

COPY

ALBA PARTY
Annual Report and Statement
of Accounts for the year ended 31st
December
2022



Alba Party

Administrative information
For the year ended 31 December 2022



Contents	Page
Administrative Information	2
Report of the Party Officers	3
Independent Auditor's Report	7
Income & Expenditure Account	10
Balance Sheet	11
Notes to the Accounts	12

Alba Party

Administrative information
For the year ended 31 December 2022



Page 2

Registered Address:



Party Officers :

Rt Hon Alex Salmond	(Party Leader)
Christopher McEleny	(Nominating officer)
Ian McDougall	(Treasurer)

Elected Representatives :

Alex Salmond	(Leader)
Kenny MacAskill	(Depute Leader)
Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh	(Party Chair)

Bankers :

Royal Bank of Scotland
Cartsdyke Avenue
Cartsburn East
Greenock
PA15 1EF

Auditor :

Milne Craig
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Abercorn House
79 Renfrew Road
Paisley
PA3 4DA

Report of the party officers For the year ended 31 December 2022

The Party Officers are pleased to present their report with the audited statement of accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022.

The statement of accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 in accordance with the requirements of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 and the guidance from "Accruals accounting for parties", as issued by The Electoral Commission.

Overview of Political Activities

2022 saw the Alba Party continue to build strong foundations within the Scottish Political Landscape. The Party launched the Wee ALBA Book which resulted in the delivery of over 100,000 copies across Scotland that set out the New Case for Independence. Further to this, The Party held over 50 pro independence public meetings in the past year.

In the Spring of 2022 we held a successful Spring Policy Conference at Hampden Park in Glasgow. We were pleased to welcome the Electoral Commission to the event to provide a workshop to prospective Council Candidates to assist ALBA Party candidates with their compliance responsibilities.

At the 2022 Council elections the party successfully fielded 111 candidates. At only a year old at this point, this was a milestone achievement for the party in contesting an election with so many candidates across Scotland.

Our Annual Conference was held in Stirling in October of 2022 in which the democratically elected National Executive Committee and National Office Bearers were elected by our membership and Conference Delegates.

ALBA Party's Westminster Group has continued to punch above its weight in standing up for Scotland. The ALBA Party also held a series of National Assemblies to help develop policy positions to improve the lives of the people of Scotland and to progress the case for Scottish independence.

At the end of 2022 the party had maintained a steady membership of 6,162.

Our current membership due to growth this year sits at 7,475 as of 20th June 2023.

Branches

Alba Party organises on a Local Authority Basis via its Local Authority Campaign Units. Alba Party has attracted many members of a diverse background, many with decades of experience of politics and many who are new to politics. As a lay member led organisation, Alba Lacu's are the bedrock of the Party's campaign activity.

The Alba Party is responsible for thirty-three branches. Income received and expenditure incurred by those branches has been included in the party's accounts.

- Aberdeen City
- Aberdeenshire
- Angus

- Argyll & Bute
- Clackmannanshire
- Dumfries & Galloway
- Dundee
- East Ayrshire
- East Dunbartonshire
- East Lothian
- East Renfrewshire
- Edinburgh
- Falkirk
- Fife
- Glasgow
- Highland
- Highlands & Islands
- International
- Inverclyde
- Midlothian
- Moray
- North Ayrshire
- North Lanarkshire
- Orkney
- Perth & Kinross
- Renfrewshire
- Scottish Borders
- Shetland
- South Ayrshire
- South Lanarkshire
- Stirling
- West Dunbartonshire
- West Lothian

**Report of the party officers
For the year ended 31 December 2022**

Review of Financial Activities

During the year, total income in 2022 was £480,056 (2021: £474,012) with membership subscriptions and donations making up the majority of this income. Further income was achieved through fundraising activities and from our party conferences.

The Party was also in receipt of Policy development funds from the Electoral Commission.

Party expenditure in the year totalled £462,631 (2021: £411,245) with campaigns and election costs being the main driver.

The party achieved a surplus of £17,425 (2021: £62,767) for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Reserves stand at £80,192 (2021: £62,767) as at 31 December 2022.

