead Applicant(s)	Institution	Project Title	Amount Requested
B	Steven Ballantyne	Freie Univeristat Berlin	Skills Policy in the UK	£1,180
B	Thomas Rochow	University of Glasgow	Claim Back the Future : Sustainable Welfare Workshop	£4,500
B	Uisce Jordan	University of York	Who participates ? A one-day workshop on participatory research social policy	£5,000

**October 2025 call**

In the autumn round we committed to fund four applications – all in category B – to a total expenditure of £12,280. Please see below the main applicant, topic and amount awarded.

Category	Lead Applicant(s)	Institution	Project Title	Amount Requested
B	Lisa Garnham	University of Strathclyde	Skills Policy in the UK	£1,180
B	Cindy Leung	University of York	Bridging policy and research: Towards interdisciplinary evidence-based solutions for food insecurity in the UK and beyond	£4,550
B	Robyn Fawcett	University of Derby	Social policy and decision-making in times of protest	£2,570
B	Kate Summers	LSE	Creating participatory policy solutions for disability benefits	£3,160

## The Social Policy Association

### Trustees Report for the year ended 30 June 2025

#### 2025 Career Launch Research Grants

Also this year, we launched a new funding scheme specifically aimed at Early Career Researchers (ECRs), and dedicated to the facilitation of research. The aim is to create space for ECR SPA members to sustain their research momentum and secure concrete achievements at a stage in their career when these things can be especially challenging, due to other pressures and demands, and an increasingly competitive research funding environment. Funds up to £1,000 could be applied for, with the possibility of follow-up funding in subsequent rounds.

Against all expectations given the widespread sense of the potential value of such an award, this scheme received only one application. The application was successful

Applicant	Institution	Project Title	Amount Requested
Arvind Kumar	University of Hereford	Ethnic Discrimination in the Indian Civil Service Examination	£1,000

#### Policy Groups

In the Autumn 2025, we issued a call for new SPA Policy Groups and for extension of activities of the previously existing groups. Following applications, the SPA decided to continue supporting the following 6 policy groups: Employment Policy; Housing Policy; Family policy; Social Harm, Pensions policy; Tax policy; and to start supporting two new groups on Poverty and on Migration. Each group is funded for two years (January 2026 - December 2027), with an allocation of £3,000 per group over the period.

Over the course of 2025, the groups have undertaken a significant number of activities, including online seminars, in-person events, production of blogs - these are summarised on the SPA website and have been widely advertised on the SPA online channels. The groups have also been involved in organising thematic panels for the 2025 SPA conference and have taken part in the Social Policy and Society Annual Event (June 2025), presenting analysis of UK policy developments since the last general election.

All groups have been provided with written guidelines (on how to use and access their allocated budget and on issues of external communications), have been invited to take part into an online coordination meeting at the start of each academic year, and have kept in regular contact with the relevant members of the SPA Executive Committee.

**The Social Policy Association**  
**Trustees Report for the year ended**  
**30 June 2025**

**Financial instruments**

***Objectives and policies***

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

***Credit risk***

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments.

The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of cash flows. The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies. The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

***Reserves Policy***

In line with our commitment to ensure the financial stability of the Association, we decided to formalise our financial reserves policy and the policy to set our current reserve at £130,000 was adopted by the Trustees of the SPA at our April 2019 Executive meeting. Our reserve balances with Triodos Bank. On 31st December 2025 the balance was £142,351.93 (compared to £137,792.21 by end December 2024 and 134,845.09 by end December 2023).

We decided to re-invest £85,000 in a one-year fixed-term savings account with the Charity Bank (Letter from Charity Bank dated 15 October 2025), this will mature on 14 October 2026. We are aware that the amount covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme was increased to £120,000 in December 2025, and we will consider this threshold in our future decisions about savings accounts.

## The Social Policy Association

30 June 2025

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities 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 charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 21 April 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
Professor Ann Marie Gray  
Trustee

**The Social Policy Association**  
**Independent Examiners Report**  
**31 December 2025**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2025 as set out on pages 9 to 15.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the Charity's Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to :

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act: and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes considerations 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 examiner's statement**

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

- (1) which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements :
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011 ; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of 2011 Act.
- (2) to which, in my opinion , attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



.....  
**Ben Eley FCA**  
**Independent examiner**  
**For and on behalf of Barnett Ravenscroft Limited**  
**Chartered Accountants**

**13 Portland Road**  
**Edgbaston**  
**Birmingham**  
**B16 9HN**

**Date : 21 April 2026**

## The Social Policy Association

### Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Charitable activities		211,837	211,837
Investment income		7,556	7,556
Total Income		<u>219,392</u>	<u>219,392</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities		<u>(218,290)</u>	<u>(218,290)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(218,290)</u>	<u>(218,290)</u>
Net movement in funds		1,102	1,102
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		381,756	381,756
Total funds carried forward	14	<u><u>382,858</u></u>	<u><u>382,858</u></u>
	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Charitable activities		177,873	177,873
Investment income		4,772	4,772
Total Income		<u>182,645</u>	<u>182,645</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities		<u>(146,775)</u>	<u>(146,775)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(146,775)</u>	<u>(146,775)</u>
Net movement in funds		35,870	35,870
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		345,886	345,886
Total funds carried forward	14	<u><u>381,756</u></u>	<u><u>381,756</u></u>

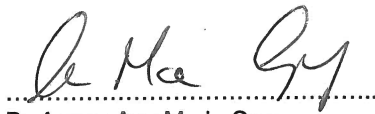
All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2024 is shown in note 9.

**The Social Policy Association**  
**(Registration number : 1133003)**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025**

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	12	-	1,072
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>382,858</u>	<u>380,684</u>
		<u>382,858</u>	<u>381,756</u>
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>			
	13	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u><u>382,858</u></u>	<u><u>381,756</u></u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		382,858	381,756
<b>Total funds</b>	14	<u><u>382,858</u></u>	<u><u>381,756</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 9 to 15 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 21 April 2026 and signed on their behalf by:



.....  
 Professor Ann Marie Gray  
 Trustee



.....  
 Dr Gideon James Calder  
 Trustee

# The Social Policy Association

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

### 1 Accounting policies

#### Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

#### Basis of preparation

The Social Policy Association meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

#### Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

#### Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

#### Income and endowments

##### Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

##### Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

##### Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

# The Social Policy Association

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

### 1 Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

### Research and development

Research and development expenditure is written off as incurred.

### Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business. They are recognised initially at the transaction price and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of is established when there is objective evidence that the will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

### Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

# The Social Policy Association

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

### ***Recognition and measurement***

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

# The Social Policy Association

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

### 2 Income from charitable activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Conferences		156,380	156,380	120,384
Royalties		13,925	13,925	18,710
Other events		883	883	120
Subscriptions		40,649	40,649	38,659
		<u>211,837</u>	<u>211,837</u>	<u>177,873</u>

### 3 Investment income

		Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Interest receivable and similar income; Interest receivable on bank deposits		7,556	7,556	4,772
		<u>7,556</u>	<u>7,556</u>	<u>4,772</u>

### 4 Expenditure on charitable activities

		Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Conferences		133,521	133,521	52,494
Publications		19,924	19,924	29,418
Grants		9,600	9,600	22,976
Administration etc.		40,041	40,041	8,998
Website and member services		6,382	6,382	13,293
Bank charges		66	66	66
Legal and professional services		8,035	8,035	18,477
Governance costs	5	720	720	1,053
		<u>218,290</u>	<u>218,290</u>	<u>146,775</u>

### 5 Analysis of governance and support costs

#### Governance

		Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Independent examiner fees				
Examination of the financial statements		720	720	720
Legal fees		-	-	333
		<u>720</u>	<u>720</u>	<u>1,053</u>

# The Social Policy Association

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

### 6 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

### 7 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

### 8 Debtors

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Accrued income	-	1,071

### 9 Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2025 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2025 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	(381,756)	(219,392)	218,290	(382,858)

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	(345,886)	(182,645)	146,775	(381,756)

### 10 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Current assets	382,858	381,756
Current liabilities	-	-
Total net assets	382,858	381,756

### 11 Analysis of net funds

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Cash flow £	Balance at 31 December 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	380,684	2,174	382,858
Net debt	380,684	2,174	382,858



**THE SOCIAL POLICY ASSOCIATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 528347

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# Accounts

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Charity registration number: 528347

# The Social Policy Association

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

David Dixie F C A  
Dixie Associates  
167 Black Haynes Road  
Birmingham  
B29 4RE

# **The Social Policy Association**

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# **The Social Policy Association**

## **Reference and Administrative Details**

### **Trustees**

Professor Ann Marie Gray, Chair  
Dr Gideon James Calder, Vice Chair  
Dr Vikki Borland nee McCall, Secretary  
Dr Antonios Roumpakis, Treasurer  
Dr Alexandra Chapman, Membership  
Dr Lee James Gregory  
Dr Chui Man (Ruby) Chau  
Dr Enrico Reuter  
Dr Ellen Stewart (resigned 2 July 2024)  
Dr Janice Tripney  
Mr Ewan Robinson  
Folasade Ajose  
Dr Naomi Finch  
Dr Carolyn Snell  
Dr Steve Rolfe  
Dr Markus Ketola  
Dr Alessio D'Angelo  
Dr Hayley Bennett  
Dr Elizabeth Bailey (appointed 2 July 2024)  
Dr Colin Clark (appointed 2 July 2024)  
Dr Dianne-Dominique Theakstone (appointed 2 July 2024)

### **Other Officers**

Baroness Doreen Lawrence, President

### **Principal Office**

10 Queen Street Place  
London  
EC4R 1BE

### **Charity Registration Number**

528347

### **Bankers**

Triodos  
CAF Bank (Charities Aid Foundation)  
The Charity Bank

### **Independent Examiner**

David Dixie F C A  
Dixie Associates  
167 Black Haynes Road  
Birmingham  
B29 4RE

# The Social Policy Association

## Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

### Objectives and activities

#### *Objects and aims*

The Social Policy Association (SPA), formerly the Social Administration Association was founded in 1967 and is a registered charity. Its objectives are:

- ~ To advance education and learning and in particular to advance teaching, research and the dissemination of knowledge in the field of social policy and administration.
- ~ To organise or assist in organising lectures, classes, meetings, conferences and other courses of study for the benefit of its members.
- ~ To conduct or commission research and publish its results.
- ~ To print, publish and distribute books and other publications that facilitate networks within, and encourage the development of, the field of social policy.
- ~ To make representation to government and other relevant agencies about the activities of the association.
- ~ To spend funds and employ people in order to further the purposes of the association.

#### *Public benefit*

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

### Achievements and performance

We are pleased to report that the finances of the association continue to be healthy and sound. As of December 31st, 2024, the end of our financial year, we have a total current assets of £381,755 compared with £345,886 at year end 2023 and £345,632 at year end 2022. In 2024 our total income was £182,645 (£164,219 in 2023) and total expenditure was £146,775 (£163,964 in 2023) meaning that the movement totalled +35,870 (+£255 in 2023). In 2024, the association committed more funds toward Opportunity Grants, and continued to support existing Social Policy Groups.

#### **Trends in income**

Conference income in 2024, made up 68% of our overall income (in 2023 it was 63%). The income generated from members' subscriptions in 2024 was at 22% (in 2023 it was 23%) with the remaining income made up of royalty payments at 10% of overall income (in 2023 it was 13%). The share of income from membership increased to £38,659 (in 2024) from £36,638 (in 2023). The share of income from royalties dropped to £18,710 (in 2024) from £21,724 (in 2023).

#### *Conference income*

Conference income in 2024 was £120,384 from £101,506 (in 2023). The full expenditure for last year's conference was reconciled in 2025 and therefore the conference expenditure for 2024 remains lower (£52,494) than 2023 (£91,234). For 2024, the conference balance was £67,890 though the final costs were reconciled in 2025 and will be shown in next year's report. We will continue to use the 'in-house' model to run our annual conferences (including the Annual Conferences of 2025 and 2026).

# **The Social Policy Association**

## **Trustees' Report**

### ***Membership income***

The income generated from members' subscriptions in 2024 was at £38,659 demonstrating a steady increase from 2023 (£36,638) and 2022 (£34,612).

Membership income is determined both by the rate but also the level that members contribute at. We continue to monitor and review the fee structure but we do also want to take into consideration the financial circumstances within the sector. We will continue to monitor the membership rates and we will revisit their pricing, after taking into consideration inflation and wider financial circumstances.

# The Social Policy Association

## Trustees' Report

### *Details of members end of Dec 2024*

Total members: 631

This is up on the membership reported in 2022 of 561 and 2023 of 607. There is a particular increase in UK Band 1. A new Early Career Transition band was introduced in 2024 and we currently have 16 members in this Band. The overall increase in membership is welcome.

Type of membership	Fees £	Number 2021	Number 2022	Number 2023	Number 2024
UK Band 1	40	127	136	99	131
UK Band 2	75	57	51	57	50
UK Band 3	95	120	124	138	135
UK Band 4	125	87	97	117	118
International Band 1 (inc PhD)	40	28	36	50	51
International Band 2	75	17	16	18	18
International Band 3	95	20	30	49	41
International Band 4	125	11	19	34	35
UK Organisation	100	7	8	10	9
International Organisation	50	-	-	-	-
Economic South	10	39	40	35	27
Early Career Transition	40	-	-	-	16
Missing Data	-	4	4	-	-
	<u>870</u>	<u>517</u>	<u>561</u>	<u>607</u>	<u>631</u>

\*Note that UK Band 1 in this table include UK PhD students and Undergraduate students

\*4 missing members can be explained by those who have 'administrator' rights but are not paid members.

### *Royalties and publication costs*

Income from royalties was £18,710 in 2024, dropping from £21,724 in 2023. This includes royalties paid in respect of our journals (Cambridge University Press) plus other publications (e.g. our joint publications with Policy Press). The income from royalties is matched by the cost of Open Access publication of Social Policy Review and sharing a printed copy with members (£18,951), on an annual basis. Please note that last financial year we covered the payments for both SPR issues (2024, 2025).

### **Administrative costs**

In 2024, the SPA made a considerable payment to cover administrative support costs, with Miss Victoria Duffy (Ulster University) providing valuable assistance and support to the SPA executive team. The full cost of the administrative support offered by Miss Duffy was reconciled in 2025.

# The Social Policy Association

## Trustees' Report

### 2024 Opportunity Grants

In May 2024 the SPA again made a call for applicants for Opportunity Grants. This scheme is designed to enable events promoting social policy by - for example - helping to showcase research, exploring issues in learning and teaching, beginning conversations, making connections between different academic perspectives, and bringing together academics, students, practitioners, service-users, policymakers and others with a stake in social policy.

