

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

Scotland · Charity number SC009345

## Details

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Status	Active
Legal form	SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
Registered	1942-10-14
Register	<a href="#">View on the OSCR register</a>

## Contact

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Address	2 Target Wood Drive Inchmarlo Banchory Aberdeenshire AB31 4FY
Website	<a href="http://www.scottishbeekeepers.org.uk">www.scottishbeekeepers.org.uk</a>

## Activities

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**Activities:** 'It carries out activities or services itself'

**Purposes:** 'the advancement of education', 'the advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science', 'the advancement of environmental protection or improvement'

**What the charity does:** In pursuit of our charitable purposes, we support Scottish beekeepers in many ways, including providing a comprehensive education and examination system, public and product liability insurance cover, and wide-ranging support and advice. We promote honey bees and honey bee products through extensive interaction with the general public.

**Beneficiaries:** 'Other defined groups', 'No specific group, or for the benefit of the community'

**Objectives:** The organisation's purposes are to support honeybees and beekeepers, to improve the standard of beekeeping, and to promote honeybee products in Scotland through: 4.1 the advancement of education, including that specifically directed towards children, in relation to the craft of beekeeping. 4.2 the advancement of the heritage, culture and science of beekeeping. and 4.3 the advancement of environmental protection by conservation of the honeybee.

## Geography

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- **Main operating location:** Midlothian
- **Geographical spread:** Operations cover all or most of Scotland

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£142,716	£160,747	-	1
2024-12-31	£134,347	£170,133	-	1
2023-12-31	£129,463	£183,911	-	1
2022-12-31	£136,456	£137,011	-	0
2021-12-31	£140,997	£191,155	-	0
2020-12-31	£78,902	£77,070	-	0

**Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)**

Scotland - Charity number SC009345

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# Accounts

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## **Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)**

**Financial Statements and Trustees' Report  
Year ended 31st December 2025**

**Charity Number SC009345**

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

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# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Reference and Administrative Information

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**Charity name** Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

**Charity number** SC009345

**Principal address** 2 Target Wood Drive  
Inchmarlo  
Banchory  
Aberdeenshire  
AB31 4FY

### Trustees

#### Elected Office Holders

Matthew Richardson ( <i>President</i> )	From 29/04/2023
Enid Brown ( <i>Vice President</i> )	From 26/04/2025
Graham Torrie ( <i>General Secretary</i> )	From 26/04/2025
Caroline MacKenzie ( <i>General Secretary</i> )	Until 26/04/2025
John Graham ( <i>Treasurer</i> )	From 26/04/2025
Chris Urie ( <i>Treasurer</i> )	Until 26/04/2025

#### General Trustees

Alan Riach ( <i>Education &amp; Promotion of Beekeeping</i> )	
Andrew Watson ( <i>Outreach Trustee</i> )	Re-elected 26/04/2025
Bronwen Wright ( <i>Young Beekeepers Officer</i> )	Re-elected 26/04/2025
Caroline MacKenzie	Re-elected 26/04/2025
Enid Brown ( <i>Shows and Publicity Officer</i> )	Re-elected 26/04/2025
Gino Jabbar	
Graham Torrie ( <i>Insurance Trustee</i> )	
Jacqui Ferguson	
John Graham ( <i>Treasurer</i> )	
Matthew Richardson ( <i>ICT Officer &amp; Bee Health &amp; Science Officer</i> )	
Mhairi Neill ( <i>Membership Officer</i> )	
Ilona Shiliday	
John Hendrie	
Chris Urie	Resigned 26/04/2025
Stephen Sunderland	Resigned 26/04/2025

**Non-Trustee Support** Michelle Berry (*Development Officer & SBA Magazine Editor*)

### Bankers

CAF Bank  
25 Kings Hill Avenue  
Kings Hill, West Malling  
Kent, ME19 4JQ

Virgin Money  
35 Regent Street  
London  
SW1Y 4ND

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Reference and Administrative Information

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**Solicitors** Taggart Meil Mathers  
20 Bon-Accord Square  
Aberdeen, AB11 6DJ

**Independent Examiner** Elizabeth Dalgetty  
Gateside Farm Cottage  
Bridge of Earn  
Perthshire  
PH2 8QR

**Investment Adviser** St. James Place  
1 Tetbury Road  
Cirencester  
GL7 1FP

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Trustees' Report

### For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

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The Trustees have the pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements for the period ended 31st December 2025

#### Objectives and Activities

The organisation's purposes are to support honeybees and beekeepers, to improve the standard of beekeeping, and to promote honeybee products in Scotland through:

- the advancement of education in relation to the craft of beekeeping,
- the advancement of the heritage, culture and science of beekeeping, and
- the advancement of environmental protection by conservation of the honey bee.

#### Structure, Governance and Management

The Scottish Beekeepers Association (SBA) is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO), registration number SCO09345.

The activities of the Association are ultimately controlled by the Board of Trustees, which meets regularly throughout the year, guided by a structured constitution and supporting governance documents. The SBA operates several sub committees formed to manage daily business in an appropriate, effective and efficient way. These sub committees ensure that the SBA pursues its charitable purpose in a professional manner to the benefit of its members.

Trustees are appointed or reappointed at the Annual General Meeting, with each trustee having a period of tenure of up to 3 years, with a maximum time of service of 9 consecutive years. The President has the opportunity of having a maximum trustee tenure of 12 years including that of her/his presidency.

The SBA Board of Trustees met on seven occasions in 2025, five of these online and two in-person. In addition, our 2025 Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Saturday 26 April 2025 at the SRUC Barony Campus, Parkgate, Dumfries. This enabled SBA business to be conducted and decisions to be made to advance the aims of the association. As well as dealing with business matters, our AGM was a welcome opportunity to meet and enjoy social interaction with SBA members from across Scotland.

At a national level, the SBA attended meetings with the Scottish Government Bee Health Improvement Partnership (BHIP), Council of National Beekeeping Associations of the UK (CONBA) and the National Diploma in Beekeeping group.

#### Key Events and Activities

##### ApiScotia

The 2025 ApiScotia event took place in early May and was once again a outstanding success, largely due to the hard work of the organising team, the tutors, and others involved in its planning and delivery. The ApiScotia programme aims to educate beekeepers in honeybee management with a view to them taking on teaching and mentoring responsibilities in their own associations and areas. The event will be repeated in May 2026.

##### Annual General Meeting

As part of an initiative to engage with as many SBA members as possible, we continued to hold our AGM in different locations around Scotland. In 2025, we met in Dumfries, giving the opportunity for our members based in the south of Scotland the chance to come along without facing the prospect of travelling excessive distances. Fifty-six members took part in a full day of business and learning. It is our intention to hold the 2026 AGM in Aberdeen.

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Trustees' Report

### For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

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#### Royal Highland Show

In June 2025, the SBA once again ran the Honey Tent at the Royal Highland Show, Ingliston. The Honey Tent is one of the most popular attractions at the show, attracting around 9000 visitors daily over the four days. Planning, organising, and running this event is a huge challenge for a small charity and its volunteer trustees. Many SBA members generously give their time and energy to ensure that it is a success, which without their commitment and enthusiasm would not be possible.

