

**Company Registration Number 03929839**

**Registered Charity Number 1088975**

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**  
**For the year ending 31 March 2024**

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
*For the year ended 31 March 2024*

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

<b>Registered charity name</b>	Queen's Hall Arts Limited
<b>Charity registration number</b>	1088975
<b>Company registration number</b>	03929839
<b>Registered office</b>	Queens Hall Arts Centre, Beaumont Street, Hexham, Northumberland, NE46 3LS

**Trustees**

For the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, the Board of Trustees is the Board of Directors of the charitable company and is referred to as the Trustees throughout this report.

The Trustees of Queen's Hall Arts during the period and to the date of signing this report are as follows:

Rachel Adam	Retired as Chair 31 December 2023
Jessica Armstrong	
Simon Beckwith	
Susan Bubic	Appointed on 1 June 2024
Dr Suzanne Fairless-Aitken	
Carly Foster	Appointed on 1 June 2024
Philip Garner	Resigned 7 June 2023
Ceri Gibson	Appointed on 1 June 2024
Hannah Jameson-Clarke	Resigned 25 September 2023
Addison Keen	
Angeline Lucas	
Garry Lyons	
Dr Anthony Newton	Resigned 21 September 2024
Kathryn Nicholson	Resigned 27 February 2024
Lynn Turner	Appointed Chair 1 January 2024

**Company Secretary** Katy Taylor

**Auditors** Cocke, Vellacott & Hill, Chartered Accountants, Unit 15 City  
Business Centre, Lower Road, London, SE16 2XB

**Bankers** Barclays Bank Plc, Priestpopple, Hexham, Northumberland  
NE46 1PE

**Solicitors** Nicholson Portnell, Priestpopple House, Hexham,  
Northumberland NE46 1PL

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
***For the year ended 31 March 2024***

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the audited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing Documents**

Queen's Hall Arts is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 21 February 2000 and registered as a charity on 19 October 2001 (hereafter referred to as the charity).

The charity is controlled by its governing document, its Memorandum & Articles of Association, as amended by Special Resolutions dated August 2001 and 20 May 2009 and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act.

The Directors of the company are also Trustees of the charity. Eligibility for membership of the charity, and membership of the Board of Trustees, is governed by the Articles of Association. There are no restrictions in the governing document on the operation of the charity other than those imposed by general charity law.

**Structure and Governance**

The Board of Directors, which can have between 5 -12 members, administers the charity.

1 Member is nominated by Northumberland County Council (NCC) with between 4 and 11 Members elected by resolution in a General Meeting and/or co-opted at a meeting of the Board.

The charity currently has a Board of 11 non-executive Trustees.

The Board meets approximately every 3 months and there are committees covering Finance & Risk, Operations and External Relations which meet regularly. Additionally, there are working groups which act in an advisory capacity.

A Chief Executive, the Artistic Director, is appointed by the Trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity. To facilitate effective operations, the Artistic Director has delegated authority, within terms of delegation approved by the Trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment and artistic programme.

The charity has a close relationship with Northumberland County Council and Arts Council England. These two bodies provide essential core funding to the company. Ongoing funding is subject to annual reviews and agreements on performance targets.

The Queen's Hall, where the bulk of the company's activities take place, is leased from Northumberland County Council, at a peppercorn rent.

The company operates sub-leases at the Queen's Hall to:

- Customer Services, Northumberland CC.
- cafe operators, which under the terms of its lease is required to provide agreed levels of service to arts centre users (in addition to its independent commercial operations).
- small start-up companies in the Creative Spaces area.

There is no structural connection between the charity and these companies.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
*For the year ended 31 March 2024*

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**Recruitment and Appointment of Board of Trustees**

The recruitment of new members is periodically undertaken by the Board, which follows an open and fair recruitment process taking due account of the skills needed by the company and the desire for its membership to reflect the diversity of the local population.

Nominees appointed by the Local Authority are subject to the appointment processes of this body and the guidelines on appointment to public office as they apply to local government nominees.

