

## Constitution for 'Scotland Matters' 8/3/23

### 1.Aims:

Scotland Matters is an Unincorporated Association whose purpose is to promote activities and disseminate information in support of Scotland remaining part of the United Kingdom. Any activities engaged in shall be lawful and where appropriate, comply with the requirements of the Electoral Commission relevant to Non-Party Campaign groups. Information used should be attributable to an identifiable source (except when described as Satire). Scotland Matters may also donate funds to individuals or groups with goals similar to ours if it is deemed that they can make more effective use of those funds.

### 2.Members:

There is no formal membership. People wishing to receive newsletters and other communications can register on our website. Those that wish to, can donate funds in support of our non -party activities.

### 3.Committee and Officers

There is no formal committee or officers. One person will administer any bank accounts and be responsible for ensuring that accurate records of income and expenditure are maintained. That person, and two others, will be signatories - able to operate the account and make payments – with written or email agreement from one of the other two.

### 4.Meetings

There is no fixed requirement for meetings. Decisions on routine activities or spending will be made by an ad hoc meeting (physical, telephone or email or online) involving at least two of the bank account signatories. Decisions on any significant new spending or activity initiatives will be considered by a larger group (Steering Group) of at least 8 who either donate or subscribe to the group newsletter. (Physical, telephone or email or online meeting). Decisions will be taken by majority agreement.

### 5.Finances

- A bank account (or accounts) has been set up with the Virgin Money in the name of Scotland Matters. This account will have a named administrator with authority to add or remove approvers and signatories and two other signatories able to operate the internet banking and make payments.
- There will be three signatories able to approve payments.
- Each outgoing transaction will require the written or email agreement of one signatory other than the person making the payment.
- The Account Administrator shall ensure that records of income and expenditure are maintained.
- All money raised by the group will be spent solely for the purposes laid out in the constitution.

- **A record must be made of the account balance at the beginning of any electoral period and again at the end. Any donations, (in or out) and spending services or activities which are regulated under electoral law will be identified and categorised as campaign spending as distinct from expenditure unrelated to campaign activities.**

## **6. Dissolution**

**Any Decision to dissolve the group will be taken by at least 10 interested parties – this would be the sole business of the meeting.**

**If it is agreed to dissolve the group, all outstanding debts will be paid. Any donations over £100 made in the three months prior to dissolution, will be refunded proportionally from all remaining monies and other assets. The residue will be donated either to other Pro- UK groups or to Scottish charitable organisations. The recipients will be agreed at the meeting which agrees the dissolution.**

**This constitution was modified from the 2021 original to allow for changes to the banking arrangements and distribution of funds on dissolution. after a draft of the changes was shared by email and objections invited from participants in Scotland Matters Steering Groups: No objections were received. Copies of emails to that effect are retained.**