# REFORM SCOTLAND (A company limited by guarantee)

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

Company Registration Number: SC336414 Registered Charity Number: SC039624

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# REFORM SCOTLAND TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The board of directors

I J d'Inverno

A S Dunlop

Company secretary

G R Mawdsley (resigned 20 September 2017)

A A Payne (appointed 20 September 2017, resigned 17 May 2018)

C J Deerin (appointed 17 May 2018)

Registered office

Reform Scotland

137A George Street

Edinburgh EH2 4JY

**Accountants** 

Jamieson Campbell Kerr Limited

Chartered Accountants 14-15 Main Street

Longniddry EH32 0NF

**Auditors** 

Brian Maloney

**Chartered Certified Accountant** 

Statutory Auditor 15a West End West Calder EH55 8EH

**Solicitors** 

CMS Cameron McKenna LLP

Saltire Court 20 Castle Terrace

Edinburgh EH1 2EN

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 March 2018 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and 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).

### Structure, governance and management

#### Governing document

The charitable company was incorporated on 18 January 2008 as a private company limited by guarantee and was registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator on 2 June 2008 and recognised as a charity by HM Revenue and Customs on 6 June 2008. The charitable company was established under a Memorandum of Association which establishes the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. It is governed by a board of directors, who are directors for the purpose of company law and trustees for the purpose of charity law.

#### The board of directors

The charitable company's directors need to bring expertise to the three main areas of activity the charitable company undertakes to fulfil its purpose: knowledge and understanding of the Scottish business community, whence most voluntary donations come; experience in economics and public policy, to guide the output of the charitable company; and experience of the public domain, including the media, which allows the charitable company to disseminate the results of its educational research to the Scottish public in general. The directors have extensive experience and skills in these three areas. They are also experienced in the governance of companies and charities similar to Reform Scotland so little formal training is required to be provided by the charitable company.

#### Risk management

The directors have assessed the major risks to which the charitable company is exposed and are satisfied that systems have been implemented to manage exposure to these risks.

#### **Organisational Structure**

The members of the charitable company consist of:

- The founder members
- The directors of the charitable company
- Any person as admitted by the board of directors

Each member has one vote.

Members of the charitable company guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 in the event of a winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 March 2018 was 2.

The first directors of the charitable company were the founder members. The number of directors cannot be less than 2, nor exceed 25. The board of directors can appoint any person as a director subject to the conditions stated.

#### Organisational structure (cont'd)

The directors are not entitled to receive any remuneration from the charitable company.

Day-to-day management of the charitable company is delegated to A A Payne, who performs the role of chief executive officer.

#### Objectives and activities

The objectives of the charitable company are:

- To promote the education of the Scottish community by carrying out research using robust and objective methods;
- To publish reports and research papers on a range of public policy issues;
- To issue briefing notes and updates analysing developments in public policy;
- To arrange seminars, lectures and other public events in public policy and related topics.

#### Achievements and performance in year

#### Reports and briefing notes

Reform Scotland made progress in its stated aims in the year to 31 March 2018. It published four major pieces of research and four shorter research briefing notes during the year covering various aspects of public policy. All are available for free from <a href="https://www.reformscotland.com">www.reformscotland.com</a>

Blueprint for local power (April 2017)
Manifesto policy tracker (June 2017)
State of Scotland's economy (June 2017)
Reforming prison (August 2017)
Melting Pot 2017 (December 2017)

Research Briefing GPs Offline (July 2017)
Research Briefing The Pension Solution (November 2017)
Research Briefing Basic Income Guarantee (December 2017)
Research Briefing On the right track (December 2017)

In 2015, the Commission on School Reform was re-convened. It was originally set up in November 2011 by the think tanks Reform Scotland and the Centre for Scottish Public Policy to consider whether the school system in Scotland was meeting the present and future needs of young people. It was chaired by Keir Bloomer and published its final report, 'By Diverse Means: Improving Scottish Education', on 4 March 2013.

The members of the commission re-convened in order to prompt a new sense of urgency in Government thinking to transform our educational performance through concerted action to close the gap in attainment and accelerate overall growth in standards, drive up professional standards in teaching and empower schools to respond successfully to local educational needs. In the past year, it has published two papers:

Challenge paper: Pupil Equity Funding (April 2017)
Commission on School Reform Response to the Scottish Government's Consultation:
Empowering Schools (February 2018)

#### Achievements and performance in year (cont'd)

On 25 October 2017, the Commission on School Reform held a half day education conference focused on school governance. It included a presentation by Claire Shewbridge from the OECD and a keynote speech from Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, John Swinney.

