AXIS WEB

England & Wales · Charity number 1002841

Details

Other names	AXIS VISUAL ARTS EXCHANGE AND INFORMATION SERVICE, VISUAL ASSOCIATIONS, AXIS
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	02595018
Registered	1991-05-10
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Art House Drury Lane Wakefield WF1 2TE
Phone	03330902610
Email	hello@axisweb.org
Website	www.axisweb.org

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC BY PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING THE UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION OF THE VISUAL ARTS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN PARTICULAR BY EXTENDING THE INFLUENCE IN AND RELEVANCE OF THE VISUAL ARTS TO THE COMMUNITY, BY CREATING NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN THE VISUAL ARTS AND BY ENCOURAGING AND FACILITATING AN INCREASE IN GOOD PRACTICE IN THE VISUAL ARTS.

Activities: We operate the largest digital platform showcasing UK artists. We present and connect artists with audiences, commissioners and new opportunities. We support our members through insurance, networks, space, opportunities, R&D awards, profiling, advice & mentoring.

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Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNITED KINGDOM
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£349,192	£370,576	-	-
2024-03-31	£361,950	£385,059	-	-
2023-03-31	£452,659	£406,102	-	-
2022-03-31	£347,802	£353,151	-	-
2021-03-31	£323,736	£273,992	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Catherine Isobel Mary Hemelryk		2026-05-29
Diana Ali		2023-07-19
Edwin Colyer		2023-07-19
Fiona Grady		2019-03-21
Holly Slingsby		2019-03-21
Juan Carlos Candanedo Saez		2022-03-24
Michael Watson		2026-05-28
Pamela Karen Newall		2022-06-16

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AXIS WEB

England & Wales - Charity number 1002841

Accounts

Axis Web

Charity number 1002841

A company limited by guarantee number 02595018

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2025

WYCAS
COMMUNITY ACCOUNTING
WEST YORKSHIRE

Axis Web

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2025

Contents	Page
Trustees' report	2 to 9
Examiner's report	10
Statement of financial activities	11
Balance sheet	12
Notes to the accounts	13 to 16

Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Axis Web

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2025

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position
Fiona Grady	Co-Chair
Juan Carlos Candanedo Saez	Co-Chair
Lisa Stansbie	
Rupert Wilcox-Baker	
Sue Williams	
Holly Slingsby	
Pamela Newall	
Laura Nelson	
Radhika Patel	
Diana Ali	
Edwin Colyer	

Charity number	1002841	Registered in England and Wales
Company number	02595018	Registered in England and Wales

Registered and principal address	Bankers
The Art House	National Westminster Bank Plc
Drury Lane	8 Park Row
Wakefield	Leeds
WF1 2TE	LS1 2TW

Independent examiner

Simon Bostrom FCIE

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and was formed on 25 March 1991. It is governed by a memorandum and articles of association as amended by special resolutions dated 17 April 2003, 25 December 2004, 30 November 2006, 20 December 2019 and 8 April 2021. The liability of the members in the event of the company being wound up is limited to a sum not exceeding £1.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are also the directors for the purposes of company law and are appointed by the members at the AGM.

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

Our Charity's purposes, as set out in the objects contained in the company's memorandum of association, are to:

- advance the education of the public by promoting and developing the understanding and appreciations of the visual arts in the United Kingdom,
- in particular by extending the influence in and relevance of the visual arts to the community, by creating new opportunities in the visual arts,
- by encouraging and facilitating an increase in good practice in the visual arts.

Our Vision and Mission

We believe art creates positive changes in society. Art connects, inspires conversations and builds understanding.

Our vision is of a society where art is part of everyday life, accessible to all, inspiring creativity, empathy and innovation.

Our mission is to champion and support contemporary visual arts in the UK and broaden public engagement with the arts. By providing artists with resources, opportunities, and platforms to showcase their work, we make contemporary art more accessible and engaging for all, fostering a vibrant and inclusive arts.

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission’s general guidance on public benefit.

Achievements and performance

Our Cause and Strategy

At Axis we believe art creates positive change in society. It connects people, sparks conversations, and builds understanding. Our mission is to champion and support contemporary visual arts in the UK while broadening public engagement with artists and their work.

Our 2025–28 Strategy sets out how we will do this. We are strengthening our core programmes, growing our community, amplifying artists’ voices, and ensuring long-term sustainability.

A Year in Summary

2024–25 was a year of growth and ambition. We supported artists at every stage of their careers and expanded our membership to almost 11,000. We supported Fellows and bursary recipients, delivered programmes on learning and wellbeing, commissioned writing, made films, activated vacant buildings in cities across the UK, launched a new website, and strengthened our governance.

At a time when artists face increasing economic and social pressures, Axis put artists first.

Supporting Artists’ Practice

Axis Fellowship 2024

The Axis Fellowship is our flagship programme of direct support. Fellows receive £4,000, one-to-one mentoring, and visibility through our platforms. What makes it distinctive is the peer group model: Fellows support each other, lead sessions, and share knowledge across two phases of the programme.

Achievements and performance continued

In 2024 the Fellows were:

- Uma Breakdown
- Asuf Ishaq
- Hannah Leighton-Boyce
- Sean Roy Parker

Selectors were Diana Ali (trustee), Harriet Bowman (2023 Fellow), Sunshine Wong, and Zoë Sawyer (Bloc Sheffield). Including a previous Fellow on the panel underlined the ethos of giving back and keeping the programme artist-led.

The previous Fellowship cohort reflected on their experience. Charlotte Cullen said:

"The fellowship has really supported me this year. It has allowed me to slow down and develop new ways of working purposefully."

Bursaries

Alongside the *Fellowship* we awarded 16 bursaries of £500. These bursaries are flexible, direct awards that help artists at key points. They enable research, training, materials, and new projects.

Recipients used their bursaries for things like training in bookbinding, purchasing materials, and Michelle continued exploring exclusion and human rights.

By keeping the process light and flexible, bursaries show our commitment to putting artists first, recognising that sometimes the smallest grant can have the biggest impact.

Graduate Programme

Our Graduate Programme continued to support emerging artists at the crucial transition from study to professional practice. In 2024 we ran a summer school for graduates, combining talks, mentoring, and crit sessions. Contributors included KP Culver, The Uncultured, Umbrella, Uma Breakdown, and Harlan Whittingham, who shared practical insights and critical perspectives.

The programme culminated in PRAXIS: The Axis Graduate Programme Exhibition at Cardiff Umbrella in January 2025, presenting the work of eleven graduates: Carys Tupper, Zainab Sheikh, Annabelle Keyes, Tom Hardwick, Zoe Dackham, Heidi Lucca-Redcliffe, Nancy-Violet Downs, Elizabeth Walker, Ewan Coombs, Prajvi Mandhani, and Cheye Williams McFarland.

By combining structured learning with opportunities to show work, the Graduate Programme gave new artists confidence, networks, and visibility at a pivotal stage.

Back to School with Axis

Back to School with Axis is our annual learning season. We commission artists and producers to share practical skills and critical perspectives. In October 2024 more than 800 people registered.

- Roo Dhissou, Roy Claire Potter, and Madinah Farhannah Thompson explored the role of writing in practice.
- Sophie Hope, Nathan Walker, and Jade de Montserrat debated the value of PhDs.
- Sunshine Wong and Damon Jackson-Waldock gave insight into what curators look for.
- The Uncultured led workshops on budgeting and funding.

All sessions were recorded and added to our Knowledge Base, meaning the learning remains available to members long after the live events.

Achievements and performance continued

Mental Health for Artists
Our Mental Health for Artists season returned for its fourth year in early 2025. This programme puts care and wellbeing at the centre, tackling issues that often go unspoken. Nearly 1,000 people registered.

- Babeworld critiqued toxic wellness culture and its impact on disabled artists.
- Short Supply (Rebekah and Mollie) explored burnout and the realities of supporting northern artist communities.
- Nicola Singh combined performance and reflection on rest and resilience.
- Marcelle Joseph addressed the emotional labour of curatorial work.
- Vex Ashley examined how to build audiences while protecting boundaries.

The season deliberately ran in January to counter “new year, new you” pressures. One participant described it as:

“The perfect antidote to a system that often forgets artists are human.”

Strengthening Membership and Community
Membership approached 11,000 active artists, with retention above 90 percent. We introduced loyalty pricing, rewarding existing members by ensuring they never pay the full new price while their subscription remains active.

We also launched the Membership Charter, setting out rights, responsibilities, and values. It makes clear that Axis is more than a service: it is a collective built on respect, care, and shared purpose.

Our online members community space grew. Members now see it as a trusted place to share practice, ask questions, and connect.

We hosted more than 40 member meet-ups, attended by over 500 members, alongside the first member peer-led groups. Members valued the supportive environment.

One members said:

“It’s refreshing to see a group of artists who have never met before come together in a supportive and nurturing way.”

We delivered more than 50 Critical Friend Conversations, one-to-one mentoring sessions with artists as mentors including Harriet Bowman, Hanna Tuulikki, Antonio Roberts, Zinzi Minott, Lydia Catterall, and members of the Axis team. These sessions provided artists with encouragement and practical advice at key moments.

Artists’ Voices
Axis is committed to commissioning and amplifying artists’ voices. In 2024–25 we funded 33 writing commissions, all paid opportunities for artists and writers.

- *Art School Confidential:* 18 artists reflected on their experiences of art school or alternative routes. Their voices opened up honest debate about privilege, access, and value.

“The arts sector is a place where only the most privileged can exist, and with all the love in the world, those that can’t afford to be there are pushed to the margins, or out altogether.”

Lauren McLaughlin

- *Resilience, self-care and what keeps you making art. ..*: 12 artists were commissioned to share, including Larry Achiampong, Letty McHugh, Paloma de Almeida Durante, Julie Ward, Thomas Griffiths, Sally Lemsford, Helen Lane, and Sarah-Jane Mason.

Achievements and performance continued

"When I think about resilience my mum comes to mind; a person with so much heart and unwavering willpower... I know the parts of me that are resilient come from her, no doubt about it."

Larry Achiampong

- *Corridor8 partnership:* We commissioned Corridor 8 to connect our Professional Members Ronnie Danaher, Aidan Moesby, and Hannah Leighton-Boyce with writers to produce reflective articles about their practice.

Showcasing Artists Practice

Costume / Performance / Identity
In summer 2024 we curated a season dedicated to costume, performance, and identity. Four artists explored how dress and performance intersect with politics, ritual, and self-expression:

- Zinzi Minott on bodies and politics.
- Eelyn Lee on fictioning for collective reimagining.
- Hanna Tuulikki on ritual and worldbuilding.
- Paul Kindersley on gender, camp, and self-expression.

Recordings were made available for members. The season showcased the depth of contemporary practice and Axis's growing curatorial voice.

Curated Features
Our curated features brought together artists' voices around themes that matter. Each feature was commissioned and paid, giving artists space to frame their own perspectives.

- Lydia Catterall explored care and collaboration in practice, highlighting artists whose work is grounded in community and mutual support.
- Katrina Cowling focused on sculptural practices, curating artists working with materiality, structure, and form.
- Uma Breakdown brought together speculative narratives and gaming, showing how artists use play and world-building to imagine different futures.
- Eelyn Lee curated *Here, There & Elsewhere: Encountering Ghosts, Forests and Archives,* weaving together artists who navigate memory, myth, and ecological imagination.
- Zinzi Minott selected artists working at the intersection of dance, politics, and diaspora.

  Zinzi reflected that using Axis to explore artists work:

  "Reminded of the deep joy of making work, and so I will put my coin in the slot, and play again."
- Holly Slingsby (trustee) curated *Mourning,* an exploration of grief, ritual, and renewal.
- JC Candanedo (trustee) curated *Take Me Back to When the World Made Sense,* reflecting on memory, identity, and resilience.

Together these features underlined Axis's role as a platform for diverse perspectives and critical ideas.

Spaces for Artists
Vacant Space remained a defining strand of our work. We turn empty buildings into creative hubs where artists can make, show, and share. At a time when access to space is scarce, this work is essential.

In Cardiff we supported artists in Wilcox House (50,000 sq ft) and at the Capitol Centre, home to tactileBOSCH, SHIFT, and Cardiff Umbrella. These groups staged open days, performances, and a sound and performance festival. We also made a film with the Cardiff artists, documenting their experience of collective creativity.

Achievements and performance continued

Beyond Cardiff, we ran spaces in Sunderland, Guildford, Bournemouth, Pontefract, and Hastings. In Pontefract, the space was visited by the now Home Secretary, Yvette Cooper, demonstrating the civic value and recognition of this work.

One artist summed up the experience:

"The space became home to a thriving community. Together, we achieved so much in such a short time."

Vacant Space is more than a building scheme. It shows what happens when artists are trusted with space: communities grow, creativity flourishes, and empty buildings come alive.

Digital Foundations
In April 2024 we launched a new website. It was designed with one clear aim: to put artists first.

Profiles are richer, search and navigation are easier, and audiences can discover artists more intuitively.

We also expanded the Knowledge Base. As well as new guides, we added recordings from all Back to School and Mental Health for Artists sessions. Together this makes dozens of resources freely available to members, forming a living library of knowledge.

The website is now the foundation for our future: a place to profile artists, showcase work, host resources, and connect with audiences.

Governance and Policy
In December 2024 we moved to a Co-Chair model, appointing Fiona Grady and JC Candanedo. In their words:

"It felt important to work together to combine the breadth of our artistic experiences and perspectives as co-chairs."

This change reflects our values of inclusivity, collaboration, and representation.

We also began developing two important policies:

- An AI ethics framework, putting artists first at a time of rapid technological change. It focuses on fairness, transparency, and protecting artistic integrity.
- An environmental sustainability policy, to reduce our impact and support members in adopting sustainable practice.

Both policies are part of our commitment to ensure Axis leads with care, responsibility, and integrity.

Looking Forward
Axis moves forward with confidence. The past year has shown the strength of our community, the impact of our programmes, and the power of giving artists space and voice. Building on this momentum, we will continue to shape Axis as a place of care, where artists can develop, connect, and be seen.

In the year ahead we want to deepen what works best. Our fellowships and bursaries will keep providing artists with time, resources, and encouragement. Our community will grow in autonomy, with more ways for members to share, lead, and celebrate each other. Our curatorial voice will become stronger, with new ways of presenting work and contextualising practice. Vacant Spaces will continue to prove what is possible when artists are trusted with places to work and create.

We will also take steps to ensure Axis is sustainable for the long term. That means continuing to refine how we welcome new members, strengthening partnerships that share our values, and setting out a clear framework for ethical and environmental responsibility.

Looking forward, our ambition is to keep artists at the centre. To make sure they have the tools, support, and visibility they need to thrive. To create a culture where their voices shape our future, and where Axis remains a platform that is generous, critical, and open.

Financial review

The net expenditure for the year was £21,384, all relating to unrestricted funds.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have established a General Reserves Policy to:

- Meet unexpected and unbudgeted demands.
- Ensure the charity's short and long-term sustainability.
- Safeguard continuity of service to beneficiaries in the event of an unexpected decline in charitable income.
- Provide for legal obligations, including staff redundancies and contractual commitments, in the event of closure.
- Maintain free reserves at a level around six months' core expenditure, together with provision for redundancy and closure costs.
- Reserves are monitored regularly by the Finance Committee and reviewed formally by the Board on a quarterly basis. Where reserves fall significantly below or above the agreed range, the Trustees will take steps to restore them to the target level over a reasonable period.

The charity's free reserves, excluding fixed assets, at the year end were £206,436.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees report and the financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and UK Accounting Standards.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (Charities SORP (FRS102)), and in accordance with the special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the board of trustees on 11/12/2025

Fiona Grady (Trustee)

Axis Web

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Axis Web

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 11 to 16.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity's trustees of the charitable company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
Since the charitable company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a fellow of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act.

I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a fellow of ACIE which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3 the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4 the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Simon Bostrom FCIE

16/12/2025

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO
Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Axis Web

Statement of Financial Activities

(including summary income and expenditure account)

for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
Income from:			
Grants and donations	(2)	89,828	119,696
Members subscriptions		246,610	217,396
Digital programme income		7,231	17,740
Income from group undertakings		599	1,669
Bank interest		4,924	5,449
Total income		349,192	361,950
Expenditure on:			
Salaries NI and pensions	(3)	166,256	140,439
Artists-led spaces		63,314	39,016
Membership delivery costs		41,070	35,723
Artists-led activity		39,368	30,939
Platform and engagement		33,960	110,707
General admin expenses		136	451
Charity insurance		1,720	1,625
Travel and subsistence		-	838
Book keeping		1,248	1,295
Bank / fincance charges		13,699	12,020
Governance costs		2,394	2,744
Legal and professional		(574)	7,133
Independent examination		1,050	1,050
Depreciation		355	655
Staff development		5,580	424
Bad debts		1,000	-
Total expenditure		370,576	385,059
Net income / (expenditure)		(21,384)	(23,109)
Fund balances brought forward		227,821	250,930
Fund balances carried forward		206,437	227,821

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Axis Web

Balance sheet

as at 31 March 2025

		2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	(4)	-	355
Investments	(5)	1	1
Total fixed assets		1	356
Current assets			
Debtors and prepayments	(6)	999	2,927
Cash at bank		335,807	380,175
Total current assets		336,806	383,102
Current liabilities: amounts falling due within one year			
Creditors and accruals	(7)	130,370	155,637
Total current liabilities		130,370	155,637
Net current assets / (liabilities)		206,436	227,465
Net assets		206,437	227,821
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		206,437	227,821
Restricted funds		-	-
Total funds		206,437	227,821

For the year ending 31 March 2025 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476. The trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and with FRS 102 (effective January 2019).