#### Autumn Convention and Scottish National Honey Show

The 2025 SBA Annual Convention and Scottish National Honey Show were held on 10 and 11 October at the Loch Leven Community Campus in Kinross. Delegates enjoyed the opportunity to hear talks from invited speakers, browse a wide range of trade stands, and to meet and discuss the beekeeping season. The Scottish National Honey Show received several hundred entries, and prizes were awarded to competitors in a range of classes.

#### International Meeting of Young Beekeepers (IMYB)

As a 'dry run' for the IMYB being organised by Ulster Beekeepers Association in July 2026, a short Home Nations meeting and competition was held in Northern Ireland on 11 and 12 July 2025. The venue was the College of Agriculture Food & Rural Enterprise (CAFRE) Greenmount Campus, Antrim. Teams from England and Northern Ireland, as well as Scotland, took part.

The Competition included theory tests and a practical apiary session, held in a temperature of 30°C, as well as an enjoyable picnic, treasure hunt, games session and team entertainments. Team Scotland acquitted themselves very well, coming top in the competition results.

IMYB 2026 will be held in Belfast, Northern Ireland, from 4 to 7 July, where Team Scotland will compete with other national Young Beekeepers teams from around the world.

### **Delivery and Performance**

#### EDUCATION

It is a prime aim of the SBA Education Committee to get all Beekeepers in Scotland up to Basic Beekeeping Certificate (BB) or Junior Beekeeper (JB) standard. The JB and BB Certificates are awarded at three levels - Pass = 60%, Credit = 70%, and Distinction = 80%.

In 2025, 2 Junior Beekeeper, 62 Basic Beekeeping, 2 Intermediate Practical, 1 Apiarian, 5 Microscopy and 2 Honey Judge certificates were awarded.

Again, the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) group along with the SBA Webinar officer were very successful in obtaining speakers for online webinars. Two pluses to these webinars are that we obtain interesting international speakers, and many junior beekeepers were listening in.

The International Meeting of Young Beekeepers (IMYB) generates publicity which helps with our goal to engage with young people and encourage them to take up beekeeping. To this end, we will be endeavouring to provide educational resource material that can be used in Scottish Schools. To make this self-service to some extent, a series of self-access video clips and worksheets have been produced and posted via YouTube on the SBA website. A Young Beekeepers sub-committee has also been formed, which will concentrate on supporting young beekeepers in Scotland.

The SBA Beekeeping Trainer Certificate (BTC), introduced in 2017 to encourage high standards amongst trainers, has been awarded to 40 Members since its initiation. It is available to those who have obtained one of the Intermediate Certificates (either Practical or Module) and who have also either attended one of the SBA Train the Trainers' workshops or have a professional teachers' qualification. Application details are on the website.

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Trustees' Report

### For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

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#### 2025 examinations

One candidate progressed to SBA Expert Beemaster Level, the highest SBA qualification.

The Intermediate and Apiarian exams have been altered to require minimum pass marks in all sections of the exams and an award at any level (Pass, Credit or Distinction) requires that pass level in all sections of the exam.

A microscopy exam was held in October with all five candidates passing with Distinction.

In April 2021 we introduced an Online version of the written exams, known as modules, which are run in conjunction with the British Beekeepers Association (BBKA) on the Inspira platform. Inspira is a Norwegian company specialising in online learning. The candidate sits the exam on their computer in their own home. The computer is locked down by the Inspira system and invigilation is via the computer's camera, a candidate monitoring algorithm and remote SBA invigilators. This was obviously quite a leap in technology use for candidates, but half of all candidates have adopted this method of sitting the module exams.

Fifty-four Module certificates were gained by candidates in 2025 (Including 7 Plants and Pollinators which is a supplementary module). Five Candidates achieved their Intermediate Module Certificate (4 modules) and one their Advanced Module Certificate (all 7 modules).

The Education Sub Committee has introduced a module practice system consisting of 3 practice papers, for the candidate's chosen module.

The module exams can now be entered without having first obtained a Basic Beekeeping or Junior Beekeeper certificate; however, we very much encourage beekeepers to also sit these practical assessments.

The new supplementary module exam on Plants and Pollinators is proving popular and an additional supplementary paper on the History of Beekeeping is planned for 2026. These extra modules are only held in the November diet.

#### Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) N5 Progression Award in Beekeeping

The Highlands and Islands University in conjunction with Invernesshire Beekeepers Association and the SBA has formulated a national course in beekeeping based on the SBA Basic Beekeeping syllabus. This has been approved by the SQA as a National 5 level Progression award. This now provides a course which the Scottish schools and colleges can offer, with a nationally and internationally recognised qualification.

#### Affiliated Beekeeping Association trainers

A tremendous educational effort is put in by local beekeeping association members in running beginners' classes, mentoring sessions for exam candidates, giving winter talks, and providing guidance and advice for beginners. These efforts are much appreciated by the SBA Education Sub Committee.

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Trustees' Report

### For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

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#### INSURANCE AND COMPENSATION

In support of beekeepers in Scotland, the SBA provides insurance and compensation cover for its members.

Public and Products Liability Insurance is included as part of SBA membership at no extra cost, and covers the beekeeping activities of Personal, Junior, Household, and Honorary Life members keeping up to 40 stocks of bees. Limited cover is also provided to Affiliated Beekeeping Associations (ABAs) who own bees. This indemnifies members for claims against them up to a limit of £10m, with a further £250,000 legal expenses cover.

A Confirmation of Insurance Certificate is made available to members on the SBA website. Many SBA members are asked to confirm and provide evidence that they have this sort of insurance in relation to their beekeeping activities or their honey sales.

Public and Products Liability insurance is purchased by the SBA as part of a wider insurance package ensuring that the organisation is comprehensively indemnified against risks arising from the conduct of its business as a national beekeepers' association.

Our Compensation Scheme offers some financial recompense to members who have lost bees and hives due to fire, theft, vandalism, and the foulbrood diseases. The scheme applies to Personal, Junior, and Honorary Life members. Household members may join the scheme on payment of the appropriate fee. Cover under the scheme is also provided to Affiliated Beekeeping Associations (ABAs) and to schools who maintain their own apiaries. The scheme is limited to members keeping no more than 40 stocks, which are only covered whilst located in Scotland.

#### Insurance

In the summer of 2025, an SBA member was sued for damages in relation to an incident in which members of the public were stung whilst passing near to an apiary where hive inspections were underway. The matter was passed to the SBA's insurers. Public liability cover forms part of a package of insurance taken out by the SBA. Although individual members benefit from the indemnity provided, the insurance policy is a contract between just two parties: the SBA and its insurers. In an article in the August issue of the Scottish Beekeeper, SBA members were reminded of the need to take account of the risk to others that can arise from their beekeeping activities.

#### Compensation

In the course of 2025, two changes were made to the rules of the Compensation Scheme. The first was to include losses incurred because of infestation with either Small Hive Beetle or Tropiclaelaps mites. This has been done in preparedness for the possible arrival of these pests in Scotland.

The second change aimed to ensure that the rules do not unfairly limit the amount of compensation available in cases where a single outbreak of a reportable pest or disease results in further losses beyond the initial destruction notice issued by the bee inspectors. Such claims (Class D losses) must be notified to the SBA Insurance Trustee within 30 days of the issue of a destruction notice. Previously, a member claiming under these circumstances was barred for making further claims for a period of twelve months. Now, multiple claims for compensation for losses under Class D due to the same incidence of disease or pest infestation (that is, claims made between the issue of the first destruction notice issued by the bee inspectors and the 'lifting of standstill' notice) will be considered as a single claim for the purposes of the scheme. Cover is limited to two such claims in the five-year period from the first destruction notice.

