

Staffordshire Branch of UNISON

Financial Review 2022

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1** To inform and obtain approval from the Annual General Meeting for the Statement of Accounts for 2022.

2. Expenditure.

- 2.1** Staff Salaries were overspent compared to the budget by nearly £25,100. The pay award for January 2022 was finally agreed in November 2022. The amount included as a contingency in the budget was less than the final settlement. The Branch also employed a new Local Organiser (LO) Post from the end of September 2022. This post is being funded by Region. The Branch now employs 3 full and 4 part time staff.
- 2.2** Other Administration was slightly overspent by £800, but this was offset by an underspend of just over £3,700 on equipment.
- 2.3** The budget included £12,000 for the running costs of a new “branch owned” building. However, there was a delay in taking over the building, so this sum was not needed in 2022.
- 2.4** The National Delegate Conference was held in Brighton in 2022 and cost £3,732. At the time of setting the budget it was assumed that the conference would be held “virtually” again.
- 2.5** Officers and Stewards expenses were overspent as some working practices and meeting returned to “pre pandemic” levels. The spend in 2022 of £3,274 is still almost half of what it was earlier years. The budgets for Publicity and Recruitment and Education showed underspends in the year. Again, these were all because of different working practices since the pandemic.
- 2.6** The Branch did make some donations of £1,340 and affiliations of £270 during the year and was slightly overspent on the budget by £110.
- 2.7** Overall Expenditure was **£253,615**, which was an overspend of **£14,115 (5.9%)** compared to the budget of **£239,500**.

3. Income.

- 3.1** Branch Funding income for the year was £208,128 compared to the budget of £212,990. This income is difficult to estimate as the Branch has little control over Branch Funding.

The Branch's funding percentage in 2022 was 29.5% made up as follows:

- Basic entitlement. 21%
- Membership numbers over 3,000. 2.5%
- 10% or more members further than 30 miles from the Branch. 2.0%
- More than 50 employers. 3.0%
- General Reserves less than 50% below National Standard. 1.0%

In the previous year the Branch's funding under the old scheme amounted to £243,000. Under the new "Motion 72" scheme for 2022 the funding %age has increased by 2%, but the funding income has reduced by nearly £35,000.

- 3.2** Other funding during 2022, was £15,600 from Region to fund the LO post and some campaign costs. A further £15,800 was from the transfer of the South Staffs branch into this branch.
- 3.3** Other income and retired members subscriptions amounted to £358 compared to the budget of £550.
- 3.4** Overall Income for the year was **£239,999**, which was over by **£499 (0.2%)** compared to the budget of **£239,500**.

4. General Fund.

- 4.1** For 2022 there was a deficit of **£13,616** for the year, compared to an expected break-even position.
- 4.2** Accumulated General Funds at year end stand at **£43,917 or £8.09** per member. This is based on an active membership on 31st December 2022 of **5,426**. There were also **1,383** retired members at the year end. The Branch's General Reserves are 50% of the national standard of £16 per member (£86,816). This could result in an extra 2% funding for 2023.

5. Industrial Action Fund.

- 5.1** In 2022, the Branch received £4,313 from the local levy and interest, with no expenditure being incurred.
- 5.2** The balance of the Fund at the year-end now stands at **£78,104 or £14.39** per member.
- 5.3** In view of the uncertain times that lie ahead, it would be wise to continue with the local levy and the Fund. It not only gives the Branch the financial means to fund any future campaigns, but it also gives some flexibility if there is a need to respond to any events that may happen in 2023.

6. Property Fund.

- 6.1** This Fund was created in 2020 to enable the Branch to consider any potential moves to different premises.
- 6.2** You may be aware that the Branch has now managed to purchase a suitable building for the new Branch Office. The cost of this property was £209,032. There have also been some alteration and set up costs amounting to £38,384 in 2022. These costs were all funded by this Property Fund. The cash balance of the Fund at the year-end after interest has been added now stands at **£17,309.**
- 6.3** However, the Branch now owns an asset with a purchase price valuation of **£295,000.**

7. Conclusion.

- 7.1** 2022 has been another difficult year in many ways. The Branch is still seeing a move towards less County Council members and more Private Sector members. All this is putting pressure on spending. Active membership of the Branch has reduced by 217 during 2022. There has been some “data cleansing” undertaken by region during the year which resulted in a reduction in numbers.

Kate Salter

***Branch Treasurer
February 2023***