## Statement of Accounts

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# for the financial year ended 31 December 2022,

Standards in Public Office Commission Received

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# Annual Statement of Accounts for the financial year ended 31 December 2022

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# Annual Statement of Accounts for the financial year ended 31 December 2022

#### Trustees and other information

Trustees	Peadar Tóibín Emmet Hope Mairéad Tóibín Liam Reichenberg Sarah Beasley
Head office	8 Market Square Navan Co. Meath C15 <sup>.</sup> E0KR
Auditor	Cuddy, O'Leary & Rigney 3003 Euro Business Park Little Island Co. Cork T45 FX94
Bankers	Bank of Ireland Upper Georges street Dun Laoghaire Co. Dublin A96 F240
Solicitors	David Sheehan & Company 5 Upper Hartstonage street Limerick V94 F6KA

#### Trustees Report Annual Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

The Trustees present their report and audited financial statements for financial year ended 31 December 2022.

#### **Principal Activity**

Aontú is a Political Party registered in the Register of Political Parties in accordance with Section 25 of the Electoral Act 1992.

Aontú was founded on 28th January 2019 and registered as a political party in March 2019. The structure and governance of the party is as follows:

#### Ard Fheis

The supreme governing body of Aontu is an Ard Fheis. The current members of the National Officer Board were re-elected with one change - Gemma Brolly as Leas Ceannaire in place of Denise Mullins.

#### Ard Comhairle

Aontú's Ard Comhairle meets monthly and is responsible for running the party until an Ard Fheis is held. Its function is to develop policy, development strategy and organisation. Its membership includes the National Officer Board, elected representatives, provincial representatives, county organisers and an Ogra Aontú representative.

The Ard Comhairle is responsible for the adoption of these financial statements. Its members include the following:

#### Officers:

Ceannaire:	Peadar Tóibín, Trustee
Leas Ceannaire:	Gemma Brolly
Cathaoirleach:	Emmet Hope, Trustee
Runaí:	Sarah Beasley, Trustee
Cisteoir:	Mairéad Tóibín, Trustee

#### Other members:

Finian Toomey, Becky Kealy, Conrad Donlon, Cormac O Cocoráin, Denise Wallace, Ellen Troy, Emer Tóibín, Grainne McPhillips, James Hope, Labhra O' Neill, Martin Hallissey, Mary T Sweeney, Paul Lawless, Risteárd Ó Fuaráin, Seán Mac Cearáin, Úna O Connor, Paddy Scully, John Ramsey, Jim Codd, Jason Conroy, Adrian O'Boyle, Ciaran Tracey, Eric Nelligan, Gerard Herdman, Joe Rogers, Rosemary McGlone, Daniel Fuller and Sheila Fullerton.

#### **Coiste Seaste**

The Coiste Seasta is responsible for the day to day business of the Party between Ard Comhairle meetings. All National departmetns are accountable to the Ard Comhairle through Coiste Seasta.

The Coiste Seasta holds weekly meetings and is responsible for the day to day business between Ard Comhairle meetings.

#### Principal risks and uncertainties

Financial risk and economic risk: In common with all organisations, prudent management of the Party's financial resources and affairs is crucial. As a new political party the support of its members and elected representatives is growing. Funding for Aontú comes from membership, donations and fundraising.

#### Trustees Report Annual Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### People

Aontú relies on its members to progress the party in the future. The party is encouraged by the numbers of new members and volunteers who believe in the party's core values and want to bring the party to a higher level.

#### **Electoral success**

Electoral success is vital for any political party as it will ensure funding from the State through the Electoral Act and Parliamentary Activities Allowance grants. Aontú will continue to focus on its core policies and maximising performance, increasing gender balance and ensuring it meets the needs of the electorate.

#### Scope of the financial statements

The audited Statement of Accounts presented on pages 5 to 17 for the financial year ended 31 December 2022 cover all activities of Aontú and do not include the affairs of any branches or other units. Furthermore SIPO - Standards in Public Office Commission - is only concerned with the jurisdication in the Republic of Ireland.

These following financial statements relate to payments in and out of the National bank Account or monies paid directly to companies that printed election material or leaflets for candidates and the party. They do not relate to expenses paid directly by candidates or the Cumainn that selected the candidate. No other accounting unit is included in this statement. Payments made to any elected representative directly from the Oireachtas are excluded.

#### Accounting records

The measures taken by the trustees to secure compliance with the provisions of the Electoral Act 1997 and Guidelines issued by the Standars in Public Office Commission with regard to the keeping of accounting records are the implementation of necessary policies and procedures for recording transactions, the employment of competent accounting personnel with appropriate expertise and the provision of adequate resources to the financial function. The accounting records of the party are located at 8 Market Square, Navan, Co. Meath.

