

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NIC105099

**ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE SOCIETY**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**31 December 2023**

**JOSEPH MURRAY LIMITED**

Chartered accountants  
30b MARKET SQUARE  
DROMORE  
CO. DOWN  
BT25 1AW

# **ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE SOCIETY**

## **Financial Statements**

**Year ended 31 December 2023**

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# ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE SOCIETY

## Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 December 2023

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

### Reference and administrative details

**Registered charity name** ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE SOCIETY  
**Charity registration number** NIC105099  
**Principal office** c/o 79 Beechgrove Avenue  
Belfast  
BT6 0ND

### The trustees

Mr J Erskine  
Ms S Young  
Dr P Saunders  
Mrs A Smyth  
Dr Philip Robinson  
Mr Billy Carlile  
Mr John Wright

**Accountants** JOSEPH MURRAY LIMITED  
Chartered accountants  
30b MARKET SQUARE  
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BT25 1AW

### Structure, governance and management

The organisation is an unincorporated body operating as a society.

The Ulster-Scots Language Society is recognised by HM Revenue & Customs as having charitable objects for tax purposes under reference XN89678.

The Society is governed by a committee which is elected at each annual general meeting.

The officers of the society are the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary, who are elected annually by the Committee at its first meeting following the annual general meeting.

The Society is governed by a constitution adopted on 8th November 2006.

# ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE SOCIETY

## Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

### Objectives and activities

The objectives of the Society are to record, promote, generate recognition of and uphold the use of the Ulster-Scots tongue in present day writing, education and speech: to encourage interest in traditional Ulster-Scots literature and to promote the Ulster-Scots tradition in music, dance, song and ballad.

During the period under review, the Society continued its activities of publishing Ulster-Scots literature.

### Achievements and performance

The Society continued to meet its key objectives in its operational area in line with its strategic plan during the last twelve months.

### Financial review

The Trustees are satisfied with the Society's performance over the year and its financial position at the year end.

The Society had a similar year to the previous one in terms of activities however costs of £500 incurred during the year in digitising some literature of the Society contributed largely to the Society sustaining a small deficit over the year amounting to £690 (2022 - Surplus £538).

The Trustees are nevertheless pleased that the balance sheet remains reasonably strong despite the additional costs incurred during the 2023 financial year.

### Plans for future periods

The Society hopes to engage in activities to augment its core funding in order to provide additional monies to further its objectives.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 23 May 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Ms S Young  
Trustee



Mrs A Smyth  
Trustee

# ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE SOCIETY

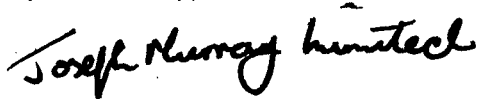
## Report to Ulster-Scots Language Society on the Unaudited Financial Information of ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE SOCIETY

Year ended 31 December 2023

As described on the statement of financial position, the trustees of the charity are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023, which comprise the statement of financial activities, statement of financial position and the related notes.

You consider that the charity is exempt from an audit under the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

In accordance with your instructions we have compiled these financial statements in order to assist you to fulfil your statutory responsibilities, from the accounting records and from information and explanations supplied to us.



JOSEPH MURRAY LIMITED  
Chartered accountants

30b MARKET SQUARE  
DROMORE  
CO. DOWN  
BT25 1AW

23 May 2024

# ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE SOCIETY

## Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 December 2023

		Unrestricted funds	2023 Restricted funds	Total funds	2022 Total funds
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	156	—	156	282
Other trading activities	4	863	—	863	951
<b>Total income</b>		<u>1,019</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,019</u>	<u>1,233</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	5	1,004	—	1,004	427
Expenditure on charitable activities	6,7	705	—	705	268
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>1,709</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,709</u>	<u>695</u>
<b>Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds</b>					
		<u>(690)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>(690)</u>	<u>538</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		8,187	(3,558)	4,629	4,091
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>7,497</u>	<u>(3,558)</u>	<u>3,939</u>	<u>4,629</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 6 to 11 form part of these financial statements.

# ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE SOCIETY

## Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £	£	2022 £
<b>Current assets</b>				
Cash at bank and in hand		12,323		12,773
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	<u>8,384</u>		<u>8,144</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>3,939</u>	<u>4,629</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>3,939</u>	<u>4,629</u>
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>3,939</u>	<u>4,629</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>				
Restricted funds			(3,558)	(3,558)
Unrestricted funds			<u>7,497</u>	<u>8,187</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	11		<u>3,939</u>	<u>4,629</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 23 May 2024, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Mrs A Smyth  
Trustee

# ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE SOCIETY

## Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2023

### 1. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

### 2. Accounting policies

#### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

#### Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

#### Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

#### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

# ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE SOCIETY

## Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

### 2. Accounting policies *(continued)*

#### Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

#### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

#### Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

# ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE SOCIETY

## Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

### 2. Accounting policies *(continued)*

#### Tangible assets *(continued)*

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

#### Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Equipment - 25% reducing balance

#### Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

#### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

# ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE SOCIETY

## Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

### 2. Accounting policies *(continued)*

#### Financial instruments *(continued)*

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

### 3. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>Donations</b>				
Donations	66	66	180	180
Subscriptions	90	90	102	102
	<u>156</u>	<u>156</u>	<u>282</u>	<u>282</u>

### 4. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Other activities for generating funds - Sale of Literature	863	863	951	951

### 5. Costs of raising donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Costs of raising donations and legacies - Production of Literature	1,004	1,004	427	427

# ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE SOCIETY

## Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

### 6. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Support costs	<u>705</u>	<u>705</u>	<u>268</u>	<u>268</u>

### 7. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Support costs	Total funds 2023	Total fund 2022
	£	£	£
Governance costs	<u>705</u>	<u>705</u>	<u>268</u>

### 8. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees

### 9. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	<u>3,249</u>	<u>3,249</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	<u>3,249</u>	<u>3,249</u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>		
At 31 December 2023	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>

### 10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals and deferred income	2,160	1,920
Other creditors - short term loan from D Rowlinson	44	44
Other creditors	<u>6,180</u>	<u>6,180</u>
	<u>8,384</u>	<u>8,144</u>

# ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE SOCIETY

## Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

### 11. Analysis of charitable funds

#### Unrestricted funds

	At 1 January 2023	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 December 2023 £
Unrestricted Fund - Language advancement	8,187	1,019	(1,709)	7,497

	At 1 January 2022	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 December 2022 £
Unrestricted Fund - Language advancement	7,649	1,233	(695)	8,187

#### Restricted funds

	At 1 January 2023	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 December 2023 £
Restricted Fund - Core Funding	(3,558)	—	—	(3,558)

	At 1 January 2022	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 December 2022 £
Restricted Fund - Core Funding	(3,558)	—	—	(3,558)

### 12. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Current assets	12,323	—	12,323
Creditors less than 1 year	(4,826)	(3,558)	(8,384)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>7,497</u>	<u>(3,558)</u>	<u>3,939</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Current assets	12,773	—	12,773
Creditors less than 1 year	(4,586)	(3,558)	(8,144)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>8,187</u>	<u>(3,558)</u>	<u>4,629</u>