Destinations Alliance Constitution

1. Name

The name of the group shall be The Oysters trading as The Destinations Alliance

2. Aims

The aims of the Destinations Alliance group will be:

- To bring together and foster understanding amongst the meetings, conference, incentive and exhibition promotional agencies of overseas (ex England, Wales and Scotland) destinations
- To promote the interests of members
- To encourage joint participation and synergy between members in their promotional activities

3. Membership

- Membership is open to any formalized organisation whose activity is to promote a city, region, country or other form of destination and engage the services of a named representative, whether directly employed or via a third-party representative.
- Membership applications are to be sent to the Secretary and communicated to the membership at the next meeting. Any objections to the membership are to be tabled as an agenda item at the next General Meeting.
- Cities within a Country that is an existing members may apply for membership – no member has a veto however the Country member may be informed of the application as a matter of courtesy.
- The membership year is annual. Membership will begin as soon membership is confirmed and first payment has been received.
- There will be an annual membership fee which will be agreed at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and will be payable by all members.
- A list of all members will be kept by the membership secretary. Ceasing to be a member:
- Members may resign at any time in writing to the Secretary. They forfeit all funds for the current year in doing so.
- Any member who has not paid their membership fee and is three months overdue will be contacted by the committee, who will then decide whether that member is deemed to have resigned.
- Non-payment of Membership dues can result in temporary exclusion in future years from membership and the Committee reserve the right to exclude a member who has not paid their membership for a period of up to three (3) years.
- Any offensive behaviour, including racist, sexist or inflammatory remarks, will not be permitted. Anyone behaving in an offensive way or breaking the equal opportunities policy in clause 4 may be asked not to attend further meetings or to resign from the group if an apology is not given or the behaviour is repeated. The individual concerned shall have the right to be heard by the management committee before a final decision is made.

4. Equal Opportunities

The Destinations Alliance group is an inclusive organisation that will not discriminate against any destination member on the grounds of gender, race, colour, ethnic or national origin, sexuality, disability, religious or political beliefs. Any decision to omit any member or application must be agreed at a General Meeting.

5. Officers and committee

The business of the group will be carried out by a Committee elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee will meet as necessary.

6. Election of Executive Committee Officers

6.1 The Officers of the Organisation shall include:

- Three (3) Co – Chairs
- Treasurer
- Honorary Secretary

- The Committee appoints the Treasurer from within the Membership. The Treasurer is a voting position.
- The Honorary Secretary is appointed from the Secretariat and acts as Secretary to the Committee - this is a non-voting position.
- The Committee may create additional non-voting Officer roles as required.

Officers must be Members in good standing, membership and any fees for the year they are seeking election for, and the preceding year are paid, at the time of their nomination and throughout their term.

6.2 Eligibility

Any Member or their nominated individual that has been an active part of the Organisation for at least six (6) months may stand for election as a Co-Chair. Nominees must confirm they are willing to serve and able to fulfil the responsibilities of the role.

6.3 Nominations

Notice of elections should be circulated to Members at least three (3) weeks before the Annual General Meeting (AGM).Nominees must:

- Be proposed by one Member in good standing;
- That Proposer must not have a financial link/work on behalf of/be from the same company as Nominee.
- Be submitted to the Secretary by e-mail at least one (1) week before the AGM.

6.4 Voting

In the event that there are more nominees than vacant post Elections will take place.

- These Elections will take place online in the week preceeding the AGM.
- Each Member is entitled to one vote and will rank their preferences accordingly.

- The candidates receiving the most preference votes will be elected.
- One member who is not standing will assist the Secretary as Count Assistant to verify votes

6.5 Term of Office

- Officers shall serve for a term of one (1) year and may stand for re-election.
- Officer roles are encouraged to rotate periodically to promote wider Member participation. Members serving as Co-Chairs may therefore hold office for a maximum of three (3) consecutive terms. After completing the maximum number of consecutive terms, a Member must step down for one full term before being eligible for re-election to the same office, unless an insufficient number of other Members seek election.