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 11/12/2025

Fiona Grady (Trustee)

Axis Web

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.
There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.
No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Going concern

The trustees are satisfied that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, if it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.
Where grants are related to performance and specific deliverables, they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.
Donated assets, facilities or services are valued at their estimated value to the charity. This is the price that the charity estimates it would pay in the open market for equivalent items; or services and facilities of equivalent utility to the charity.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The SOFA includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Expenditure and liabilities

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out the resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Taxation

As a charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Axis Web

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies continued

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and included at cost including any incidental expenses of acquisition. Gifted assets are shown at the value to the charity on receipt. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives as follows:
Fixtures, fittings and equipment: over 3 years

Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are recognised in the year they are payable.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

2 Grants and donations

	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
Donations in relation to space for artists	89,423	-	89,423	119,696
Other donations	405	-	405	-
	89,828	-	89,828	119,696

3 Staff costs and numbers

	2025 £	2024 £
Gross salaries	143,766	121,416
Social security costs	11,995	10,479
Employment allowance	(5,000)	(5,000)
Working from home allowances	1,451	1,373
Pensions	14,044	12,171
	166,256	140,439

The average number of employees during the year was 6.3, being an average of 5.1 full time equivalent (2024: 5, 4.4 FTE). There were no employees with emoluments above £60,000.

Defined contribution pension scheme

	2025 £	2024 £
Costs of the scheme to the charity for the year	14,044	12,171
Amount of any contributions outstanding at the year end	1,522	1,406
Amount of any contributions prepaid at the year end	-	-

4 Tangible assets

	Fixtures, fittings & £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2024	45,550	45,550
Additions	-	-
At 31 March 2025	45,550	45,550
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2024	45,195	45,195
Charge for year	355	355
At 31 March 2025	45,550	45,550
Net book value		
At 31 March 2025	-	-
At 31 March 2024	355	355

5 Fixed assets investments - subsidiary undertakings

	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Balance b/f	1	1
Additions / (Disposals)	-	-
Total	1	1

6 Debtors and prepayments

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts owed by subsidiary company	899	1,827
Accrued income	-	1,000
Other debtors	100	100
	999	2,927

7 Creditors and accruals

	2025 £	2024 £
Creditors	4,632	11,998
Accruals	15,750	48,085
Deferred income (see note below for analysis)	94,256	84,458
Taxation and social security	13,820	9,293
Other creditors	1,912	1,803
	130,370	155,637

8 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses

During the year 4 trustees were paid a total of £794 in respect of travel (previous year: £nil).

Trustee remuneration and benefits

Details of remuneration and benefits

Name of trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of transaction	2025 £	2024 £
Holly Slingsby	Allowance for trustee board meeting attendance		800	600
Fiona Grady	Allowance for trustee board meeting attendance		800	800
			1,600	1,400

Remuneration and benefits received by key management personnel

The total employee benefits received by key management personnel were £41,667 (previous year: £46,004).

9 Other related party transactions

At the balance sheet date the Charity was owed £899 (2024: £1,827) by Axis Web Development Limited (a wholly owned subsidiary company) which is included within debtors. Admin recharges to the subsidiary during the year were £nil (2024: £300).

AXIS WEB

England & Wales - Charity number 1002841

Accounts

Axis Web

Charity number 1002841

A company limited by guarantee number 02595018

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2024

axis

WYCAS
COMMUNITY ACCOUNTING
WEST YORKSHIRE

Axis Web

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2024

Contents	Page
Trustees' report	2 to 12
Examiner's report	13
Statement of financial activities	14
Balance sheet	15
Notes to the accounts	16 to 21

Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

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Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2024

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position	Dates
Lisa Stansbie	Chair	
Rupert Wilcox-Baker	Deputy Chair	
Sarah Martin		Resigned December 2022
Sue Williams		
Holly Slingsby		
Fiona Grady		
Juan Carlos Candanedo Saez		
Pamela Newall		Appointed June 2022
Laura Nelson		Appointed June 2022
Radhika Patel		Appointed November 2022
Diana Ali		Appointed July 2023
Edwin Colyer		Appointed July 2023

Charity number	1002841	Registered in England and Wales
Company number	02595018	Registered in England and Wales

Registered and principal address
The Art House
Drury Lane
Wakefield
WF1 2TE

Bankers
National Westminster Bank Plc
8 Park Row
Leeds
LS1 2TW

Independent examiner
Simon Bostrom FCIE
West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO
Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and was formed on 25 March 1991. It is governed by a memorandum and articles of association as amended by special resolutions dated 17 April 2003, 25 December 2004, 30 November 2006, 20 December 2019 and 8 April 2021. The liability of the members in the event of the company being wound up is limited to a sum not exceeding £1.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are also the directors for the purposes of company law and are appointed by the members at the AGM.

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

Our Charity's purposes, as set out in the objects contained in the company's memorandum of association, are to:

advance the education of the public by promoting and developing the understanding and appreciations of the visual arts in the United Kingdom,

in particular by extending the influence in and relevance of the visual arts to the community, by creating new opportunities in the visual arts,

by encouraging and facilitating an increase in good practice in the visual arts.

Our Vision and Mission

We believe art creates positive changes in society. Art connects, inspires conversations and builds understanding.

Our vision is of a society where art is part of everyday life, accessible to all, inspiring creativity, empathy and innovation.

Our mission is to champion and support contemporary visual arts in the UK and broaden public engagement with the arts. By providing artists with resources, opportunities, and platforms to showcase their work, we make contemporary art more accessible and engaging for all, fostering a vibrant and inclusive arts.

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission’s general guidance on public benefit.

Achievements and performance

As we look back over the past year, we are filled with pride at the strides we have made in championing contemporary visual arts. This year has been a true test of our resilience and innovation, demonstrating our unwavering commitment to our mission.

Our community has flourished, with over 10,000 members now part of the Axis family. Our curated programmes, events, and initiatives have reached unprecedented heights, making contemporary art more accessible and engaging for all. From supporting artists through our Fellowship and Bursary schemes to transforming empty properties into vibrant creative hubs, our efforts have continued to inspire and energise communities across the UK.

Our Cause and Strategy

At Axis, we believe in the transformative power of contemporary visual arts. Our vision is of a society where art is an everyday experience, accessible to all, and a source of inspiration for creativity, empathy, and innovation. We champion and support contemporary visual arts in the UK by providing artists with the resources, opportunities, and platforms they need to thrive.

In the face of challenges like funding cuts, rising costs, and systemic pressures on artists, Axis remains a pillar of resilience and engagement in the contemporary visual arts sector. Our strategy focuses on:

1. **Supporting Artists:** Empowering artists with the resources, opportunities, and platforms necessary for their professional and personal growth.
2. **Engaging Audiences:** Making contemporary art more accessible and relevant through innovative presentations, digital engagement, and community involvement.
3. **Fostering Inclusivity and Sustainability:** Promoting diversity, sustainability, and a supportive arts community.

We are committed to listening to artists, understanding their needs, and shaping a future that values and actively supports the creative and transformative power of the arts.

Axis Fellowship: Empowering Artistic Growth
The Axis Fellowship is a testament to our dedication to nurturing early to mid-career artists. This year, the fellowship provided essential financial support, mentorship, and promotional platforms, enabling artists to advance their careers and increase their visibility in the contemporary art scene.

In 2023, we proudly supported four exceptional artists: Harriet Bowman, Charlotte Cullen, Sam Hutchinson, and Farida Yesmin. Over a transformative six month journey, these artists immersed themselves in a dynamic process of growth and development. Each fellow received £4,000, alongside peer-shared learning and collaboration, allowing the fellows to exchange ideas, insights, and experiences. Personalised one-on-one mentoring sessions with Axis staff and guest mentors provided tailored guidance, helping each artist navigate their unique creative path.

The fellowship's impact was profound. The financial support and targeted mentorship fuelled substantial advancements in their creative practices. Our promotional efforts increased their visibility, leading to new opportunities and a broader audience for their work. The sense of community within the cohort provided valuable networking opportunities and peer support, enriching their professional journeys.

Farida Yasmin shared "This has been a gift for me, it's my first experience of a Fellowship. All artists are struggling to get work, and everyone deserves to be able to develop their practice. I never felt as though I would have time to develop my practice but the Fellowship has given me the time to focus on my artwork. This is a great opportunity and it will hopefully open the gate to other opportunities. It's unbelievable, it's a dream!"

Event Overview
In 2023, Axis hosted a total of 18 events, reaching an audience of almost 3,000 individuals. These events ranged from professional development workshops to artist talks, performances, and showcases, designed to support and engage our artistic community.

Mental Health for Artists Series:
Hosted two successful seasons, addressing critical issues surrounding mental health in the arts. These events attracted 1,630 participants, with legacy resources available in our members-only knowledge base.

1. **"Putting Care at the Centre When Carelessness Reigns" with Jade de Montserrat:** A powerful critique of the systemic and structural expectations that contribute to mental ill health in the art world.
2. **"Boys Don't Cry"** Talk with Marcus Nelson: Shared his personal journey and the importance of men's mental health, highlighting the role of creativity in fostering self-expression.
3. **Hannah Hull (AKA Burning Salt) on Mental Health for Artists:** Discussed the impact of C-PTSD and ADHD on their art career, sharing sustainable models of practice for disabled creatives.
4. **"Embodied Practice: Exploring Loss and Grief through Art-Making" with Annabel Pettigrew and Holly Slingsby:** A session on using art to navigate loss and grief, providing a compassionate space for creative exploration.
5. **"Art + Grief: Burning Out and Figuring Out What Matters" with Chris Alton:** An insightful talk and screening exploring the intersection of art and grief, delving into the impacts of burnout and the journey towards understanding what truly matters in life and art.
6. **"Tackling Burnout: Self-Compassion for 'Rebel Creatives'" with Jane Claire Bradley:** Focused on strategies for managing burnout through self-compassion and resilience, offering practical advice for sustaining mental health.
7. **"The Art of Pleasure: In Conversation with Sarah-Joy Ford":** Explored the concept of pleasure in art, discussing how joy and satisfaction can play critical roles in creative practices and mental well-being.
8. **"Listening Better" with Amelia Hawk:** A seminar focusing on the power of listening and its impact on creative collaboration and personal well-being.
9. **"Old in Art School: In Conversation with Nell Painter":** A dialogue about the experience of pursuing art later in life, offering insights into the unique challenges and rewards of this journey.

Participant feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, highlighting the value of these conversations in their personal and professional lives: "These talks provided a safe space to explore and discuss our mental health challenges, reminding us that we are not alone."

Back to School Series
Our 'Back to School' series ran through September and October, offering professional development and practical advice for artists. The series saw 755 participants, providing them with valuable insights and skills to advance their careers.

1. **Writing in Art with Lauren Velvick:** Curator and writer Lauren Velvick led a session on the importance of writing in art, focusing on contemporary innovations in writing, including reviews and artist statements.
2. **Financial Literacy for Artists with Pamela Crowe:** With over 25 years of experience in arts finance, Pamela Crowe demystified self-employment, tax, and financial record-keeping, providing artists with essential financial management skills.
3. **Digital Exhibition Techniques with Antonio Roberts:** Birmingham-based artist Antonio Roberts discussed strategies for effectively showcasing work digitally, covering video and live work, which are increasingly vital in today's digital-first world.
4. **Sustainability in Practice with Lydia Catterall:** Focused on the need for sustainability in the creative industry, emphasising care, connection, and measuring success on individual terms.
5. **Eco-Responsibility in Art with Sean Roy Parker:** Explored the socio-economic pressures on artists and encouraged eco-conscious practices, examining ways to engage authentically while taking risks.

Participants appreciated the practical advice and mentorship provided: "This series has been invaluable in helping me navigate the practical aspects of my art career."

Dragging Up An Exhibition: An Unlikely Cast of Characters
We commissioned artist Elly Clarke to lead an innovative online collaboration, "Dragging Up An Exhibition: An Unlikely Cast of Characters." This collaboration brought together 10 artists from the UK, Switzerland, Belgium, and India.

Artists curated an exhibition from found objects in their homes, exploring the stories these objects might tell through writing, role play, and discussion. The project culminated in a live Zoom event, where artists presented each other's pieces, providing an audio-visual tour of the exhibition and discussing the work. The exhibition featured interpretative texts and a jointly-written curatorial statement.

This event highlighted the power of collaboration and digital platforms in fostering global dialogue and creativity in contemporary art.

Building a Supportive Community
At Axis, we aim to foster a vibrant, collaborative network where artists, makers, and art workers can regularly connect, share resources, and collaborate. This year, our community platform has continued to grow and support our members, becoming a vital hub for connection and collaboration.

Our community is designed to:

- **Enhance Growth and Success:** By providing a network dedicated to mutual support and collaboration, we enhance each member's growth and success.
- **Support Artists' Aspirations:** Leveraging our independence from public funding, we focus solely on what's best for our members without profit motives.
- **Champion Diversity and Inclusivity:** We create a welcoming space for all creative voices to be heard and celebrated, promoting diversity within the arts.

We hosted 36 networking events attended by almost 500 members, offering numerous opportunities for our members to engage with one another, share their work, and gain valuable insights. These events included evening meet-ups, lunchtime discussions, and themed sessions covering topics such as social media for artists, financial management, and sharing artistic practices.

One participant noted, "The networking events have been a game-changer for me. They have provided a platform to connect with peers, share experiences, and learn from each other."

Our community platform also serves as a hub for exchanging tools, materials, processes, and advice. This online sharing platform has made shared resources readily available, promoting reflective practices and providing artists with the support they need to advance their creative and professional journeys.

We have also offered numerous opportunities for our members to present their work through community showcases. These events provide a platform for artists to engage with peers, receive supportive feedback, and increase their exposure. By promoting reflective practices and celebrating creative excellence, these showcases play a crucial role in our community's vibrancy.

Critical Friend Conversations
The Critical Friend Conversations programme, led by the Axis team, trustees, artists, and curators, has been a significant part of our community support efforts. This initiative offers one-on-one sessions providing artists with tailored advice and mentorship. Feedback from participants has been overwhelmingly positive, with many highlighting the practical and emotional support they received.

"My conversations opened up new directions which reinforced my confidence. It steered me to recognise my own agency and keep going."

These sessions have led to:

- **Clarity and Direction:** Artists have gained clarity on their projects and career paths, enabling them to proceed with confidence.
- **Practical Support:** Artists have received practical advice tailored to their specific needs, aiding their professional development.
- **Emotional Support:** The compassionate approach of these sessions has provided emotional support, helping artists manage challenges and stay motivated.

Axis Bursary Scheme
In November 2023, we launched the Axis Bursary Scheme, a new initiative aimed at providing financial support to our Professional Members. This scheme is accompanied by an exclusive community space for Professional member interaction and support, fostering a collaborative and nurturing environment.

Professional Members can apply for a £500 bursary, aimed at supporting their practice in areas such as research, development, and purchasing materials. Recipients are chosen through a random selection process every three months, with three members receiving £500 bursaries in each round. This approach aims to fairly distribute support among members.

Successful applicants are encouraged to share how they utilised their bursary within the community and participate in an online peer meet-up.

The Axis Bursary Scheme has already provided six bursaries, enabling artists to pursue new projects and enhance their practices. Bursary recipient Hannah Leighton-Boyce used her bursary to attend a bookbinding course, and emphasises the importance of such small amounts on artists by saying the bursary has "opened new doors for my practice".

These bursaries have had a tangible impact on the recipients, providing them with the resources they need to advance their artistic practices and share their progress with the community. By facilitating these opportunities, Axis continues to support the growth and development of contemporary visual artists.

Showcasing Artists Work
Our digital platform showcases and profiles the work of over 1,000 artists, making it a significant resource for contemporary visual arts in the UK. Artists featured on our platform are carefully selected through applications or nominations, highlighting the importance of situating their work alongside their peers. This approach fosters community, shared inspiration, and collective exposure.

The Axis platform goes beyond merely listing artists; it serves as a vital link between artists and art enthusiasts. Here, curators discover new talents, and art lovers find inspiration, ensuring that artists' work reaches a diverse and engaged audience. By presenting the work of over 1,000 artists, we have expanded the visibility of contemporary visual arts, leading to increased opportunities for artists to be discovered by curators, commissioners, and art enthusiasts.

This year, we have enhanced our platform to make exploring contemporary visual art an engaging journey of discovery. From community galleries to virtual showcases, we have created clear pathways for visitors to experience and interact with the work of our artists. Our efforts on social media, with regular posts of curated programmes like Five2Watch and Highlights, have become highly anticipated events, offering fresh perspectives and discoveries.

The impact of our showcase and curated programme has been significant. By sharing content across our social media channels, we have amplified the reach and influence of the showcased artists. This exposure has led to increased opportunities for artists, as their work is more likely to be discovered by curators, commissioners, and art enthusiasts. The results are inspiring, with more than 500 artists' work highlighted, demonstrating the breadth and depth of talent among our members.

