BRITISH ORTHOPTIC SOCIETY (TRADE UNION)

(A company having no share capital and limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

BRITISH ORTHOPTIC SOCIETY (TRADE UNION)

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BRITISH ORTHOPTIC SOCIETY (TRADE UNION)

ADVISOR'S REPORT
For the year ended 31 December 2024

BOS TU Report

The Executive board has now been in place for four years.
The General Secretary and the President are both four years into their first five year term of office. The Northern and Southern Executive board members both come to the end of their second term of office at the 2025 AGM, these positions will then be vacant. We still have vacancies for a Northern Ireland, Scottish and Welsh Executive board members. In 2024 the board welcomed the Early Career board member to enable us to have easier connections to those members in the first five years of their careers, making sure their voice is heard. Having an executive board continues to enable us to provide timely and relevant advice and support to all members.
Local meetings are held by the Local Regional Officers who have good networks with the workplace representatives of the local orthoptic departments enabling speedy support and understanding of local issues.

Employment relations work is conducted both virtually and in face to face meetings, tailoring to the needs of the member. On average the BOSTU receives between five and ten enquiries and requests for support per week and these requests are answered in an appropriate timely manner by one of the team. The executive team have directly supported 15 formal cases and 3 HCPC cases this year and, in addition, advised local reps who have managed cases themselves. Nationally, both the General Secretary and the President regularly attend virtual and face to face meetings alongside our fellow NHS trade union colleagues continuing to negotiate for fair pay and conditions for all our members. In September 2024 the General Secretary attended the 2024 Trade Union Congress in Brighton voting on behalf of BOSTU on motions that will be raised with government in the following year. We are determined to ensure BOSTU and our members are visible and our voices are heard despite being a small union.

Our General Secretary delivered talks to all final year students to explain exactly what BOSTU is and the importance of being a member and why they need Union from day one in their careers.

A BOSTU five year strategy was presented to the Trustees board which will hopefully future proof the Union going forward for the next five years, making the Union more robust and fit for purpose to serve all our members. The strategy will be shared with all members later in the year.

It has again been a busy year for the Trade Union with many challenges and this has been facilitated only by the determination and hard work of the Executive team and all our local reps. If any departments do not have an active local rep, please can we encourage the Heads of service to talk with members about the benefits of having a local rep and encourage a member of staff to take up this important role.

BRITISH ORTHOPTIC SOCIETY (TRADE UNION)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
For the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Income		139,202		125,511
Expenditure	43,661		41,161	
		(43,661)		(41,161)
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		**95,541**		**84,350**

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements
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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Going Concern
The Executive Committee have a reasonable expectation that the Trade Union has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the financial statements continue to be prepared on the going concern basis.

1.3 Income
Member subscriptions are recognised in the period to which they relate.

2. Funds
The funds for BIOS TU are recognised as a restricted fund within the accounts for British and Irish Orthoptic Society.