6.7 Vacancies

- If an Officer resigns, becomes ineligible, or is unable to serve, the Board may appoint an interim Officer to serve until the next AGM.
- If appropriate, a Special General Meeting may be called to fill the vacancy.

6.8 Removal

- An Officer may be removed by a majority vote of Members at a General Meeting.
- The Officer concerned will be given the opportunity to address Members before any vote takes place.

7. Meetings

7.1. Annual General Meetings

- An Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held within fifteen months of the previous AGM.
- All members will be notified in writing at least 3 weeks before the date of the meeting, giving the venue, date and time.
- Nominations for the committee may be made to the Secretary before the meeting, or at the meeting.
- The quorum for the AGM will be 30% of the membership or 8 members, whichever is the greater number.

At the AGM:-

- The Committee may present a report of the work of The Destinations Alliance over the year.
- The Secretary will present the accounts of The Destinations Alliance group for the previous year.
- The officers and Committee for the next year will be elected.
- Any proposals given to the Secretary at least 7 days in advance of the meeting will be discussed.

7.2. Special General Meetings

- The Secretary will call a Special General Meeting at the request of the majority of the committee or at least eight other members giving a written request to the Chair or Secretary stating the reason for their request.
- The meeting will take place within twenty-one days of the request.
- All members will be given two weeks' notice of such a meeting, giving the venue, date, time and agenda, and notice may be by telephone, email or post.

- The quorum for the Special General Meeting will be 30% of the membership or 8 members, whichever is the greater number.

7.3. General Meetings

- General Meetings are open to all members and will be held at least once every 4 months or more often if necessary.
- All members will be given two weeks' notice of such a meeting, giving the venue, date, time and agenda, and notice may be by telephone, email or post.
- The quorum for a General Meeting shall be 10% of the membership or 5 members, whichever is the greater number.

8. Finances

- The financial year shall run from 1st April to 31st March.
- An account will be maintained on behalf of the Association at a bank agreed by the committee. Three cheque signatories will be nominated by the Committee (one to be the Treasurer). Requests for payment will be sent by the Secretary and any one of the co-chairs and Treasurer must authorize payment. The signatories must not be related, linked through business operations nor members of the same household.
- Records of income and expenditure will be maintained by the Treasurer and a financial statement given to each meeting.
- All money raised by or on behalf of The Destinations Alliance is only to be used to further the aims of the group, as specified in item 2 of this constitution.
- Only members of the group can be invoiced unless specifically agreed by the Committee.
- All members will be invoiced equally for all events.

9. Amendments to the Constitution

- Amendments to the constitution may only be confirmed at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting. Notwithstanding in the event that there needs to be an unforeseen amendment the Committee may make the amendment, inform the members at that time, and full agreement will be sought at the next AGM. The members may object to the amendment change by seeking a Special General Meeting.
- Any proposal to amend the constitution must be given to the Secretary in writing. The proposal must then be circulated with the notice of meeting.
- Any proposal to amend the constitution will require a two thirds majority of those present and entitled to vote.

10. Dissolution

- If a meeting, by simple majority, decides that it is necessary to close down the group it may call a Special General Meeting to do so. The sole business of this meeting will be to dissolve the group.
- If it is agreed to dissolve the group all remaining money and other assets, once outstanding debts have been paid, will be donated to a local charitable organisation. The organisation to be agreed at the meeting which agrees the dissolution.

The amends to this Constitution were agreed at the Annual General Meeting of The Destinations

Alliance on:- Date: 12th May 2026

We certify that this is a current copy of the constitution of The Destinations Alliance, which was adopted at an AGM held on above date: 12th May 2026

Name and position in group ……… Keith Barron - CO-CHAIR …………………..

Signed ……12.05.26…………………………………….

Name and position in group ………Ruth Bennett - CO-CHAIR………………………………….

Signed ……12.05.26…………………………………….

Name and position in group ……James Ellis – CO-CHAIR…………………………………….

Signed ………12.05.26………………………………….

Name and position in group ……Paul Swain – TREASURER…………………………………

Signed ………12.05.26………………………………….

WITNESSED BY

Name and position in group ……Hamish Reid – SECRETARY……………………………

Signed ………………………………………….   Date…12.05.26…………………………….