Axis Graduate Programme
The Axis Graduate Programme is an innovative, artist-led professional development initiative tailored for third-year fine art students and recent graduates transitioning from academic study to the professional arts sector. Designed to empower emerging artists, the programme offers guidance, resources, and insights from experienced artists and art professionals, equipping participants with the tools and confidence needed to establish and sustain their practices.

In 2023, the Axis Graduate Programme provided a comprehensive framework to ease the transition into the professional art world. Our programme included a series of Pathway Talks, Development Talks, workshops, and mentoring sessions that collectively offered practical advice, career insights, and networking opportunities.

Pathway Talks: Featured insights from fine art graduates who have successfully navigated their post-graduate careers, including Kinnari Saraiya, Edd Carr, Charlotte Cullen, Rebecca Halliwell Sutton, Josh Johnson, and Ginny on Frederick.

Development Talks: Focused on essential skills for professional growth, covering a wide range of topics. These talks featured Leomi Sadler on illustration and contemporary art, Nicola Singh on performance and post-colonial feminism, Ayla Dmyterko on painting and eco-feminism, Roy Parker on eco-art, Ashley Holmes on sound installations, and Katrina Cowling on sculpture.

Workshops and Mentoring Sessions: Featuring Fundraising Workshop: Led by The Uncultured, Mentoring Sessions: Provided by Nicola Singh, Ayla Dmyterko, Claye Bowler, and Edd Carr, Zine/Artist Book Making Workshop: Led by Sam Hutchinson and Artist-Led Opportunity Intro: Hosted by Umbrella.

The six-month programme culminated with the PRAXIS Exhibition, hosted at Umbrella, an artist-led space within Axis' Vacant Space initiative at The Capitol Centre, Cardiff. This exhibition highlighted the exceptional talent of recent graduates in their inaugural exhibition since university, marking a significant milestone in their professional journeys. The exhibition featured the works of Iulia Hulea, Charis Copp, Yveline Burton, Sarah Grossey, Niamh O’Dobhain, Kristina Nenova, Hannah Henson, Esther Harbord, and Coralie Rebekah Braddock.

Vacant Space Initiative
The Vacant Space programme continues to make a significant impact by transforming unused commercial properties into vibrant hubs for creative activity. This initiative not only supports artists but also engages communities, making contemporary visual arts a part of everyday life.

In 2023, we activated 17 spaces across Cardiff, Middlesbrough, Hastings, Bournemouth, Barnsley, Bradford, Sunderland, Pontefract, and Guildford. These spaces have been utilised by artists, providing unique opportunities for development and showcasing their work.

Artist Paisley Randell Shillabeer from Cardiff Umbrella articulated the importance of support and space provided by Axis: “I think one of the best things about being in the building [Vacant Space] at the moment is that we've built such an incredible community of artists. I mean, it's just so wonderful to feel like there are people doing exciting things all around you and you're not isolated, and that can really help us when we're trying to move forward with the work that we're doing.“

Our Vacant Space initiative has also been instrumental in fostering community engagement. Thousands of people have participated in a wide range of creative and social activities hosted in these spaces, turning vacant properties into cultural destinations. The initiative has helped to build stronger connections between artists and local communities, promoting cultural appreciation and participation.

Member and Vacant Space Artist, Rey Hope from Dyddiau Du shared: “It came about originally wanting to have a space for a little sort of self-sustaining bookshelf and very quickly grew and grew, we were really lucky to be able to have access to this space and realising that there was a real gap for queer and neurodivergent communities.“

Key Impacts
- **Enhanced Visibility for Artists:** The Vacant Space initiative provided 200 artists with access to unique spaces to develop and showcase their work. This has significantly enhanced their visibility and career opportunities.
- **Community Engagement:** Thousands of people engaged in a wide range of creative and social activities hosted in these spaces. The initiative has fostered community engagement and cultural appreciation, turning vacant properties into cultural destinations.
- **Revitalisation of Properties:** Property owners have seen their vacant properties revitalised, contributing positively to the local area's appeal and cultural vibrancy.

Trustees' Visit to Cardiff
A notable highlight of the year was the visit by Axis trustees to Cardiff, where they explored the impact of the Vacant Space initiative first-hand. They visited several activated spaces and engaged with artists, gaining valuable insights into how access to these spaces has transformed artistic practices and enriched the community. During the visit, trustees were particularly moved by the personal stories shared by artists. One artist remarked, "Having access to a space through Axis has been a game-changer. It has allowed me to experiment and grow in ways I never thought possible. The support from Axis has been incredible."

The trustees' visit underscored the importance of the Vacant Space initiative in providing artists with the resources they need to thrive and in making contemporary art accessible to broader audiences.

Giving a Platform for the Artists' Voice
Axis supported the Aberdeen Summit, a pivotal event addressing the issue of artists' exploitation. Our role was to produce and publish a comprehensive publication, ensuring the vital discussions from the summit reached a wider audience.

Axis was honoured to publish "Artists' Exploitation," a collection of texts from the summit. This publication includes contributions from Dr Susan Jones, Ben Callaghan, Simon Poulter, and Lindsay Seers, with a summation by Dr John Wright.

To amplify the discussion, we commissioned five new pieces of writing:

- **The Price of Everything** by Alistair Gentry
- **Welcome to the Club? On Disability, Poverty, and Exclusion in the Arts** by Tina Rogers
- **We Can't Afford to Work for Love** by Lauren McLaughlin
- **On Mining** by Adam York Gregory
- **Barriers and Ethnic Representation** by Sofia Barton

These pieces reflect diverse perspectives on exploitation, contributing to a broader understanding of the challenges artists face.

The publication has sparked essential conversations within our community, highlighting the need for systemic change. Axis remains dedicated to supporting initiatives that advocate for artists' rights, ensuring diverse voices are heard and valued.

Access Manifesto
In 2023, Axis took significant steps towards enhancing accessibility and inclusivity within the arts community by developing and launching the "Axis Access Manifesto." This initiative, commissioned from artist Lady Kitt, reflects our commitment to creating an environment where everyone can engage with and benefit from contemporary visual arts.

Lady Kitt, an artist renowned for her dedication to inclusivity, spearheaded the creation of the Access Manifesto. Guided by the principle "Assume Nothing, Ask Everything," the manifesto outlines key principles and guidelines aimed at fostering flexible, transparent, and welcoming practices across all our initiatives. It is a testament to our dedication to breaking down barriers and ensuring that art is accessible to all.

The Access Manifesto is a living document, continually evolving to meet the needs of our diverse community. We remain committed to upholding its principles and enhancing our practices to ensure that contemporary visual arts are truly for everyone.

Care Commitment
In 2023, Axis reaffirmed its dedication to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment through the establishment of our Care Commitment. This initiative was developed in response to feedback from our community and collaborators, emphasising the importance of a compassionate and empathetic approach in all our interactions. It is designed to ensure that our working relationships are based on respect, transparency, and mutual support.

Our Care Commitment has been integrated into all aspects of our operations and is an evolving pledge, continually refined based on feedback and experiences.

Web Development and Digital Engagement
In 2023, Axis made significant progress in developing our new website, set to launch on 17 April 2024. This new digital platform is designed to better support artists and engage audiences, enhancing the overall experience and accessibility of contemporary visual arts.

Our efforts this year have focused on creating a platform that meets the needs of our members and the broader community. Key features of the new website include:

- **Enhanced Accessibility and Usability:** The new website will offer a more intuitive and user-friendly design, making it easier for artists to find and access the resources they need. This improved interface will help artists manage their profiles, share their work, and connect with other members more efficiently.
- **Improved Discoverability:** With advanced search and filter systems, users will be able to find artists, events, and resources quickly. This feature will increase the visibility of artists' work, allowing them to reach wider audiences and potential collaborators.

- **Seamless Integration:** The new single sign-on system will provide a smooth and streamlined login experience, enabling users to access both the website and the community platform effortlessly. This integration will make it easier for members to participate in discussions, access exclusive content, and stay updated on the latest events and opportunities.
- **Enhanced Content Management:** A robust content management system will ensure that the website remains dynamic and up-to-date, offering fresh and relevant content that reflects the latest developments in contemporary visual arts.

Benefits for Artists and Audiences

- **Greater Visibility:** Artists will benefit from enhanced exposure through improved search functionality and curated showcases.
- **Resource Access:** The platform will provide easy access to a wealth of resources, including funding opportunities, professional development tools, and collaborative projects.
- **Community Engagement:** Artists can connect with peers, share their work, and participate in community events, fostering a supportive and collaborative environment.
- **Discover New Talent:** Audiences will find it easier to discover and engage with a diverse range of artists and their work.
- **Stay Informed:** The website will offer up-to-date information on events, exhibitions, and other cultural activities, making it a go-to resource for contemporary visual arts enthusiasts.
- **Interactive Experience:** Enhanced features will allow audiences to interact with artists and their work, creating a more immersive and engaging experience.

Looking Ahead

As we look towards 2024 and beyond, Axis remains dedicated to supporting artists, engaging audiences, and fostering an inclusive, vibrant, and sustainable arts community. Building on our achievements, we will continue to empower artists through resources, mentorship, and visibility, ensuring they have the support needed to thrive.

Our commitment to inclusivity and sustainability will be furthered through ongoing initiatives, ensuring that our practices remain welcoming and environmentally conscious. The launch of our new website will enhance our digital presence, making it easier for audiences to discover and connect with contemporary visual arts.

We will increase our curated output, showcasing the diverse and innovative work of artists through more exhibitions, digital features, and social media engagement. By doing so, we aim to amplify artists' voices and make contemporary art more accessible to a wider audience.

We aim to strengthen community support by expanding networking events, peer support sessions, and professional development opportunities. This will foster a collaborative and supportive environment, enhancing the sense of community among our members.

Through these efforts, we remain steadfast in our mission to champion contemporary visual arts, making it accessible and engaging for all. We look forward to continuing this journey, guided by our values of inclusivity, sustainability, and support for artists.

Financial review

The net income for the year was £-23,109, including net income of £-23,109 on unrestricted funds and net income of £0 on restricted funds.

Reserves policy

The charity's free reserves, excluding fixed assets, at the year end were £227,465.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees report and the financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and UK Accounting Standards.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (Charities SORP (FRS102)), and in accordance with the special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the board of trustees on 6/12/2024

Lisa Stansbie (Trustee)

Axis Web

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Axis Web

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 14 to 21.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity's trustees of the charitable company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
Since the charitable company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a fellow of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act.

I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a fellow of ACIE which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3 the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4 the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Simon Bostrom FCIE

16/12/2024

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO
Stringer House
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Leeds
LS10 2QW

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Statement of Financial Activities

(including summary income and expenditure account)

for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Income from:					
Grants and donations	(2)	119,696	-	119,696	265,453
Members subscriptions		217,396	-	217,396	177,225
Digital programme income		17,740	-	17,740	8,178
Income from group undertakings		1,669	-	1,669	158
Bank interest		5,449	-	5,449	1,645
Total income		361,950	-	361,950	452,659
Expenditure on:					
Salaries NI and pensions	(3)	140,439	-	140,439	121,702
Vacant spaces costs		39,016	-	39,016	103,839
Insurance scheme for members		35,723	-	35,723	27,559
Artists fees, commissions and projects		16,407	-	16,407	70,266
Artists bursaries		14,532	-	14,532	-
Marketing		12,145	-	12,145	15,250
Platform and programme		98,562	-	98,562	50,094
General admin expenses		451	-	451	515
Charity insurance		1,625	-	1,625	1,562
Travel and subsistence		838	-	838	206
Book keeping		1,295	-	1,295	1,162
Bank / fincance charges		12,020	-	12,020	9,186
Computer expenses		-	-	-	183
Governance costs		2,744	-	2,744	1,500
Legal and professional		7,133	-	7,133	1,035
Independent examination		1,050	-	1,050	1,050
Depreciation		655	-	655	993
Staff development		424	-	424	-
Total expenditure		385,059	-	385,059	406,102
Net income / (expenditure)		(23,109)	-	(23,109)	46,557
Fund balances brought forward		250,930	-	250,930	204,373
Fund balances carried forward	(4)	227,821	-	227,821	250,930

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

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Balance sheet

as at 31 March 2024

		2024 Unrestricted £	2024 Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	(5)	355	-	355	1,010
Investments	(6)	1	-	1	1
Total fixed assets		356	-	356	1,011
Current assets					
Debtors and prepayments	(7)	2,927	-	2,927	7,530
Cash at bank and in hand	(8)	380,175	-	380,175	408,311
Total current assets		383,102	-	383,102	415,841
Current liabilities: amounts falling due within one year					
Creditors and accruals	(9)	155,637	-	155,637	165,922
Total current liabilities		155,637	-	155,637	165,922
Net current assets / (liabilities)		227,465	-	227,465	249,919
Net assets		227,821	-	227,821	250,930
Funds					
Unrestricted funds		227,821	-	227,821	250,930
Restricted funds		-	-	-	-
Total funds		227,821	-	227,821	250,930

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476. The trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and with FRS 102 (effective January 2019).

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 6/12/2024

Lisa Stansbie (Trustee)

Axis Web

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.
There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.
No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Going concern

The trustees are satisfied that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, if it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.
Where grants are related to performance and specific deliverables, they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.
Donated assets, facilities or services are valued at their estimated value to the charity. This is the price that the charity estimates it would pay in the open market for equivalent items; or services and facilities of equivalent utility to the charity.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The SOFA includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Expenditure and liabilities

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out the resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Taxation

As a charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Axis Web

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies continued

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and included at cost including any incidental expenses of acquisition. Gifted assets are shown at the value to the charity on receipt. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives as follows:
Fixtures, fittings and equipment: over 3 years

Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are recognised in the year they are payable.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

2 Grants and donations

	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Donations in relation to space for artists	119,696	-	119,696	205,731
Arts Council England	-	-	-	59,722
	119,696	-	119,696	265,453

3 Staff costs and numbers

	2024 £	2023 £
Gross salaries	121,416	109,851
Social security costs	10,479	8,873
Employment allowance	(5,000)	(5,000)
Work from home allowances	1,373	-
Pensions	12,171	7,978
	140,439	121,702

The average number of employees during the year was 5, being an average of 4.4 full time equivalent (2023: 5, 4.1 FTE). There were no employees with emoluments above £60,000.

Defined contribution pension scheme

	2024 £	2023 £
Costs of the scheme to the charity for the year	12,171	7,978
Amount of any contributions outstanding at the year end	1,406	1,153

5 Tangible assets

	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2023	45,550	45,550
Additions	-	-
At 31 March 2024	45,550	45,550
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2023	44,540	44,540
Charge for year	655	655
At 31 March 2024	45,195	45,195
Net book value		
At 31 March 2024	355	355
At 31 March 2023	1,010	1,010

6 Fixed assets investments

	2024 Shares in subsidiary	2023 Shares in subsidiary
	£	£
Balance b/f	1	1
Additions	-	-
(Disposals)	-	-
Total	1	1

7 Debtors and prepayments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts owed by subsidiary company	1,827	158
Prepayments	-	300
Accrued income	1,000	6,972
Other debtors	100	100
	2,927	7,530

8 Cash at bank and in hand

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash at bank	380,175	408,311
Cash in hand	-	-
	380,175	408,311

9 Creditors and accruals

	2024	2023
	£	£
Creditors	11,998	2,775
Memberships received in advance	84,458	75,801
Other fees received in advance	-	8,000
Accruals	48,085	66,884
Taxation and social security	9,293	10,868
Other creditors	1,803	1,594
	155,637	165,922

10 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses

During the year 5 trustees were paid a total of £931 in respect of travel and accommodation.

Trustee remuneration and benefits

Name of trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of transaction	2024 £	2023 £
Holly Slingsby		Allowance for trustee board meeting attendance	600	500
Fiona Grady		Allowance for trustee board meeting attendance	800	800
			1,400	1,300

Remuneration and benefits received by key management personnel

The total employee benefits received by key management personnel were £46,004.

10 Other related party transactions

At the balance sheet date the Charity was owed £1,827 (2023: £158) by Axis Web Development Limited (a wholly owned subsidiary company) which is included within debtors. Admin recharges to the subsidiary during the year were £300 (2023: £nil).