In the year ahead the Party are conscious of the pressures many people are facing due to the Cost of Living Crisis, including Fuel and Food costs. ALBA Party are very grateful that we benefit from such a large membership that make regular monthly donations to the party and we will therefore consider the impacts of the wider economy on fundraising and donations.

**Report of the party officers
For the year ended 31 December 2022**

Statement of Treasurer's Responsibilities

The treasurer of the party is required by the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 ("The Act") to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the party and of its surplus or deficit for that year

In preparing those financial statements, the treasurer is required to : -

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed
- provide details and explanations of any departures in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the party will continue in operation,

Section 41 of the Act requires the treasurer to ensure that proper accounting records are kept which are sufficient to disclose at any time, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the party at that time and which enable the treasurer to ensure that any statement of accounts prepared under section 42 of the Act complies with regulations under the Act.

Section 45 of the Act requires the treasurer to ensure that the statements of accounts for each year is delivered to The Electoral Commission by the required deadline.

Signed on behalf of Alba Party

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the Party Treasurer.

Mr Ian McDougall FCCA (Party Treasurer)

Date: 30 June 2023

**Independent Auditor's Report to the National Treasurer of the Alba Party
For the year ended 31 December 2022**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Alba Party for the year ended 31 December 2022, which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. 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), including FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of Alba Party as at 31 December 2022 and of its surplus for the year end;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000

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 Alba Party in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRS'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 audit opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the National Treasurer's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation 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 party'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 Treasurer with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The National Treasurer is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Report of the Party Officers, 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.

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 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 financial statements 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.

**Independent Auditor's Report to the National Treasurer of the Alba Party
(continued)**

For the year ended 31 December 2022

Opinion on other matters

In our opinion, the information given in the Report of the Party Officers for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Responsibilities of the National Treasurer

As explained more fully in the Statement of National Treasurer's responsibilities set out on page 6, the National Treasurer is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the National Treasurer 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 Treasurer is 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.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 43(1) of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having an effect thereunder.

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 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. The description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

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.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures, which included:

- . we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the party through discussions with party officers and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the party;
- . we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the party, including the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000, taxation legislation and data protection, anti-bribery, employment and health and safety legislation;
- . we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- . identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

**Independent Auditor's Report to the National Treasurer of the Alba Party
(continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2022**

We assessed the susceptibility of the party's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures,

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with relevant regulators.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the National Treasurer of Alba Party in accordance with the party's rules and section 43 of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the National Treasurer those matters we are required to state 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 National Treasurer for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

[Redacted signature area]

[Redacted signature area]

For and on behalf of Milne Craig
Chartered Accountants
Abercorn House
79 Renfrew Road
Paisley
Renfrewshire
PA3 4DA

Date: 30 June 2023

Alba Party



Income & Expenditure Account For the year ended 31 December 2022

		2022	2021
	Note	£	£
Income			
Membership subscriptions	3	203,771	191,389
Donations	4	134,360	233,179
Conference income		16,712	16,550
Fundraising events	5	19,660	32,894
Policy development grant	6	105,553	-
		<u>480,056</u>	<u>474,012</u>
Expenditure			
Conferences and events		23,458	19,817
Campaigns and elections		173,634	214,370
Newsletters and mail outs		40,334	27,155
Fundraising costs	5	2,370	11,755
Staff costs	7	117,163	18,982
Professional fees	8	20,535	27,741
Office rent and utilities		6,000	1,056
Office running costs		2,110	6,502
Postage		2,214	96
Photocopying and printing		6,321	6,333
Website and IT		36,571	46,157
Miscellaneous expenditure	9	11,303	7,001
Bank and finance charges		11,945	17,905
Amortisation		8,500	6,375
Depreciation		173	-
Total expenditure		<u>462,631</u>	<u>411,245</u>
Surplus for the year before taxation		17,425	62,767
Taxation		-	-
Surplus for year after taxation		<u>17,425</u>	<u>62,767</u>


