ACCOUNTS



ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

CONTENTS

	Pages
Statement of Responsibilities of the National Executive Committee	1
Report of the Independent Auditors	2 - 5
Income and Expenditure Account	6
Balance Sheet	7
Statement of Cash Flows	8
Accounting Policies	9 - 12
Notes to the Accounts	13- 18





STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The legislation relating to trade unions requires the Union to submit a return for each calendar year to the Certification Officer. This return contains accounts which must give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Union at the year end and of its transactions for the year then ended. The financial statements set out on the following pages have been prepared on the same basis and are used to complete the return to the Certification Officer.

In relation to Advance the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view is the responsibility of the National Executive Committee. The National Executive Committee is responsible for preparing financial statements in accordance with the and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), which form the basis for the account's information required to be included in the return. In preparing the financial statements, the National Executive Committee is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Union will continue in business.

The National Executive Committee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records and establishing and maintaining a satisfactory system of control over the Union's records and transactions in order to comply with the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (Amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Union and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF ADVANCE

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Advance ("The Union") for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the Income and Expenditure account, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the Union's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended; and
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Union in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to the audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the National Executive Committee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in preparing of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Union's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the National Executive Committee with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The National Executive Committee is responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF ADVANCE

determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (Amended) requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- a satisfactory system of control over transactions has not been maintained; or
- the Union has not kept proper accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the books of account; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we need for our audit.

Responsibilities of the National Executive Committee

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities of the National Executive Committee, the National Executive Committee is responsible for the preparation of financial statements and being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Union determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the National Executive Committee is responsible for assessing the Union's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Union either intends to liquidate or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in according with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF ADVANCE

As part of our planning process:

- We enquired of management the systems and controls the Union has in place, the areas of the financial statements that are most susceptible to the risk of irregularities and fraud, and whether there was any known, suspected or alleged fraud. The Union did not inform us of any known, suspected or alleged fraud.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the Union. We determined that the following were most relevant: FRS 102 and the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (Amended).
- We considered the incentives and opportunities that exist in the Union, including the extent of management bias, which present a potential for irregularities and fraud to be perpetuated, and tailored our risk assessment accordingly.
- Using our knowledge of the Union, together with the discussions held with the Union at the planning stage, we formed a conclusion on the risk of misstatement due to irregularities including fraud and tailored our procedures according to this risk assessment.

The key procedures we undertook to detect irregularities including fraud during the course of the audit included:

- Identifying and testing journal entries and the overall accounting records, in particular those that were significant and unusual.
- Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and determining whether accounting policies have been appropriately applied.
- Assessing the extent of compliance, or lack of, with the relevant laws and regulations.
- Testing key revenue lines, in particular cut-off, for evidence of management bias.
- Performing a physical verification of key assets.
- Obtaining third-party confirmation of material bank balances and investments.
- Documenting and verifying all significant related party balances and transactions.
- Reviewing documentation such as minutes of meeting for discussions of irregularities including fraud.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. The primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of irregularities and fraud rests with the National Executive Committee.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF ADVANCE

Use of our report to the members of The Union

This report is made solely to the Union's members, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Union's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Union and the Union's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

HW FISHER AUDIT Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor Acre House 11 - 15 William Road London NW1 3ER United Kingdom

Date:

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
OPERATING INCOME			
Subscriptions		459,286	442,220
Other income	3	22,517	66,500
Draw income	J	-	11,381
		481,802	520,101
OPERATING EXPENDITURE			
Staff costs		129,169	127,292
Services to members	4	44,108	33,568
Committee and meeting costs	5	117,841	58,205
Administration expenses	6	109,003	121,640
Premises and equipment costs	7	106,738	113,103
Prizes awarded			8,697
		506,859	462,505
OPERATING RESULT		(25,057)	57,595
INCOME FROM INVESTMENT OPERATION)NS		
Unrealised gain/ (loss) on property	7143	(3,000)	12,000
Investment income		68,633	73,442
Loss on sale of investments		531	(4,637)
Increase/(Decrease) in Investment v	alues	154,801	182,133
		220,966	262,938
COMPREHENSIVE RESULT FOR THE YEAR	R	195,909	320,533
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS			
BROUGHT FORWARD		4,269,233	3,948,700
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS			
CARRIED FORWARD		4,465,142	4,269,233

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

		2024		202	3
	Note	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible fixed assets	8		3,857		34,413
Intangible fixed assets	9		24,308		23,649
INVESTMENTS					
Listed securities	10		3,564,702		3,363,055
Investment property	11		277,000		280,000
			3,869,867		3,701,117
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors and prepayments	12	79,369		30,416	
Cash at bank and in hand		558,874		580,882	
		C20 242			
CURRENT LIABILITIES		638,243		611,298	
Creditors and accruals	13	(42,968)		(43,182)	
				<u> </u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			595,275		568,116
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIA	BILITIES		4,465,142		4,269,233
NET ASSETS			4,465,142		4,269,233
Represented by :					
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS			4,465,142		4,269,233