Axis Web

Statement of Financial Activities including comparatives for all funds (including summary income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Income						
Grants and donations	119,696	205,731	-	59,722	119,696	265,453
Members subscriptions	217,396	177,225	-	-	217,396	177,225
Digital programme income	17,740	8,178	-	-	17,740	8,178
Income from group undertakings	1,669	158	-	-	1,669	158
Bank interest	5,449	1,645	-	-	5,449	1,645
Total income	361,950	392,937	-	59,722	361,950	452,659
Expenditure						
Salaries NI and pensions	140,439	121,702	-	-	140,439	121,702
Vacant spaces costs	39,016	103,839	-	-	39,016	103,839
Insurance scheme for members	35,723	27,559	-	-	35,723	27,559
Artists fees, commissions and projects	16,407	28,675	-	41,591	16,407	70,266
Artists bursaries	14,532	-	-	-	14,532	-
Marketing	12,145	15,250	-	-	12,145	15,250
Platform and programme	98,562	31,963	-	18,131	98,562	50,094
General admin expenses	451	515	-	-	451	515
Charity insurance	1,625	1,562	-	-	1,625	1,562
Travel and subsistence	838	206	-	-	838	206
Book keeping	1,295	1,162	-	-	1,295	1,162
Bank / fincance charges	12,020	9,186	-	-	12,020	9,186
Computer expenses	-	183	-	-	-	183
Governance costs	2,744	1,500	-	-	2,744	1,500
Legal and professional	7,133	1,035	-	-	7,133	1,035
Independent examination	1,050	1,050	-	-	1,050	1,050
Depreciation	655	993	-	-	655	993
Staff development	424	-	-	-	424	-
Total expenditure	385,059	346,380	-	59,722	385,059	406,102
Net income / (expenditure)	(23,109)	46,557	-	-	(23,109)	46,557
Fund balances brought forward	250,930	204,373	-	-	250,930	204,373
Fund balances carried forward	227,821	250,930	-	-	227,821	250,930

AXIS WEB

England & Wales - Charity number 1002841

Accounts

Axis Web

Charity number 1002841

A company limited by guarantee number 02595018

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2023

WYCAS
COMMUNITY ACCOUNTING
WEST YORKSHIRE

Axis Web

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2023

Contents	Page
Trustees' report	2 to 10
Examiner's report	11
Statement of financial activities	12
Balance sheet	13
Notes to the accounts	14 to 19

Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Axis Web

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2023

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position	Dates
Lisa Stansbie	Chair	
Rupert Wilcox-Baker	Deputy Chair	
Sarah Martin		Resigned December 2022
Sue Williams		
Holly Slingsby		
Fiona Grady		
Juan Carlos Candanedo Saez		
Pamela Newall		Appointed June 2022
Laura Nelson		Appointed June 2022
Radhika Patel		Appointed November 2022
Diana Ali		Appointed July 2023
Edwin Colyer		Appointed July 2023

Charity number	1002841	Registered in England and Wales
Company number	02595018	Registered in England and Wales

Registered and principal address
The Art House
Drury Lane
Wakefield
WF1 2TE

Bankers
National Westminster Bank Plc
8 Park Row
Leeds
LS1 2TW

Independent examiner
Simon Bostrom FCIE
West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO
Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and was formed on 25 March 1991. It is governed by a memorandum and articles of association as amended by special resolutions dated 17 April 2003, 25 December 2004, 30 November 2006, 20 December 2019 and 8 April 2021. The liability of the members in the event of the company being wound up is limited to a sum not exceeding £1.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are also the directors for the purposes of company law and are appointed by the members at the AGM.

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

Our Charity's purposes, as set out in the objects contained in the company's memorandum of association, are to:

advance the education of the public by promoting and developing the understanding and appreciations of the visual arts in the United Kingdom,

in particular by extending the influence in and relevance of the visual arts to the community, by creating new opportunities in the visual arts,

by encouraging and facilitating an increase in good practice in the visual arts.

Vision

Our vision is the sharing of the visual arts for a healthier society.

Mission

Our mission is to empower the beneficiaries we serve - artists and communities - by responding to their needs in an ever changing world.

We do this through:

- Creating the space to support artists' needs (both online and offline).
- Creating a culture of nurturing, collaboration and growth.
- Creating opportunities to make, share and access art, via meanwhile spaces, commissions and knowledge sharing.
- Encouraging and facilitating good practice in the visual arts.
- Leading on sector research.

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission’s general guidance on public benefit.

Achievements and performance

A Year of Support and Growth

Welcome to our yearly look-back. It's a chance to reflect on a year where our solid dedication to contemporary visual art and artists turned into fresh ideas, growth, and deep connections within our community.

This year, our work was rewarded with a 20% growth in membership. That's not just a number; it shows the trust and worth that artists and creative freelancers find in our charity.

Our members' voices guide us, and our yearly survey helped us understand their specific experiences and hopes. The lessons learned are shaping our future, leading us to even more meaningful help and involvement.

We launched our own Community Platform, a lively hub made to build real connections and support among artists. It's a dynamic reflection of our commitment to making places where artists thrive.

Our Axis Graduate Programme has been key in guiding new graduates as they start their artistic careers, giving tailored content, mentorships, and chances to show their work.

We've boosted our public engagement, offering rich experiences of contemporary visual art. Popular strands like the Public Events Programme and "What do Axis Artists do all day?" film series have helped to widen access and appreciation of the work our members do.

We've also helped about 100 artists and their projects breathe life into 17 empty commercial properties across England and Wales.

Achievements and performance continued

Our Social Works? Journal continues to be a bright light of exploration and smart talk, building bridges between the worlds of academia and practice.

Together, these efforts have woven a year filled with success, learning, and growth. As we look to the future, we stay committed to nurturing, engaging, and celebrating the world of contemporary visual arts.

Understanding Our Members

This year, we worked hard to deepen our connection with our members. We designed and sent out a tailored survey, capturing valuable feedback. This effort went beyond just gathering data, it opened doors to rich insights.

We learned our members value collaboration, sharing, and community. They want platforms that match their unique interests and connections that go beyond mere networking.

These insights guided our actions and inspired us to think creatively and act with empathy.

Shaping the Future

The feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Axis is celebrated as a leader in artist support, offering a wide range of opportunities. What excited us the most was the enthusiasm for our user-friendly community platform. Our members see potential, and so do we.

These insights are sparks for change. They're shaping our plans, fine-tuning our platforms, and driving us to innovate. By listening to our members, we've found a roadmap to a future filled with exciting opportunities and even stronger community connections.

Community Platform Development and Launch: A Space for Artists, by Artists

Artists thrive on connection, collaboration, and community. Recognising this, we started a mission to build real connections among our members, beyond the limits of ordinary social media.

This year, we proudly launched our bespoke Community platform, carefully designed with features that directly meet the needs of artists. These include online member meet-ups, one-to-one mentoring, and tailored in-feed prompts to spark conversation and debate.

This platform is a commitment to fostering real interactions, collaborations, and engagements among artists. It's a lively hub, vibrant with creativity and connection, and tuned to the special frequencies of the artistic community.

The Community platform is quickly becoming an essential hub for our members. Early responses were overwhelmingly positive, with more people joining than we expected. Feedback from members reflects the impact:

> *"It feels that extra mile that's important for a deeper connection once we choose to join a platform like Axis."*

Our platform, along with our attentive approach, keeps solidifying our reputation as 'the small arts organisation that cares.' At the core of our charity's mission is the principle of listening to our members. This year marked a big step in boosting our engagement, helping us connect more deeply with artists and support their professional growth.

Connecting Artists and Audiences: The Axis Directory

Our journey is about bridging the gap between artists and audiences.

The Axis Directory is a platform for discovery and engagement, not just a list of artists. It's where audiences find inspiration, curators discover new talents, and artists gain exposure. It's a changing space that makes sure artists' work is open to a wide audience.

Achievements and performance continued

Experiencing Art: A Journey of Exploration and Engagement

Our structured routes across our platforms let visitors explore and experience contemporary visual art. From community galleries to interactive showcases, we've turned browsing into an artistic adventure.

Our commitment to curating the art experience even goes into social media. Weekly releases of curated programmes, like Five2Watch and Highlights, have become awaited events, offering fresh perspectives and new discoveries.

The impact of these efforts is both inspiring and humbling. Over 500 artists' work has been featured, showing the diversity and depth of talent within our membership. But numbers only tell part of the story. The impressive 300,000+ visits to the directory are not just clicks; they're connections.

It's proof that art can captivate and inspire. And it's a reminder that our role as curators, connectors, and supporters of art is more vital than ever.

What Do Axis Artists Do All Day? A Journey into Artists' Lives

Art has many sides. To truly appreciate its depth, one must delve into the lives of the artists who breathe life into it. With this in mind, we embarked on a journey to reveal the daily practices, inspirations, and challenges faced by artists on Axis.

This year, we continued the film series "What Do Axis Artists Do All Day?" offering an intimate and candid look at the varied and profound journeys of contemporary visual artists. This initiative aimed to make art more open and relatable to viewers.

Films made include:

- Emily Speed's exploration of the intricate relationships between people, architecture, and power dynamics, and reflections on her recent show at Tate Liverpool;
- Steve Messam's unique approach to creating temporary installations within natural landscapes; and
- Diana Ali's multifaceted practice, including film-making and painting, as well as her role as a mentor on the BBC's 'Big Painting Challenge'.

Coupled with interactive social media content, the series helps break down barriers between artists and audiences and foster a richer understanding of contemporary visual art.

Public Events Programme: Engaging the Wider Community in Contemporary Visual Art

Our public events programme is quickly becoming a key part of our outreach and community engagement. This year, we've taken it to new heights, with a range of events designed to engage, educate, and inspire.

From insightful talks and workshops to interactive exhibitions, our events have covered a wide spectrum of topics and mediums. We've worked with top artists, curators, and educators, creating a rich tapestry of experiences that resonate with both seasoned and new artists.

Our goal has always been to make art open and enjoyable for all, and this year's programme proves our commitment. We've seen record attendance, eager participation, and glowing feedback, reflecting the success and impact of our carefully chosen events.

The events have not only showcased incredible talent but also built a sense of community and connection. They've been places for dialogue, exploration, and creativity, nurturing a culture that celebrates art in all its forms.

Achievements and performance continued

Our event seasons included:

- Body Season (July 2022): A deep dive into the theme of the body in art, featuring workshops and talks by remarkable artists like Priya Mistry, Charlie Porter, Kajal Nisha Patel, and Letty Mc Hugh.
- Back to School with Axis (September 2022): Tailored for artists and creative professionals, including masterclasses led by Madeleina Kay and The Uncultured.
- Axis All Areas (November 2022): Celebrating the Axis community, with insightful talks by artists Linda Stupart, Diana Ali, Dawn Woolley, the Axis Team and Trustees.
- Artist in the Community (December 2022 - March 2023): Epitomising our commitment to fostering connections between artists and the community, featuring monthly digital residencies with distinguished artists like Kajal Nisha Patel, Diana Ali, Fiona Grady, Harold Offeh, and Ellie Clarke.

The response from our community has been overwhelmingly positive:

"What a rich, inspiring and thought-provoking event!"

"So informative, really useful."

Vacant Space: Breathing Life into Dormant Places

Our objective is to repurpose empty commercial properties for creative use, giving artists unique spaces to develop and showcase their work. We don’t just fill a space, it's about breathing life into dormant areas, turning them into thriving centres of art and community.

Vacant Space is a keystone initiative that links our charitable goals with the urgent need to use empty commercial spaces productively. It's our mission to infuse life and creativity into places left behind.

We supported artists in projects across various locations in England and Wales, including Bootle (Liverpool), Cardiff, Middlesbrough, Guildford, Hastings, Newark, Hull, Bournemouth, Barnsley, Bradford, and Sunderland. These weren't just exhibitions; they were transformations, turning vacant commercial properties into bustling hubs of creativity and community involvement.

The impact has been deep and far-reaching. This initiative has served as a dynamic platform, supporting over 100 artists during the year, but it's also done something even more remarkable. It has revitalised spaces across multiple locations, enriching local communities that now interact with these artistic expressions. Vacant spaces have become lively places, filled with creativity, conversation, and connection.

What started as an ambition to support and nurture artists and increase public engagement outside traditional art spaces has become a movement, a celebration of art's power to rejuvenate, inspire, and unite.

Axis Graduate Programme: Guiding the Transition from Academia to Arts Practice

Transitioning from academia to professional arts practice is a key journey filled with opportunities and challenges. With the Axis Graduate Programme, we sought to provide a guiding light, creating an innovative artist-led initiative tailored to bolster recent graduates as they embark on their artistic careers.

Led by artist Harlan Whittingham from the Axis team, the programme spanned 13 enriching weeks, immersing graduates in talks, mentoring sessions, and insights. Experienced artists and art professionals such as Daniel O'Dempsey, Cem A AKA @freeze_magazine, Rózsa Farkas of Arcadia Missa, and others contributed their expertise.

At the end, there was a unique opportunity for graduates to have their first taste of the real world with an Axis funded group exhibition at The Royal Standard in Liverpool. This exhibition showcased their work and served as a tangible testament to their creativity and determination.

We were proud to join forces with renowned institutions including Arts University Bournemouth, Manchester School of Art, Swansea School of Art, Norwich School of Art, York St John University, and Leeds Beckett University, enhancing the programme's success.

Achievements and performance continued

Championing Social Art: Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion

Art has the power to transcend boundaries, spark conversations, and champion causes. This year, we've been driven by a deep desire to understand, advocate, and highlight the role of social art in championing Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI).

Social Works? Issue 3, edited by Lucy Wright and Special Issue Co-editor, R. M Sánchez-Camus, stands as a testament to the vibrant and diverse landscape of social art practice in the UK and beyond. Featuring contributions from artists including Adi Lerer, Anna Francis, Emma Lilwall, and many others, this journal serves as an inspiration and guide for anyone embarking on their own journey towards Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion.

This special issue, born out of our initiative 'Social Artists for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion' (SAFEDI), in collaboration with Manchester Metropolitan University and Social Art Network, is more than a publication; it's a living testament to the potential of social art. The content spans a vast spectrum of social practice, from highlighting the work of BME artists to disability activism, and from artistic interventions in the justice system to projects in under-resourced neighbourhoods.

These efforts have ignited passions, inspired actions, and seek to lay the foundation for a more inclusive artistic landscape. Together with our collaborators and contributors, we've taken a step towards a future where art is not just a medium of expression but a catalyst for equality and positive change.

Social ARTery 2.0: A Seamless Blend of Physical and Digital Engagement

In an ever-connected world where physical and digital realms intertwine, "Social ARTery 2.0" embarked on a pioneering journey to explore this seamless convergence, championing innovation, inclusivity, and diverse community engagement.

The core of the initiative was the Phygital Artist Commissions, where seven artists immersed themselves in their designated communities, leading to groundbreaking projects. From HARI / Hull Artist Research Initiative steered by Sarah Pennington and Thomas Robinson to artists Simon Hall, Pamela Crowe, Jose Garcia Oliva, and Amy Lawrence.

Peer Learning & Mentoring became a catalyst of the project, nurturing the creativity and learning of the commissioned artists. Digital participation specialist John Whall and Lead Artist/Creative Producer R.M. Sánchez-Camus provided mentorship and guidance, ensuring success and resonance.

The Digital Symposium Series opened new doors, commissioning ten artists to present online exhibitions, interactive webinars, and more. It even allowed 20 recent graduates to curate an interactive exhibition in GatherTown, breaking conventional boundaries.

Resources were no less vital. From the "Working Phygitally" guide to comprehensive streaming guidelines and detailed case studies, a treasure trove of knowledge was curated, enriching the phygital landscape.

The Social Art Network (SAN) Development was a key pillar, extending support to the Social Art Network. Organising a Social Art Assembly in Brighton, streamed online, and commissioning Milica Milosevic as the Development Lead, were steps in forging a robust network.

At the helm of Evaluation and Learning was Dr. Ria Poole, adopting an intrinsic evaluation methodology that fostered continuous reflection and adaptive learning, ensuring that the project's legacy feeds into future initiatives.

In the end, "Social ARTery 2.0" was more than a project; it laid a foundation for the future of phygital art, a testament to what's possible when creativity knows no bounds.

Achievements and performance continued

Welcoming Our New Trustees and Expressing Gratitude

As we continue to champion contemporary visual art and community engagement, the insights and dedication of our leadership team remain essential. This year, we are elated to introduce three distinguished individuals to our Board of Trustees: Radhika Patel, Pam Newall, and Laura Nelson. Each of them brings a unique blend of professional expertise and passion for the arts, reinforcing our charity's commitment to excellence and innovation.

As we warmly welcome our new trustees, we also take a moment to express our deepest gratitude to Sarah Martin. Sarah's tenure with us has been marked by steadfast dedication and a commitment to excellence. Her invaluable contributions have laid down strong foundations, and her legacy will resonate in our future achievements.

Charting Our Path Forward: A Vision of Connection, Creativity, and Celebration

As we reflect upon our journey and the impactful initiatives undertaken, we're also looking eagerly to the horizon, contemplating what the future holds for Axis and our vibrant community.

Our overarching vision is to foster an enriched environment where artists feel supported and audiences are engaged. The road ahead is marked with three pivotal goals:

- Deepening Artist Engagement: By embracing the multifaceted challenges and opportunities of artistic creation, we aim to deepen our commitment to every artist in our community.
- Audience Engagement & Accessibility: Our mission is to magnify the resonance of contemporary visual arts, ensuring more people can access and appreciate the creative narratives we support.
- Organisational Excellence: We're continuously refining our strategies to ensure Axis remains a leader in performance, delivering impactful experiences to both artists and audiences.

The impact we aim for is expansive. We envision a connected community where artists are empowered, their works gain unparalleled visibility, and audiences have enriched access to the world of contemporary visual arts. Key to this vision are our strategic priorities:

- A Showcase of Contemporary Visual Arts: We're dedicated to curating a dynamic platform that spotlights diverse artists and champions evolving artistic practices.
- A Stronger Peer Network: Collaboration is the lifeblood of creativity. By fostering robust peer networks and deepening partnerships, we believe in solving complex challenges and offering unparalleled support to our artists.
- Extending Reach and Participation: Our commitment is to weave a tapestry of diverse voices, ensuring inclusivity and broadening our impact. The digital realm offers untapped potential, and we're poised to redefine how audiences engage with contemporary visual art.

In the upcoming year, our focus will be accentuated by key initiatives: embracing technological advancements, spotlighting diverse artistic narratives, broadening audience engagement avenues, and fostering collaborations. From showcasing artist brilliance to facilitating artistic endeavours, our roadmap is filled with promise and opportunity.