The income and expenditure account includes all gains and losses in the year.
All income received and expenditure incurred derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 12 to 17 form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible fixed assets	10	10,625	19,125
Tangible fixed assets	11	4,190	-
		<u>14,815</u>	<u>19,125</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	12	4,891	4,627
Cash at bank and on hand	13	85,580	60,942
Total current assets		<u>90,471</u>	<u>65,569</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors	14	<u>(25,094)</u>	<u>(21,927)</u>
Net current assets		<u>65,377</u>	<u>43,642</u>
Net assets		<u>80,192</u>	<u>62,767</u>
Funds			
General reserve	15	80,192	62,767
Total accumulated funds	15	<u>80,192</u>	<u>62,767</u>

The financial statements on pages 10 and 11 were approved by the Alba Party Responsible Officers Committee on 30 June 2023 and are signed on its behalf by :-


Chris McEleny
(Nominated Officer)

The notes on pages 12 to 17 form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2022

1 . Basis of accounting and accounting policies

Alba Party is not incorporated in law and thus not bound by the Companies Act 2006. The party is required to prepare financial statements in accordance with the Political Parties, Elections and Referendum Act 2000 ("PPERA"). The address of the registered office is [REDACTED]

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102, The Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102). The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are in accordance with the guidance issued by the Electoral Commission. The disclosure requirements of Section 1A of FRS102 have been applied other than where additional disclosure is required by the guidance issued by the Electoral Commission or is required to show a true and fair view.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the Party rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been applied consistently.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis. There is a reasonable expectation that the party has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and thus the going concern basis of accounting continues to be adopted in preparing these financial statements. The National Executive Committee was able to hold in person meetings on a much more regular basis due to the lifting of Covid restrictions. The cost of living crisis is resulting in unaffordable increases to energy bills, mortgage costs and other outgoings for party members. The National Executive will receive regular updates on financial performance to provide assurance that income is stable.

Income recognition

Income is recognised when the following conditions have been met:

- The party is entitled to the asset;
- There is reasonable certainty that the asset will be received; and
- The value of the asset can be measured with reasonable certainty

Income from events and sales are recognised in the period when the event or sale takes place. Membership subscriptions and donations are recognised on receipt. All other income including conference income, fundraising events, bank interest and miscellaneous income is recognised on an accruals basis.

Any donations received for a particular purpose will be allocated to an appropriate restricted fund.

Notes to the Accounts (continued) For the year ended 31 December 2022

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Pensions

The party operates a defined contribution scheme. Contributions are charged to the income and expenditure account as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Intangible fixed assets and amortisation

Intangible assets are measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Website development costs are recognised as an intangible asset when all of the following criteria are demonstrated:

- . It is probable that the expected future economic benefits that are attributable to the asset will flow to the entity
- . The cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably

Amortisation is charged so as to allocate the cost of intangibles less their residual values over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method. The intangible assets are amortised over the following useful lives:

Website development costs - 3 years.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation on office and computer equipment is calculated by the straight line method at 33% of cost per annum, to write off the cost of the assets over their estimated useful lives.

Office and computer equipment - 3 years.

Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash held in both current and branch accounts.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised when the party has a present obligation to transfer an economic resource as result of past events. An obligation is "a duty or responsibility that the entity has no practical ability to avoid".

Taxation

Corporation tax is provided on bank interest received in the year. The party is not registered for VAT and expenditure includes VAT where relevant.

Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2022

2 . Branch income and expenditure

	2022		2021	
	Income £	Expenditure £	Income £	Expenditure £
Aberdeen City	2,634	1,636	558	450
Aberdeenshire	2,988	2,775	1,000	310
Dundee	4,882	4,406	-	-
East Dunbartonshire	859	678	-	-
East Lothian	2,045	2,265	1,554	775
East Renfrewshire	1,116	556	-	-
Edinburgh	2,304	2,385	1,082	114
Fife	4,382	4,408	438	-
Glasgow	12,357	12,011	-	-
Highlands	2,363	1,662	-	-
North Lanarkshire	2,650	2,055	-	-
Perth & Kinross	291	87	-	-
Scottish Borders	1,944	642	-	-
South Ayrshire	1,400	1,195	115	-
Stirling	-	-	30	30
West Lothian	2,692	2,455	-	-
	<u>44,907</u>	<u>39,216</u>	<u>4,777</u>	<u>1,679</u>

Included within total income of £480,056 is branch income of £44,907 (2021: £4,777). Included within total expenditure of £462,631 is branch expenditure of £39,216 (2021: £1,679).