J LEONARD GENERAL SECRETARY

S PURSE NATIONAL CHAIR

Approved for issue to the members on:

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	2024 £	2023 £
Operating Activities:		
Comprehensive result	195,909	320,533
Adjustments:		
Depreciation/Amortisation	23,465	29,277
Investment income	(68,633)	(73,442)
Loss on sale of investments	(531)	4,637
Change in value of investment property	3,000	(12,000)
Change in investment values	(154,801)	(182,133)
Change in debtors	(48,953)	(555)
Change in creditors	(214)	3,325
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	9,279	491
Net cash generated from operating activities	(41,480)	90,133
Investing activities		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(2,842)	(38,072)
Purchase of intangible assets	(12,619)	-
Purchase of fixed assets investments	(230,258)	(166,555)
Sale of fixed assets investments	197,307	152,380
Investment Income	51,042	56,857
Changes in investment cash deposits	4,230	(16,267)
Proceeds on disposal of tangible fixed assets	12,612	-
Net cash flow from investing activites	19,472	(11,657)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(22,008)	78,476
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	580,882	502,406
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	558,874	580,882

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1.1 Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS102"). The accounts have been prepared under historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to the financial statements.

Trade Unions are governed by the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation Act) 1992 Amended. Under that Act the accounts of Trade Unions are required to give a true and fair view. Therefore, the accounts of Trade Unions are prepared under FRS102. However, as a Trade Union is not a company the Regulations that form the basis of disclosures under FRS102 have been adapted as considered necessary to ensure the accounts give a true and fair view to the members of the Trade Union.

The Union is a public benefit entity.

1.2 Presentation currency

The financial statements have been prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Union. Monetary amounts of these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

1.3 Going concern

The National Executive Committee regularly monitor the Union's financial position, cash flow and funding sources to ensure the Union can sustain operations for the foreseeable future. Following a review of budgets and long-term financial projections, the National Executive Committee has a reasonable expectation that the Union has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future being a minimum of twelve months from the date of approval of these financial statements. Thus the National Executive Committee continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Subscriptions and meeting allowances are accounted for on an accruals basis. Draw income is recognised on cash received basis.

1.5 Expenditure

All expenditure in the accounts is inclusive of VAT where applicable.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1.6 Current Taxation

Corporation tax is payable on all interest income, rental income and chargeable gains arising on the disposal of properties and investments but only to the extent that these exceed expenditure on provident benefits.

1.7 Deferred Taxation

Unrealised valuation increases relating to investments and investment properties would potentially give rise to chargeable gains on the sale of the asset, but any potential liability to tax is eliminated if the proceeds of sale are reinvested in other chargeable assets used for provident purposes. The tax on any proceeds which are not reinvested is reduced by indexation allowances and any balance can also be offset against expenditure on provident benefits. Deferred tax has not been provided for potential chargeable gains because the General Secretary is satisfied that proceeds of the sale of all related assets can be substantially reinvested, sufficient that any remaining balance can be offset against allowance or expenses. Therefore no unrealised gain at 31 December 2024 is expected to give rise to a liability to tax.

1.8 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets to write off the cost less estimated residual value in equal annual instalments over the estimated useful economic lives of the assets. The estimated useful economic lives are as follows:

Fixtures, fittings & equipment 20% - 33% Motor vehicles 25%

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the income and expenditure account.

1.9 Intangible Fixed Assets – Website

Intangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost, net of amortisation and any impairment losses.

Amortisation is provided at rates estimated to write off the cost of the website on a straight line basis over its expected useful life which is deemed to be 4 years.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1.10 Investment properties

Investment properties are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at fair value. Changes in the fair value of investment properties are recognised in the income and expenditure account.

1.11 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

1.12 Financial Instruments

The union has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial assets are recognised in the union's balance sheet when the union becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets are classified into specified categories. The classification depends on the nature and purpose of the financial assets and is determined at the time of recognition.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest.

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through income and expenditure account, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date. They are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected. The impairment is recognised in the income and expenditure accounts.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including trade and other payables, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of the activity of the Union from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. Trade payables are initially recognised at

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

transaction price and derecognised when the Union's obligations are discharged cancelled or they expire.

1.13 Investments

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price (where applicable). The income and expenditure account includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year. The Union does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments. The main form of financial risk faced by the Union is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

1.14 Realised gains and losses

All gains and losses are taken to the income and expenditure account as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are separated between surplus on investments and change in market value in the income and expenditure account.

1.15 Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged to the income and expenditure account on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2 JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

In the application of the Union's accounting policies, the Union is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised, if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The Union consider that there were no estimates and assumptions which have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities.

