

**JAMES WILLIAMSON AND OTHER MEMORIAL FUNDS TRUST
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their report and audited financial statements for the James Williamson and Other Memorial Funds Trust for the year ended 31 December 2023. The Trustees confirm that the report and financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) as well as the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

Results and financial review

The Trustees advise that the only source of income for 2023 was bank deposit interest which amounted to £218 (2022: £56). At the year-end unrestricted funds stand at £6,534 (2022: £6,316). These funds are held for use in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Structure, governance and management

The Charity is an unincorporated charity established under a Deed of Trust dated 10 April 1984 which establishes the objects of the Charity and the powers of the Trustees.

Appointment of Trustees

The Trustees shall be the present office-bearers of the Law Society of Northern Ireland, in the case of each of them for so long as they hold office as President, Senior Vice-President, Junior Vice-President and Honorary Treasurer.

The Trustees who served during the year were:

Brian Speers
Brigid Napier (resigned 29 November 2023)
Brian Archer
Darren Toombs
Colin Mitchell (appointed 29 November 2023)

The Trustees at the date this report was approved, are listed on page 1. The Trustees must offer their resignation after ceasing to be an office bearer in the Society. During the year to 31 December 2023, there were no more than four serving Trustees at any given time.

Purpose, objectives and activities

The objective of the Trust is to make provision for any or all of the following:

- 1) Awards of such amount and to such one or more students as the trustees may from time to time determine for:
 - a) achievement in examinations held by the Society or the institute;
 - b) proficiency in debating, or;
- 2) Making financial provision (including the cost of travel) for:
 - a) special educational lectures or talks to be given to students;
 - b) aiding or assisting any society or organisation of students or recently qualified solicitors or any member or members thereof having the object of promoting their education, expertise or development in the profession or the study of law or its practice.

Achievements, performance and future developments

The charity made no disbursements during the year (2022: nil). The Trustees are considering the future of the charity in order to effectively fulfil its charitable objectives.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Public benefit

The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland has published guidance to charity Trustees and provided guidance on the principles of public benefit to the advancement of education. The Trustees have considered the relevant guidance and are satisfied that all the charity's charitable activities fall within its objectives and result in considerable benefit to the public, as demonstrated in the section of this report dealing with achievements and performance.

Reserves policy

The Trustees aim to maintain the free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which will allow them to consider grant applications from the Society for educational purposes.

Funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others

The charity does not hold any funds as custodian for any other Trustee body.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

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

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland 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 Trust and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Trust for that period.

In preparing the 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 accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departure 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 Trust will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of disclosure of information to the independent auditors

So far as each of the Trustees in office at the date of approval of these financial statements is aware:

- there is no relevant information of which the charity's independent auditors are unaware; and
- they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as Trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the charity's independent auditors are aware of that information.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Reference and administrative details

Administrative details are included on page 1.

Independent auditors

The auditors, Harbinson Mulholland, have indicated their willingness to continue in office, and a resolution concerning their reappointment will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

The Trustees' report was approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees/Directors and signed on their behalf by:

Darren Toombs

Trustee

Date: 16 October 2024