We're also dedicated to continuous learning and feedback. Regular engagements with our community will ensure we're in sync with their visions, helping us shape a future reflective of our collective aspirations.

Lastly, our team is our strength. Ensuring their growth and well-being remains paramount, as they are the backbone of every initiative and the heralds of Axis's ethos.

The journey ahead is promising, and with the continued support of our community, we're confident of crafting narratives that resonate, inspire, and celebrate the world of contemporary visual arts.

Financial review

The net income for the year was £46,557, all relating to unrestricted funds.

Reserves policy

The charity's free reserves, excluding fixed assets, at the year end were £249,919.

Axis operates a public service platform, providing services, for example operating a membership and managing a portfolio of between 15 to 20 properties.

The Trustees have established a General Reserves Policy for the following reasons:

- To meet unexpected and unbudgeted demands;
- To ensure the Charity's short and long term sustainability;
- To ensure continuity of service to beneficiaries in the event of an unexpected decline in charitable income;

In line with our Reserves Policy, the Trustees aim for reserves of £134,285 to £259,518.

Consideration of Risks

1 As a self-financing charity (not in receipt of public subsidy for core activities) any impact leading to a loss of Income from membership and donations would have a significant impact. Equivalent of three months income (£98,234) would be needed whilst other sources of income were considered.

2 As a digital first charity, maintenance and regeneration of digital assets (£27,000) is essential to continue to deliver services to beneficiaries.

3 In the event of the Charity having to close, to meet its legal obligations, it would need to have three month's running costs (£86,500) in addition to Redundancy costs (£47,784).

Determining Reserve Range:

Low-End Reserve (£134,285):

- Focus: Loss of Income and Digital Assets
- Rationale: These are non-negotiables as they are tied directly to our ability to operate and deliver services.

Top-End Reserve (£259,518):

- Focus: All four considerations
- Rationale: This provides a comprehensive safety net, ensuring we can meet all obligations and navigate unexpected challenges.

By adopting this two-tier approach, we have the flexibility to adapt to both expected and unexpected changes in our financial landscape.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees report and the financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and UK Accounting Standards.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (Charities SORP (FRS102)), and in accordance with the special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the board of trustees on 13/12/2023

Lisa Stansbie (Trustee)

Axis Web

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Axis Web

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 12 to 19.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity's trustees of the charitable company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
Since the charitable company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a fellow of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act.

I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a fellow of ACIE which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3 the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4 the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Simon Bostrom FCIE

14/12/2023

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO
Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Axis Web

Statement of Financial Activities

(including summary income and expenditure account)

for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Income from:					
Grants and donations	(2)	205,731	59,722	265,453	163,897
Members subscriptions		177,225	-	177,225	155,728
Digital programme income		8,178	-	8,178	4,440
Income from group undertakings		158	-	158	1,408
Bank interest		1,645	-	1,645	29
In kind admin support		-	-	-	22,300
Total income		392,937	59,722	452,659	347,802
Expenditure on:					
Salaries NI and pensions	(3)	121,702	-	121,702	103,525
Vacant spaces costs		103,839	-	103,839	72,763
Insurance scheme for members		27,559	-	27,559	23,332
Artists fees, commissions and projects		28,675	41,591	70,266	69,517
Artists bursaries		-	-	-	400
Marketing		15,250	-	15,250	7,900
Platform and programme		31,963	18,131	50,094	38,956
General admin expenses		515	-	515	-
Charity insurance		1,562	-	1,562	1,491
Travel and subsistence		206	-	206	591
Book keeping		1,162	-	1,162	1,200
Bank charges		9,186	-	9,186	5,144
Computer expenses		183	-	183	-
Governance costs		1,500	-	1,500	1,900
Legal and professional		1,035	-	1,035	1,102
Independent examination		1,050	-	1,050	1,000
Depreciation		993	-	993	1,479
Staff development		-	-	-	551
In kind admin support		-	-	-	22,300
Total expenditure		346,380	59,722	406,102	353,151
Net income / (expenditure)		46,557	-	46,557	(5,349)
Fund balances brought forward		204,373	-	204,373	209,722
Fund balances carried forward	(4)	250,930	-	250,930	204,373

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Axis Web

Balance sheet

as at 31 March 2023

		2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	(5)	1,010	-	1,010	936
Investments	(6)	1	-	1	1
Total fixed assets		1,011	-	1,011	937
Current assets					
Stock		-	-	-	
Debtors and prepayments	(7)	7,530	-	7,530	2,557
Cash at bank and in hand	(8)	408,311	-	408,311	316,615
Total current assets		415,841	-	415,841	319,172
Current liabilities: amounts falling due within one year					
Creditors and accruals	(9)	165,922	-	165,922	115,736
Total current liabilities		165,922	-	165,922	115,736
Net current assets / (liabilities)		249,919	-	249,919	203,436
Net assets		250,930	-	250,930	204,373
Funds					
Unrestricted funds		250,930	-	250,930	204,373
Restricted funds		-	-	-	-
Total funds		250,930	-	250,930	204,373

For the year ending 31 March 2023 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476. The trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and with FRS 102 (effective January 2019).

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 13/12/2023

Lisa Stansbie (Trustee)

Axis Web

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.
There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.
No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Going concern

The trustees are satisfied that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, if it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.
Where grants are related to performance and specific deliverables, they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.
Donated assets, facilities or services are valued at their estimated value to the charity. This is the price that the charity estimates it would pay in the open market for equivalent items; or services and facilities of equivalent utility to the charity.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The SOFA includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Expenditure and liabilities

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out the resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Taxation

As a charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Axis Web

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies continued

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and included at cost including any incidental expenses of acquisition. Gifted assets are shown at the value to the charity on receipt. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives as follows:
Fixtures, fittings and equipment: over 3 years

Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are recognised in the year they are payable.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

2 Grants and donations

	2023 Unrestricted funds	2023 Restricted funds	2023 Total funds	2022 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Arts Council England	-	59,722	59,722	-
Donations in relation to space for artists	205,731	-	205,731	138,870
Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU)	-	-	-	25,027
	205,731	59,722	265,453	163,897

3 Staff costs and numbers

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross salaries	109,851	93,142
Social security costs	8,873	6,863
Employment allowance	(5,000)	(4,000)
Pensions	7,978	7,520
	121,702	103,525

The average number of employees during the year was 5, being an average of 4.1 full time equivalent (2022: 4.9, 3.4 FTE). There were no employees with emoluments above £60,000.

Defined contribution pension scheme

	2023	2022
	£	£
Costs of the scheme to the charity for the year	7,978	7,520
Amount of any contributions outstanding at the year end	1,153	821

4 Restricted funds

	Balance b/f	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Balance c/f
	£	£	£	£	£
Arts Council England	-	59,722	59,722	-	-
	-	59,722	59,722	-	-

Fund name	**Purpose of restriction**
Arts Council England	The project supports levelling up communities to access the arts both in person and online simultaneously, testing out various modes of participation through artist commissioning.

5 Tangible assets

	Fixtures, fittings &	Total
Cost	£	£
At 1 April 2022	44,483	44,483
Additions	1,067	1,067
At 31 March 2023	45,550	45,550
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2022	43,547	43,547
Charge for year	993	993
At 31 March 2023	44,540	44,540
Net book value		
At 31 March 2023	1,010	1,010
At 31 March 2022	936	936

6 Fixed assets investments

	2023 Shares in subsidiary	2022 Shares in subsidiary
	£	£
Balance b/f	1	1
Additions	-	-
(Disposals)	-	-
Total	1	1

7 Debtors and prepayments

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts owed by subsidiary company	158	1,457
Prepayments	300	-
Accrued income	6,972	1,000
Other debtors	100	100
	7,530	2,557

8 Cash at bank and in hand

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash at bank	408,311	316,615
Cash in hand	-	-
	408,311	316,615

9 Creditors and accruals

	2023	2022
	£	£
Creditors	2,775	596
Accruals	66,884	37,296
Memberships received in advance	75,801	66,168
Other fees received in advance	8,000	-
Taxation and social security	10,868	9,400
Other creditors	1,594	2,276
	165,922	115,736

10 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses
No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

Trustee remuneration and benefits
No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.

Other transactions with trustees		2023	2022
		£	£
Holly Slingsby	Allowance for trustee board meeting attendance	500	1,100
Fiona Grady	Allowance for trustee board meeting attendance	800	800
		1,300	1,900

Other related party transactions
At the balance sheet date the Charity was owed £158 (2022: £1,457) by Axis Web Development Limited (a wholly owned subsidiary company) which is included within debtors. There were no other transactions between the two entities during the year (2022: Salary recharges of £250 were payable to the charity).

Axis Web

Statement of Financial Activities including comparatives for all funds (including summary income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 March 2023

	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Income						
Grants and donations	205,731	138,870	59,722	25,027	265,453	163,897
Members subscriptions	177,225	155,728	-	-	177,225	155,728
Digital programme income	8,178	4,440	-	-	8,178	4,440
Income from group undertakings	158	1,408	-	-	158	1,408
Bank interest	1,645	29	-	-	1,645	29
In kind admin support	-	-	-	22,300	-	22,300
Total income	392,937	300,475	59,722	47,327	452,659	347,802
Expenditure						
Salaries NI and pensions	121,702	103,525	-	-	121,702	103,525
Vacant spaces costs	103,839	72,763	-	-	103,839	72,763
Insurance scheme for members	27,559	23,332	-	-	27,559	23,332
Artists fees, commissions, projects	28,675	45,388	41,591	24,129	70,266	69,517
Artists bursaries	-	400	-	-	-	400
Marketing	15,250	7,900	-	-	15,250	7,900
Platform and programme	31,963	38,493	18,131	463	50,094	38,956
General admin expenses	515	-	-	-	515	-
Charity insurance	1,562	1,491	-	-	1,562	1,491
Travel and subsistence	206	156	-	435	206	591
Book keeping	1,162	1,200	-	-	1,162	1,200
Bank charges	9,186	5,144	-	-	9,186	5,144
Computer expenses	183	-	-	-	183	-
Governance costs	1,500	1,900	-	-	1,500	1,900
Legal and professional	1,035	1,102	-	-	1,035	1,102
Independent examination	1,050	1,000	-	-	1,050	1,000
Depreciation	993	1,479	-	-	993	1,479
Staff development	-	551	-	-	-	551
In kind admin support	-	-	-	22,300	-	22,300
Total expenditure	346,380	305,824	59,722	47,327	406,102	353,151
Net income / (expenditure)	46,557	(5,349)	-	-	46,557	(5,349)
Fund balances brought forward	204,373	209,722	-	-	204,373	209,722
Fund balances carried forward	250,930	204,373	-	-	250,930	204,373

AXIS WEB

England & Wales - Charity number 1002841

Accounts

Axis Web

Charity number 1002841

A company limited by guarantee number 02595018

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2022

axis

we support artists

West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service

Axis Web

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2022

Contents	Page
Trustees' report	2 to 9
Examiner's report	10
Statement of financial activities	11
Balance sheet	12
Notes to the accounts	13 to 18

Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Axis Web

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2022

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position	Dates
Lisa Stansbie	Chair	
Rupert Wilcox-Baker	Deputy Chair	
Sarah Martin		
Sue Williams		
Holly Slingsby		
Fiona Grady		
Juan Carlos Candanedo Saez		Appointed March 2022
Pamela Newall		Appointed June 2022
Laura Nelson-Hamilton		Appointed June 2022
Radhika Patel		Appointed November 2022

Charity number	1002841	Registered in England and Wales
Company number	02595018	Registered in England and Wales

Registered and principal address
The Art House
Drury Lane
Wakefield
WF1 2TE

Bankers
National Westminster Bank Plc
8 Park Row
Leeds
LS1 2TW

Independent examiner
Simon Bostrom FCIE
West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO
Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and was formed on 25 March 1991. It is governed by a memorandum and articles of association as amended by special resolutions dated 17 April 2003, 25 December 2004, 30 November 2006, 20 December 2019 and 8 April 2021. The liability of the members in the event of the company being wound up is limited to a sum not exceeding £1.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are also the directors for the purposes of company law and are appointed by the members at the AGM.

Axis Web

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

Our Charity's purposes, as set out in the objects contained in the company's memorandum of association, are to:

advance the education of the public by promoting and developing the understanding and appreciations of the visual arts in the United Kingdom,

in particular by extending the influence in and relevance of the visual arts to the community, by creating new opportunities in the visual arts,

by encouraging and facilitating an increase in good practice in the visual arts.

Vision

Sharing the visual arts for a healthier society.

Mission

To empower the beneficiaries we serve - artists and communities - by extending influence, creating opportunity and fostering good practice in the visual arts.

Long term outcomes:

1 An active and inclusive mutual-aid network of artists, artworkers and supporters
2 Enabling people to experience, access and learn about the visual arts
3 Increasing the resilience of our members

Impact

Axis is an open and inclusive public resource of good practice, underpinned by a diverse, thriving and resilient visual arts community.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees believe that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission defying the strategic direction of Axis.

History

Established in 1991, Axis first came into existence as an offshoot of the National Visual Arts Project – an initiative funded by the then Arts Council of Great Britain (now Arts Council of England, Creative Scotland and Arts Council of Wales) and the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation.

Set up three years earlier in 1988, the original aim of the project was to assist the development of visual arts, crafts, photography, performance and live art. It was designed to serve the needs of practitioners and visual art professionals, as well as offering a national picture of the visual arts through a pioneering computerised bank of information.

When Leeds Polytechnic (now Leeds Beckett University) successfully bid to become the home for the project, a steering group set out the business plan for bringing everything to life. The name Axis – originally standing for Artists eXchange and Information Service – was chosen. Once a board of directors and trustees was in place, Axis was designated a resource of national strategic importance by the Arts Council.

In the 1990's as an information service, as well as developing its computerised database of artists, Axis soon became very active in collating and producing information on arts organisations, promoting networking and playing a leading role in consideration of copyright issues around the storage and dissemination of artists' images.

An ambitious brief, it took five years to develop a searchable, relational database and to collate a sufficient volume and quality of information to go public. In 1998, Axis launched the first searchable artists' database online.

The charity's main activities 2022

Today Axis has become a caring network for artists. As an independent Charity, (meaning that we operate without the need of public subsidy) we:

- Creating the space to support artists' needs (both online and offline).
- A culture of nurturing, collaboration and growth.
- Facilitating opportunities to make, share and access art, via meanwhile spaces, commissions and knowledge sharing.
- Encouraging and facilitating good practice in the visual arts.
- Leading on sector research.

Achievements and performance - Review of activities 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

2021/22 has been a year of continued growth and development at Axis. The pandemic has shown how our sustainability is bound up with the resilience of our members and their livelihoods. To protect what we have achieved so far and to create the world we want to see we focused our endeavours on a supportive programme for a healthy artists-led sector. As Axis continued to serve members, artists and audiences nationwide and globally through our online platforms, some of our achievements have been:

- Increasing membership by 23%;
- Continuing to give subscription breaks to members in financial hardship;
- Enabling and nurturing approximately 150 artists and their projects to make use of 29 unused commercial properties across England and Wales.
- Launch of a digital public events programme showcasing artists practice and knowledge sharing;
- Supporting artistic risk taking and excellence by commissioning 118 artists;
- Delivered a graduate programme for 31 emerging artists to support the transition from academy;
- As lead partner delivered Social Art For Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (SAFEDI) research programme;
- Secured £60,000 funding from Arts Council England to support artists exploring blended participation across digital and physical spaces (Project start April 2022);
- Through our curatorial and advocacy programme we expanded the possibilities for diverse global audiences to access the visual arts;
- The core team of Axis grew to eight members;
- Undertaken a significant infrastructural review, with the consolidation of strategic priorities, roles and streamlined workflow processes in preparation for the charity rebrand and community launch in Autumn 2022.

Digital Residency and Micro-Commissions

Across all activities, the programme has been considered and negotiated as to the conditions faced by our members and audiences.

As part of our digital artists residency programme we commissioned three artists - Kim Coleman and Jenny Hogarth, and Jaron Hill.

Kim Coleman and Jenny Hogarth, commission supported a new work The Mechanics of Love, prequel and a response to ‘If You Can’t See My Mirrors I Can’t See You’ (IYCSMMICSY), a video co-authored by the artists ten years ago. In December 2021, an exclusive video stream of the new work was made available to Axis members and audiences, accompanied by a commissioned essay by Philomena Epps and Octavia Bright.

During February we showcased Greetings From The Sick Bed by Jaron Hill, a collection of works that include photography, poetry, and music. This collection is also accompanied by an additional poem by the artist Wolfie Wright.

Our Micro-Commission programme supported six artists Kiara Mohamed and Niloo Sharifi, Ro Hardaker, Sam Williams, and Moa Johansson and An*dre Neely.

Digital Residency and Micro-Commissions continued

Digital Mysticism (DM) is a collaboration between nil00 and Kiara Mohamed. The project was born from an excitable, in-depth conversation about mysticism, conducted during lockdown over iMessage.

Ro Hardaker was supported to present their first live work for 2 years at CLAY (The Centre for Live Art Yorkshire) in August 2021 - where the digital commission has bled into what will be a non-digital event.

