

Founded 1866

**Unaudited Financial Statements** 

31 March 2019

\*A8K89P8R\*
A21 13/12/2019 #146

## **Company information**

## **Present Members of Council of Management**

Judy Audaer Ed Moore Afonso Reis e Sousa Dorothy Smith Robert Forder Sadikur Rahman Peter Revell Keith Porteous Wood Josephine Macintosh Yasmin Rehman Richard Scorer

Page Nos.

## **Company Secretary**

Keith Porteous Wood FCCA

### Company number

01418145

## Registered office

25 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4RL-

### **Accountants**

Hunt Blake, Chartered Accountants
Jubilee House, The Oaks, Ruislip HA4 7LF

### **Bankers**

The Co-operative Bank Plc 1 Balloon Street, Manchester, M60 4EP

Metro Bank Plc
One Southampton Row, London, WC1B 5HA

### **Investment Managers**

Rathbone Investment Management Limited Registered Office, Port of Liverpool Building Pier Head Liverpool, L3 1NW

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## Report of the Council of Management for the year ended 31 March 2019

The Council of Management presents its report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2019.

#### Members of the Council of Management

The Members of the Council during the year were:

Judy Audaer	Robert Forder	Josephine Macintosh
Ed Moore	Sadikur Rahman	Yasmin Rehman (1)
Afonso Reis e Sousa	Peter Revell	Terry Sanderson (2)
Richard Scorer	Dorothy Smith	Patricia Wallis (2)
Keith Porteous Wood		

- (1) Appointed 24 November 2018
- (2) Resigned 24 November 2018

### Principal activity

The principal activity of the Society is the promotion of Secularism. This is achieved through:

- Media activities;
- Representations to the Government, Parliament and official bodies, both domestic and international, where their
  activities impinge on the UK; and
- The publication of blogs, email newsletters, email campaigns, online petitions and other website and printed material

The Society also receives subscriptions and donations from members and makes and holds investments from which income is received.

### Small company rules

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

Approved by the Council of Management and signed on its behalf.

K Forteus Wood - Member of the Council of Management

25 September 2019

## Independent Chartered Accountants report to the Council of Management

### On the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2019

#### Status of our report

Our report is made to you, the Council of Management of the society, as a body, in accordance with the terms of our engagement to prepare the financial statements and to report to you that we have done so. It is not provided for any other purpose and to the fullest extent permitted by law we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than to the society and to you for our work or for our report.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit and therefore we do not express any opinion on the financial statements.

We are a practising member firm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and our work is undertaken in accordance with the ethical and professional requirements of the Institute.

#### Report

We are pleased to report to you that In accordance with your instructions to assist you to fulfil your obligations under the Companies Act 2006, (the "Act"), we have prepared the above financial statements of the society under section 1A of Financial Reporting Standard 102. These financial statements comprise the Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Account and associated notes and have been prepared solely from the records, documents, information and explanations which have been made available to us.

#### **Approval of the Council of Management**

The Act requires that the Council of Management formally approves the financial statements and appoints a council member to sign the Balance Sheet on its behalf. This approval also confirms the acknowledgement by the council members of their responsibilities under the Act for:

- ensuring that the society has kept adequate accounting records;
- preparing financial statements that give a true and fair view; and
- ensuring that the society is entitled, under sections 475 to 477 of the Act, to exemption from having an audit undertaken.

Hunt Blake Chartered Accountants & Chartered Tax Advisors Ruislip HA4 7LF

27 November 2019

## **Income and Expenditure Account**

## For the year ended 31 March 2019

	Note		2019 £		2018 £
Income	. 2		863,663		467,551
Cost of events and merchandising		(	12,689)		9,032)
Gross surplus			850,974		458,519
Administrative expenses		(	421,647)	(	362,647)
Operating surplus			429,327		95,872
Surplus on disposal of investments			9,289		88,637
Adjustment to investment revaluation			164,551	(	166,299)
Interest receivable and similar income			6,277		5,964
Surplus before tax	•		609,444		24,174
Taxation	4		• -		-
Surplus for the financial year after tax		£	609,444	£	24,174

The notes on pages 5 to 7 form part of these financial statements

## Balance sheet at 31 March 2019

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
Fixed assets		•	
Tangible fixed assets	5	2,961	2,758
Investments	6	3,167,092	2,927,422
-		£ 3,170,053	£ 2,930,180
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		556,815	184,149
Prepayments and accrued income	·	17,442	25,119
Creditors : amounts falling due within one year	7	( 14,467)	( 19,277)
Net current assets		£ 559,790	£ 189,991
Total assets less current liabilities		3,729,843	3,120,171
Accruals and deferred income		( 11,075)	( 10,847)
Net assets		£ 3,718,768	£ 3,109,324
Capital and reserves			
General reserve	9	2,439,986	1,891,880
Income and Expenditure Account	9	1,278,782	1,217,444
		£ 3,718,768	£ 3,109,324

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

For the financial year ended 31 March 2019 the society was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477, Companies Act 2006, relating to small companies.

Members have not required the society to obtain an audit in accordance with section.476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Members of the Council of Management acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

Approved by the Council of Management and signed on its behalf.