#### **Financial results**

The operating (deficit) for the year ended 31 December 2022 amounted to ( $\in$ 23,225) The operating surplus for the year ended 31 December 2021 amounted to  $\in$ 71,078

#### Events after the end of the reporting period

There have been no significant events affecting the party since the financial year -end.

#### Auditors

The auditors, Cuddy, O'Leary & Rigney, (Chartered Accountants) have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.

#### Trustees

The trustees who served during the financial year as set out on page 1.

### **Trustees Report** Annual Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### The Future

The Party must build its financial position and strength so that it can bring its policies to the electorate and effectively fight local and national elections in the future.

This report was approved by the board of directors on 29 June 2023 and signed on behalf of the board by:

Trustees:

Peedar Toibin Emmet Hope Matread Tolbin Liam Reichenberg Sarah Beasiey

29 June 2023

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#### Appropriate Officers's Resposibilities Annual Statement of Accounts for the financial year ended 31 December 2022

I am responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable Irish law and regulations.

The Electoral Acts and guidelines published by the Standards in Public Office Commission requires me to prepare an annual statement of accounts that gives a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Party as at 31 December 2022 and of its surplus or deficit for the year then ended.

In preparing the Statement of Accounts, the I am required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- · make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- comply with generally applicable accounting practice in Ireland, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", subject to any material departure being disclosed and explained in the Statement of Accounts;
- · include any additional information required by law or regulation, and
- prepare the statement of accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Party will continue in operation.

I am also also responsible for keeping all proper and usual books of account of the Party that:

- · disclose at any time, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the Party at that time, and
- · enable me to ensure that the annual statement of accounts complies with the guidelines.

**Appropriate officer** Mairéad Tóibín Trustee

Warboot Cabin

29 June 2023

#### Independent Auditor's Report Annual Statement of Accounts for the financial year 31 December 2022

#### Report to the members of Aontú on the Audit of the Annual Statement of Accounts

#### Opinion

We have audited the Statement of Accounts of Aontú (the 'party') for the financial year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the Income and expenditure account, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and related notes to the Statement of Accounts, including a summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 3. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish law and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", issued in the United Kingdom by the Financial Reporting Council (Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland).

In our opinion, the Statement of Accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at 31 December 2022 and of its loss for the financial year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"; and
- have been prepared in accordance with provision of the Electoral Act 1997 and guidelines issued by the Standards of Public Office Commission (SIPO).

#### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Statement of Accounts section of our report. We are independent of the Party in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the Statement of Accounts in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors (Ireland) issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), 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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which ISAs (Ireland) require us to report to you where:

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

#### Other Information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the Statement of Accounts and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the Statement of Accounts 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.

#### Independent Auditor's Report Annual Statement of Accounts (continued) for the financial year 31 December 2022

#### Other Information (continued)

In connection with our audit of the Statement of Accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the Statement of Accounts or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the Statement of Accounts or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

# Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts 1893 to 1978 and the Friendly Societies Acts 1896 to 1977.

As required by section 13(2) of the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 1893 to 2018 we examined the Party balance sheet showing the receipts and expenditure, funds and effects of the party, and verified the same with the books, deeds, documents, accounts and vouchers relating thereto, and found them to be correct, duly vouched, and in accordance with law.

#### Matters on which we are required to include in our report

- We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider nesessary for the purposes of audit
- In our opinion the accounting records of the Party were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited
- The financial statments are in agreement with accounting records
- In our opinion the information given in the Trustees report is consistent with the financial statements

#### **Respective responsibilities**

#### Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of Statement of Accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the Statement of Accounts, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Party'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 management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Statement of Accounts

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Statement of Accounts 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 (Ireland) 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 Statement of Accounts.

#### Independent Auditor's Report Annual Statement of Accounts (continued) for the financial year 31 December 2022

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the Statement of Accounts is located on the IAASA's website at: http://www.iaasa.ie/getmedia/b2389013-1cf6-458b-9b8f-a98202dc9c3a/ Description\_of\_auditors\_responsibilities\_for\_audit.pdf. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

Our report is made solely to the Party's members, as a body, in accordance with the agreed scope of of engagement. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Party'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 Party and the Party's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

William Cuddy FCA for and on behalf of Cuddy, O'Leary & Rigney Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm 3003 Euro Business Park Little Island Co. Cork T45 FX94