Sam Williams A Soft Landing, is an online resource inspired by the activity of communal gardens and city allotments. It is a space where volunteers are invited to share, learn, contribute and care for themselves and others, through the sharing of material that could be used for nourishment, growth, pleasure, education or healing.

In their commission Moa Johansson and An*dre Neely reimagined ways of finding togetherness in the digital through resisting big-tech corporations and exploring the creative possibilities/restrictions of decentralised, open-source platforms.

Vacant Space - Making underused spaces work for artists and the community.
We continued our ongoing collaboration with artists, artist-led groups and commercial landlords across the country to facilitate artists using empty commercial properties. Running 20 spaces on the highstreet in Barnsley, Bradford, Bournemouth, Bootle, Cardiff, Carmarthenshire, Doncaster, Hastings, Huddersfield, Hull, Guildford, Middlesbrough, Newark, Sunderland and Workington.

Example projects supported via Vacant Space include:

Bootle Space - Members of The Royal Standard, Art in Liverpool, and Liverpool John Moores University are working collaboratively to run projects within a large M&S unit. Activities include exhibitions, talks, and recorded concerts which have been broadcast online.

Hull - HARI (Hull Artist Research Initiative) aims to address gaps in Hull’s contemporary visual art sector and the lack of paid opportunities for regional artists to commit dedicated time to their practice.

Middlesbrough - Community Connectors are a grassroots collective of artists and activists who aim to provide activities and networking opportunities for the local community. To date they have run community arts sessions, skill-sharing workshops, 'world-café' style events, public living rooms and participatory art pieces within the space.

Cardiff - tactileBOSCH opened Night Skool at the Lounge which offers immersive drawing and printing classes, feedback sessions for younger artists and masterclasses in performance and time based practice.

Audiences, The Directory and Curating
The Directory of artists continued to evolve and showcased the work of 3,000 artists. Visitors to the website are offered routes to experience and explore contemporary art. In addition, our curated programme of Five2Watch and Highlights released weekly on social media showcased thematic collections of artists work and accessible starting points for visitors to engage with artists' work. Over 500 artists' work were featured, with visits to the directory over 300,000.

Digital Events Programme
Following the success of our ‘occasional’ events during 20/21 we expanded our offering by running 15 public events, with the aim of adding value to our member offer and building visibility for artists and their projects to a wider audience.

Digital Events Programme continued

Events included:

- Online book launch - Axis Book Club presents…'The Creative Underclass' with Tyler Denmead (University of Cambridge).
- Premiere film screening - Shy Radicals (+ Q&A) with Hamja Ahsan and Black Dog Films
- Season: 'Art in Words: Exploring new boundaries', including:
  - 'Writing an Artist Statement' with Kelly Culver
  - Film Screening - Karanjit Panesar: Actor, Container (2021)
  - Workshop- Creativity & Language with Lisa-Marie Dickinson
  - Artist Talk - Blurring boundaries between moving image and text with David Steans
  - 1-2-1 Artist Feedback Session - Critical guidance and support with David Steans
- Launch of Social Works? Open journal, readings and presentations by six participating artists.
- Axis Members' Winter Cabaret! A live showcase of performances, videos and social practice by selected members of the Axis community. The event was emceed by Quilla Constance and featured work by Maryam Hashemi, gobscure, Sarah Riseborough, Rhiannon Lowe, Tracy Satchwill and Nigel Goldsmith.

In January we launched our first full season, Mental Health for Artists, which comprised 4 events:

- HOW ARE YOU?' by Elly Clarke and Vladimir Bjelicic
- Axis Book Club presents…'How to be Hopeful' with Bernadette Russell,
- Self-Care for Artists (two part workshop) with Daniel Regan and
- Make Your Art No Matter What - author talk with Beth Pickens

Events in the Mental Health strand proved extremely popular with over 3,000 participants across the programme.

Feedback included:

"The Axis Mental Health sessions are so good!"
"What an absolutely amazing, inspiring and motivating talk…This was SO good!"
"Thanks Axis and Daniel for a soothing and stimulating workshop. Loved it!"

Building on the success of the initial month-long season, Axis has committed to make Mental Health for Artists an ongoing strand in 2022 as part of our commitment to artist wellbeing.

Artists Films

In 2022, we launched the Axis Viewing Room, a dedicated exhibition space for artists commissioned by Axis. The first event in the Viewing Room was The Mechanics of Love, a discussion between artists Kim Coleman and Jenny Hogarth and Dr Rachel Warriner. The second event was by Jaron Hill, titled Greetings from the Sick Bed.

In March 2022 we also launched our YouTube video series, What do Axis Artists Do All Day?, borrowing from the BBC TV programme of a similar name. Planned as a series of four videos in 2022, its aim is to shine a spotlight on some of our highest-profile artist members, as a successor to our long-running 'Artist of the Month' web feature. Our first artist was Alice Chandler, followed by Emily Speed.

Learning and supporting emerging artists

Tailored to help recent graduates and early career artists to get the support and exposure they need, our graduate programme is part-funded by participating universities and designed to help new artists reach the wider community through our online platforms.

Learning and supporting emerging artists

In 21/22 with graduates from Arts University Bournemouth, Swansea College of Art, Norwich University and York St John. We developed a strong network of artist tutors and mentors including Sean Roy Parker, Lisa Marie Dickinson, Emily Speed, Lucy Webster, Taneesha Ahmed, Roo Dhissou, Lucy Wright, Mary Cork, Lydia Blakely, Lindsey Mendick and Guy Oliver, and Karanjit Panesar.

We supported 170 third year / graduates.

At the culmination of the graduate programme, an online exhibition was held, with five participating artists selected from the cohort.

"It's been really helpful to have access to Axis's resources
and constant support through their membership network.
It couldn't have come at a better time, post-graduation
and in the middle of the pandemic. "

Social Works? 2 Publication

In September 2022 we released our long-awaited journal of social practice, Social Works? 2. Although the impacts of Covid-19 weigh heavily in many of the articles in the issue, this was not specifically a pandemic-themed edition. The previous 18 months witnessed the powerful resurgence of the Black Lives Matter movement, government back-pedalling on trans rights and the continued spectre of male violence, among other injustices. We cast the net very wide when calling for article submissions, receiving a huge number of really high-quality proposals that deal with a range of topics. Because of the sheer number of very worthy pieces, we decided to offer both print and digital edits of the journal this time around, each offering a carefully curated selection of writings and contributions from artists working in and with ‘the social’.

We commissioned 33 contributions Anneka French, Hannah Gaunt / The Turnpike, Anahi Saravia Herrera, Sophie Huckfield, Sarah Jury, Lucy Lound, Dana Olarescu, Gavin Rogers, Alix Rothnie, Melody Sproates, Kenn Taylor, Madinah Thompson, Georgina Tyson ,Ailie Rutherford, Ashokkumar Mistry, Christie Chan, Dan Russell + Lady Kitt, Denise Laura Baker, Dot Jia, Harvey Dimond, Kerry Harker, Kwinnie Lê, Laura Plant, Lena Chen, Lexa Walsh, Martin Lucas + Susannah Silver, Morvern Odling, Paul Drury-Bradey, Rachael Disbury + Sophie Lindsey and Sophie Ruigrok.

A digital launch event was held in November 2022, with live readings from Anahi Saravia Herrera, Madinah Thompson, Georgina Tyson, Denise Laura Baker, Lena Chen and Kerry Harker.

SAFEDI - Social Art for Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

A Fellowship project funded by the Arts & Humanities Research Council. As part of our commitment to equitable access to the arts and supporting artists, Axis was lead partner alongside researchers at Manchester Metropolitan University School of Art and artists through Social Art Network (SAN). We commissioned six artist-led projects to work with people who have been marginalised from visual arts organisations, to collaborate, create artwork, and explore these works with arts partners, to create policy change, better suit people who have been excluded in the past.

The six commissions involved:

- Lady Kitt & associate artists with Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art and Artists and creatives with learning disabilities
- Lily Lavorato with East Street Arts and artists and creatives with disabilities and chronic illness
- JarSquad with Nudge Community Builders and Women experiencing racism / Men who do no access Jar Squad
- Shama Khanna with no/nowhere and Black people and People of Colour
- The Women’s Art Activation System and National Gallery (unofficial) and Mothers and caregivers of young children
- Yuen Fong Ling with Sheffield City Council Cultural Decolonising Group and artists of colour

Trustee Recruitment

Following a trustee recruitment campaign in the early part of 2022, we were delighted to welcome four new trustees, JC Candanedo, Pam Newall, Laura Nelson-Hamilton, and Radhika Patel bringing our total number of trustees to ten.

Partnerships

Partnerships have contributed significantly to Axis's impact and resilience during the year.

Through partnerships, Axis has been a leader working nationally, to facilitate the creation of networks of mutual support and enable artist-led initiatives. Among our partners are SAN (Social Art Network), whose programme and ambitions align with those of Axis.

What's next?

Going forward our strategy sharpens our focus on priorities that recognises the tensions and struggles around the need for alternative and inclusive support structures that empower and support artists and those with ambitions to become artists, considers the impact of legacy and creates the space for progressive relationships across society.

Over the course of this year we will aim to deliver on the strategy by engaging in activities involving advocacy, innovation and capacity building.

Financial review

The net expenditure for the year was £5,349,all relating to unrestricted funds.

Reserves policy

The charity's free reserves, excluding fixed assets, at the year end were £203,436.

Axis operates a public service platform, providing services, for example operating a membership and managing a portfolio of between 15 to 25 properties.

The Trustees have established a General Reserves Policy for the following reasons:

- To meet unexpected and unbudgeted demands;
- To ensure the Charity's short and long term sustainability;
- To ensure continuity of service to beneficiaries in the event of an unexpected decline in charitable income;

The amount deemed appropriate by the Trustees would provide 6-12 months operational resources.

In line with our Reserves Policy, the Trustees aim for reserves of £110,000 to £220,000.

Consideration of Risks

1 With no core funding any impact leading to a loss of Income from membership and donations, would have a significant impact. Equivalent of four months income would be needed whilst other sources of
2 As a digital first charity, maintenance and regeneration of digital assets is essential to continue to deliver services to beneficiaries.
3 In the event of the Charity having to close, it would need to have three month's running costs in addition to Redundancy costs.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees report and the financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and UK Accounting Standards.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (Charities SORP (FRS102)), and in accordance with the special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees on 19/12/2022

Lisa Stansbie (Trustee)

Axis Web

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Axis Web

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 11 to 18.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity's trustees of the charitable company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
Since the charitable company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a fellow of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act.

I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a fellow of ACIE which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3 the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4 the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Simon Bostrom FCIE

19/12/2022

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO
Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Axis Web

Statement of Financial Activities

(including summary income and expenditure account)

for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Income from:					
Grants and donations	(2)	138,870	25,027	163,897	199,576
Members subscriptions		155,728	-	155,728	117,943
Digital programme income		4,440	-	4,440	-
Income from group undertakings		1,408	-	1,408	6,091
Bank interest		29	-	29	126
In kind admin support		-	22,300	22,300	-
Total income		300,475	47,327	347,802	323,736
Expenditure on:					
Salaries and NI	(3)	103,525	-	103,525	105,381
Vacant spaces costs		72,763	-	72,763	41,569
Insurance scheme for members		23,332	-	23,332	21,791
Artists fees, commissions and projects		45,388	24,129	69,517	65,682
Artists bursaries		400	-	400	8,213
Marketing		7,900	-	7,900	3,912
Platform and programme		38,493	463	38,956	16,228
Office premises costs		-	-	-	1,542
Charity insurance		1,491	-	1,491	2,381
Travel and subsistence		156	435	591	-
Book keeping		1,200	-	1,200	1,176
Bank charges		5,144	-	5,144	679
Computer expenses		-			43
Governance costs		1,900	-	1,900	1,400
Legal and professional		1,102	-	1,102	1,060
Independent examination		1,000	-	1,000	1,000
Depreciation		1,479	-	1,479	1,181
Staff development		551	-	551	754
In kind admin support		-	22,300	22,300	-
Total expenditure		305,824	47,327	353,151	273,992
Net income / (expenditure)		(5,349)	-	(5,349)	49,744
Fund balances brought forward		209,722	-	209,722	159,978
Fund balances carried forward	(4)	204,373	-	204,373	209,722

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Axis Web

Balance sheet

as at 31 March 2022

		2022 Unrestricted £	2022 Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	(5)	936	-	936	1,520
Investments	(6)	1	-	1	1
Total fixed assets		937	-	937	1,521
Current assets					
Debtors and prepayments	(7)	2,557	-	2,557	13,677
Cash at bank		316,615	-	316,615	309,762
Total current assets		319,172	-	319,172	323,439
Current liabilities: amounts falling due within one year					
Creditors and accruals	(8)	115,736	-	115,736	115,238
Total current liabilities		115,736	-	115,736	115,238
Net current assets / (liabilities)		203,436	-	203,436	208,201
Net assets		204,373	-	204,373	209,722
Funds					
Unrestricted funds		204,373	-	204,373	209,722
Restricted funds		-	-	-	-
Total funds		204,373	-	204,373	209,722

For the year ending 31 March 2022 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476. The trustees (who also the directors for the purposes of company law) acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and with FRS 102 (effective January 2019).

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 19/12/2022

Lisa Stansbie (Trustee)

Axis Web

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2022

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.
There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.
No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Going concern

The trustees are satisfied that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.
Where grants are related to performance and specific deliverables, they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.
Donated assets, facilities or services are valued at their estimated value to the charity. This is the price that the charity estimates it would pay in the open market for equivalent items; or services and facilities of equivalent utility to the charity.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The SOFA includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Expenditure and liabilities

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out the resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Taxation

As a charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

1 Accounting policies continued

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and included at cost including any incidental expenses of acquisition. Gifted assets are shown at the value to the charity on receipt. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment: over 3 years

Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are recognised in the year they are payable.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

Leases

Rents under operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the lease term or to an earlier date if the lease can be determined without financial penalty.

2 Grants and donations

	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Donations in relation to space for artists	138,870	-	138,870	79,331
Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU)	-	25,027	25,027	-
Arts Council England	-	-	-	35,000
Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council	-	-	-	25,000
Cardiff Council	-	-	-	25,000
Sunderland City Council	-	-	-	25,000
The Art Fund	-	-	-	10,000
General donations	-	-	-	245
	138,870	25,027	163,897	199,576

The charity leases otherwise vacant properties at a peppercorn rent from a number of landlords. The charity pays rates and sometimes utilities for the properties. The landlords donate funds to cover these costs and those sums are what is shown here. From time to time landlords and artists make voluntary donations to support the charitable activity of Axisweb.

3 Staff costs and numbers

	2022 £	2021 £
Gross salaries	93,142	95,738
Social security costs	6,863	2,288
Employment allowance	(4,000)	7,355
Pensions	7,520	
	103,525	105,381

The average number of employees during the year was 4.9, being an average of 3.6 full time equivalent (2021: 5.5, 3.9 FTE). There were no employees with emoluments above £60,000.

Defined contribution pension scheme	2022 £	2021 £
Costs of the scheme to the charity for the year	7,520	7,355
Amount of any contributions outstanding at the year end	821	797

4 Restricted funds

	Balance b/f £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers £	Balance c/f £
MMU SAFEDI project	-	44,327	44,327	-	-
MMU SAFEDI project	-	3,000	3,000	-	-
	-	47,327	47,327	-	-

Fund name	**Purpose of restriction**
MMU SAFEDI project	Social Artists for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (SAFEDI) research project. Working with six artists and communities to influence and inform policy makers to understand barriers of underrepresented people face around access to culture and creativity. The grant was a combination of £22,000 cash funds and £22,300 in kind support from MMU in respect of admin, marketing and technical.
MMU SAFEDI project	Towards the creation of a journal to supplement the SAFEDI project.

5 Tangible assets

	Fixtures, fittings &	Total
Cost	£	£
At 1 April 2021	43,588	43,588
Additions	895	895
At 31 March 2022	44,483	44,483
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2021	42,068	42,068
Charge for year	1,479	1,479
At 31 March 2022	43,547	43,547
Net book value		
At 31 March 2022	936	936
At 31 March 2021	1,520	1,520

6 Fixed assets investments

	2022 Shares in subsidiary	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£
Balance b/f	1	1	1
Additions	-	-	-
(Disposals)	-	-	-
Gain / (loss) on revaluation	-	-	-
Total	1	1	1

7 Debtors and prepayments

	2022	2021
	£	£
Debtors	-	-
Amounts owed by subsidiary company	1,457	7,141
Prepayments	-	1,936
Accrued income	1,000	4,500
Other debtors	100	100
	2,557	13,677

8 Creditors and accruals

	2022	2021
	£	£
Creditors	596	3,960
Accruals	37,296	37,450
Deferred income (see note below for analysis)	66,168	65,150
Taxation and social security	9,400	7,435
Other creditors	2,276	1,243
	115,736	115,238

9 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses
No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

Trustee remuneration and benefits
No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.

Other related party transactions		2022	2021
		£	£
Holly Slingsby	Allowance for trustee board meeting attendance	1,100	600
Fiona Grady	Allowance for trustee board meeting attendance	800	800
		1,400	1,600

Legal authority for the payment
The legal authority for the payment is via a provision within the charity's governing document.

Remuneration and benefits received by key management personnel
The total employee benefits received were £43,860 (previous year: £42,359).
No trustee received any remuneration or benefit in this capacity during this or the previous year.