**Trustee Induction and Training**

New Trustees are inducted by the Chair and Artistic Director and are provided with a range of resources to support their understanding of Queen's Hall Arts' activities. Trustee training is delivered either through external advisors or charity members of staff.

**Reserves Policy**

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's needs for reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission, having reviewed the risks facing the organisation, seeking to maintain a level of reserves which enables the charity to operate effectively with financial stability and the means to fulfil its charitable purpose.

The Trustees aim to hold a level of Unrestricted Funds which enables the charity to have sufficient working capital to continue to operate and also reflects the risks associated with shortfalls in funding, especially withdrawal of support from existing funders. If alternative sources of funding were not forthcoming, then this amount would provide the means for Queen's Hall Arts to settle any outstanding contracts and close the company in an orderly manner.

The Trustees anticipate the free Unrestricted Funds needed to fulfil these criteria as £60,000 as a minimum. The Trustees then aspire to retain an additional allowance of £20,000 as a further contingency and to enable the charity to respond flexibly to issues or appropriate initiatives which might be identified outside of its annual budgeting process.

The target level of free Unrestricted Funds is therefore in the range of £60,000 to £80,000.

The charity's total Unrestricted Funds at 31 March 2024 are £706,909.

Free Reserves, defined as non-designated Unrestricted Funds minus the value of Unrestricted Tangible Fixed Assets of £731,483, are therefore £(24,574) and therefore fall below the target range.

The Trustees aim, through their budgeting processes, to restore Free Reserves to within the target range within 5 years.

The Board regularly reviews the level of reserves that are required to ensure that they are adequate to fulfil our continuing obligations and to allow the organisation to fulfil its charitable purpose.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
*For the year ended 31 March 2024*

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**Grant Making Policy**

The charity does not currently engage in grant-making activity, other than the occasional award of small bursaries.

**The Contribution of Volunteers**

The charity normally works with approximately 25 volunteers per year.

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Charitable Purpose**

The Objects of the charity are to advance public education and appreciation in the arts in all their forms, particularly but not exclusively, for the benefit of the people in the countries of Northumberland, Cumbria, Tyne and Wear and Durham through the provision, maintenance and management of Queen's Hall Arts Centre, Hexham and by any other charitable means that the trustees may from time to time think fit.

**Mission & Vision**

In 2016 a new mission statement was agreed by the Trustees. This informed delivery subsequently provided the structure for successful medium-term funding bids to Arts Council England and Northumberland County Council.

**OUR MISSION is to be the creative heart of the community delivering great arts experiences and supporting professional and aspiring artists.**

**THE CREATIVE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY**

- a. A welcoming and stimulating environment for all to experience a broad range of arts activities.
- b. Theatre, studio and gallery spaces and other resources at the Queen's Hall Arts Centre for the presentation of work to the highest possible standard.
- c. A focal point for cultural organisations where links and partnerships can be developed.
- d. Engagement with the full diversity of our community.
- e. Resources that can be easily accessed by a large rural catchment.

**GREAT ARTS EXPERIENCES**

- f. A range of shows, exhibitions and other events that are both entertaining and stimulating.
- g. High quality touring work from across the country (and beyond) that reflects the diversity and range of contemporary arts interests in Britain.
- h. In-house and commissioned work that is informed by a relationship with the community.
- i. Participatory activities that are fulfilling and develop skills.
- j. Great events and other activities across West Northumberland (and beyond).

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
*For the year ended 31 March 2024*

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)**

**Mission & Vision (Cont.)**

**SUPPORTING PROFESSIONAL AND ASPIRING ARTISTS**

- k. Commissions, productions & co-productions.
- l. Residencies.
- m. Mentoring and other long-term support.
- n. Training and skills development opportunities.
- o. A high proportion of our work with and for young people.
- p. Technical and organisational support for artists opening new productions.
- q. Networking, collaborating and taking part in partnership initiatives.
- r. Programming new and challenging work.
- s. Contributing to a viable arts ecology, regionally and nationally.

