

SoAiS Draft AGM Minutes

Thursday 3 April 2025

5.30–7pm, Online Event



1	<p>Welcome, present, apologies and conflicts of interest</p> <p>The Co-chairs, Helen Sedgwick and Mary Paulson-Ellis, welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>Present: 31 members attended, including all present committee members.</p> <p>Apologies: none.</p> <p>Conflicts of Interest: There were no conflicts of interest registered</p>
2	<p>Minutes of the last AGM, held both in-person and online, 18 November 2023</p> <p>These were approved and agreed as accurate.</p>
3	<p>Co-chairs' report - Mary and Helen</p> <p>Please refer to the Co-chairs' report.</p>
4	<p>Secretary's Report - SJ</p> <p>Please refer to the Secretary's report.</p>
5	<p>Treasurer's Report - Helen</p> <p>Please refer to the Treasurer's report.</p>
6	<p>Senior Policy Manager (Scotland)'s report - Sam</p> <p>Please refer to the Senior Policy Manager's report.</p>
7	<p>Introduction of new committee members and office bearers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alycia, Kristie, Tom and Marlene were welcomed to the committee.• Mary and Helen were agreed to continue as Co-chairs.• SJ was agreed to continue as Secretary.• Helen agreed to continue as Treasurer until a new Treasurer would step forward.
8	<p>AOCB – there was no other business</p> <p>The SoAiS AGM was declared closed at 6pm.</p>
	<p>Following the formal AGM, there were two breakout groups to discuss the key questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are the barriers for creative freelancers working in Scotland?• How can we make sure funding goes direct to individual authors?• What should the SoAiS focus on in the next year? <p>The groups fed back to the main group. In general, there were concerns raised about a lack of opportunity and flatlining of rates in real terms. It was not always clear as to who could be pitched to because of the rate of change in the industry over the last few years, and the industry seems very opaque. Step-by-step guides were mentioned as useful. There was a need for Scotland-specific communications and services to challenge an often London-centric industry. Some kind of universal basic income for creatives was mentioned.</p>