At the balance sheet date the Charity was owed £1,457 (2021: £7,141) by Axis Web Development Limited (a wholly owned subsidiary company) which is included within debtors. Salary recharges of £250 were payable to the charity by the subsidiary company in the year (2021: £750).

Axis Web

Statement of Financial Activities including comparatives for all funds (including summary income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 March 2022

	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Income						
Grants and donations	138,870	154,576	25,027	45,000	163,897	199,576
Members subscriptions	155,728	117,943	-	-	155,728	117,943
Digital programme income	4,440	-	-	-	4,440	-
Income from group undertakings	1,408	6,091	-	-	1,408	6,091
Bank interest	29	126	-	-	29	126
In kind admin support	-	-	22,300	-	22,300	-
Total income	300,475	278,736	47,327	45,000	347,802	323,736
Expenditure						
Salaries and NI	103,525	105,381	-	-	103,525	105,381
Vacant spaces costs	72,763	41,569	-	-	72,763	41,569
Insurance scheme for members	23,332	21,791	-	-	23,332	21,791
Artists fees, commissions, projects	45,388	20,682	24,129	45,000	69,517	65,682
Artists bursaries	400	8,213	-	-	400	8,213
Marketing	7,900	3,912	-	-	7,900	3,912
Platform and programme	38,493	16,228	463	-	38,956	16,228
Office premises costs	-	1,542	-	-	-	1,542
Charity insurance	1,491	2,381	-	-	1,491	2,381
Travel and subsistence	156	-	435	-	591	-
Book keeping	1,200	1,176	-	-	1,200	1,176
Bank charges	5,144	679	-	-	5,144	679
Computer expenses	-	43	-	-	-	43
Governance costs	1,900	1,400	-	-	1,900	1,400
Legal and professional	1,102	1,060	-	-	1,102	1,060
Independent examination	1,000	1,000	-	-	1,000	1,000
Depreciation	1,479	1,181	-	-	1,479	1,181
Staff development	551	754	-	-	551	754
In kind admin support	-	-	22,300	-	22,300	-
Total expenditure	305,824	228,992	47,327	45,000	353,151	273,992
Net income / (expenditure)	(5,349)	49,744	-	-	(5,349)	49,744
Fund balances brought forward	209,722	159,978	-	-	209,722	159,978
Fund balances carried forward	204,373	209,722	-	-	204,373	209,722

AXIS WEB

England & Wales - Charity number 1002841

Accounts

Axis Web

Charity number 1002841

A company limited by guarantee number 02595018

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2021

axis

we support artists

COMMUNITY ACCOUNTING WYCAS

West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service

Axis Web

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2021

Contents	Page
Trustees' report	2 to 12
Examiner's report	6
Statement of financial activities	7
Balance sheet	8
Notes to the accounts	9 to 14

Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service

Axis Web

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2021

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position	Dates
Lisa Stansbie		
Sarah Martin		
Rupert Wilcox-Baker		
Sue Williams		
Holly Slingsby		
Fiona Grady		

Charity number	1002841	Registered in England and Wales
Company number	02595018	Registered in England and Wales

Registered and principal address
The Art House S9
Drury Lane
Wakefield
WF1 2TE

Bankers
National Westminster Bank Plc
8 Park Row
Leeds
LS1 2TW

Independent examiner
Simon Bostrom FCIE
West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service
Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and was formed on 25 March 1991. It is governed by a memorandum and articles of association as amended by special resolutions dated 17 April 2003, 25 December 2004, 30 November 2006, 20 December 2019 and 8 April 2021. The liability of the members in the event of the company being wound up is limited to a sum not exceeding £1.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are also the directors for the purposes of company law and are appointed by the members at the AGM.

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

Our Charity's purposes, as set out in the objects contained in the company's memorandum of association, are to:
advance the education of the public by promoting and developing the understanding and appreciations of the visual arts in the United Kingdom, in particular by extending the influence in and relevance of the visual arts to the community, by creating new opportunities in the visual arts by encouraging and facilitating an increase in good practice in the visual arts.

The vision that shapes our annual activities is to lead the promotion and presentation of contemporary art in the UK, creating opportunities for exchange and interaction that benefit a wide constituency of artists and art professionals and strengthen the contribution of the visuals arts to society.

The charity's main activities

A membership body supporting artists and those who work with artists.

A Hub For Artists, Art Professionals And Commissioners

We help our members engage with the challenges and opportunities of a changing world. Being a hub to incubate artists, support their projects, capture and share knowledge and provide legacy for action. We lead and support high standards and facilitate collaboration, research and innovation.

Amplifying The Artists Voice

We help to better understand the work and value of artists. The potential of successful work is often limited by the lack of capacity of the artist to amplify and document it. We do this through advocacy and engagement based on our content, programmes, evidence base and the expertise of our members.

A Strong Organisation

We grow our membership base and ensure that our business model is ethical and supports our vision, purpose and artists. We do this by enhancing the value of our offer to members and others, generating diverse and sustainable sources of income and striving for operational excellence.

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission’s general guidance on public benefit.

Achievements and performance

20-21 has been a year of growth and adaptation for Axis.

It has welcomed the arrival of three new team members, the launch of three major projects and two new commissioning strands. It has seen us build closer ties with the Social Art Network, partnered with HE institutions like Manchester Met University, Swansea College of Art and Bournemouth Arts University and secured funding from Arts Council England and Art Fund. We have commissioned hundreds of artists and provided support to countless others.

Our organisation has risen to the challenges posed by Covid-19 and we have entered the new financial year in a strong position, secure in our role as ‘the small arts charity that cares’ and gaining recognition as thought leaders in the area of socially engaged practice.

<u>Covid Response</u>

Our 20-21 has, like all organisations, been underscored by Covid-19 response and recovery. As one of the UK’s first digital arts charities, Axis was well-prepared to make the shift to online programming and delivery, meaning that we were able to focus the majority of our energies on supporting our members, many of whom were badly impacted by the crisis and associated losses of income and opportunities.

Our 'no-strings' **Hardship Fund**—one of the first in the sector—ran for approximately 15 cycles beginning in March 2020, providing emergency payments to more than 150 artists. We also offered a **3-month Membership** Holiday to all those who would be otherwise unable to pay, enabling more than 300 artists to remain part of our Axis community during the crisis.

In addition to financial support, we also recognised the importance of offering in-kind support to artists who might be feeling disconnected from their work and communities. We worked hard to create new online content, resources and opportunities to help artists continue to be artists in spite of the lockdowns.

Our podcast, **'Live Out Loud'** ran for seven episodes, providing paid work for 17 artists commissioned to speak on their experiences and a 'talking point' on social media for our network. Episodes included 'Practice in Isolation', 'Social Art in a Time of Social Distancing'. 'Care', 'Radical Wellbeing', 'Parenthood' and 'A New World Order'.[1] We also ran 5 weeks of **Sunday Sounds**, a weekly collection of sound art, music, readings, performances and conversations submitted by members to help ease screen fatigue and promote wellbeing.

In April 2020 we successfully applied for an Arts Council England Emergency Grant and were awarded £35K to develop the **Social ARTery** —a project to build a new, ethical online space for artists and the communities they work with to meet, create and share their work (see 'Projects' for more detail). The funding helped us run the **Pioneers** programme with 20 artists and collectives who trialled the Beta ARTery platform and provided crucial feedback to inform the next stage of development.[2] We also received £10,000 funding from Art Fund to support the **Social Art Library Ambassadors** programme, documenting emergency Covid-19 response work by social artists in the UK and beyond.

Finally, as a result of the success of 'at home working' for Axis staff members, in March 2021 we decided to give up our physical premises, representing a projected annual saving of approx. £2.5K: money which will help us build a stronger online infrastructure to support more artists in future.

1 Commissioned artists were: Natasha Alexander, Sophie Bownes, Beth Davis-Hofbauer, Suzanne Dhaliwal, Rupi Dhillon, Amelia Hawk, Elsa James, Lady Kitt, Robyn LeRoy-Evans, Lauren McLaughlin, Radha Patel, Chantal Powell, David Robinson, R.M. Sanchez-Camus, Emily Speed, Melissandre Varin and Sian Williams.

2 The Pioneers were: Sandra Bouguerch, Cath Carver, Niki Colclough, Sarah Dixon + Sharon Bennett, Bronia Evers, Rik Fisher, Anna Francis, James Harrington + Jennifer Booth, Pete Kinsington + Preston Street Union, Lady Kitt, Gil Mualem Doron, Kajal Nisha Patel, Shonagh Short, Anna Smith, Simon Tyszko and Jo Wheeler.

Commissions + programming

Work by Jaron Hill for Digital Residency (2021)

In addition to our continuing programme of **Five2Watch** and **Highlights** released weekly on Axis's social media platforms, 20-21 saw the launch of our new thematic **Digital Residency** series, replacing our previous 'Artist of the Month' feature. Led by Programme Producer, Harlan Whittingham, the first awardees Kim Coleman and Jenny Hogarth responded to the theme of 'collaboration', reflecting on a video work, If You Can't See My Mirrors I Can't See You, created by the duo 10 years prior.

The second awardee, responding to the subject of 'World-Building', is Jaron Hill, who is currently producing work around the experience of being black and queer outdoors.

We launched our **Micro-commissions** with two collaborative artist duos, Kiara Mohamed and Niloo Sharifi and Moa Johansson and an*dre neely commissioned in the first phase. In the second phase, Sam Williams and Ro Hardaker will work on 'world building'. Outcomes associated with the new residencies and commissions have included articles, blog posts and an online performance.

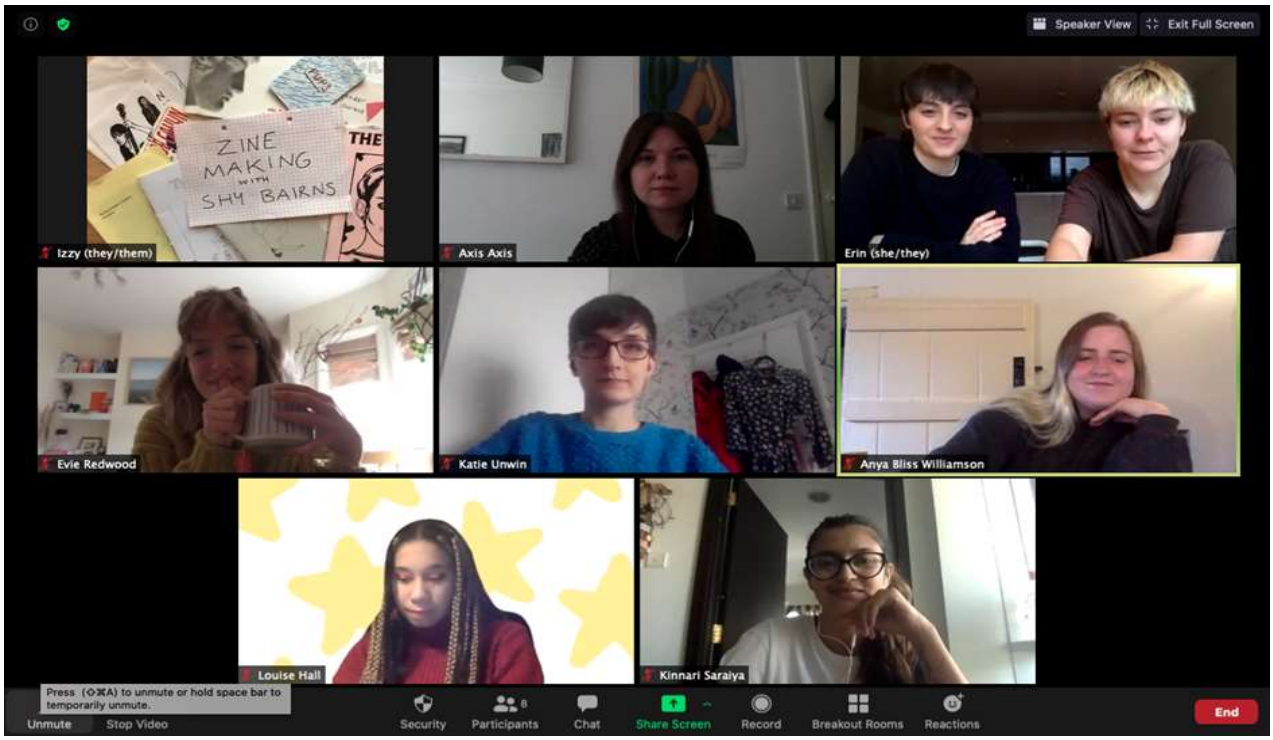
We offer platforms for the work of other exceptional artists, for example, #Navigating_New_Normal, by Quilla Constance and 'An Other A,B,C' by Melissandre Varin.

Caitlin Gilligan / Max Mallender for Vacant Spaces project, Bootle (2021)

Although our Vacant Spaces programme was initially stalled due to Covid-19, we quickly bounced back, supporting artists to develop Covid risk assessment plans informed by the most up-to-date guidelines provided by the government. This allowed intermittent but safe activity to take place in between the various degrees of lockdown.

We helped to facilitate contingency plans and provided replacement property for artists who have lost space in: Sunderland, North Shields, Middlesbrough, and Cardiff. In addition, we have begun to work with a number of new groups including in Bootle (with members of The Royal Standard, Art in Liverpool and Liverpool John Moores University), Hull (with the Hull Artist Research Initiative) and Middlesbrough (with Community Connectors).

Education + outreach



Screenshot from Praxis online workshop with Shy Bairns (2021)

Led by Axis Engagement and Learning Producer, Kelly Culver, Praxis is now in its second year. The professional development programme was launched in September 2020 in response to the increased challenges facing new artists graduating into a sector hit hard by ongoing cuts and pandemic restrictions. Aimed at final year students, and originally trialled at Arts University Bournemouth, it offers a season of talks, practical advice and resources and networking opportunities to help smooth the transition from education to art career.

From September 2020 to February 2021, Praxis supported 20 artists and awarded 4 commissions (2 x micro commissions, 2 x workshops commissions). Guest speakers included Amahra Spence, Abbie Canning, Saelia Aparicio, Shy Bairns and Charmian Griffin.

Testimonies from participants were very positive:

> *It's been really helpful to have access to Axis's resources and constant support through their membership network. It couldn't have come at a better time, post-graduation and in the middle of the pandemic.*
>
> *The Micro commission is an amazing opportunity for me to grow as an artist. Allowing me to buy new equipment and giving me extra confidence that my work and concepts are supported by others, thank you Axis!*

In January 2021, the programme was adapted and developed for final year students from Arts University Bournemouth, Swansea College of Art, University of the Arts Norwich and York St John University. On July 1, we will launch our summer programme which will provide 8 weeks of support, with the next full phase to follow in September 2021. Speakers lined up to contribute include Rupi Dhillon, Lindsey Mendick, Karanjit Panesar, Lydia Blakeley, Mary Cork, Lucy Wright and Taneesha Ahmed.

In May 2020 we partnered with Artists Access to Art Colleges (AA2A) to help promote their services. Axis Media Producer, Jules Lister created a short film detailing employability support for students and residency placements for creatives.

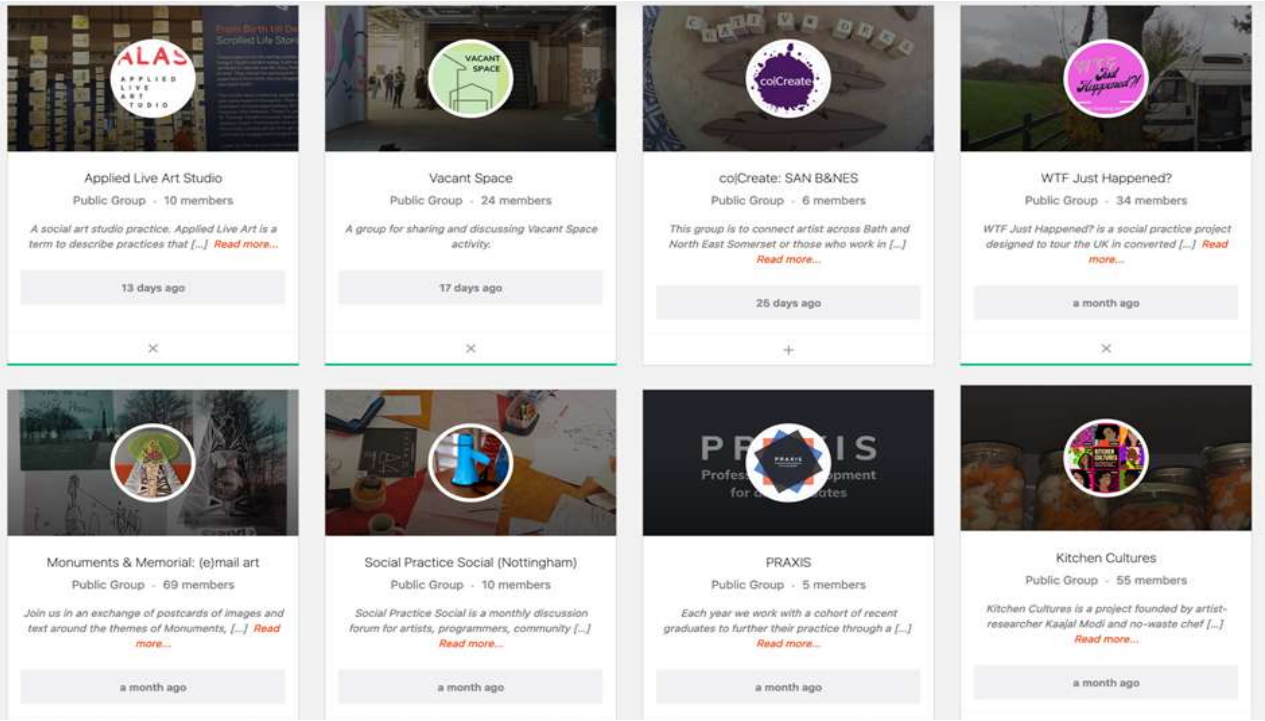
Projects + research

Taking Up Space walk by Social Art Library Ambassador, Gabriella Gay (2020)

Social Art Library, led by Social Producer, Dr Lucy Wright was launched in trial Beta format in June 2020 and in that time has become a growing archive of more than 200 projects and resources, submitted by artists. The project received seed funding from Art Fund to deliver the Social Art Library Ambassadors programme (10 artist micro-commissions), was featured by Sluice magazine and Open Eye Gallery and has grown a small but dedicated social media following (Twitter: c.1K, Instagram: c.1K). Full project evaluation by Lawrence Bradby in January 2021 underlined the need for an archive of this nature and demonstrated the success of the project to-date.