Following a successful trialling of this in 2023 for the 2024 call we again split the grants into two tiers: Category A (up to £1000) and Category B (up to £5000). The subject-matter was open, but with four priority areas identified as focal points for engagement: early career researchers; the third sector; local public sector organisations, and the teaching of Social Policy.

In this round SPA committed to fund five applications, all in Category A, with a total expenditure of £7,022. Please see below the main applicant, topic and amount awarded.

- Idil Akinci (University of Edinburgh) Centring legal status as a key axis of inequality (£990)
- Cristina Asenjo Palma (Brunel University) Dialogue and participation to understand homelessness (£1000)
- Colin Clark (University of the West of Scotland) Afternoon tea at UWS: Collaborative Discussions for Policy Change (£950)
- Emily Ball (University of Birmingham) Widening participation engagement event/Moving towards decolonised and diverse teaching...(£1462)
- Ben Baumberg Geiger (Kings College London) Critical perspectives on lived experience in social policy research (£2620)

As well as sustaining this programme, in 2025 we are introducing a separate Career-Launch Research Grants scheme, aimed specifically at Early Career Researchers.

### Policy Groups

In Summer 2023 we issued a call for new SPA Policy Groups and for extension of activities of the previously existing groups. Following applications, the SPA decided to support the following 7 policy groups; Employment Policy; Housing Policy; Climate Justice and Social Policy; Family policy; Social Harm, Pensions policy; Tax policy. Each group is funded for two years (October 2023 - December 2025), with an allocation of £3,000 per group over the period.

Over the course of 2024-2025, the groups have undertaken a significant number of activities, including online seminars, in-person events, production of blogs - these are summarised on the SPA website and have been widely advertised on the SPA online channels. The groups have also been involved in organising thematic panels for the SPA conference and have taken part in the Social policy and Society Annual Event (June 2025), presenting analysis of UK policy developments since the last general election.

All groups have been provided with written guidelines (on how to use and access their allocated budget and on issues of external communications) and have been invited to take part into an online coordination meeting at the start of each academic year, and have kept in regular contact with the relevant members of the SPA Executive Committee.

# **The Social Policy Association**

## **Trustees' Report**

In Summer 2025, the SPA will issue a new call for another 2-year period of activities (for the academic year 2025-26 and 2026-2027). Like before, existing groups will be asked if they intend to continue (also subject to Exec review of a report of activities), and applications for new groups will be sought.

### **Financial instruments**

#### ***Objectives and policies***

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

#### ***Credit risk***

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows. The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies. The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

# **The Social Policy Association**

## **Trustees' Report**

### ***Reserves Policy***

In line with our commitment to ensure the financial stability of the Association, we decided to formalise our financial reserve policy and the policy to set our current reserve at £130,000 was adopted by the trustees of the SPA at our April 2019 Executive meeting. Our reserve balances with Tridos bank. On 31st December 2024 the balance was £137,792 (134,845 by the end December 2023).

We decided to open new savings account with the Charity Bank and place an initial deposit of £85,000 in a one-year fixed-term savings account (October 2024). We aim to open an additional savings account but we monitor and continue to review possible updates on amount covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

## **The Social Policy Association**

### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 2 July 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

.....  
Professor Ann Marie Gray  
Trustee

## The Social Policy Association

### Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Social Policy Association

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 10 to 16.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 next statement.

#### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

.....  
David Dixie F C A

Dixie Associates  
167 Black Haynes Road  
Birmingham  
B29 4RE

2 July 2025

## The Social Policy Association

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Charitable activities		177,873	177,873
Investment income	3	4,772	4,772
Total Income		182,645	182,645
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities		(146,775)	(146,775)
Total Expenditure		(146,775)	(146,775)
Net movement in funds		35,870	35,870
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		345,886	345,886
Total funds carried forward	9	381,756	381,756
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Charitable activities		160,641	160,641
Investment income	3	3,578	3,578
Total Income		164,219	164,219
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities		(163,964)	(163,964)
Total Expenditure		(163,964)	(163,964)
Net movement in funds		255	255
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		345,631	345,631
Total funds carried forward	9	345,886	345,886

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2023 is shown in note 9.

**The Social Policy Association**  
**(Registration number: 528347)**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	8	1,071	-
Cash at bank and in hand		380,684	345,886
		381,755	345,886
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>			
		1	-
<b>Net assets</b>		381,756	345,886
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		381,756	345,886
<b>Total funds</b>	9	381,756	345,886

The financial statements on pages 10 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 2 July 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

.....  
 Professor Ann Marie Gray  
 Trustee

.....  
 Dr Antonios Roumpakis  
 Trustee

# The Social Policy Association

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

### 1 Accounting policies

#### Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

#### Basis of preparation

The Social Policy Association meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

#### Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

#### Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

#### Income and endowments

#### Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

#### *Charitable activities*

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

#### Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

# **The Social Policy Association**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

### **Taxation**

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

### **Research and development**

Research and development expenditure is written off as incurred.

### **Trade debtors**

are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of is established when there is objective evidence that the will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

### **Fund structure**

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

### **Financial instruments**

#### ***Classification***

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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

# The Social Policy Association

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

### *Recognition and measurement*

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

### **2 Income from charitable activities**

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		
	<b>General</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Conferences	120,384	120,384	101,506
Royalties	18,710	18,710	21,724
Other events	120	120	773
Subscriptions from members	38,659	38,659	36,638
	<u>177,873</u>	<u>177,873</u>	<u>160,641</u>

### **3 Investment income**

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		
	<b>General</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	4,772	4,772	3,578
	<u>4,772</u>	<u>4,772</u>	<u>3,578</u>

## The Social Policy Association

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

#### 4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds		Total 2023 £
		General £	Total 2024 £	
Conferences		52,494	52,494	91,234
Publications		29,418	29,418	17,011
Grants		22,976	22,976	13,282
Administration etc.		8,998	8,998	17,961
Website and member services		13,293	13,293	6,236
Bank charges		66	66	60
Legal and professional services		18,477	18,477	17,160
Governance costs		1,053	1,053	1,020
		146,775	146,775	163,964

#### 5 Analysis of governance and support costs

##### Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds		Total 2023 £
	General £	Total 2024 £	
Independent examiner fees			
Examination of the financial statements	720	720	720
Legal fees	333	333	300
	1,053	1,053	1,020

#### 6 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

## The Social Policy Association

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

#### 7 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

#### 8 Debtors

	<b>2024</b> £
Accrued income	<u>1,071</u>

#### 9 Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	<u>(345,886)</u>	<u>(182,645)</u>	<u>146,775</u>	<u>(381,756)</u>

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	<u>(345,631)</u>	<u>(164,219)</u>	<u>163,964</u>	<u>(345,886)</u>

#### 10 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Current assets	381,755	381,755
Current liabilities	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Total net assets	<u>381,756</u>	<u>381,756</u>

#### 11 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 January 2024 £	Cash flow £	At 31 December 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	345,886	34,798	380,684
Net debt	<u>345,886</u>	<u>34,798</u>	<u>380,684</u>

**THE SOCIAL POLICY ASSOCIATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 528347

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# Accounts

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Charity registration number: 528347

# The Social Policy Association

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

David Dixie F C A  
Dixie Associates  
167 Black Haynes Road  
Selly Oak  
Birmingham  
B29 4RE

# The Social Policy Association

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# The Social Policy Association