3 . Membership subscriptions

	2022 £	2021 £
Received centrally by the party	203,771	191,389
Received by a LACU on behalf of the party	-	-
	<u>203,771</u>	<u>191,389</u>

4 . Donations

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash donations	128,038	221,902
Notional/donations in kind	6,322	11,277
	<u>134,360</u>	<u>233,179</u>

Under the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (PPERA) single or aggregate donations greater than £7,500 in any calendar year are reportable to the Electoral Commission. During the year, the party had donations totalling £50,000 that were reportable to the Electoral Commission. The total figure above is greater than this because of donations received that were below the PERA reporting threshold of £7,500.

Notional/donations in kind include £6,000 for the exclusive use of an office premises for the Alba Party.

5 . Fundraising

During 2022, The party held the Spring 2022 conference and the Autumn 2022 conference. Ticketed income from these events are shown separate within the income and expenditure account under conference income. Further fundraising activities income in the year was £19,660 and expenditure was £2,370.

Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2022

6 . Policy development grant

During the year, Alba Party were in receipt of a Policy development grant from the Electoral Commission. This grant would be receivable in two stages with 75% received in the year to 31st December 2022 with the remainder being received in 2023 with the assumption that the grant funding would be spend correctly on policy development.
 Any residual grant income not spend by the party as at 31st December 2022 has been deferred to 2023 accounting year.

7 . Staff costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	110,452	18,550
Pension costs	2,176	432
Social security costs	4,535	-
	<u>117,163</u>	<u>18,982</u>

The full time equivalent number of employees in the year was 3 (2021: 3). The average cost for each employee was £39,054 (2021: £6,327)

8 . Professional fees

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accountancy fees	11,535	18,741
Audit fees	9,000	9,000
	<u>20,535</u>	<u>27,741</u>

9 . Miscellaneous expenditure

	2022	2021
	£	£
General administration costs	10,577	1,924
Returned deposits	-	3,500
Non office equipment	-	910
Merchandise	726	667
	<u>11,303</u>	<u>7,001</u>

Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2022

10 . Intangible fixed assets

	Website £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 January 2022	25,500	25,500
Additions	-	-
At 31 December 2022	<u>25,500</u>	<u>25,500</u>
Amortisation		
At 1 January 2022	6,375	6,375
Charge for year	8,500	8,500
At 31 December 2022	<u>14,875</u>	<u>14,875</u>
Net Book Value		
At 31 December 2022	<u>10,625</u>	<u>10,625</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>19,125</u>	<u>19,125</u>

11 . Tangible fixed assets

	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 January 2022	-	-
Additions	4,363	4,363
At 31 December 2022	<u>4,363</u>	<u>4,363</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2022	-	-
Charge for year	173	173
At 31 December 2022	<u>173</u>	<u>173</u>
Net Book Value		
At 31 December 2022	<u>4,190</u>	<u>4,190</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2022

12 . Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
<i>Amounts falling due within one year :</i>		
Debtors	1,122	4,462
Accrued income	3,769	165
	<u>4,891</u>	<u>4,627</u>

13 . Cash at bank and on hand

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash at bank	85,580	60,648
Cash on hand	-	294
	<u>85,580</u>	<u>60,942</u>

14 . Creditors

	2022 £	2021 £
<i>Amounts falling due within one year :</i>		
Accruals and sundry creditors	21,544	20,861
Tax and social security	3,550	1,066
	<u>25,094</u>	<u>21,927</u>

15 . Funds

	At 1 Jan 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 Dec 2022 £
General Reserve	62,767	324,503	(307,078)	80,192
Restricted Reserve				
<i>Policy development</i>	-	105,553	(105,553)	-
<i>Wee Alba Book</i>	-	50,000	(50,000)	-
Total funds	<u>62,767</u>	<u>480,056</u>	<u>(462,631)</u>	<u>80,192</u>

Money received from the Electoral Commission as part of a Policy development grant is restricted, as it is specifically used towards policy development.

Restricted donations of £50,000 were received in the year to help fund the publication of the Wee Alba Book. As at 31 December 2022, all of the restricted income had been spent on the publication.