As part of SOAL's public programming, **Storytelling for Artists** was a series of sell-out events and workshops including 'Storytelling for Artists 101' with Debs Newbold (public lecture and masterclass for 10 artists selected via open call), 'Art + Gentrification' with Dr Tyler Denmead, University of Cambridge (virtual seminar and book launch) and the global film premiere of 'Shy Radicals' with Hamja Ahsan and Black Dog Films.

In addition, as part of SOAL's commitment to supporting critical writing on social practice, in January 2021, the second issue of **Social Works? Open journal** was announced with more than 25 writing commissions for parallel print and digital editions of the publication. Launch will be in September 2021.



Screenshot of Groups in the Social ARTery

Social ARTery, led by lead artist R.M. Sánchez-Camus (Marcelo) is a bespoke and ethical online workspace for artists and the communities that they work with. 'Soft launched' in October 2020 with the Social ARTery Pioneers programme, the project grew exponentially by 300% in its first few months of existence.

Project groups on ARTery include: health & wellbeing, puppetry, food, visual art, dance, performance, music, gaming, LGBTQI+ and disabled artist-led projects. Artists come from different regions across England from rural communities to towns and cities, representing the cultural diversity of the country. An example is Kaajal Modi who ran a food waste & storytelling workshop with migrant women of colour in and around Bristol: the

Social Art Network's 11 regional hubs across the UK have already been onboarded to the ARTery and will form a new online network to deliver their peer forums. This sets the groundwork for the 2022 partnership delivering the Social Art Summit, a national review of social practice, and ARTery Digital Symposium, the digital home for the Summit.

Equality, diversity + access

20-21 served as a reminder of our crucial responsibility to embed equality, diversity and inclusion as driving principles across all of our organisational processes and delivery.

Although we have a strong track record of commissioning diverse artist projects, in a survey undertaken in June 2020, 100% of staff members identified as white and able-bodied, while of the 454 members who took part, 87.3% were white and 72.5% able-bodied—suggesting that we still have a long way to go for equality to be achieved at all levels of the organisation.

In summer 2020, in response to the resurgence of the Black Lives Matter movement, we drew up an Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity policy, which set out Axis's commitment to promoting equality and sharing to become a better and more proactive ally. Steps taken to date include sharing of pronouns in staff email signatures and offering artists from marginalised communities a fee to assist in the selection process for major commissions. We have scheduled 6-monthly updates to assess progress.

Quilla Constance in #Navigating_New_Normal for Axis (2021)

Starting in June 2021, Axis will be a lead partner in the new AHRC-funded project, 'Social Art for Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity', or SAFEDI, with Prof Amanda Ravetz, Manchester Metropolitan University (with whom we have previously partnered on the 'Beyond the Gallery' project and 'Models of Validation' Knowledge Transfer Partnership) and Marcelo, who brings his lived experience as a Latin-x UK settled migrant to the work .

Axis will support the delivery of six social art commissions to create a new model of creative collective policymaking, with artists, marginalised audiences, policymakers and institutions. Its aim is to deliver innovative policy change and position social practice as a leading champion of EDI in the visual arts. Policies developed for the cultural sector will be integrated into Axis policies to ensure the organisation is always leading on EDI issues.

Re-brand

This year we have taken important steps to update and rebrand our online platform to better reflect our growing confidence as an organisation and to clarify our message.

We are currently working closely with Let's Dance, a creative agency based in Leeds who specialise in bespoke, ethical communication design for independents, social enterprises and charities. Together we have developed a new set of brand values to inform the kind of visual identity we will embody going forwards. These are (abridged):

1. A collaborative community

We're an organisation that is always in dialogue with our members: they shape everything we do… Collaboration isn't just something we value in theory; it's central to our way of working.

2. Bold + purposeful

A brand that is purposeful will provide us with the clear voice we need to tell our story more clearly and convey our impact, helping us to attract new members and be recognised more widely for the difference we make.

Re-brand - continued

3. Flexible + evolving

Our brand needs to work for different audiences and provide a platform for the wide range of things that we do.

4. Supportive + empowering

We're here to support artists. We want them to see that we're on their side, working to make things better for them… The support we receive isn't just reactive—we're often pushing forwards on the front foot to improve things for artists.

5. Innovative + creative

As an organisation we're never afraid to try new things. We don't experiment just for the sake of it though—our goal is to employ transformation so that we remain relevant in a sector that is always evolving.

Our journey continues

Axis's journey in pursuing clarity on the values that define us as an organisation and our vision for the world we want to see. It sharpens our focus around advocacy, infrastructure innovation and capacity building.

Over the past five years Axis has grown and changed, driven by two important factors: the first, without public subsidy we fundamentally changed our approach to enterprise in the quest for sustainability. This approach expanded the reach of our membership network and we started to draw interest and contributions from

What now

Getting the importance of a healthy artists-led sector is an urgent and long term priority. Our programme is driven by our purpose and membership, by doing this we operate in the best interests of artists.

1 **Our Story** - communicating our purpose to raise awareness and stimulate engagement.

2 **Membership programme** - engagement with members to create a healthier ethical people centred mutual-aid network.

3 **Platforms** - with a digital first approach, refocusing our efforts to reflect changing expectations and opportunities.

4 **Building Capacity** - Creating a culture of nurturing, collaboration and growth.

Financial review

The net income for the year was £49,744.

Reserves policy

The charity's free reserves, excluding fixed assets, at the year end were £208,201.

The Trustees have established a General Reserves Policy which continues to protect our programme of work from risk of disruption at short notice due to a lack of funds, while at the same time ensuring that we do not retain income for longer than required.

The Policy also provides parameters for future strategic plans and contributes towards decision-making. It determines an appropriate target level for general reserves, taking into account the following factors:

- vulnerability to unplanned changes in financial position
- net financial risk related to the above, taking into account the likely speed of onset as well as the mitigation steps available to management
- the fact that expenditure is generally predictable

The Trustees have based the projections for the appropriate amount of reserves required on the basis that the reserves protecting the charity against uncertainty of future income streams / expenditure including:

- Loss of membership income due to the impact of the pandemic on artists livelihoods;
- Decline in donations;
- Enable new, unplanned activities required to sustain the charity;
- Enable the response to unexpected opportunities and threats;
- Provide resources to invest in long-term future developments.

The amount deemed appropriate by the Trustees would provide short-term (6 - 12 months operation) until long-term solutions can be established.

General reserves range has been set at £110,000 - £220,000.

Funds held as agent

During the year Axis received £7,000 from the Art fund to be passed on to the Social Arts Network London - a non constituted voluntary group of artists. These transactions have been excluded from the charity's income and expenditure. No funds were held at the year end.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees report and the financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and UK Accounting Standards.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (Charities SORP (FRS102)), and in accordance with the special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees on 14/12/2021

Lisa Stansbie (Trustee)

Axis Web

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Axis Web

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set out on pages 7 to 14.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity's trustees of the charitable company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
Since the charitable company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act.

I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ACIE which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3 the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4 the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Simon Bostrom FCIE

15/12/2021

West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service
Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Axis Web

Statement of Financial Activities

(including summary income and expenditure account)

for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Income from:					
Grants and donations	(2)	154,576	45,000	199,576	197,927
Members subscriptions		117,943	-	117,943	98,487
Income from group undertakings		6,091	-	6,091	8,510
Investement income		126	-	126	411
Total income		278,736	45,000	323,736	305,335
Expenditure on:					
Salaries and NICs	(3)	105,381	-	105,381	84,959
Vacant spaces costs		41,569	-	41,569	118,375
Insurance scheme for members		21,791	-	21,791	18,673
Artists fees, commissions and projects		20,682	45,000	65,682	2,876
Artists bursaries		8,213	-	8,213	12,300
Marketing		3,912		3,912	5,689
Platform and programme		15,377		15,377	31,405
Office premises costs		1,542	-	1,542	2,226
General expenses		721	-	721	653
Charity insurance		2,381	-	2,381	1,055
Travel and subsistence		-	-	-	2,421
Book keeping		1,176	-	1,176	1,040
Bank charges		679	-	679	2,219
Telephone		130	-	130	310
Computer expenses		43	-	43	209
Governance costs		1,400	-	1,400	2,379
Legal and professional		1,060	-	1,060	1,015
Independent examination		1,000	-	1,000	1,000
Depreciation		1,181	-	1,181	422
Staff development		754	-	754	700
Total expenditure		228,992	45,000	273,992	289,926
Net income / (expenditure)		49,744	-	49,744	15,409
Fund balances brought forward		159,978		159,978	144,569
Fund balances carried forward	(4)	209,722	-	209,722	159,978

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Axis Web

Balance sheet

as at 31 March 2021

		2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	(5)	1,520	-	1,520	425
Investments	(9)	1	-	1	1
Total fixed assets		1,521	-	1,521	426
Current assets					
Debtors and prepayments	(6)	12,880	-	12,880	10,543
Cash at bank		303,712	6,050	309,762	283,953
Total current assets		316,592	6,050	322,642	294,496
Current liabilities: amounts falling due within one year					
Creditors and accruals	(7)	108,391	6,050	114,441	134,944
Total current liabilities		108,391	6,050	114,441	134,944
Net current assets / (liabilities)		208,201	-	208,201	159,552
Net assets		209,722	-	209,722	159,978
Funds					
Unrestricted funds					
General unrestricted funds		209,722	-	209,722	100,456
Designated funds		-	-	-	59,522
Total unrestricted funds		209,722	-	209,722	159,978
Restricted funds		-	-	-	-
Total funds		209,722	-	209,722	159,978

For the year ending 31 March 2021 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476. The trustees (who also the directors for the purposes of company law) acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and with FRS 102 (effective January 2019).

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 14/12/2021

Lisa Stansbie (Trustee)

Axis Web

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2021

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Going concern

The trustees are satisfied that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Where grants are related to performance and specific deliverables, they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

Donated goods for resale are valued at the amount actually realised upon their sale.

Donated assets, facilities or services are valued at their estimated value to the charity. This is the price that the charity estimates it would pay in the open market for equivalent items; or services and facilities of equivalent utility to the charity.

Expenditure and liabilities

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out the resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Taxation

As a charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and included at cost including any incidental expenses of acquisition. Gifted assets are shown at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives as follows:

Fixtures and fittings: over 3 years

1 Accounting policies continued

Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are recognised in the year they are payable.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

2 Grants and donations

	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Donations in relation to space for artists	79,331	-	79,331	172,927
Arts Council England	-	35,000	35,000	-
Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council	25,000	-	25,000	-
Cardiff Council	25,000	-	25,000	-
Sunderland City Council	25,000	-	25,000	-
The Art Fund	-	10,000	10,000	-
Newark and Sherwood District Council	-	-	-	25,000
General donations	245	-	245	-
	154,576	45,000	199,576	197,927

The charity leases otherwise vacant properties at a peppercorn rent from a number of landlords. The charity pays rates and sometimes utilities for the properties. The landlords donate funds to cover these costs and those sums are what is shown here. From time to time landlords and artists make voluntary donations to support the charitable activity of Axisweb.

3 Staff costs and numbers

	2021 £	2020 £
Gross salaries	95,738	77,584
Social security costs	2,288	2,382
Pensions	7,355	4,993
	105,381	84,959

The average number employees during the year was 5.5, being an average of 3.9 full time equivalent (2020: 4.2, 3.3 FTE). There were no employees with emoluments above £60,000.

Defined contribution pension scheme

	2021 £	2020 £
Costs of the scheme to the charity for the year	7,355	4,993
Amount of any contributions outstanding at the year end	2,459	701

4 Restricted funds

	Balance b/f £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers £	Balance c/f £
Arts Council England	-	35,000	35,000	-	-
Art Fund	-	10,000	10,000	-	-
	-	45,000	45,000	-	-

Fund name	Purpose of restriction
Arts Council England	Towards the social artery project, an artist led commissioning programme explorting the creation of an alternative digital networking space for social art practice.
Art Fund	Funding for a social art library, an artist led commissioning programme exploring the documentation and digital archiving of social art practice.

4 Designated funds	Balance b/f	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Balance c/f
	£	£	£	£	£
Development fund	59,522	-	-	(59,522)	-
	59,522	-	-	(59,522)	-

Purpose of designation

The Trustees had set aside designated funds to invest in the development of a new resilient business model. The balance has now been transferred back to general unrestricted funds.

5 Tangible assets	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
Cost	£	£
At 1 April 2020	41,312	41,312
Additions	2,276	2,276
At 31 March 2021	43,588	43,588
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2020	40,887	40,887
Charge for year	1,181	1,181
At 31 March 2021	42,068	42,068
Net book value		
At 31 March 2021	1,520	1,520
At 31 March 2020	425	425

6 Debtors and prepayments	2021	2020
	£	£
Debtors	4,600	100
Funds owing from trading subsidiary	7,141	10,290
Prepayments	1,139	153
	12,880	10,543

7 Creditors and accruals	2021	2020
	£	£
Creditors	11,841	10,814
Accruals	37,450	64,561
Deferred income	65,150	59,569
	114,441	134,944

8 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses
No trustee received any expenses during this year (previous year: 3 trustees and £620 in respect of travel).

Trustee remuneration and benefits
No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.

Remuneration and benefits received by key management personnel
The key management personnel of the charity comprises the Executive Director only. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £42,359 (2020: £40,223).

At the balance sheet date the Charity was owed £7,141 (2020: £4,930) by Axis Web Development Limited (a wholly owned subsidiary company) which is included within debtors. Salary recharges of £750 were payable to the charity by the subsidiary company in the year (2020: £750).

Other related party transactions		2020	2019
		£	£
Holly Slingsby	Allowance for trustee board meeting attendance	600	800
Fiona Grady	Allowance for trustee board meeting attendance	800	800
		1,400	1,600

9 Fixed assets investments

	£
Carrying (market) value at beginning of year	1
Add: additions to investments at cost	-
Less: disposals at carrying value	-
Add / (deduct): net gain / (loss) on revaluation	-
Carrying (market) value at end of year	1

Breakdown of investments agreeing with SOFA and Balance sheet

Analysis of investments	2021	2020
	£	£
Investments in subsidiary undertakings	1	1
Total	1	1

Axis Web

Statement of Financial Activities including comparatives for all funds (including summary income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 March 2021

	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2020 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	2020 Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Income						
Grants and donations	154,576	197,927	45,000	-	199,576	197,927
Members subscriptions	117,943	98,487	-	-	117,943	98,487
Income from group undertakings	6,091	8,510	-	-	6,091	8,510
Investement income	126	411	-	-	126	411
Total income	278,736	305,335	45,000	-	323,736	305,335
Expenditure						
Salaries and NICs	105,381	84,959	-	-	105,381	84,959
Vacant spaces costs	41,569	118,375	-	-	41,569	118,375
Insurance scheme for members	21,791	18,673	-	-	21,791	18,673
Artists fees, commissions and projec	20,682	2,876	45,000	-	65,682	2,876
Artists bursaries	8,213	7,300	-	5,000	8,213	12,300
Marketing	3,912	5,689	-	-	3,912	5,689
Platform and programme	15,377	31,405	-	-	15,377	31,405
Office premises costs	1,542	2,226	-	-	1,542	2,226
General expenses	721	653	-	-	721	653
Charity insurance	2,381	1,055	-	-	2,381	1,055
Travel and subsistence	-	2,421	-	-	-	2,421
Book keeping	1,176	1,040	-	-	1,176	1,040
Bank charges	679	2,219	-	-	679	2,219
Telephone	130	310	-	-	130	310
Computer expenses	43	209	-	-	43	209
Governance costs	1,400	2,379	-	-	1,400	2,379
Legal and professional	1,060	1,015	-	-	1,060	1,015
Independent examination	1,000	1,000	-	-	1,000	1,000
Depreciation	1,181	422	-	-	1,181	422
Staff development	754	700	-	-	754	700
Total expenditure	228,992	284,926	45,000	5,000	273,992	289,926
Net income / (expenditure)	49,744	20,409	-	(5,000)	49,744	15,409
Fund balances brought forward	159,978	139,569	-	5,000	159,978	144,569
Fund balances carried forward	209,722	159,978	-	-	209,722	159,978