Queen's Hall Arts' vision statement is to "develop high quality arts provision at the Queen's Hall Arts Centre that will enrich and serve local and outreached communities, developing a creative future for all".

**Public Benefit**

The Trustees understand and have discussed the implications of the provisions of the Charities Act 2006, which state that all charities must demonstrate that they are established for public benefit, and have had due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission. The Trustees believe that the charity meets both of the key principles.

Principle 1 – There must be an identifiable benefit, or benefits

Queen's Hall Arts is committed to the educational and social advancements that benefit from its activities and to making those activities as accessible as possible. We provide year-round participatory activities both in community and educational settings.

The artistic programme at the arts centre includes a range of events which reflect a wide variety of local interests, creating opportunities for audiences and performers. Our ticket pricing policy includes discounts to students, and those on low incomes. Exhibitions in the gallery are free. We provide and subsidise outreached events to small communities across a large part of Northumberland.

Principle 2 - Benefit must be to the public, or a section of the public

Queen's Hall Arts' work is available to all members of the public.

**Risk Management**

The Trustees will continue to conduct an annual risk management review and put in place any required plans or procedures.

As licensed premises the Queen's Hall is subject to regular inspection from statutory and other regulatory bodies to ensure compliance and good practice in a number of areas including health and safety, environmental health, and management of performing rights.

Financial reports are produced by management on a quarterly basis and presented to board meetings. These reports are also subject to scrutiny by the Finance and Risk Committee.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
*For the year ended 31 March 2024*

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)**

**Risk Management (Cont.)**

The Trustees consider the key risks facing the charity at this time and the mitigating actions taken to be as follows:

Workload of core staff and freelance team becomes unmanageable:

- Month check-ins in place to identify any workload issues at early stage and implement mitigating actions.
- Annual activity of company mapped out to understand any potential 'pinch-points' and additional resource/staffing built into project budgets and arranged as required.
- Realistic time frames built into all projects
- Health and wellbeing of team prioritised to ensure a positive and supporting working culture.

Not achieving audience targets:

- Focus on regional touring and strong audience development work with local audiences and community partners.
- Developing a robust marketing plan for the organisation and for every project. Sales reports are monitored and acted on in good time if not at target.
- Projected income from tickets sales reflects the current financial climate.

Long-term absence of Director, other Senior Management or Trustees due to resignation or illness:

- Development of Senior Management Team supports absences.
- Increasing the number of Trustees improves resilience and Trustee succession planning, as well as providing consistently.

Not achieving income targets (trusts and foundations, earned income, individual giving):

- Uncertainty around long-term impact on Trusts and Foundations funding mitigated through building relationships with existing funders, and making applications to new funders, to build on previous fundraising success.
- Opportunities to diversify income further are currently being explored through consideration of increased individual giving and sponsorship opportunities.

Increased footfall in the venue will increase maintenance costs:

- Monitored by the Senior Management Team and reported to the Operations Sub-Committee.
- Expansion of venue levy added to key performances to support additional costs
- A more confident strategy of ticket pricing for commercial and touring work
- Clear donation messaging within the building to encourage donations
- Strategic programming of early-years shows in the studio space as first experiences for nurseries and families

Cost of Living crisis impacts operations:

- Increases to salaries and freelance rates of pay have been accounted for in 2024-25 budget.
- Projects realistically budgeted and contingencies increased and utilised as required.
- Regular financial monitoring by Senior Management Team and Finance and Risk Committee.

Compliance with legislation/regulations appropriate to the activities, size and structure of the charity:

- Balanced Board including experienced Trustees, an annual Board calendar with applicable requirements noted, responsibilities assigned and monitored.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
*For the year ended 31 March 2024*

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)**

**Risk Management (Cont.)**

The Trustees also manage the general financial risks arising by ensuring that:

- Prudent budgets have been set for the next financial year
- The charity maintains a prudent, low-cost operating base
- Regular management accounts are provided, showing the performance against budget
- Contingency plans are in place should income levels appear unlikely to reach targets
- Reserves policies have been adopted which provide an appropriate level of uncommitted reserves which will enable the charity to meet its liabilities.