These changes to the Compensation Scheme Rules were notified to members in an article in the October issue of the Scottish Beekeeper.

Two SBA members were awarded compensation under the terms of the scheme for losses incurred during 2025. One claim related to European foulbrood and the other due to theft. A total sum of £939.27 was paid in compensation.

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Trustees' Report

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

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### DEVELOPMENT

The Development Officer led the SBA's communications, events support, and member engagement work. Key activities included:

- **Communications & Promotion:** Managing email and social media campaigns, responding to public enquiries, and promoting the SBA, its membership, and beekeeping more broadly.
- **Magazine & Content Production:** Editing and producing *The Scottish Beekeeper* magazine each month, coordinating contributors and advertisers, overseeing budgets, and maintaining website content and analytics.
- **Government & Sector Support:** Sharing official guidance from the Scottish Government and SRUC, attending Health Improvement Partnership meetings, and supporting national beekeeping initiatives.
- **Event Organisation:** Helping deliver ApiScotia®, supporting SBA events such as the AGM, Convention, and the Honey Tent at the Royal Highland Show, and managing volunteer administration for the RHS.
- **Member & Trustee Support:** Assisting trustees with administration for meetings and education events, liaising with Affiliated Beekeeping Associations, and managing SBA giveaways and printed materials.
- **Data & Reporting:** Designing and analysing surveys, managing the Development budget, applying for funding, and preparing reports for funders.
- **Internal Involvement:** Participating in SBA subgroups including ApiScotia, ICT, Convention, and Royal Highland Show.

### COMMUNICATIONS

#### Emails

The SBA has 4 main email groups: individual members, ABA (Affiliated Beekeeping Association) secretaries, website newsletter sign-ups (not necessarily members) and schools). Each of these groups receives emails from the SBA, often several per month. The tables below present an overview of these groups and all the email communications sent to these different groups in 2025 versus 2024.

	Recipients at Dec 2025	Recipients at Dec 2024	+/- Recipients
Members	1,444	1,486	-42
ABA secretaries	43	45	-2
Newsletter	1,048	1,035	13
Schools	19	19	-

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Trustees' Report

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

	2025 total emails sent	2024 total emails sent	2025 av. open rate (% of email recipients)	2024 av. open rate	2025 av. click thro' rate (% of email recipients)	2024 av. click thro' rate
Members	69	55	59%	60%	6%	7%
ABA secretaries	51	45	71%	74%	21%	24%
Newsletter	47	35	46%	47%	4%	4%
Schools	20	16	48%	49%	13%	19%
Others	38	21	69%	82%	35%	38%

It should be noted that the benchmark open rate for non-profits is 52.4% and the click rate is 2.9%

Source: MailerLite Blog 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec25

[https://www.mailerlite.com/blog/compare-your-email-performance-metrics-industry-benchmarks?utm\\_source%253Dchatgpt.com](https://www.mailerlite.com/blog/compare-your-email-performance-metrics-industry-benchmarks?utm_source%253Dchatgpt.com)

### Social media

The SBA used 7 social media sites in 2025 to communicate and raise awareness not only to members but anyone, anywhere in the world engaged with these platforms. Those sites are:

Facebook – The Scottish Beekeepers’ Association

X (Twitter) - @Scotbeekeepers

Instagram & Threads - @scottish\_beekeepers

Bluesky - @scottishbeekeepers.bsky.social

YouTube & LinkedIn– The Scottish Beekeepers’ Association

An overview of the highlights from 2025 for each of these social media channels is given in the following table.

	No. of followers end 2024	No. of followers Jan-Dec 2025	No. of posts/tweets or videos 2025	Average reach (people viewing) per month	Monthly reach change Versus 2024
FACEBOOK	3,887	+121	123	10,083	-29%
X (TWITTER)	3,549	+11	109	1,299	-56%
INSTAGRAM	2,727	+777	115	5,645	+61%
YOUTUBE	1,780	+50	1	260,865 (total views to date)	+3%
LINKEDIN	84	+27	111	266	+12%
THREADS	460	+59	109	Not Available	-
BLUESKY	98	+100	107	Not Available	-

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Trustees' Report

### For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

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These social media platforms are the free versions, with no sponsored posts in 2025. The X platform (Twitter) changed significantly in how it operates (with the new owners) and a lot of people have been migrating from this platform to others like Threads and Bluesky.

#### MEMBERSHIP

Total membership, at 31 December 2025:

	2025	2024
Affiliated Beekeepers Associations	47	44
Institutional Members	8	12
Individual, Household and Junior Members	1,853	1,920
<b>Total Voting Members</b>	<b>1,908</b>	1,976

Supporting Members	40	40
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Percentage of Members Renewing	85%	90%
Percentage of Members Returning after a break	2%	1%
Percentage of Members Joining in the Year	13%	9%

#### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The financial statements show an overall surplus of £11,969 which was unrestricted. The reserves policy of the charity is to hold 6 months unrestricted expenditure (£80,374 based on 2025), while reserves are currently below this level. It is the trustees aim, with the combination of the announced pricing and savings review, to build the up the SBA's reserves over the next three years with to its stated optimal level.

A Designated Compensation Fund has a balance of £3,000 which is available to be paid out each year at Trustees' discretion to beekeepers whose bees and equipment are lost as a result of fire, theft, and the foulbrood diseases. The Compensation Fund sum can be allocated to applicants on a yearly basis at half the cost of loss replacement and subject to colony numbers and additional payments.

#### DECLARATION

The Trustees declare they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

"Matthew Richardson"

Matthew Richardson

SBA President

Date: 30 March 2026

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Independent Examiners Report

### To The Trustees of Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

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I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2025 which are set out on pages 5 to 19.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In the course of 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 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulationshave 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.

Elizabeth Dalgetty  
Gateside Farm Cottage  
Bridge of Earn  
Perthshire  
PH2 8QR

Signature

"Elizabeth Dalgetty"

Date: 30 March 2026

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Statement of Receipts and Payments

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts:</b>							
Donations and grant funding	3	14,189	475	14,663	11,745	1,237	12,982
Charitable activities	4	125,032	-	125,032	117,961	-	117,961
Fundraising	5	2,944	-	2,944	3,348	-	3,348
Investment Income	6	77	-	77	57	-	57
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>142,242</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>142,716</b>	<b>133,110</b>	<b>1,237</b>	<b>134,347</b>
<b>Receipts From Investment Sales</b>							
Proceeds from sale of investments		30,000	-	30,000	-	-	-
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>30,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>		<b>172,242</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>172,716</b>	<b>133,110</b>	<b>1,237</b>	<b>134,347</b>
<b>Payments:</b>							
Charitable activities	7	158,472	475	158,947	166,526	2,107	168,633
Governance costs	8	1,800	-	1,800	1,500	-	1,500
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>160,272</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>160,747</b>	<b>168,026</b>	<b>2,107</b>	<b>170,133</b>
<b>Net receipts/(payments) before transfers</b>		<b>11,969</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,969</b>	<b>(34,916)</b>	<b>(870)</b>	<b>(35,786)</b>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the year</b>		<b>11,969</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,969</b>	<b>(34,916)</b>	<b>(870)</b>	<b>(35,786)</b>
Funds at 1st January 2025		319	5,315	5,634	35,235	6,185	41,420
<b>Fund at 31st December 2025</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12,289</b>	<b>5,315</b>	<b>17,603</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>5,315</b>	<b>5,634</b>