#### Written and oral evidence

Reform Scotland gave written responses to the following Scottish Government consultations: Policy Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority's Policing 2026 consultation (April 2017)

Reform Scotland gave evidence to the following Scottish Parliament committees:

Written evidence to the Social Security Committee's Stage 1 investigation into the Social Security (Scotland) Bill (April 2017)

Written evidence to the Health & Sport Committee's inquiry into technology and innovation in the NHS (August 2017)

Written and oral evidence to the Economy, Jobs and Fair Work Committees inquiry into economic data (September 2017)

#### **Promotion**

Reform Scotland seeks to promote its activities to a wide range of people and organisations involved in the public policy debate in Scotland with copies of all reports sent to a cross-section of individuals either in hard copy or electronic form.

There was considerable media interest in Reform Scotland's work with Reform Scotland or its representatives having appeared in the print or broadcast media on 177 occasions over the past year and on 1,451 occasions since the organisation was established.

In March 2018 Reform Scotland voluntarily signed up to the Lobbying Register.

#### Financial review

The overall amount raised by the charitable company in 2017 – 18 was down but the charity's expenditure was significantly down so a healthy surplus was recorded for the year. Since then and following the year end, the charitable company has been able to secure sufficient donations to meet its ongoing running costs. It is also continuing to look at ways of securing further donations. The directors, therefore, believe that the charity will have sufficient funding to support its activities over the next twelve months. In order to maintain its independence, as well as its freedom from commercial or political considerations, Reform Scotland does not accept commissions to undertake work, nor does it accept money from government organisations. This means that it must raise funds for no immediate gain to the donor and there may be no immediate evidence of success because of the long-term, educational nature of its work.

#### Statement of the trustees' responsibilities

The charity trustees (who are also the directors of Reform Scotland for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

#### Statement of Disclosure to Our Auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our trustees' annual report:

- There is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the trust's auditor is unaware, and
- The trustees, having made enquiries of fellow directors and the auditor that they ought to have individually taken, have each taken all steps that he/she is obliged to take as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

## **Auditors**

A resolution to re-appoint Brian Maloney & Co as auditor will be proposed at the annual general meeting.

Registered office:

Signed by order of the Directors

137A George Street Edinburgh EH2 4JY

Andrew Sinclair Dunlop

Approved by the Directors on 7/8/18

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES AND MEMBERS OF REFORM SCOTLAND FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2018 and of its income and expenditure, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- Have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

We have audited the financial statements of Reform Scotland for the year ended 31 March 2018 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes on pages 13 to 18. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAsUK) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our 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 that we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

We are required by ISAs (UK) to report on the following matters where;

- \* The trustees use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements
  - is not appropriate; or
- \* The trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charitable company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least 12 months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

We have nothing to report on these matters.

#### Other Information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Report of the Trustees, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

We have nothing to report on these matters.

#### Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees Responsibilities Statement, the Trustees (who are also directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view and for such internal controls as the trustees determine 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 trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company'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 trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with regulations made under those Acts.

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 to 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 accordance 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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### Use of our Report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, and to the charitable company's trustees as a body, in accordance with section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members and the charitable company trustees 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 charitable company and its members and trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES AND MEMBERS OF REFORM SCOTLAND (CONT'D) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

#### Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Companies Act 2006 and the Charity Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 we are required to report in respect of the following matters if, in our opinion:

- The charitable company has not kept proper and adequate accounting records or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies exemption in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

Brian Maloney F.C.C.A.
(Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of
Brian Maloney & Co,
Statutory Auditor
15a West End,
West Calder

**EH55 8EH** 

Date 14/08/2/01

Brian Maloney is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

# REFORM SCOTLAND STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

NO	TE	Unrestricted funds	Total funds 2018 £	Total funds 2017 £
Income			٠	
Donations	2	150,599	150,599	165,420
Total income		150,599	150,599	165,420
Expenditure				
Charitable activities	3	113,698	113,698	163,537
Total expenditure		113,698	113,698	163,537
Net income and net movement in funds for the year		36,901	36,901	1,883
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		(23,237)	(23,237)	(25,120)
Total funds carried forward	7	13,664	13,664	(23,237)

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

# REFORM SCOTLAND BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2018

	NOTE	2018 £	2017 £
FIXED ASSETS	_	7.40	7/7
Tangible assets	5	742	767 ———
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		24,689	1,757
LIABILITIES			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within		(11.555)	(05.5(1)
one year	6	(11,767)	(25,761)
			4
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITI	(ES)	12,922	(24,004)
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		13,664	(23,237)
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted	7	13,664	(23,237)
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS		13,664	(23,237)

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements on pages 11 - 18 were approved by the board on .7/8/18 and signed on their behalf.

Andrew Sinclair Dunlop

on 7/8/18

The notes on pages 13 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### (a) Basis of preparation

The 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.

Reform Scotland meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

#### (b) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the directors in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

#### (c) Operating leases

Operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

#### (d) Incoming resources

Items of income are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity or its subsidiary have entitlement to the funds;
- Any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity or its subsidiary;
- There is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable and
- The amount can be measured reliably.

The specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Donated services or facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over
  the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of
  economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic
  benefit can be measured reliably.
- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Incoming resources from charitable activities are accounted for when earned.