## Reference and Administrative Details

### Trustees

Professor Ann Marie Gray, Chair  
Dr Gideon James Calder, Vice Chair  
Mr James Stanyer, Vice Chair (resigned 5 July 2023)  
Dr Vikki Borland nee McCall, Secretary  
Dr Antonios Roupakis, Treasurer  
Dr Alexandra Chapman, Membership (appointed 5 July 2023)  
Dr Jennifer Hamilton, Membership (resigned 5 July 2023)  
Dr Lee James Gregory  
Dr Chui Man (Ruby) Chau  
Dr Elke Heins (resigned 5 July 2023)  
Dr Enrico Reuter  
Dr Ellen Stewart  
Dr Kate Summers (resigned 5 July 2023)  
Dr Janice Tripney  
Mr Ewan Robinson  
Folasade Ajose  
Dr Naomi Finch  
Dr Carolyn Snell  
Dr Steve Rolfe  
Dr Markus Ketola  
Professor Anya Ahmed (resigned 5 July 2023)  
Dr Steve Iafrazi (resigned 5 July 2023)  
Dr Alessio D'Angelo (appointed 5 July 2023)  
Dr Hayley Bennett (appointed 5 July 2023)

### Other Officers

Baroness Doreen Lawrence, President

### Principal Office

10 Queen Street Place  
London  
EC4R 1BE

### Charity Registration Number

528347

### Bankers

Triodos  
CAF Bank (Charities Aid Foundation)  
The Charity Bank

### Independent Examiner

David Dixie F C A  
Dixie Associates  
167 Black Haynes Road  
Selly Oak  
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B29 4RE

# The Social Policy Association

## Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

### Objectives and activities

#### Objects and aims

The Social Policy Association (SPA), formerly the Social Administration Association was founded in 1967 and is a registered charity. Its objectives are:

- ~ To advance education and learning and in particular to advance teaching, research and the dissemination of knowledge in the field of social policy and administration.
- ~ To organise or assist in organising lectures, classes, meetings, conferences and other courses of study for the benefit of its members.
- ~ To conduct or commission research and publish its results.
- ~ To print, publish and distribute books and other publications that facilitate networks within, and encourage the development of, the field of social policy.
- ~ To make representation to government and other relevant agencies about the activities of the association.
- ~ To spend funds and employ people in order to further the purposes of the association.

#### Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

### Achievements and performance

We are delighted to report that the finances of the association continue to be healthy and sound. As of December 31st, 2023, the end of our financial year, we have a total current assets of £345,886, compared with £345,632 at year end 2022 and £308,788 at year end 2021. In 2023 our total income was £164,219, total expenditure was £163,964 meaning that the movement totalled +£255. In doing so the association committed more funds toward Opportunity Grants, supported additional Social Policy Groups, carried out Strategy Research report, commissioned an animation promotional film and covered the remaining costs for the Social Policy Teaching Provision Study.

#### Trends in income

Conference income in 2023, made up 63% of our overall income (in 2022 it was 47%). The income generated from members' subscriptions in 2023 was at 22% (in 2022 it was 33%) with the remaining income made up of royalty payments at 15% of overall income (in 2021 it was 20%). The share of Income from membership and royalties did not drop per se, in fact it increased but at a lower rate to the income generated by the annual conference.

#### Conference income

Conference income in 2023 was £101,506. This was a substantive increase from previous years (£49,377 in 2022). Equally the expenditure for the conference was higher in 2023, £91,234 (in 2022 it was £23,882) offering a profit of £10,272. We will continue to use the 'in-house' model to run our annual conferences.

# The Social Policy Association

## Trustees' Report

### Membership income

The income generated from members' subscriptions in 2023 was at £36,638. In 2022 it was £34,612.

Membership income is determined both by the rate but also the level that members contribute at. As well as ensuring that membership fees keep pace with inflation, it is also important to ensure that members are contributing at the correct level. The fees have not been raised in the last few years due to the combination of relatively stagnant, for the last few years, wages in the sector and the ongoing cost-of-living crisis. We continue to monitor and review the fee structure but we do also want to take into consideration the financial circumstances within the sector.

**The Social Policy Association**  
**Trustees' Report**

**Details of members end of Dec 2023**

Total members: 607

This is up on the membership reported in 2021 of 517 and 2022 of 561. There is a particular increase in International Band 4 and a slight decrease in UK Band 1. The overall increase in membership is welcome.

Type of membership	Fee	2020	2021	2022	2023
UK Band 1	£40	111	127	136	99
UK Band 2	£75	55	57	51	57
UK Band 3	£95	114	120	124	138
UK Band 4	£125	82	87	97	117
International Band 1 (inc PhD)	£40	22	28	36	50
International Band 2	£75	11	17	16	18
International Band 3	£95	14	20	30	49
International Band 4	£125	8	11	19	34
UK Organisation	£100	5	7	8	10
International Organisation	£50	-	-	-	-
Economic South	£10	28	39	40	35
Missing Data		7	4	4	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>457</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>607</b>

\*Note that UK Band 1 in this table include UK PhD students and Undergraduate students

\*4 missing members can be explained by those who have 'administrator' rights but are not paid members.

**Royalties**

Royalties income was £21,724 in 2023, £21,267 in 2022, £32,614 in 2021 and £8,483 in 2020. This includes royalties paid in respect of our journals (Cambridge University Press) plus other publications (e.g. our joint publications with Policy Press).

**Administrative costs**

In 2023, the SPA made a considerable payment to cover administrative support costs, with Victoria Duffy (Ulster University) providing valuable assistance and support to the SPA executive team.

# The Social Policy Association

## Trustees' Report

### 2023 Opportunity Grants

During 2023, the SPA continued with their two annual calls for applicants for opportunity grants. This scheme is designed to enable events promoting social policy by - for example - helping to showcase research, exploring issues in learning and teaching, beginning conversations, making connections between different academic perspectives, and bringing together academics, students, practitioners, service-users, policymakers and others with a stake in social policy.

For the 2023 calls we decided to split the grants into two tiers: Category A (up to £1000) and Category B (up to £5000).

In the first (spring) round for 2023 the SPA committed to fund three applications, all in Category A, with a total expenditure of £2780. Please see below the main applicant, topic and amount awarded.

- Idil Akinçi (University of Edinburgh) Race, Power and Social Policy (£1000)
- Michael Orton (University of Warwick) Setting a New Agenda on Social Security (£980)
- Gary Craig (Independent) "Race" and Social Research (£800)

In the second (autumn) round for 2023 the SPA committed to fund five applications - two in Category A and three in Category B - with a total expenditure of £14,702. Please see below the main applicant, topic and amount awarded.

- Kelli Kennedy (University of York/ University of Sheffield), Facilitating Interdisciplinary Communication between Social Policy and Scientific Research (£1000)
- Jiaxin Liu (University of York), Promoting Social Policy Research on Ageing, Family, and Care in China (£1000)
- Vicki Dabrowski (Liverpool Hope University), Empowering Change: Workshops for Effective Action, (£3210)
- Fiona Dukelow (University College Cork), All-Island Social Security Network: imagining the future of social security on the island of Ireland, (£4530)
- Katherine Smith (Strathclyde University), Witness Seminars and an SPA Conference Symposium exploring 25 Years of Devolution, (£4962)

### Policy Groups

We issued a call for additional Social Policy groups to the three already operating Employment Policy; Housing Policy; Climate Justice and Social Policy. In addition to these three groups, the SPA decided to award and fund the following policy groups:

- Family policy
- Pensions policy
- Tax policy
- Social Harm

These groups will work collaboratively to:

- review key policy developments in the UK both at the level of the Westminster UK government and the governments in the devolved nations drawing on existing evidence.
- help stimulate academic, public and policy debate about key social policy issues as well as provide material useful for social policy students and teachers.
- form the basis of networks to bring together members of the SPA with interests in each field, for example organising symposia at the SPA conference.
- organise policy roundtables and workshops to actively engage with policy-makers, practitioners and other academics beyond current SPA membership but with a view to encouraging people to join the SPA.