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Statement of Balances

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024
Note	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Summary of Cash Balances</b>						
Opening cash at bank and in hand	319	5,315	5,634	35,235	6,185	41,420
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	11,969	-	11,969	(34,916)	(870)	(35,786)
Closing cash at bank and in hand	<u>12,288</u>	<u>5,315</u>	<u>17,603</u>	<u>319</u>	<u>5,315</u>	<u>5,634</u>
<b>Breakdown of Bank and Cash Balances</b>						
Bank Accounts Inc Wise/PayPal			17,813			5,634
Account Receivable			(210)			-
			<u>17,603</u>			<u>5,634</u>
<b>Stocks - Books etc</b>	<u>8,040</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,040</u>	<u>8,129</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,129</u>
<b>Heritage Assets - Moir Library</b>	<b>11</b>	<u>499,933</u>	<u>499,933</u>	<u>499,933</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>499,933</u>
<b>Investments</b>			<b>Valuation</b>			<b>Valuation</b>
Held and Managed by St James Place			<b>2025</b>			<b>2024</b>
			<u>74,435</u>			<u>95,455</u>
Market Value at 31 Dec 2024			95,455			
Proceeds from sale of investments			(30,000)			
Unrealised gain on investments			8,980			
Market Value at 31 Dec 2025			<u>74,435</u>			
The investments are fully unrestricted and have a historic cost of £57,500 (2024 - £87,500)						
Creditors as at 31 Dec			750			750
2026 Income in advance Membership			8,273			-
2026 Income in advance Apiscotia			6,210			-
			<u>13,733</u>			<u>-</u>

The accounts were approved and authorised by the Trustees on 30 March 2026

Matthew Richardson  
President/Trustee

John Graham  
Treasurer/Trustee

"Matthew Richardson"

"John Graham"

Charity Registration No. SC009345

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

### 1 Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

### 2 Nature and purpose of funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the fund have been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

### 3 Donations and grant funding

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Donations and Gifts	7,044	475	7,518	4,951	1,237	6,188
Gift Aid	7,145	-	7,145	6,794	-	6,794
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants Received	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>14,189</u>	<u>475</u>	<u>14,664</u>	<u>11,745</u>	<u>1,237</u>	<u>12,982</u>

### 4 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Membership Subscriptions	71,122		71,122	75,527		75,527
Education	12,024		12,024	10,130		10,130
Convention	7,095		7,095	4,300		4,300
Library	-		-	-		-
Insurance and Compensation	1,705		1,705	1,490		1,490
Events and Merchandise	17,581		17,581	18,954		18,954
Young Beekeepers	1,125		1,125	-		-
Apiscotia	14,380		14,380	7,560		7,560
	<u>125,032</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>125,032</u>	<u>117,961</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>117,961</u>

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

### 5 Fundraising Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Magazine Advertising	2,944	-	2,944	3,348	-	3,348
	<u>2,944</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,944</u>	<u>3,348</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,348</u>

### 6 Investment Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Dividends & Interest	77	-	77	57	-	57
	<u>77</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>57</u>

### 7 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Education	5,974	-	5,974	6,665	-	6,665
Development & Publicity	39,835	-	39,835	38,628	-	38,628
Libraries	-	-	-	-	50	50
Membership	2,485	-	2,485	3,441	-	3,441
Science and Research	-	-	-	261	-	261
Magazine	43,568	-	43,568	45,563	820	46,383
Insurance & Compensation	4,232	-	4,232	3,199	-	3,199
Events and Merchandise	19,287	-	19,287	16,617	-	16,617
Convention	5,397	-	5,397	3,341	-	3,341
Young Beekeepers	862	475	1,337	6,105	1,237	7,342
General Secretariat	7,321	-	7,321	11,007	-	11,007
Finance Costs	2,466	-	2,466	3,483	-	3,483
Information, Communication and Technology	14,177	-	14,177	18,272	-	18,272
ApiScotia	12,868	-	12,868	9,944	-	9,944
	<u>158,472</u>	<u>475</u>	<u>158,947</u>	<u>166,526</u>	<u>2,107</u>	<u>168,633</u>

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

### 8 Governance Costs

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Trustee Remuneration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Independent Examiner	1,800	-	1,800	1,500	-	1,500
Legal Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>1,800</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,800</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,500</u>

### 9 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

Expenses totalling £1,747.80 (2024 - £2,351) were reimbursed to trustees during the period for travel.

### 10 Related Party Transactions

There were no related transactions during the year.

### 11 Heritage Assets - The Moir Library Collection

2025

2024

There are two parts to the Moir Library, the Moir Rare Book Collection and the Moir Lending Library.

1. The Rare Book Collection	Valuation	465,683	465,683
-----------------------------	-----------	---------	---------

The collection is held in the National Library of Scotland, Rare Books' Section, Edinburgh. It consists of 250 items. The collection is open to SBA members and all other visitors, on request to the National Library. Details of the collection are online. The SBA have indemnity with The Scottish Government for this value which has been provided by the curator of the National Library of Scotland, James Mitchell. The current 3 year indemnity expired on the 7th March 2025, the trustees are currently seeking an updates/renewed indemnity.

### 11 Heritage Assets - The Moir Library Collection (cont)

2025

2024

2. The Moir Lending Library	Valuation	34,250	34,250
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The Collection is held in the Edinburgh City Libraries, Fountain Bridge branch, Edinburgh. It consists of more than 5,000 books and pamphlets. The collection is open to all SBA members who may borrow books. Other beekeepers and members of the public can visit and borrow or use books, for example for research, by arrangement with the SBA Library Officer.

The Collection's catalogues have been digitised and are available online.

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

### 12 Fund Reconciliation

#### Movement in Funds - Current Year

	Balance at 1 Jan 2025	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 Dec 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>					
Unrestricted	(2,681)	170,347	(159,045)	380	9,001
Designated Compensation Fund	3,000	1,320	(939)	(380)	3,000
Designated Young Beekeepers Fund	-	575	(288)	-	287
Designated Web Development	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>319</u>	<u>172,241</u>	<u>(160,272)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,288</u>

#### Movement in Funds - Prior Year

	Balance at	Incoming	Resources		Balance at
	£	£	£	£	31 Dec 2024
					£
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>					
Unrestricted	27,110	131,620	(167,501)	6,090	(2,681)
Designated Compensation Fund	3,000	1,490	-	(1,490)	3,000
Designated Web Development	5,125	-	(525)	(4,600)	-
	<u>35,235</u>	<u>133,110</u>	<u>(168,026)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>319</u>

The Compensation fund are monies designated by the trustees to pay claims against the compensation scheme. A maximum of £3,000 is available for pay-outs and it topped up each year from unrestricted funds to maintain £3,000. Payments from additional compensation receipts were below the value of payouts this year so £380 was transferred to unrestricted funds to bring this back to £3,000.