29 June 2023

### Income and expenditure account Financial year ended 31 December 2022

		2022 €	2021 €
Income			
State funding income	5	104,036	89,422
Membership fees & subsciptions	6	18,103	15,649
Donations	7	24,661	19,779
Gross fundraising income	8	42,030	47,830
Other amounts remitted by branches	9	-	1,137
Bi-Election expenses reimbursed		-	24,679
Total income		188,830	198,496
Expenditure			
Staff remuneration costs (HOI)		24,791	18,921
Notional staff pension costs		4,651	3,690
Salary parliament activity		25,772	27,448
Office rental & room hire		2,473	-
Fundraising costs		3,252	3,103
Insurance		471	471
General administration		27,836	22,280
Shop purchases		6,078	-
Election expenses		39,194	-
Printing, postage and communication		33,226	11,880
Technical, special and computer costs		15,770	19,100
Associated accommodation		7,017	2,282
Policy formulation fees		725	1,175
Consultancy fees		13,810	12,000
Auditors remuneration		3,690	3,750
Bank and Stripe charges		3,299	1,318
Total expenditure		(212,055)	(127,418)
Operating (deficit)/surplus		(23,225)	71,078

We approve the above account and confirm that it represents a true and fair record of Party Income and Expenditure for the financial year 31 December 2022.

Trustees: Peadar Tóibín Emmet Hope Mairéad Tóibín Liam Reichenberg Sarah Beasley

29 June 2023

#### The notes on pages 13 to 17 form part of these Statement of Accounts.

### Statement of Comprehensive Income Annual Statement of Accounts Financial year ended 31 December 2022

	Year ended 2022 €	Period ended 2021 €
Operating (deficit)/surplus for the year	(23,225)	71,078
Loans to political parties Other interest receivable and similar income Interest payable and similar expenses	- -	16 (16)
Tax on operating (deficit)/surplus	-	-
(Deficit)/surplus for the financial year and total comprehensive income	(23,225)	71,078
Retained earnings at the start of the financial year	114,780	43,702
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	91,555	114,780

The notes on pages 13 to 17 form part of these Statement of Accounts.

# Balance sheet As at 31 December 2022

	•	202	2	202	21
	Note	€	E	e	E
Current assets					
Debtors	14	500		500	
Cash at bank and in hand	15	97,871		121,095	
		98,371		121,596	
Creditors; amounts failing due		, 			
within one year	16	(6,816)		(8,816)	
Net current assets			91,555		114,780
Total assets less current Habilities			91,555		114,780
Net assets			91,555		114,780
Retained revenue and reserves	, 				444 700
Income and expenditure account	18		91,555		114,780
Mombers funds			91,555		114,780

These Statement of Accounts were approved by the board of directors and signed on behalf of the board by:

Trustees: Pendar Tölbin Emmet Hope Mairéad Tölbin Liam Reichenberg Sarah Bessley

29 June 2023

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The notes on pages 13 to 17 form part of these Statement of Accounts.

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### Statement of Cash Flows Annual Statement of Accounts Financial year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 €	2021 €
Cash flows from operating activities			
(Deficit)/surplus for the financial year		(23,225)	71,078
Adjustments for:			
Other interest receivable and similar income		-	(16)
Interest payable and similar expenses		-	16
Accrued expenses/(income)		-	60
Changes in:			
Trade and other debtors		-	(500)
Cash generated from operations		(23,225)	70,638
Interest paid		-	(16)
Interest received		-	16
Net cash (used in)/from operating activities		(23,225)	70,638
			<u> </u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from borrowings		<del></del>	(26,640)
Net cash used in financing activities		-	(26,640)
			······
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(23,225)	43,998
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year	15	121,096	77,098
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	15	97,871	121,096

#### Notes to the Statement of Accounts Financial year ended 31 December 2022

#### 1. General information

Aontú is a Political Party registered in the Register of Political Parties in accordance with Section 25 of the Electoral Act, 1992. The address of the registered office is 8 Market Square, Navan, Co. Meath.

#### 2. Statement of compliance

These Statement of Accounts have been prepared on the going concern basis and in and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in Ireland and Irish statute, and in accordance with FRS 102 Section 1A, "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (FRS 102) and the provisions of the Electoral Act 1997 (as amended) and the guidelines issued by the Standards in Public Office Commission.

#### 3. Accounting policies and measurement bases

#### 3.1. Basis of preparation

The Statement of Accounts 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 profit or loss.

The Statement of Accounts are prepared in Euro, which is the functional currency of the entity.

#### 3.2. Going concern

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis.

#### 3.3. Significant judgements and estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the Trustees to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results in the future could differ from those estimates. In this regard, the Trustees believe that the critical accounting policies where judgments or estimates are necessarily applied are summarised below.

The Trustees have prepared budgets and cash flows for a period of at least twelve months from the date of the approval of the financial statements which demonstrate that there is no material uncertainty regarding the Party's ability to meet its liabilities as they fall due, and to continue as a going concern. On this basis the Trustees consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. Accordingly, these financial statements do not include any adjustments to the carrying amounts classification of assets and liabilities that may arise if the company was unable to continue as a going concern.

#### 3.4. Revenue

Revenue comprises of all donations, membership fees, fundraising and state grants receiced by the party during the financial year.