# The Social Policy Association

## Trustees' Report

All our Policy Groups have clear plans to consider and report on issues relating to equality, diversity and inclusion. In particular, the ways in which policy affects Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) people, women, disabled people and those in other groups with protected characteristics is a key concern for all.

The groups are funded for two years (October 2023 - September 2025).

### Financial instruments

#### Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

#### Credit risk

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows. The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies. The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

# The Social Policy Association

## Trustees' Report

### Reserves Policy

In line with our commitment to ensure the financial stability of the Association, we decided to formalise our financial reserve policy and the policy to set our current reserve at £130,000 was adopted by the trustees of the SPA at our April 2019 Executive meeting. Our reserve balances with Tridos bank. On 31st December 2023 the balance was £134,845.09.

We decided to open new savings account with the Charity Bank and place an initial deposit of £10,000 in a one-year fixed-term savings account. We aim to deposit an additional amount, up to £85,000 to minimise our exposure under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

## The Social Policy Association

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

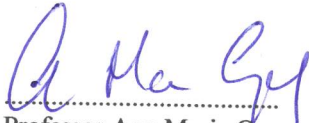
The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 4 July 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Professor Ann Marie Gray  
Trustee

**The Social Policy Association**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Social Policy Association**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 10 to 16.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 next statement.

**Independent examiner's statement**

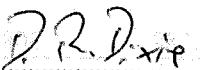
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



David Dixie F C A

Dixie Associates  
167 Black Haynes Road  
Selly Oak  
Birmingham  
B29 4RE

4 July 2024

## The Social Policy Association

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Charitable activities		160,641	160,641
Investment income	3	<u>3,578</u>	<u>3,578</u>
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>164,219</u>	<u>164,219</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities		<u>(163,964)</u>	<u>(163,964)</u>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<u>(163,964)</u>	<u>(163,964)</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		255	255
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<u>345,631</u>	<u>345,631</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	8	<u>345,886</u>	<u>345,886</u>
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Charitable activities		105,511	105,511
Investment income	3	<u>885</u>	<u>885</u>
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>106,396</u>	<u>106,396</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities		<u>(69,552)</u>	<u>(69,552)</u>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<u>(69,552)</u>	<u>(69,552)</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		36,844	36,844
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<u>308,788</u>	<u>308,788</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	8	<u>345,632</u>	<u>345,632</u>

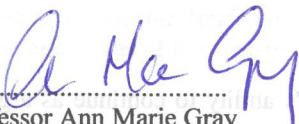
All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2022 is shown in note 8.

**The Social Policy Association**  
**(Registration number: 528347)**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand		345,886	345,631
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>		-	1
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>345,886</u>	<u>345,632</u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>345,886</u>	<u>345,632</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	8	<u>345,886</u>	<u>345,632</u>

The financial statements on pages 10 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 4 July 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

  
 .....  
 Professor Ann Marie Gray  
 Trustee

  
 .....  
 Dr Antonios Roumpakis  
 Trustee

# The Social Policy Association

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### 1 Accounting policies

#### Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

#### Basis of preparation

The Social Policy Association meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

#### Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

#### Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

#### Income and endowments

##### Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

##### Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

##### Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

##### Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

## The Social Policy Association

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

#### **Taxation**

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### **Research and development**

Research and development expenditure is written off as incurred.

#### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### **Fund structure**

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

#### **Financial instruments**

##### **Classification**

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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

##### **Recognition and measurement**

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

**The Social Policy Association**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

**2 Income from charitable activities**

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>General</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Conferences	101,506	101,506	49,377
Royalties	21,724	21,724	21,267
Other events	773	773	255
Subscriptions from members	36,638	36,638	34,612
	<u>160,641</u>	<u>160,641</u>	<u>105,511</u>

**3 Investment income**

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>General</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	3,578	3,578	885

## The Social Policy Association

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

#### 4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds		Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
	General £	Note		
Conferences	91,234		91,234	23,882
Publications	17,011		17,011	6,000
Grants	13,282		13,282	3,600
Administration etc.	17,961		17,961	23,404
Website and member services	6,236		6,236	4,385
Bank charges	60		60	81
Legal and professional services	17,160		17,160	-
Allocated support costs	-		-	7,180
Governance costs	1,020		1,020	1,020
	<u>163,964</u>		<u>163,964</u>	<u>69,552</u>

#### 5 Analysis of governance and support costs

##### Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds		Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
	General £	Note		
Independent examiner fees				
Examination of the financial statements	720		720	720
Legal fees	300		300	300
	<u>1,020</u>		<u>1,020</u>	<u>1,020</u>

#### 6 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

## The Social Policy Association

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

#### 7 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

#### 8 Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	(345,631)	(164,219)	163,964	(345,886)
	<b>Balance at 1 January 2022 £</b>	<b>Incoming resources £</b>	<b>Resources expended £</b>	<b>Balance at 31 December 2022 £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	(308,788)	(106,396)	69,552	(345,632)

#### 9 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Current assets	345,886	345,886

#### 10 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 January 2023 £	Cash flow £	At 31 December 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	345,631	255	345,886
Net debt	345,631	255	345,886

**THE SOCIAL POLICY ASSOCIATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 528347

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# Accounts

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Charity registration number: 528347

# The Social Policy Association

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

David Dixie F C A  
Dixie Associates  
167 Black Haynes Road  
Selly Oak  
Birmingham  
B29 4RE

# The Social Policy Association

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Independent Examiner's Report	8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 to 15

## **The Social Policy Association**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

<b>Trustees</b>	Professor Ann Marie Gray, Chair (appointed 7 July 2022) Mr James Stanyer, Vice Chair Dr Vikki Borland nee McCall, Secretary Dr Antonios Roumpakis, Treasurer Dr Jennifer Hamilton, Membership Dr Lee James Gregory (appointed 7 July 2022) Dr Gideon James Calder Dr Chui Man (Ruby) Chau Dr Elke Heins Dr Enrico Reuter Dr Ellen Stewart Dr Kate Summers Dr Janice Tripney (appointed 7 July 2022) Mr Ewan Robinson (appointed 28 January 2022) Folasade Ajose (appointed 7 July 2022) Dr Naomi Finch (appointed 28 January 2022) Dr Carolyn Snell (appointed 7 July 2022) Dr Steve Rolfe (appointed 7 July 2022) Dr Markus Ketola Professor Anya Ahmed Dr Steve Iafrati Professor Karen Rowlingson, Chair (resigned 7 July 2022) Dr Sarah Brooks-Wilson (resigned 7 July 2022)
<b>Other Officers</b>	Baroness Doreen Lawrence, President
<b>Principal Office</b>	10 Queen Street Place London EC4R 1BE
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	528347
<b>Bankers</b>	Triodos CAF Bank (Charities Aid Foundation)
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	David Dixie F C A Dixie Associates 167 Black Haynes Road Selly Oak Birmingham B29 4RE

# The Social Policy Association

## Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022.