The Young Beekeepers fund are monies designated by the trustees to cover costs relating to the International Meeting of Young Beekeepers and other young beekeeping associated costs. IMYB (International Meeting of Young Beekeepers) is designed for participants in the ages from 15 to 18 who compare their knowledge and skills, establish new friendships, and find more about other countries and cultures during usually a four-day meeting.

The Web Development fund were funds set aside by the trustees for the development of our new website and associated costs including the design and development costs and admin support for this. The new website launched in the year and the balance was transferred back to unrestricted funds.

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

### 12 Fund Reconciliation (cont)

	Balance at 1 Jan 2025 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers	Balance at 31 Dec 2025 £
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
Dr John Anderson Fund	1,274	-	-	-	1,274
Harry Brown Memorial Fund	827	-	-	-	827
Dr & Mrs David Tennant Fund	2,967	-	-	-	2,967
N Thomson Bequest Fund	247	-	-	-	247
IMYB Donations	-	475	(475)	-	-
	<u>5,315</u>	<u>475</u>	<u>(475)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,315</u>

### Movement in Funds - Prior Year

	Balance at 1 Jan 2024 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers	Balance at 31 Dec 2024 £
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
Dr John Anderson Fund	1,274	-	-	-	1,274
Harry Brown Memorial Fund	1,647	-	(820)	-	827
Dr & Mrs David Tennant Fund	3,017	-	(50)	-	2,967
N Thomson Bequest Fund	247	1,237	(1,237)	-	247
	<u>6,185</u>	<u>1,237</u>	<u>(2,107)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,315</u>

Dr John Anderson Fund was a result of SBA fundraising in recognition of Dr John Anderson's long association with the association. The funds are restricted for use in stimulating education in beekeeping and furthering research.

The Harry Brown Memorial Fund was created from a donation from Mrs F H Brown in memory of her husband Harry who was a past president and secretary of the Scottish Beekeepers Association. These funds were to be used to stimulate interest in the Scottish Beekeeper Magazine, provide awards for competitions held in the magazine, provide prizes for any competitions organised by the SBA, and perpetuate the memory of Harry Brown.

Dr & Mrs David Tennant left a £500 bequest to the SBA, and this has been topped up by the SBA. These funds were to help repair existing and acquire new books for the Moir Library.

N Thomson Bequest Fund is used for school competitions and awards to further education.

IMYB Donations were donations received specifically for the IMYB (International Meeting of Young Beekeepers) expenses which was held in Belfast this year.

**Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)**

Scotland - Charity number SC009345

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# Accounts

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## **Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)**

**Financial Statements and Trustees' Report  
Year ended 31st December 2024**

**Charity Number SC009345**

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

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Trustees report	5 - 10
Independent examiner's report	11
Statement of receipts and payments	12
Statement of balances	13
Notes to the financial statements	14 - 18

## Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO) Reference and Administrative Information

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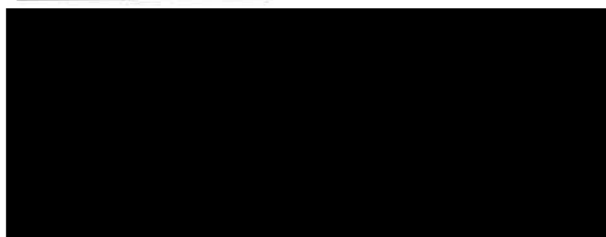
**Charity name** Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

**Charity number** SC009345

**Principle address** 2 Target Wood Drive  
Inchmarlo  
Banchory  
Aberdeenshire  
AB31 4FY

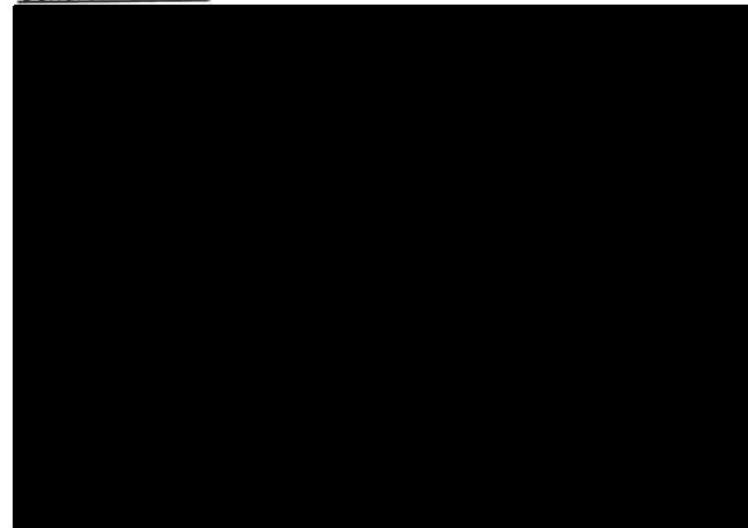
**Trustees**

*Elected Office Holders*



From 29/04/2023  
From 29/04/2024  
From 26/04/2025  
Until 26/04/2025  
From 26/04/2025  
Until 26/04/2025

*General Trustees*



*Re-elected 26/04/2025*  
*Re-elected 26/04/2025*  
*Re-elected 26/04/2025*  
*Re-elected 26/04/2025*

*Resigned 26/04/2025*  
*Resigned 26/04/2025*

**Non-Trustee Support**



*(Development Officer & SBA Magazine Editor)*

**Bankers**

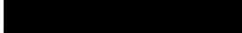
CAF Bank  
25 Kings Hill Avenue  
Kings Hill, West Malling  
Kent, ME19 4JQ

Virgin Money  
35 Regent Street  
London  
SW1Y 4ND

## Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO) Reference and Administrative Information

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**Solicitors** Taggart Meil Mathers  
20 Bon-Accord Square  
Aberdeen, AB11 6DJ

**Independent Examiner**   
Dains Accountants  
Ellersley House  
30 Miller Road  
Ayr, KA7 2AY

**Investment Adviser** St. James Place  
1 Tetbury Road  
Cirencester  
GL7 1FP

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO) Trustees' Report

## For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

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The Trustees have the pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements for the period ended 31st December 2024

### Objectives and Activities

The organisation's purposes are to support honeybees and beekeepers, to improve the standard of beekeeping, and to promote honeybee products in Scotland through:

- The advancement of education in relation to the honeybee and the craft of beekeeping;
- The advancement of the heritage, culture and science of beekeeping; and
- The advancement of the environmental protection by conservation of the honeybee and its environment
- To promote beekeeping and encourage all interested in the art and science of beekeeping, stressing the benefits that beekeeping confers on agriculture and horticulture

### Key Events and Activities

#### ApiScotia

The ApiScotia event which took place in late May 2024 was incredibly successful - meeting its key aims of educating beekeepers in aspects of honeybee management, with a view to learners taking on teaching responsibilities in turn in their own associations and areas. The practical and financial viability of the event means that it will be repeated in May 2025.

#### Colonsay

An initial meeting was held between Andrew Abrahams and trustees from the SBA and the Scottish Native Honey Bee Society (SNHBS) on Colonsay to discuss the long-term plans for managing the colonies and conserving the native honey bee. The SBA is supportive of plans to establish a trust or similar body to manage things going into the future and is happy to be involved as an organisational member.

#### AGM Location

Moving the AGM to Inverness for 2024 was very successful, and we had not only a higher turnout than usual, but also representation by many members who might usually not be able to attend due to the distances involved. The success of this event has confirmed we will continue to have 'moving AGMs' to ensure coverage across Scotland where possible.

