



MVT

Financial Strategy Policy

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Previous Versions

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Context: The Military Vehicle Trust is the World's largest organisation of ex-military vehicle owners and enthusiasts and is dedicated to "keeping our mechanical veterans alive". We have been a Registered Charity since 1987 and our Charitable Purposes are set down in a document called our "Memorandum of Association".

The Trust is established for the purpose of restoring and preserving military vehicles of historical interest and the preservation of books, drawings, records, documents, sound and visual recordings, films, photographs and other media and ephemera relating to such vehicles, their history and development, and promoting and encouraging the same aim in others.

Our Core Values are summarised in our three aims:

Conserve and Restore, Educate and Inspire and Honour and Respect

This document sets out the strategy that guides our financial management.

The Trust's overall financial position is diverse and comprises several income streams. These include subscription income from membership fees, together with additional income generated through advertising in the Trust magazine, vehicle verification activities, and sponsorship. A further significant source of income is Gift Aid reclaimed from HMRC, which enables the Trust to claim an additional 25% on eligible membership subscriptions under the Gift Aid scheme.

These combined income sources contribute to the annual operation of the Trust and are used to meet its ongoing expenditure throughout the year. In recent years, this has resulted in the generation of a financial operating surplus and we believe this is the way forward. We aim to maintain an operating surplus each year.

The Trust also benefits from investment income. This includes cash reserves placed on deposit with financial institutions for fixed terms ranging from six to twelve months, providing a stable rate of return. In addition, the Trust holds long-term investments in stocks, shares, and both corporate and government bonds, across domestic and overseas markets. While these investments are subject to market fluctuations, they generally provide improved returns compared with cash deposits alone.

The Trust's total assets are held in the form of both cash and investments and are divided between unrestricted and restricted funds. Restricted funds relate to the John Allen bequest and may only be used to finance the Buckfastleigh Show within the Devon Area MVT; these funds are fully ring-fenced for this specific purpose. Unrestricted funds are available to meet the Trust's current and future obligations as required. Within these unrestricted funds, the Trust maintains a strategic reserve sufficient to cover twelve months of operating commitments in the event of a significant financial downturn. This reserves policy is kept under regular review to ensure it continues to meet the Trust's future needs.