

Company No. 850300
Charity No. 313310

**THE ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL SECRETARIES,
PRACTICE MANAGERS, ADMINISTRATORS AND RECEPTIONISTS LIMITED**
(AMSPAR)
(A company limited by guarantee)

Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2025

**Tavistock House South
Tavistock Square
London WC1H 9LN**

AMSPAR **Chief Executive's Report**

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

24-25 was the final full year of **AMSPAR's** partnership with City & Guilds in regards to our qualifications as we continued to establish our independence.

Our core qualifications – Medical Terminology (Basic, Level 2 Award, Level 3 Certificate) and DPCHM Level 5 (Award, Certificate, Diploma) – continued. In addition to offering the courses online the Medical Terminology Exams are open to approved centres who deliver the qualification on 3 sittings per year. In February, **AMSPAR** held the Level 2 Exam in De Morgan House to cope with the numbers.

The demand for the **AMSPAR** DPCHM is as healthy as ever with 6 intakes a year preceded by 'Open Days' held via Zoom.

Over the year, Council met in May, July, October and February. The Executive met regularly in between with the AGM held in October.

We have continued to support our members through a number of channels. We provide regular updates via Social Media (X, Instagram, LinkedIn) and our Websites. The **AMSPAR** Health Academy serves both members and student learning with **AMSPAR** Social keeping all informed as to developments in Health.

Our public facing website, www.amspar.org, (where The President's weekly Blog is published) acts as the gateway to the organisation. Here students can register for courses and members can join / renew in order to maintain their extensive benefits such as the legal helpline, CPD, NUS backed Totum Pro discount card and ensure they can receive their monthly e Newsletter.

We continued our strong relationship with Management in Practice whose events we accredit for CPD. Cities visited in the year past were Birmingham, Manchester and London. In addition, we were invited to attend a General Practice Learning Day for health organisations in Northamptonshire. It is always encouraging when visitors to the stand tell us of their appreciation.

Our President, Myra Upton, served as one of the assessors for the 2025 General Practice Awards where **AMSPAR** sponsored the Reception / Reception Team of the Year. This also served to mark our 60th Anniversary Dinner at the presentations in December.

In February, after extensive work by our Chair and Lead Tutor (Steve Williams), **AMSPAR** signed a 3 year contract to work with MOD's Defence Medical Services in Whittington. **AMSPAR** accredits their Management Course through QA and provides accelerated membership.

AMSPAR

Report of the Directors

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The directors present their report and accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2025

Legal and administrative information

Charity name: AMSPAR (Association of Medical Secretaries, Practice Managers, Administrators & Receptionists Limited)

Charity registration number: 313310

Company registration number: 850300

Registered office and operations address: Tavistock House South, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9LN

Elected Council

President Myra Upton

Vice Presidents Barbara Graham

Treasurer Steve Williams

Chief Executive and Secretary Tom Brownlie

Independent Examiner Harry Nicolaou FCA of Harry Nicolaou & Co Limited, 21 Brendon Way, Enfield EN1 2LF

Bankers NatWest Bank, 10 Marylebone High Street, London W1A 1FH

Solicitors Stephenson Harwood, 1 St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8SH

AMSPAR

Report of the Directors

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 27 May 1965 and registered as a charity on 21 June 1965. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company. It is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and appointment of members of Council

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as members of Council. Under the requirements of the Articles of Association any two members of the company within a region may nominate another member of that region to serve on Council and confirmed by the members at the Annual General Meeting. Other than the office bearers, who are required to offer themselves for re-appointment on an annual basis, a member of Council is elected to serve for a term of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

Induction and training of members of Council

Trustees are elected directly from the membership and they therefore have prior knowledge of the history and purpose of AMSPAR. On election a trustee is provided with an induction pack, minutes of prior meetings and a mentor.

Risk management

Council has conducted a review of the major risks the charity faces. Where appropriate systems and procedures have been established to mitigate those risks. In particular a Quality Assurance Framework has been developed to ensure standards set by Ofqual are achieved and maintained.

Organisation structure

The charity's Council meet at least four times a year and are responsible for the strategic policy and direction of the charity. At present Council has three elected members from a variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the charity.

A scheme of delegation is in place and the day to day responsibility for the provision of the services rests with the Chief Executive. He manages the operations of the charity, supervises the staff team and ensures that the team continue to develop their skills and working practices.

Objects

The principal objects of the charity are:

- to raise the professional standards of those who are and those who aspire to be Medical Secretaries, Practice Managers, Administrators and Receptionists and support them in attaining high levels of expertise and effectiveness by improving their knowledge and skills.
- to develop and provide a clear framework of qualifications which will be valued and recognised by Health Care Employers as key indicators of competence.

AMSPAR

Report of the Directors

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Activities, achievements, performance, financial review and plans for the future

A detailed review of the above matters is provided in the Chief Executive's introduction to this report. The trustees, in planning the activities for the year, have had due regard to Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

Reserves policy

Free reserves (those funds not tied up in fixed assets) are held to ensure the continuity of educational services to registered students and to ensure the long term viability of the charity. Having considered the projected income and potential risks the charity faces, the Council are of the opinion that a level approximating to three months total expenditure is necessary to ensure that the charity continues to meet its obligations on an ongoing basis. This equates to £39490 at current levels of expenditure. There are no free reserves available at the year end.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by Council on and signed on its behalf by:

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Myra Upton
President

Independent Examiner's report to the Directors of THE ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL SECRETARIES, PRACTICE MANAGERS, ADMINISTRATORS AND RECEPTIONISTS LIMITED

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2025 set out on pages 6 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) 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.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to 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;
- 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 statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met.