#### Royal Highland Show

The SBA once again managed the Honey Tent at the Royal Highland Show, Inverness, in June 2024. The Honey Tent is one of the RHS's most popular attractions, attracting around 8000 visitors daily over the 4 days of the show.

#### Autumn Convention and National Honey Show

The SBA autumn convention takes place each year in September, with talks from invited speakers, trade stands and an opportunity for SBA members to meet and discuss the beekeeping season. The convention also hosts the Scottish National Honey Show, which received several hundred entries, and awards several notable prizes to competitors each year in a range of classes.

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO) Trustees' Report

For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

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## IMYB

Scotland was selected as one of the nations invited to provide a team for the 2024 International Meeting of Young Beekeepers (IMYB). This took place in Dubai in December 2024. Three young SBA members formed the team which represented Scotland and took part in a number of events and activities, learning about beekeeping in Dubai, and having the opportunity to discuss beekeeping activities with other young beekeepers from around the world.

## **Delivery and Performance**

### EDUCATION

In the course of 2024, we ran workshops for wax working, skep making (2 workshops), "Train the Trainers" and honey processing. Written examinations were held in March and November and were available to sit either in-person or online.

### Practical Exams

It is a prime aim of the SBA Education Committee to get all beekeepers in Scotland up to Basic Beekeeping (BB) or Junior Beekeeper (JB) standard. The BB and JB Certificates are awarded at three levels: Pass = 60%, Credit = 70%, Distinction = 80%.

In 2024, 7 Junior Beekeeper, 61 Basic Beekeeping, 7 Intermediate Practical, 4 Apiarian, and 1 Honey Judge certificates were awarded.

Three young beekeepers attended the International Meeting of Young Beekeepers (IMYB) in Dubai. This generates publicity which helps with our goal to engage with young people and encourage them to take up beekeeping. To this end we will be endeavouring to provide educational resource material that can be used in Scottish schools. To make this self-service to some extent, a series of self-access video clips and worksheets have been produced and posted via YouTube on the SBA website. A Young Beekeepers sub-committee has also been formed, and this will concentrate on supporting young beekeepers in Scotland.

The SBA Beekeeping Trainer Certificate (BTC), introduced in 2017 to encourage high standards amongst trainers, has been requested and awarded to 40 Members since its initiation. It is available to those who have obtained one of the Intermediate Certificates (either Practical or Module) and who have also either attended one of the SBA Train the Trainers workshops or have a professional teacher's qualification. Application details are on the website.

### Written examinations

In 2024, 55 Module exam certificates were gained by candidates. Seven achieved their Intermediate Module Certificate (passing four modules) and two their Advanced Module Certificate (passing all seven modules). Two candidates passed the new Plants & Pollinators module.

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Trustees' Report

**For the Year Ended 31st December 2024**

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The online version of the module exams are run in conjunction with the British Beekeepers Association (BBKA) on the Inpera platform. Inpera is a Norwegian company specialising in online learning. The candidate sits the exam on their computer in their own home. The computer is locked down by the Inpera system and invigilation is via the computer's camera, a candidate monitoring algorithm, and remote SBA invigilators. This was obviously quite a leap in technology use for candidates but greatly helped by the use of a mock exam several weeks in advance. The Education Sub Committee has also introduced a Module practice system, consisting of three practice papers for each chosen module.

The Module exams can now be entered without having first obtained a Basic Beekeeping or Junior Beekeeper certificate; however, we strongly encourage beekeepers to also sit these practical assessments.

### Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) N5 Progression Award in Beekeeping

The Highlands and Islands University in conjunction with Inverness Beekeepers and the SBA has formulated a national course in beekeeping based on the SBA Basic Beekeeping syllabus. This has been approved by the SQA as a National 5 level Progression award. This now provides a course which the Scottish schools and colleges can offer, with a nationally and internationally recognised qualification.

### Affiliated Beekeeping Association trainers

A tremendous educational effort is put in by local beekeeping association members in running beginners' classes, mentoring sessions for exam candidates, giving winter talks, and providing guidance and advice for beginners. These efforts are much appreciated by the SBA Education Sub Committee.

### **INSURANCE AND COMPENSATION**

In support of beekeepers in Scotland, the SBA provides insurance and compensation cover for its members.

Public and Products Liability Insurance is included as part of SBA membership at no extra cost, and covers the beekeeping activities of Personal, Junior, Household, and Honorary Life members keeping up to 40 stocks of bees. Limited cover is also provided to Affiliated Beekeeping Associations (ABAs) who own bees. This indemnifies members for claims against them up to a limit of £10m, with a further £250,000 legal expenses cover.

A Confirmation of Insurance Certificate is made available to members on the SBA website. Many SBA members are asked to confirm and provide evidence that they have this sort of insurance in relation to their beekeeping activities or their honey sales.

Public and Products Liability insurance is purchased by the SBA as part of a wider insurance package ensuring that the organisation is comprehensively indemnified against risks arising from the conduct of its business as a national beekeepers' association. No claims were made under our insurance policy over the reporting period.

Our Compensation Scheme offers some financial recompense to members who have lost bees and hives due to fire, theft, vandalism, and the foulbrood diseases. The scheme applies to Personal, Junior, and Honorary Life members. Household members may join the scheme on payment of the appropriate fee. Cover under the scheme is also provided to Affiliated Beekeeping Associations (ABAs) and to schools who maintain their own apiaries. The scheme is limited to members keeping no more than 40 stocks, which are only covered whilst located in Scotland. There were no qualifying claims made under the Compensation Scheme during the reporting period.

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Trustees' Report

### For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

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In 2024, four articles were published in the Scottish Beekeeper magazine highlighting issues related to insurance and compensation, a non-trustee member was co-opted onto the Compensation Committee, and the Compensation Scheme claim form has been revised and replaced.

#### DEVELOPMENT

The SBA is very conscious that even if honeybees have changed little over the millennia, beekeepers certainly have. The trustees, whilst continuing to cater for the needs of traditional beekeepers, seek to engage with beekeepers on modern methods, and to meet the expectations of the wider community and regulators.

#### Promotion of Beekeeping

In the last year, the Scottish Beekeepers' Association has endeavoured to further its activities with beekeepers and public alike and educate all in the craft of beekeeping. These activities have included utilising our website, social media sites like Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and in person events like The Royal Highland Show. For members, the monthly 'Scottish Beekeeper' magazine is a prominent channel for information communication. The last 90 years of this magazine have been digitised and stored in a publicly available archive with a search facility on the SBA website. Non-members have the opportunity to access all editions up to the previous two years of this facility. The Moir library, consisting of some 5,000 books, remains a readily available resource that is generally used as a research facility by scientific students and beekeepers.

We distributed the following SBA giveaways across Scotland: 8,507 bee friendship bracelets (up 47% on 2023), 7,490 Bee Happy Together leaflets (up 76% on 2023) and 1,832 pollinator friendly seed packs (up 80% on 2023).

#### COMMUNICATIONS

##### E-Mails

The SBA has 5 main email groups: individual members, ABA (Affiliated Beekeeping Association) secretaries, website newsletter sign-ups (not necessarily members), schools, and webinar sign-ups (non-members). Each of these groups receives emails from the SBA, often several per month. The following table presents an overview of all the email communications sent to these different groups across 2024, with a comparison to 2023.