#### (e) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

• Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs, these costs are outlined in notes 3 and 4 of the Financial Statements.

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

#### (f) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity's activities. These costs have been allocated to expenditure on charitable activities. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 4.

#### (g) Tangible fixed assets

Provision is made for the depreciation of fixed assets in order to write off the cost or valuation of these assets over their expected useful lives.

The annual depreciation rates and methods are as follows:

Office equipment – 20% straight line

Items costing over £100 and with a useful economic life of more than one year are capitalised.

#### (h) Creditors and provisions

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) Financial instruments

The trust only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at the carrying value plus accrued interest less repayments. The financing charge to expenditure is at a constant rate calculated using the effective interest method.

# (j) Legal status of the Trust

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding-up is limited to £1.

# (k) Cashflow Statement Exemption

The charity has utilised the exemption conferred by SORP (FRS 102) in not preparing a cashflow statement for the year.

## 2. DONATIONS

	2018 Unrestricted £	2018 Total £	2017 Total £
Donations	124,815	124,815	139,363
Gift aid	25,784	25,784	26,057
	150,599	150,599	165,420

# 3. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

	Education		m . 1.6
	Research &	Total for	Total for
•	Publicity	2018	2017
	£	£	£
Advertising	98	98	-
Events	2,873	2,873	1,799
Reports	3,792	3,792	2,227
Newspapers	-	-	214
Consultancy fees	40,258	40,258	58,479
Wages and salaries	48,697	48,697	74,033
Support and Governance Costs (see note 4)	17,980	17,980	26,785
·			
•	113,698	113,698	163,537

Expenditure on charitable activities was £113,698 (2017 - £163,537) of which £113,698 was unrestricted (2017 - £163,537).

## 4. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS

The charity initially identifies the cost of its support functions. It then identifies those costs which relate to the governance function. Governance costs and other support costs are apportioned separately between the key charitable activities in the year (see note 3).

Refer to the table below for the basis for apportionment and the analysis of support and governance costs.

	General Support £	Governance Function £	Total for 2018	Total for 2017	Basis for Appt'mt
Rent	8,009	-	8,009	15,708	actual
Telephone	1,713	-	1,713	274	actual
Printing, stationery and postage	923	-	923	1,101	actual
Computer and IT expenses	971	_	971	1,322	actual
Travel and subsistence	76	-	76	297	actual
Entertaining	171	-	171	773	actual
Bank charges	529	_	529	747	actual
Bank interest	49	_	49	1,559	actual
Sundry expenses	253	-	253	179	actual
Depreciation	473	-	473	383	usage
Professional fees	-	2,293	2,293	1,922 g	governance
Audit fees	-	1,500	1,500	1,500 g	governance
Accounting fees	-	1,020	1,020	1,020 g	governance
	13,167	4,813	17,980	26,785	

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Office Equipment £
Cost As at 1 April 2017 Additions	11,272 448
As at 31 March 2018	11,720
Depreciation As at 1 April 2017 Charge for the year As at 31 March 2018	10,505 473 10,978
Net Book Value As at 31 March 2018	742
As at 31 March 2017	767

	2018 £	2017 £
Taxation and social security Other creditors	11,767	4,267 21,494
	11,767	25,761

# 7. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

•	As at 1 Apr 17 £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	As at 31 Mar 18 £
Unrestricted Funds General funds	(23,237)	150,599	(113,698)	13,664
Total Funds	(23,237)	150,599	(113,968)	13,664

# 8. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	General Fund	Total Funds
	£	£
Fund Balances as at 31 March 2018 are represented by:		
Tangible fixed assets	742	742
Current assets	24,689	24,689
Liabilities	(11,767)	(11,767)
Net liabilities	13,664	13,664
9. STAFF COSTS AND DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION		
	2018	2017
	£	£
Wages and salaries	46,911	69,656
Social security costs	1,786	4,377

No director received remuneration during the year. No employees received emoluments over £60,000 during the year. The average number of employees during the year was 2 (2017 - 2).

48,697

74,033

## 10. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR

·	2018	2017 £
	£	
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	473	383
Auditor's remuneration	1,500	1,500

The auditor did not receive reimbursement of expenses or remuneration for any non-audit services.

#### 11. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

	2018	2017
Property	£	£
Operating leases which expire in:		
Less than one year	-	7,704

#### 12. COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

In the event of the company being wound up the members agree to contribute such amount as may be required not exceeding £1.

### 13. TAXATION

The company, being a charity, is eligible for exemption from tax on income under section 478 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

# 14. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No directors made donations to Reform Scotland during the year ended 31 March 2018 (2017 - £500).

During the year no director received any reimbursement of expenses (2017 - nil).

None of the trustees (or any other person connected with them) received any remuneration during the year (2017 - nil).

There were no other transactions or contracts entered into by the charity in which any trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in the year (2017 - nil).