#### 3.5. Foreign currencies

Foreign currency transactions are initially recorded in the functional currency, by applying the spot exchange rate as at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the exchange rate ruling at the reporting date, with any gains or losses being taken to profit or loss.

#### Notes to the Statement of Accounts (continued) Financial year ended 31 December 2022

#### **Defined contribution plans**

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in finance costs in profit or loss in the period in which it arises.

#### 3.6. Creditors

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other financial liabilities are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### 4. Income

The whole of the turnover is attributable to the principal activity of the Party which is wholly undertaken in Ireland.

5.	State funding		
		2022	2021
	State funding comprises:		
		E	€
	Parliamentary Activities allowance	67,577	64,529
	Administrative support provided by the Houses of the Oireachtas	36,459	24,893
		104,036	89,422
6,	Membership fees and subscriptions		
		2022	2021
	Membership fee and subscription income is comprised as follows:		
		€	€
	Collected by Head Office / National units	18,103	15,649
	It is made of:		
	Corporate memberships	-	-
	Individual Subscriptions	18,103	15,649
		18,103	15,649

### Notes to the Statement of Accounts (continued) Financial year ended 31 December 2022

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7.	Donations		
		2022	2021
	The total donations reported comprise:		
		€	€
	Individual donations	17,676	12,551
	Declared donations	5,000	5,000
	National Units donation	<b>-</b> · ·	2,228
	Shop	1,985	
		24,661	19,779

Under section 24 of the Electoral Act 1997, a separate accounting is made in respect of donations received.

### 8. Fundraising

0.	The principal souurces of fundraising income in financial year were as follows:	2022	2021
		€	€
	National Superdraw income	42,030	47,830
	Fundraising expenditure		
	National Superdraw	3,252	3,103
9.	Other amounts remitted by branches	2022	2021
	The balance of fundraising trasferred to Head Office /		
	National unit by branches comprises:	€	€
	Amounts remitted by branches	-	1,137
		-	1,137
		·	
10.	Miscellaneous income		
		2022	2021
	Miscellaneous income comprises:	€	€
	Bi-Election expenses reimbursed	-	24,679

24,679

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## Notes to the Statement of Accounts (continued) Financial year ended 31 December 2022

#### 11. Staff costs

Staff costs comprise:		
	2022	2021
	€	€
Wages and salaries	24,791	18,921
Other retirement benefit costs	4,651	3,690
	29,442	22,611

Costs of staff include €24,791 (31 December 2021: €18,921 ) in respect of staff provided without charge by the Houses of the Oireachtas as administrative support (see Note 12).

12.	Administrative supports provided by the House of the Oireachtais		
		2022	2021
	Support without charge:		
		€	€
	Staff remuneration costs (HOI)	24,791	18,921
	Notional staff pension costs	4,651	3,690
	Associated accommodation	7,017	2,282
		36,459	24,893
13.	Appropriations of income and expenditure account		
10.		2022	2021
		€	€
	At the start of the financial year	114,780	43,702
	(Deficit)/surplus for the financial year	(23,225)	71,078
		91,555	114,780
	At the end of the financial year	91,000	
14.	Debtors		
		2022	2021
		€	€
	Prepayments	500	500
15.	Cash and cash equivalents		
		2022	2021
		€	€
	Cash at bank and in hand	97,871	121,096

#### Notes to the Statement of Accounts (continued) Financial year ended 31 December 2022

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

	€	€
Trade creditors	2,736	2,736
Other creditors	390	390
Accruals	3,690	3,690
	6,816	6,816

#### 17. Restricted Funding

Funding received under the Electoral Act 1997 and the Oireachtas (Ministerial and Parliamentary Offices) (Amendment) Act 2014 may only be used for the purposes specified in those Acts. The total amount of funding received under those Acts, but not yet expended at the year end for the specified purposes was €14,867 (31 December 2021: €19,229).

#### 18. Reserves

Income and expenditure account: This reserve records retained earnings and accumulated deficits.

#### 19. Events after the end of the reporting period

There have been no significant events affecting the Party since the financial year -end.

#### 20. Related party transactions

The following amounts are repayable to the trustees:

	2022	2021
	€	€
Trustee Loan - Mairead Toibin	390	390
	390	390
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In accordance with Guidelines for Political Parties issued by Standards in Public Office Commission Chapter 4, requries disclosure of the benefit accruing from the difference in rates as a donation to the party. In this case the trustees have made available short term non-interest bearing loans to the party. A blended rate of 4% has been adopted to reflect the benefit accruing as a donation to the party and also acknowledged as a part of the schedule of expenses. The net effect is zero. The Party is in compliance with the said disclosure note as regards such benefits.

The trustees do not receive any remuneration or reimbursement for expenses incurred in respect of the execution of their duties.

#### 21. Approval of financial statements

The board of directors approved these Statement of Accounts for issue on 29 June 2023