	2024 Total E-mails Sent	2023 Total E-mails Sent	2024 Average Open Rate	2023 Average Open Rate	2024 Average Click Thro' Rate	2023 Average Click Thro' Rate
Members	55	50	60%	63%	7%	8%
ABA Secretaries	45	46	74%	72%	24%	20%
Newsletter	35	35	47%	49%	4%	5%
Schools	16	5	49%	48%	19%	25%
Webinars	14	7	65%	65%	13%	9%
Others	21	8	82%	81%	38%	27%

It should be noted that for the Non-Profit sector, the 2024 industry average Open Rate was 28.6%, and the average Click-Through Rate was 3.3%

Source: <https://www.avidai.com/blog/nonprofit-email-marketing-statistics/>

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO) Trustees' Report

## For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

### Social Media

The SBA began 2024 with 6 social media sites used to communicate and raise awareness not only to members but anyone, anywhere in the world engaged with these platforms. Those sites are:

Facebook – The Scottish Beekeepers' Association  
 Instagram & Threads - @scottish\_beekeepers  
 YouTube & LinkedIn– The Scottish Beekeepers' Association  
 X (Twitter) - @Scotbeekeepers

We added a new social media channel, Bluesky to our communication channels in November 2024. You can find us there by searching for @scottishbeekeepers.bsky.social on Bluesky.

An overview of the highlights from 2024 for each of these social media channels vs 2023 is given in the following table

	No of Followers End 2023	No of Followers Jan-Dec 2024	No of Posts/Tweets or Videos	Av Reach (people viewing) per Month	Monthly Reach Change Vs 2023
Facebook	3,709	+178	135	14,377	-29%
Twitter	3,454	+95	129	2,967	-55%
Instagram	2,261	+566	116	3,515	+45%
YouTube	1,720	+60	0	253,625 <i>(Total Views to Date)</i>	+4%
LinkedIn	45	+39	94	235	+8%
Threads	289	+171	116	Not Available	-
Bluesky	0	+98	11	Not Available	-

### MEMBERSHIP

Total Membership at 31 December 2023 was:

	2024	2023
Affiliated Beekeepers Associations	44	45
Institutional Members	12	10
Individual, Household and Junior Members	1,920	1,936
Total Voting Members	1,976	1,991
Supporter Members	40	31
Percentage of Members Renewing	90%	84%
Percentage of Members Returning after a break	1%	2%
Percentage of Members Joining in the Year	9%	14%

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Trustees' Report

For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

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### Financial Review

The financial statements show an overall deficit of £35,786 of which £34,916 was unrestricted. The reserves policy of the charity is to hold 6 months unrestricted expenditure (£84,388 based on 2024), while reserves have dropped below this level in the year this was due to investments made in the new website which was a conscious decision by the trustees.

A Designated Compensation Fund has a balance of £3,000 which is available to be paid out each year at Trustees' discretion to beekeepers whose bees and equipment are lost as a result of fire, theft, and the foulbrood diseases. The Compensation Fund sum can be allocated to applicants on a yearly basis at half the cost of loss replacement and subject to colony numbers and additional payments.

### Structure, Governance and Management

The Scottish Beekeepers Association is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO), registration number SCO09345.

The activities of the Association are ultimately controlled by the Board of Trustees, which meets regularly throughout the year, guided by a structured constitution and supporting governance documents. The SBA operates several sub committees formed to manage daily business in an appropriate, effective and efficient way. These sub committees ensure that the SBA pursues its charitable purpose in a professional manner to the benefit of its members.

Trustees are appointed or reappointed at the Annual General Meeting, with each trustee having a period of tenure of up to 3 years, with a maximum time of service of 9 consecutive years. The President has the opportunity of having a maximum trustee tenure of 12 years including that of her/his presidency.

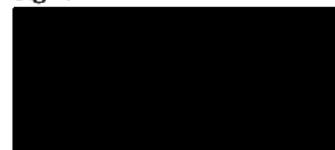
The SBA Board of Trustees met on four occasions in 2024, three of these online and once in-person. In addition, our 2024 Annual General Meeting was held on 27 April at the Spectrum Centre, Inverness. This enabled SBA business to be conducted and decisions to be made to advance the aims of the association. As well as dealing with business matters, this was a welcome opportunity to meet and enjoy social interaction with SBA members from across Scotland.

At a national level, the SBA attended meetings with the Scottish Government Bee Health Improvement Partnership (BHIP), Council of National Beekeeping Associations of the UK (CONBA) and the National Diploma in Beekeeping group.

### Declaration

The Trustees declare they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



President / Trustee

Date: 28 September 2025

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO) Independent Examiners Report

## To The Trustees of Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

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I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024 which are set out on pages 5 to 18.

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.


### Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

### Independent examiner's statement

In the course of 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 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulationshave 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.



Dains Accountants  
Ellersley House  
30 Miller Road  
Ayr, KA7 2AY

Date: 29th September 2025

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Statement of Receipts and Payments

For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts:</b>							
Donations and grant funding	3	11,745	1,237	12,982	16,935	-	16,935
Charitable activities	4	117,961	-	117,961	105,861	2,150	108,011
Fundraising	5	3,348	-	3,348	4,342	-	4,342
Investment Income	6	57	-	57	176	-	176
<b>Total receipts</b>		<b>133,110</b>	<b>1,237</b>	<b>134,347</b>	<b>127,313</b>	<b>2,150</b>	<b>129,463</b>
<b>Payments:</b>							
Charitable activities	7	166,526	2,107	168,633	179,661	2,150	181,811
Governance costs	8	1,500	-	1,500	2,100	-	2,100
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>168,026</b>	<b>2,107</b>	<b>170,133</b>	<b>181,761</b>	<b>2,150</b>	<b>183,911</b>
<b>Net receipts/(payments) before transfers</b>		<b>(34,916)</b>	<b>(870)</b>	<b>(35,786)</b>	<b>(54,448)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(54,448)</b>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the year</b>		<b>(34,916)</b>	<b>(870)</b>	<b>(35,786)</b>	<b>(54,448)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(54,448)</b>
Funds at 1st January 2024		35,235	6,185	41,420	89,683	6,185	95,867
<b>Fund at 31st December 2024</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>5,315</b>	<b>5,634</b>	<b>35,235</b>	<b>6,185</b>	<b>41,420</b>

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Statement of Balances

For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023
Note	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Summary of Cash Balances</b>						
Opening cash at bank and in hand	35,235	6,185	41,420	89,683	6,185	95,868
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(34,916)	(870)	(35,786)	(54,448)	-	(54,448)
Closing cash at bank and in hand	<u>319</u>	<u>5,315</u>	<u>5,634</u>	<u>35,235</u>	<u>6,185</u>	<u>41,420</u>
<b>Breakdown of Bank and Cash Balances</b>						
Bank Accounts			4,989			41,120
PayPal Account			300			300
Wise Expenses Account			345			
			<u>5,634</u>			<u>41,420</u>
Stocks - Books etc	<u>8,129</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,129</u>	<u>6,774</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,774</u>
Heritage Assets - Moir Library	11 <u>499,933</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>499,933</u>	<u>499,933</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>499,933</u>
<b>Investments</b>						
Held and Managed by St James Place		<b>Holding</b>	<b>Valuation 2024</b>		<b>Holding</b>	<b>Valuation 2023</b>
UK Equity		9.3%	8,845		6.6%	5,652
North American Equity		44.2%	42,150		35.8%	30,553
Asia & Pacific Equity		12.8%	12,197		9.6%	8,201
European Equity		16.3%	15,550		17.0%	14,492
Other Equity		1.6%	1,553		0.8%	704
Alternative Investments		0.1%	68		9.5%	8,078
Fixed Interest		13.7%	13,097		17.8%	15,239
Cash		2.1%	1,995		2.9%	2,461
		<u>100%</u>	<u>95,455</u>		<u>100%</u>	<u>85,380</u>
The investments are fully unrestricted and have a historic cost of £87,500 (2023 - £87,500)						
PAYE Payable (Paid January)			<u>750</u>			<u>-</u>