K Porteus Wood - Member of the Council of Management

25 September 2019

The notes on pages 5 to 7 form part of these financial statements

Registered Company No. 01418145

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2019

### 1 Accounting policies

#### 1.01 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are revalued, and under Section 1A of FRS 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

#### 1.02 Revenue recognition

Revenue from members' subscription and donations, investment income and legacies, is recognised when received. Revenue from events and merchandising sales is recognised as at the date of sale.

Legacies, life membership subscriptions and major donations, being donations over £2,500, are transferred to the general reserve in the year of receipt.

#### 1.03 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets held for the society's own use are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses, if any. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less any estimated residual values, over their expected useful lives, on a straight line basis at 25% per annum.

At each balance sheet date, the society reviews the carrying amount of its tangible fixed assets to determine whether there is any indication that any items have suffered an impairment loss, i.e. where their current recoverable amount is significantly lower than their book value. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount is used to determine the impairment loss. No tangible fixed assets are currently considered to be so impaired.

#### 1.04 Investments

The Society's investments have been acquired over many years, mainly through bequests by members and supporters.

The Council's investment policy is to seek real growth in value over the longer term commensurate with an acceptance of average tolerance for risk. The funds are invested with professional fund managers who follow that policy.

Investments are carried at market value, any necessary adjustment being charged or credited, as appropriate, to the Income and Expenditure account.

### 1.05 Leasing contracts

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged to profit and loss as incurred.

#### 1.06 Taxation

FRS 102 requires that provision be made against potential tax ("deferred tax") relating to any gains brought into the financial statements on, amongst other things, revaluation of listed investments. As the value of the society's investments are included at market value, it would normally be appropriate to calculate the relevant deferred tax. However, the society has a substantial amount of unrelieved management expenses. These are expenses relating to the day to day running of the society in current and previous years which are deductible against corporation tax, but which have remained unused due to the society not having sufficient taxable income or gains.

Under current legislation these management expenses are available to be set off against any future taxable gains on disposals of investments. The Council of Management considers that there will be no tax payable on any gains on the disposal of investments in the foreseeable future.

### 1.07 Pension

The Society contributes to employees' defined contribution pension plans, the assets of which are held outside of the society. The pension charge represents the amounts payable by the society for the year.

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2019

## 2 Income

2	income				
			2019 £		2018 £
	Subscriptions and donations		203,521		209,818
	Events, merchandising sales and sundry income		11,833		11,457
	Investment income		88,460		82,273
	Anniversary 150 appeal - Donations other than major donations		,		460
	Fundraising 2020 - Other than major donations		11,743		28,895
			315,557		332,903
	Life membership		4,518		2,400
	Legacies and major donations		543,588		117,248
	Fundraising 2020 - Major donations		-		15,000
			863,663		467,551
3	Employees				
·			2019		2018
	The average number of persons employed by the society during				
	the year was		5		5
4	Taxation				
	The Council of Management considers that there is no tax liability on the res	ults for the	year.		
5	Tangible fixed assets				
			Office		Total.
			equipment		rotal.
	Cont		£		£
	Cost		04.500		04 500
	At 1 April 2018 Additions		24,586 1,764		24,586
	Additions		1,704		1,764
	At 31 March 2019	£	26,350	£	26,350
	Depreciation				
	At 1 April 2018		21,828		21,828
	Charge for the year		1,561		1,561
	At 31 March 2019	£	23,389	£	23,389
	Net book value				
	At 31 March 2019	£	2,961	£	2,961
	At 1 April 2018	£	2,758	£	2,758

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2019

6	Investments			
			2019 £	2018 £
	The investments are all listed investments		-	-
	Market value of investments at beginning of the year		2,927,422	2,923,344
	New investments		108,054	259,332
	Cost of disposals		( 32,935)	( 88,955)
	Revaluation adjustment at the reporting date		164,551	( 166,299)
	Market value of investments at end of the year		£ 3,167,092	£ 2,927,422
	Carrying value if the investments had not been revalued		£ 2,704,820	£ 2,629,701
		,		
7	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
			2019 £	2018 £
	Social security and other taxes		5,219	4,593
	Amount owing to pension fund		1,265	1,166
	Other creditors		7,983	13,518
			14,467	19,277
	Financial committee of			
8	Financial commitments		2019	2018
			£	£
	At the end of the reporting period the total commitments of the			
	society under non-cancellable operating leases, over the			
	remaining life of the leases, and other financial commitments was		£ 31,511	£ 49,424
9	Reserves			
		General	Income &	
		Reserve	Expenditure	Total
			Account	
		£	£	£
	Balances as at 1 April 2018	1,891,880	1,217,444	3,109,324
	Retained surplus for the year	<u>-</u>	609,444	609,444
	Legacies, major donations and life memberships	548,106	( 548,106)	
	Balances as at 31 March 2019	£ 2,439,986	£ 1,278,782	£ 3,718,768

## 10 General information

National Secular Society is a private company limited by guarantee, each member having a maximum liability of

The society is incorporated in England, registered number 01418145 and its registered office is 25 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4RL.

The financial statements are presented in GB pounds sterling, which is the functional currency of the society.