Material uncertainty

There is a deficit for the year ended 31 March 2025 of £31,059 and a deficiency of reserves of £28,088 at the year end. There is thus uncertainty as to whether the charity will be able to operate as a going concern for the foreseeable future. The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which we consider to be appropriate.

Harry Nicolaou FCA
Of Harry Nicolaou and Co Limited
Chartered Accountants
21 Brendon Way
Enfield EN1 2LF

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Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 Total funds (Unrestricted) £	2024 Total funds (Unrestricted) £
INCOME from:			
Charitable activities:			
Education		117,373	270,103
Membership subscriptions		8,436	10,160
Merchandising and other income		350	-
Investments - bank interest		745	-
Total income		126,904	280,263
EXPENDITURE on:			
Charitable activities		157,076	250,068
Total expenditure	2	157,076	250,068
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds	3	(30,172)	30,195
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		2,971	(27,224)
Total funds carried forward - (deficiency)/surplus		(27,201)	2,971

AMSPAR

Company No. 850300

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	7	1	1
		<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	8	6,105	17,326
Cash at bank and in hand		18,353	36,492
		<u>24,458</u>	<u>53,818</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(42,572)	(32,763)
		<u>(18,114)</u>	<u>21,055</u>
Net current (liabilities)/assets			
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	10	(9,088)	(18,085)
		<u>(27,201)</u>	<u>2,971</u>
Net (liabilities)/assets			
Unrestricted funds			
General funds: (deficiency)/surplus		(27,201)	2,971
		<u>(27,201)</u>	<u>2,971</u>
Total funds: (deficiency)/surplus		(27,201)	2,971

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and that members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

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

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by Council on and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Myra Upton
President

.....
Steve Williams
Treasurer

Notes to the Accounts

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and in the preceding year.

- (a) The accounts (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 Companies Act 2006.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

- (b) All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, there is sufficient certainty of receipt and so it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.
- (c) Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that a settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.
- (d) 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 allocated on staff activity levels for each activity.
- (e) Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include independent examination fees and costs linked the strategic management of the charity. Governance costs which cannot be allocated directly are apportioned on an appropriate basis.
- (f) Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Items of furniture and equipment are capitalised when the purchase price exceeds £2,000.
Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life. The rate used for furniture and equipment is 33 1/3% on the reducing balance.
- (g) Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discounts offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discounts due.
- (h) Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.
- (i) Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. The charity holds no restricted funds.
- (j) Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) as incurred over the term of the lease.
- (k) Pension costs charged in the SOFA represent contributions payable to the employees' individual personal pension schemes by the charity in the year. These pension contributions terminated during the year and were replaced by workplace pension scheme contributions.

Notes to the Accounts

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

2. Total expenditure

			2025	2024
			£	£
	Education & membership services	Governance	Charitable activities	<i>Charitable activities</i>
Direct cost of charitable activities				
Staff costs (Note 5)	34,242	3,805	38,047	38,056
Membership services	-	-	-	540
Examination costs	90,494	-	90,494	190,382
Conference and meetings	-	-	-	190
Telephone, postage, printing & stationery	1,717	191	1,908	2,282
Support costs				
Premises costs	12,675	1,408	14,083	13,795
Purchase, hire and maintenance of office equipment	277	15	292	289
Subscriptions, publications and sundries	483	121	604	379
Independent examination and accountancy fees	-	1,900	1,900	1,900
Bank charges	146	16	162	150
Advertising	9,000	-	9,000	1,299
Loan interest	586	-	586	806
Total expenditure	149,620	7,456	157,076	250,068

3. Net (expenditure)/income

		2025	2024
		£	£
This is stated after charging:			
Independent examiner's remuneration:	Independent examination services	1,100	1,100
	Accountancy services	800	600

4. Payments to trustees (directors) and related party transactions

No remuneration has been paid to the trustees (2024 £nil) and no expenses were reimbursed to them (2024 £nil).

Steve Williams, a trustee of the charity is also a shareholder in Amerequus Limited which delivers the DPCHM training for the charity. The amount paid to Amerequus Limited in the year amounted to £74,590 (2024 £190,552) and the amount outstanding at the year end was £27,947 (2024 £18,024).

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Notes to the Accounts

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

5. Staff costs and numbers

	2025	2024
	£	£
Staff costs were as follows:		
Salaries and wages	36,500	36,500
Pension costs	1,095	1,095
Payroll processing costs	-	65
Travelling expenses	452	396
	<u>38,047</u>	<u>38,056</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.
The average weekly number of employees during the year was 1.

6. Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

7. Tangible fixed assets

	Office furniture & equipment
	£
Cost	
At 1 April 2024	12,059
At 31 March 2025	<u>12,059</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2024	12,058
At 31 March 2025	<u>12,058</u>
Net book value	
At 31 March 2025	<u>1</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>1</u>

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Notes to the Accounts

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

8. Debtors	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	5,218	14,342
Other debtors	887	2,984
	<u>6,105</u>	<u>17,326</u>
9. Creditors due within one year	2025	2024
	£	£
Taxation and social security	-	-
Loan	9,584	9,584
Trade creditors	27,947	18,024
Other creditors	5,041	5,155
	<u>42,572</u>	<u>32,763</u>
10 Creditors due after one year	2025	2024
	£	£
Loan	<u>9,088</u>	<u>18,085</u>
11. Pension costs		
The charity participates in a workplace pension scheme (which is a defined contribution scheme) for members of staff. The pension costs for the year amounted to £1,095 (2024 £1,095).		