3	OTHER INCOME	2024 £	2023 £
	Management expenses allowance	22,517	66,500
		22,517	66,500
4	SERVICES TO MEMBERS	2024 £	2023 £
	Magazine costs Membership supplies and recruitment Postage Telephone and fax Training and support VAT recoverable	19,827 14,576 287 6,193 10,009 (6,783)	25,359 7,280 194 6,785 1,671 (7,721)
5	COMMITTEE AND MEETING COSTS	2024 £	2023 £
	External committee costs Management expenses Other committee and area meetings	25,526 14,424 77,891 117,841	23,300 29,506 5,399 58,205

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

6	ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES	2024 £	2023 £
	Audit and accountancy	22,235	29,585
	Bookkeeping	12,335	11,989
	Legal and professional	5,090	694
	Bank commission charges	34,428	34,603
	Donations	7,887	18,890
	Printing and stationery	470	954
	Gifts and samples	200	361
	Entertainment	-	401
	Sundry expenses	7,189	6,150
	Investment management fee	19,168	18,013
		109,003	121,640
7	PREMISES AND EQUIPMENT COSTS	2024	2023
		£	£
	Rent, rates and insurance	30,058	28,009
	Repairs and maintenance	3,432	4,712
	Utilities	1,894	1,909
	Motor	6,329	11,174
	Office equipment and computer	32,281	<i>37,530</i>
	Loss on sale of fixed assets	9,279	492
	Depreciation and Amortisation	23,465	29,277
		106,738	113,103

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

8	TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Motor Vehicles £	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Total £
	COST			
	At 1 January 2024	125,194	39,793	164,987
	Additions	-	2,842	2,842
	Disposals	(125,194)	(7,425)	(132,619)
	At 31 December 2024		35,210	35,210
	ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION			
	At 1 January 2024	96,686	33,888	130,574
	Charge for the year	8,041	3,463	11,504
	Relating to disposals	(104,727)	(5,998)	(110,725)
	At 31 December 2024		31,353	31,353
	NET BOOK VALUE			
	At 31 December 2024	-	3,857	3,857
	At 31 December 2023	28,508	5,905	34,413
9	Intangible Fixed Assets	Website		
		£		
	COST			
	At 1 January 2024	103,446		
	Additions	12,619		
	At 31 December 2024	116,065		
	AMORTISATION			
	At 1 January 2024	79,797		
	Charge for the year	11,960		
	At 31 December 2024	91,757		
	NET BOOK VALUE			
	At 31 December 2024	24,308		
	At 31 December 2023	23,649		

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

10 INVESTMENTS

11

INVESTIMENTS	Lis	sted	Bank	
MARKET VALUE	Equities	Bonds	Deposits	Total
	£	£	£	£
At 1 January 2024	2,995,880	264,741	102,434	3,363,055
Additions	249,532	-	-	249,532
Disposals	(171,195)	(26,112)	-	(197,307)
Net movement in cash deposits	-	-	(4,228)	(4,228)
Change in Investment Values	158,633	(4,739)	-	153,894
At 31 December 2024	3,232,850	233,890	98,206	3,564,946
				3,564,702
	Cost	Market value		244
	£	£		
Equities	1,822,505	3,232,850		
Bonds	237,489	233,890		
Bank deposits	98,206	98,206		
	2,158,200	3,564,946		
INVESTMENT PROPERTY				
	2024	2023		
	£	£		
FAIR VALUE				
At 1 January 2024	280,000	268,000		
(Decrease)/Increase in value	(3,000)	12,000		
At 31 December 2024	277,000	280,000		

The investment property comprises of a residential house and its fair value is derived by the Union based on research into market evidence of transaction price for similar properties.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

12	DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS	2024 £	2023 £
	Trade debtors	22,517	610
	Other debtors	4,020	6,095
	Prepayments and accrued income	52,832	23,711
		79,369	30,416
13	CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS	2024 £	2023 £
	Trade creditors	16,137	15,316
	Other creditors	1,610	700
	Taxes and social security	3,370	1,965
	Accruals and deferred income	21,850	25,200

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

14	FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS	2024 £	2023 £
	Financial assets: Measured at fair value through income and expenditure	3,466,740	3,260,621
	Total financial assets	3,466,740	3,260,621

15 OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 December 2024 there were outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases which fall due as follows:

	Land and buildings		Other	
	2024 <i>2023</i>	2023 2024	2024 <i>2023</i> 2024 <i>202</i>	2023
	£	£	£	£
Within one year	11,557	11,557	3,705	3,705
In the second to fifth years inclusive	9,974	21,531	11,114	14,819
	21,531	33,088	14,819	18,524

16 CONTINGENT LIABILITY

As explained in note 1.7, no tax liabilities are expected to arise on the realisation of unrealised valuation increases on investments and investment properties. If the unrealised valuation increases at 31 December 2024 were all to give rise to chargeable gains (less indexation) the maximum liability to tax would be £XXX (2023: £118,235).

17 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTION

There are no related party transactions to disclose in 2024 (2023: £Nil).