The accounts were approved and authorised by the Trustees on 23 September 2025

  
President/Trustee

Charity Registration No. SC009345

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

### 1 Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

### 2 Nature and purpose of funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the fund have been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

### 3 Donations and grant funding

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Donations and Gifts	4,951	1,237	6,188	9,805	-	9,805
Gift Aid	6,794	-	6,794	6,130	-	6,130
Legacies	-	-	-	1,000	-	1,000
Grants Received	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>11,745</u>	<u>1,237</u>	<u>12,982</u>	<u>16,935</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,935</u>

### 4 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Membership Subscriptions	75,527	-	75,527	74,598	-	74,598
Education	10,130	-	10,130	9,665	-	9,665
Convention	4,300	-	4,300	5,405	-	5,405
Library	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance and Compensation	1,490	-	1,490	1,400	-	1,400
Events and Merchandise	18,953	-	18,953	14,793	-	14,793
Young Beekeepers	-	-	-	-	2,150	2,150
Apiscotia	7,560	-	7,560	-	-	-
	<u>117,961</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>117,961</u>	<u>105,861</u>	<u>2,150</u>	<u>108,011</u>

**Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**

**For the Year Ended 31st December 2024**

**5 Fundraising Income**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Magazine Advertising	3,348	-	3,348	4,342	-	4,342
	<u>3,348</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,348</u>	<u>4,342</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,342</u>

**6 Investment Income**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Dividends & Interest	57	-	57	176	-	176
	<u>57</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>176</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>176</u>

**7 Charitable Activities**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Education	6,665	-	6,665	8,015	-	8,015
Development & Publicity	38,628	-	38,628	38,388	-	38,388
Libraries	-	50	50	-	-	-
Membership	3,441	-	3,441	5,545	-	5,545
Science and Research	261	-	261	-	-	-
Magazine	45,563	820	46,383	44,310	-	44,310
Insurance & Compensation	3,199	-	3,199	4,813	-	4,813
Events and Merchandise	16,617	-	16,617	20,363	-	20,363
Convention	3,341	-	3,341	5,423	-	5,423
Young Beekeepers	6,105	1,237	7,341	2,574	2,150	4,724
General Secretariat	11,007	-	11,007	9,939	-	9,939
Finance Costs	3,483	-	3,483	3,738	-	3,738
Information, Communication and Technology	18,272	-	18,272	35,888	-	35,888
ApiScotia	9,944	-	9,944	665	-	665
	<u>166,526</u>	<u>2,107</u>	<u>168,633</u>	<u>179,661</u>	<u>2,150</u>	<u>181,811</u>



# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

### 12 Fund Reconciliation

	Movement in Funds - Current Year				Balance at 31 Dec 2024
	Balance at 1 Jan 2024	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>					
Unrestricted	27,110	131,620	(167,501)	6,090	(2,681)
Designated Compensation Fund	3,000	1,490	-	(1,490)	3,000
Designated Web Development	5,125	-	(525)	(4,600)	-
	<u>35,235</u>	<u>133,110</u>	<u>(168,026)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>319</u>

	Movement in Funds - Prior Year				Balance at 31 Dec 2023
	Balance at 1 Jan 2023	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>					
Unrestricted	85,839	125,913	(159,172)	(25,470)	27,110
Designated Compensation Fund	3,000	1,400	(1,870)	470	3,000
Designated Young Beekeepers Fund	844	-	(844)	-	-
Designated Web Development	-	-	(19,875)	25,000	5,125
	<u>89,683</u>	<u>127,313</u>	<u>(181,761)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,235</u>

The Compensation fund are monies designated by the trustees to pay claims against the compensation scheme. A maximum of £3,000 is available for pay-outs and it topped up each year from unrestricted funds to maintain £3,000. Payments from additional compensation receipts were below the value of payouts this year so £1,490 was transferred to unrestricted funds to bring this back to £3,000.

The Young Beekeepers fund are monies designated by the trustees to cover costs relating to the International Meeting of Young Beekeepers and other young beekeeping associated costs. IMYB (International Meeting of Young Beekeepers) is designed for participants in the ages from 15 to 18 who compare their knowledge and skills, establish new friendships, and find more about other countries and cultures during usually a four-day meeting.

The Web Development fund were funds set aside by the trustees for the development of our new website and associated costs including the design and development costs and admin support for this. The new website launched in the year and the balance was transferred back to unrestricted funds.

	Movement in Funds - Current Year				Balance at 31 Dec 2024
	Balance at 1 Jan 2024	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
Dr John Anderson Fund	1,274	-	-	-	1,274
Harry Brown Memorial Fund	1,647	-	(820)	-	827
Dr & Mrs David Tennant Fund	3,017	-	(50)	-	2,967
N Thomson Bequest Fund	247	1,237	(1,237)	-	247
	<u>6,185</u>	<u>1,237</u>	<u>(2,107)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,315</u>

# Scottish Beekeepers Association (SCIO)

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

### 12 Fund Reconciliation (cont)

	Movement in Funds - Prior Year				Balance at 31 Dec 2023 £
	Balance at 1 Jan 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
Dr John Anderson Fund	1,274	-	-	-	1,274
Harry Brown Memorial Fund	1,647	-	-	-	1,647
Dr & Mrs David Tennant Fund	3,017	-	-	-	3,017
N Thomson Bequest Fund	247	-	-	-	247
IMYB Donations	-	2,150	(2,150)	-	-
	<u>6,185</u>	<u>2,150</u>	<u>(2,150)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,185</u>

Dr John Anderson Fund was a result of SBA fundraising in recognition of Dr John Anderson's long association with the association. The funds are restricted for use in stimulating education in beekeeping throughout Scotland and to further the work of research in practical beekeeping and to perpetuate the memory of the late Dr John Anderson.

The Harry Brown Memorial Fund was created from a donation from [REDACTED] in memory of [REDACTED] Harry who was a past president and secretary of the Scottish Beekeepers Association. These funds were to be used to stimulate interest in the Scottish Beekeeper Magazine, provide awards for competitions held in the magazine, provide prizes for any competitions organised by the SBA, and perpetuate the memory of Harry Brown.

Dr & Mrs David Tennant left a £500 bequest to the SBA, and this has been topped up by the SBA. These funds were to help repair existing and acquire new books for the Moir Library.

N Thomson Bequest Fund is used for school competitions and awards to further education.

IMYB Donations were donations received specifically for the IMYB (International Meeting of Young Beekeepers) expenses which was held in Slovenia this year.