### **Objectives and activities**

#### ***Objects and aims***

The Social Policy Association (SPA), formerly the Social Administration Association was founded in 1967 and is a registered charity. Its objectives are:

- ~ To advance education and learning and in particular to advance teaching, research and the dissemination of knowledge in the field of social policy and administration.
- ~ To organise or assist in organising lectures, classes, meetings, conferences and other courses of study for the benefit of its members.
- ~ To conduct or commission research and publish its results.
- ~ To print, publish and distribute books and other publications that facilitate networks within, and encourage the development of, the field of social policy.
- ~ To make representation to government and other relevant agencies about the activities of the association.
- ~ To spend funds and employ people in order to further the purposes of the association.

#### ***Public benefit***

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

### **Achievements and performance**

We are delighted to report that in spite of the challenges created by the pandemic, the finances of the association continue to be healthy and sound. As of December 31st, 2022, the end of our financial year, we have a total current assets of £345,632, compared with £308,788 at year end 2021 and £263,130 at year end 2020. In 2022 our total income was £106,396; total expenditure was £69,552 meaning that net movement totalled +£36,844.

#### **Trends in income**

Conference income in 2022 made up 47% of our overall income (in 2021 it was 14%). Membership income made up 33% (in 2021 it was 45%) with the remaining 20% being made up of royalty payments (in 2021 it was 40%).

#### ***Conference income***

Conference income in 2022 was £49,377. This was a substantive increase from previous years as this was the first in-person conference since the breakout of covid-19. We will continue to use the 'in-house' model to run our annual conferences.

#### ***Membership income***

In 2022 membership income was £34,612, in 2021 it was £37,287 and in 2020 it was £30,641.

## **The Social Policy Association**

### **Trustees' Report**

Membership income is determined both by the rate but also the level that members contribute at. As well as ensuring that membership fees keep pace with inflation, it is also important to ensure that members are contributing at the correct level. The fees were not raised last year due to the combination of relatively stagnant, for the last few years, wages in the sector and the ongoing cost of living crisis. We are currently in the process of reviewing the fee structure but we do also want to reflect on the impact of the ongoing industrial action within the sector and any financial penalties many members would have and continue to experience.

## The Social Policy Association

### Trustees' Report

#### *Details of members end of Dec 2022*

Total members: 555

This is up on the membership reported in 2021 of 517 and 2020 of 457. This increase in members is welcomed and SPA membership will be promoted.

Type of membership	Fee	2020	2021	2022
UK Band 1	£40	111	127	136
UK Band 2	£75	55	57	52
UK Band 3	£95	114	120	123
UK Band 4	£125	82	87	99
International Band 1 (inc PhD)	£40	22	28	33
International Band 2	£75	11	17	16
International Band 3	£95	14	20	31
International Band 4	£125	8	11	18
UK Organisation	£100	5	7	8
International Organisation	£50	-	-	-
Economic South	£10	28	39	33
Missing Data		7	4	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>457</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>555</b>

Note that UK Band 1 in this table include UK PhD students (71) and Undergraduate students (8)

116 members identify as Early Career.

#### **Royalties**

Royalties income was £21,267 in 2022, £32,614 in 2021 and £8,483 in 2020. This includes royalties paid in respect of our journals (Cambridge University Press) plus other publications (e.g. our joint publications with Policy Press).

#### **Administrative costs**

In 2022, the SPA made a considerable payment to cover administrative support costs, with Becki Orleans (University of Birmingham) and Victoria Duffy (Ulster University) providing valuable assistance and support to the SPA executive team. The total cost was £23,404 in 2022 and £8,747 in 2021.

#### **2022 Opportunity Grants**

In April 2022, the SPA funded three Opportunity Grant applications with a combined total of £5,480. The successful candidates were:

- Volkan Yilmaz from Dublin City University, with co-applicants Antonios Roumpakis and Theo Papadopoulos, who will examine 'The Contemporary Forms of Familialism in Social Policy: New Challenges and Future Tasks'

## The Social Policy Association

### Trustees' Report

- Stephen Crossley from the University Durham, with Stephen Ashe, Alison Jobe, Hannah King and Sui Ting Kong, will be examining 'Listening to all voices? The politics of 'lived experience': concerns, contradictions, challenges'
- Lucy Grimshaw from Northumbria University will be holding a 'Childhood, care and coronavirus conference'

Congratulations to all of the Opportunity Grant recipients.

It was decided not to hold a round in September as would be usual in order to give the SPA exec a chance to look at the Opportunity Grant programme and make some structural changes. The programme has returned as usual in 2023.

Katherine Allen and colleagues from the Centre for Abuse Research at the University of Suffolk is organising a cross-disciplinary event examining responses to domestic abuse.

Samuel Mann from Swansea and Lee Gregory from Birmingham held a 'queer populations, perspectives and policies' event examining the role of LGBTQ+ debates in Social Policy.

Alison Garnham from CPAG organised a 'secure futures for children and families' conference.

Rosie Warnock from University of York engaged with policy makers to examine support needed for parents and carers of children with additional needs after lockdown.

#### Policy Groups

We have so far commissioned four groups and may call for further applications later in 2022. Two groups 'Employment Policy in Context' and 'Employment and Social Security Policy' groups have decided to merge into one. The other two policy groups are focusing on 'Housing Policy' and 'Climate Justice and Social Policy'.

All our Policy Groups have clear plans to consider and report on issues relating to equality, diversity and inclusion. In particular, the ways in which policy affects Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) people, women, disabled people and those in other groups with protected characteristics is a key concern for all.

#### Financial instruments

##### *Objectives and policies*

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

##### *Credit risk*

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows. The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies. The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

## **The Social Policy Association**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### ***Reserves Policy***

Our current reserve is set at £130,000 and was adopted by the Trustees of the SPA at our April 2019 Executive meeting. Our reserve balance on 31 December 2022 was £131,730.87.

## The Social Policy Association

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

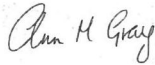
The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on <sup>5/8/23</sup>..... and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
Professor Ann Marie Gray  
Trustee

## The Social Policy Association

### Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Social Policy Association

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 9 to 15.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 next statement.

#### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



.....  
David Dixie F C A

Dixie Associates  
167 Black Haynes Road  
Selly Oak  
Birmingham  
B29 4RE

Date: 05/07/23

## The Social Policy Association

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Charitable activities		105,511	105,511
Investment income	3	<u>885</u>	<u>885</u>
Total Income		<u>106,396</u>	<u>106,396</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities		<u>(69,552)</u>	<u>(69,552)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(69,552)</u>	<u>(69,552)</u>
Net movement in funds		36,844	36,844
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		<u>308,788</u>	<u>308,788</u>
Total funds carried forward	9	<u>345,632</u>	<u>345,632</u>
		Unrestricted funds £	Total 2021 £
	Note		
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Charitable activities		81,503	81,503
Investment income	3	<u>172</u>	<u>172</u>
Total Income		<u>81,675</u>	<u>81,675</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities		<u>(36,018)</u>	<u>(36,018)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(36,018)</u>	<u>(36,018)</u>
Net movement in funds		45,657	45,657
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		<u>263,131</u>	<u>263,131</u>
Total funds carried forward	9	<u>308,788</u>	<u>308,788</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.  
The funds breakdown for 2021 is shown in note 9.

**The Social Policy Association**  
**(Registration number: 528347)**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2022**

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	8	-	7,672
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>345,631</u>	<u>301,116</u>
		345,631	308,788
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>			
		<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u><u>345,632</u></u>	<u><u>308,788</u></u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>345,632</u>	<u>308,788</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	9	<u><u>345,632</u></u>	<u><u>308,788</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 9 to 15 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 5th July 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

*Ann M Gray*

.....  
 Professor Ann Marie Gray  
 Trustee

*Antonios Roumpakis*

.....  
 Dr Antonios Roumpakis  
 Trustee

## The Social Policy Association

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

#### 1 Accounting policies

##### **Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

##### **Basis of preparation**

The Social Policy Association meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

##### **Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement**

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

##### **Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

##### **Income and endowments**

##### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

##### **Charitable activities**

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

##### **Support costs**

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

##### **Governance costs**

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

## The Social Policy Association

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

#### **Taxation**

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### **Research and development**

Research and development expenditure is written off as incurred.

#### **Trade debtors**

are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of is established when there is objective evidence that the will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

#### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### **Fund structure**

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

#### **Financial instruments**

##### *Classification*

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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

## The Social Policy Association

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

#### *Recognition and measurement*

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

#### **2 Income from charitable activities**

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>
	<b>General</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Conferences	49,377	49,377	11,228
Royalties	21,267	21,267	32,614
Other events	255	255	374
Subscriptions from members	34,612	34,612	37,287
	<u>105,511</u>	<u>105,511</u>	<u>81,503</u>

#### **3 Investment income**

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>
	<b>General</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	885	885	172
	<u>885</u>	<u>885</u>	<u>172</u>

## The Social Policy Association

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

#### 4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Conferences		23,882	23,882	5,019
Other events		-	-	165
Publications		6,000	6,000	12,576
Grants		3,600	3,600	3,782
Administration etc.		23,404	23,404	8,747
Website and member services		4,385	4,385	4,253
Bank charges		81	81	96
Allocated support costs		7,180	7,180	75
Governance costs		1,020	1,020	1,305
		<u>69,552</u>	<u>69,552</u>	<u>36,018</u>

#### 5 Analysis of governance and support costs

##### Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Independent examiner fees			
Examination of the financial statements	720	720	1,080
Legal fees	300	300	225
	<u>1,020</u>	<u>1,020</u>	<u>1,305</u>

#### 6 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

## The Social Policy Association

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

#### 7 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

#### 8 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Prepayments	<u>-</u>	<u>7,672</u>

#### 9 Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	<u>(308,788)</u>	<u>(106,396)</u>	<u>69,552</u>	<u>(345,632)</u>

	Balance at 1 January 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2021 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	<u>(263,131)</u>	<u>(81,675)</u>	<u>36,018</u>	<u>(308,788)</u>

#### 10 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Current assets	345,631	345,631
Current liabilities	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Total net assets	<u>345,632</u>	<u>345,632</u>

#### 11 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 January 2022 £	Cash flow £	At 31 December 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	301,116	44,515	345,631
Net debt	<u>301,116</u>	<u>44,515</u>	<u>345,631</u>

**THE SOCIAL POLICY ASSOCIATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 528347

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# Accounts

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Charity registration number: 528347

# The Social Policy Association

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

David Dixie F C A  
Dixie Associates  
167 Black Haynes Road  
Selly Oak  
Birmingham  
B29 4RE

# The Social Policy Association

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# **The Social Policy Association**

## **Reference and Administrative Details**

<b>Trustees</b>	Professor Karen Rowlingson, Chair Dr Steve Iafrati, Vice Chair Dr Markus Ketola, Secretary Professor Anya Ahmed, Treasurer Dr Jennifer Hamilton, Membership (appointed 15 January 2021) Dr Sarah Brooks-Wilson Dr Gideon Calder Dr Chui Man Chau Dr Naomi Finch (appointed 28 January 2022) Dr Lee James Gregory (resigned 15 January 2021) Dr Elke Heins Dr Vikki McCall Dr Theo Papadopoulos (resigned 7 July 2021) Dr Antonios Roumpakis Dr Enrico Reuter Mr Ewan Robinson (appointed 28 January 2022) Dr Ellen Stewart Dr Kate Summers Mr James Stanyer
<b>Other Officers</b>	Baroness Doreen Lawrence, President (appointed 7 July 2021) Professor Ruth Lister, President (resigned 7 July 2021)
<b>Principal Office</b>	10 Queen Street Place London EC4R 1BE
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	528347
<b>Bankers</b>	Triodos CAF Bank (Charities Aid Foundation)
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	David Dixie F C A Dixie Associates 167 Black Haynes Road Selly Oak Birmingham B29 4RE

# The Social Policy Association

## Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021.

### Objectives and activities

#### *Objects and aims*

The Social Policy Association (SPA), formerly the Social Administration Association was founded in 1967 and is a registered charity. Its objectives are:

- ~ To advance education and learning and in particular to advance teaching, research and the dissemination of knowledge in the field of social policy and administration.
- ~ To organise or assist in organising lectures, classes, meetings, conferences and other courses of study for the benefit of its members.
- ~ To conduct or commission research and publish its results.
- ~ To print, publish and distribute books and other publications that facilitate networks within, and encourage the development of, the field of social policy.
- ~ To make representation to government and other relevant agencies about the activities of the association.
- ~ To spend funds and employ people in order to further the purposes of the association.

#### *Public benefit*

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

### Achievements and performance

We are delighted to report that in spite of the challenges created by the pandemic, the finances of the association continue to be healthy and sound. As of December 31st, 2021, the end of our financial year, we have a total current assets of £308,788, compared with £263,130 at year end 2020 and £255,311 at year end 2019. In 2021 our total income was £81,675; total expenditure was £36,018 meaning that net movement totalled +£45,657.

#### *Trends in income*

Conference income in 2021 made up 14% of our overall income. Membership income made up 46% with the remaining 40% being made up of royalty payments.

In 2021 the SPA made some significant investments: The SPA continued with their two annual calls for applicants for opportunity grants. Expenditure on Small Grants totalled just under £3,782 (of a total £7,270.70 allocated). Previously, the grants had been suspended during covid and were reopened with advice that events should be online if possible and that safety should at all times be paramount. As with previous years, we had a limit of £2,000 per application and allocated £10,000 for potential grants throughout the year. As expected, there was a lower number of applications than had been received in previous years before covid. This was understandable, and those that did apply had a strong emphasis on remote engagement as well as some interesting and innovative ideas regarding food deliveries and virtual childcare.

The SPA also invested in the commissioning of four policy groups:

Employment Policy in Context Group

# The Social Policy Association

## Trustees' Report

Employment and Social Security Policy Group

Housing Policy Group

Climate Justice and Social Policy Group

### *Conference income*

Conference income in 2021 was £11,228. In 2020 we had to cancel the conference due to the pandemic therefore no income was received. Typically, conference income comprises 30% of our overall income.

The conference in 2021 took place online as health and safety regulations did not allow us to organise a major event in-person. We decided to opt for a low-cost conference (mainly organised on Zoom) and at the same time keep registration fees low for members. The conference was organised for members only as we regarded that this was a unique opportunity to showcase what the SPA membership offers and attract new members (international, practitioners/professionals). In the event we had an attendance of 221, compared to 208 at the previous 'conventional' conference at Durham in 2019. Although the online conference did not aim to make a profit, the higher participation rate (than we were expecting) meant that the conference did manage to produce a surplus of almost £4,000.

We also received a refund (£6,150.18) from the University of York conferences for the cancellation.

### *Membership income*

In 2021 membership income was £37,287, in 2020 it was £30,641 and in 2019 it was £31,719.

Membership income is determined both by the rate but also the level that members contribute at. As well as ensuring that membership fees keep pace with inflation, it is also important to ensure that members are contributing at the correct level. Given that salaries in the sector have been relatively stagnant for the last few years over this period and many members are reporting less generous institutional fees were not raised last year. We are currently in the process of reviewing the fee structure which has been delayed previously due to financial penalties many members would have experienced from strike action within the sector.

# The Social Policy Association

## Trustees' Report

### *Details of members end of Dec 2021*

Total members: 517

This is up on the membership reported in 2020 of 457 and the 2019 figure of 429. This increase in members is welcomed and SPA membership will be promoted throughout 2022.

Type of membership	Fee	Number 2020	Number 2021
UK Band 1	£40	111	127
UK Band 2	£75	55	57
UK Band 3	£95	114	120
UK Band 4	£125	82	87
International Band 1 (inc PhD)	£40	22	28
International Band 2	£75	11	17
International Band 3	£95	14	20
International Band 4	£125	8	11
UK Organisation	£100	5	7
International Organisation	£50	-	-
Economic South	£10	28	39
Missing Data		7	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>457</b>	<b>517</b>

Note that UK Band 1 in this table include UK PhD students and Undergraduate students

4 missing members can be explained by those who have 'administration' rights but are not paid members.

### *Royalties*

Royalties income was £32,614, in 2020 it was £8,483 and in 2019 it was £17,491. This includes royalties paid in respect of our journals plus other publications (e.g. our joint publications with Policy Press). Royalties from the Policy Press

This was the first year we received royalties from the Journal of International and Comparative Social Policy. We did not receive any payment for journal support for Journal of Social Policy in 2020 so this was paid in 2021

### **Financial instruments**

#### *Objectives and policies*

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

#### *Credit risk*

## **The Social Policy Association**

### **Trustees' Report**

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows. The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies. The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

# **The Social Policy Association**

## **Trustees' Report**

### ***Reserves Policy***

In line with our commitment to ensure the financial stability of the Association, we decided to formalise our financial reserves policy and the policy to set our current reserve at £130,000 was adopted by the Trustees of the SPA at our April 2019 Executive meeting. Our reserve bank balance on 31 December 2021 was £131,034.

## **The Social Policy Association**

### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

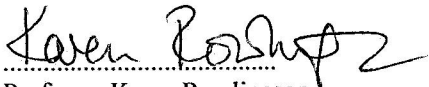
The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 5 July 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Professor Karen Rowlingson  
Trustee

## The Social Policy Association

### Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Social Policy Association

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are set out on pages 9 to 15.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 next statement.

#### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

  
.....  
David Dixie F C A

Dixie Associates  
167 Black Haynes Road  
Selly Oak  
Birmingham  
B29 4RE

22 June 2022

## The Social Policy Association

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2021 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Charitable activities		81,503	81,503
Investment income	3	<u>172</u>	<u>172</u>
Total Income		<u>81,675</u>	<u>81,675</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities		<u>(36,018)</u>	<u>(36,018)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(36,018)</u>	<u>(36,018)</u>
Net movement in funds		45,657	45,657
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		<u>263,131</u>	<u>263,131</u>
Total funds carried forward	9	<u>308,788</u>	<u>308,788</u>
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2020 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Charitable activities		39,123	39,123
Investment income	3	<u>199</u>	<u>199</u>
Total Income		<u>39,322</u>	<u>39,322</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities		<u>(31,502)</u>	<u>(31,502)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(31,502)</u>	<u>(31,502)</u>
Net movement in funds		7,820	7,820
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		<u>255,310</u>	<u>255,310</u>
Total funds carried forward	9	<u>263,130</u>	<u>263,130</u>

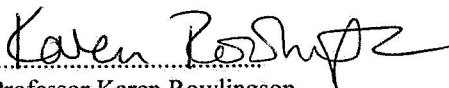
All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

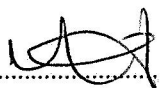
The funds breakdown for 2020 is shown in note 9.

**The Social Policy Association**  
**(Registration number: 528347)**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2021**

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	8	7,672	9,571
Cash at bank and in hand		301,116	253,560
		308,788	263,131
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>			
		-	(1)
<b>Net assets</b>		308,788	263,130
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		308,788	263,130
<b>Total funds</b>	9	308,788	263,130

The financial statements on pages 9 to 15 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 5 July 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

  
 .....  
 Professor Karen Rowlingson  
 Trustee

  
 .....  
 Professor Anya Ahmed  
 Trustee

## **The Social Policy Association**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

#### **1 Accounting policies**

##### **Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

##### **Basis of preparation**

The Social Policy Association meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

##### **Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement**

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

##### **Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

##### **Income and endowments**

##### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

##### **Charitable activities**

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

##### **Support costs**

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

##### **Governance costs**

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

## **The Social Policy Association**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

#### **Taxation**

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### **Research and development**

Research and development expenditure is written off as incurred.

#### **Trade debtors**

are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of is established when there is objective evidence that the will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

#### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### **Fund structure**

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

#### **Financial instruments**

##### ***Classification***

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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

## The Social Policy Association

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

#### *Recognition and measurement*

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

#### 2 Income from charitable activities

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		
	<b>General</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Conferences	11,228	11,228	-
Royalties	32,614	32,614	8,482
Other events	374	374	-
Subscriptions from members	37,287	37,287	30,641
	<u>81,503</u>	<u>81,503</u>	<u>39,123</u>

#### 3 Investment income

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		
	<b>General</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	172	172	199
	<u>172</u>	<u>172</u>	<u>199</u>

## The Social Policy Association

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

#### 4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
Note	General £	£	£
Conferences	5,019	5,019	-
Other events	165	165	250
Publications	12,576	12,576	18,075
Grants	3,782	3,782	2,549
Administration etc.	8,747	8,747	3,819
Website and member services	4,253	4,253	5,025
Bank charges	96	96	60
Allocated support costs	75	75	-
Governance costs	1,305	1,305	1,724
	<u>36,018</u>	<u>36,018</u>	<u>31,502</u>

#### 5 Analysis of governance and support costs

##### Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	General £	£	£
Independent examiner fees			
Examination of the financial statements	1,080	1,080	720
Legal fees	225	225	63
Other governance costs	-	-	941
	<u>1,305</u>	<u>1,305</u>	<u>1,724</u>

#### 6 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

## The Social Policy Association

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

#### 7 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

#### 8 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Prepayments	<u>7,672</u>	<u>9,571</u>

#### 9 Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2021 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	<u>(263,131)</u>	<u>(81,675)</u>	<u>36,018</u>	<u>(308,788)</u>

	Balance at 1 January 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2020 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	<u>(255,310)</u>	<u>(39,322)</u>	<u>31,502</u>	<u>(263,130)</u>

#### 10 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Current assets	<u>308,788</u>	<u>308,788</u>

#### 11 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 January 2021 £	Cash flow £	At 31 December 2021 £
Cash at bank and in hand	253,560	47,556	301,116
Net debt	<u>253,560</u>	<u>47,556</u>	<u>301,116</u>