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

**Facing Forward: A Year of Growth, Connection, and Creative Resilience**

In 2023/24, Queen's Hall Arts (QHA) once again demonstrated the power of adaptability and our commitment to the community amid economic and social challenges. The work of QHA is driven by our mission to:

- Be the creative heart of the community
- Enable great art experiences
- Support professional and aspiring artists

This annual report highlights our progress, innovations and partnerships that continue to shape QHA as a cultural cornerstone in the Tyne Valley and beyond. From expanding audience engagement to solidifying strategic partnerships, our journey this year underscores our dedication to inclusivity, regional collaboration, and meaningful community impact.

**Summary of Major Achievements**

Over the past year, we have broadened our reach and reinforced our commitment to the North East's creative landscape. Through dynamic performances, exhibitions and transformative educational initiatives, our programming and partnership activities reflect our ambition to nurture accessibility and engagement with cultural experiences. In 2023/24, QHA welcomed over 92,000 visits across 788 performances, workshops, and exhibitions, cementing our role as a vibrant creative hub for Hexham and the wider Northumberland community. We supported more than 30 freelancers, ensuring local creative professionals have opportunities to thrive in a professional environment. In October 2024 we celebrated our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as an organisation and chose to mark this with a rebrand, as well as a cake!

**Expanding Our Reach and Community Engagement**

This year, we continued to build on the momentum generated by community-focused projects, such as the Hexham Cultural Network and regional partnerships, which allowed us to amplify our work beyond Hexham. Through initiatives like Key Change and Hexham Pride, we engaged with a diverse range of audiences, particularly youth and underrepresented groups.

We also invested in our exhibition programme, showcasing local and regional artists, with a mix of established and early career artists, while the introduction of regular jazz programming diversified our offerings further.

**Showcasing the Arts and Our Region**

In 2023/24, QHA received notable media recognition, with coverage from outlets including BBC, Newcastle Chronicle, Metro Radio, and Tyne Tees. This exposure amplifies our impact within the North East arts community and connects us with broader audiences who share our commitment to

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
*For the year ended 31 March 2024*

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)**

**Summary of main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)**

cultural expression and regional pride. Through sustained and impactful coverage, we reinforce QHA's position as a regional leader in the arts, sharing our story—and the stories of the North East—with a wider audience.

**Key Project Highlights of 2023/24**

**New Projects & Continued Successes**

Over the past year, Queen's Hall Arts (QHA) has achieved significant milestones across various projects, reinforcing our commitment to community engagement and artistic excellence.

**Illuminated Sheep:** Our flagship visual arts project was featured in The Alnwick Garden's Winter Trail, drawing an impressive 48,500 visitors. This success highlights our programme's appeal and our role in enhancing cultural vibrancy in the region.

**Collaborative Productions:** In collaboration with Alnwick Playhouse and The Alnwick Gardens, we remounted *Wind in the Willows* in a new, purpose-built theatre space at the Gardens.

**Hexham Pride: A Community Celebration:** The inaugural Hexham Pride was a remarkable achievement, funded by the Hexham High Street Heritage Action Zone Cultural Programme and the National Lottery. Our programming included an inclusive folk music gig, a young people's takeover, and a work-in-progress sharing. The week-long celebration in early June surpassed expectations, fostering inclusivity and community spirit through events like a parade, park run, and rainbow planting.

**Beneath Our Feet:** This arts and heritage project, involving 12 schools from the Haydon Bridge Partnership, has allowed pupils to explore their local history through the lens of heavy industry, resulting in powerful artworks that tell their communities' stories. The final exhibition at QHA attracted over 5,000 visitors, with positive feedback highlighting the project's impact on local pride and historical understanding. *"Our pupils have taken so much away from the project, both personally and academically."* Lee Ferris, Headteacher at Kielder Primary School.

**Key Change Youth Music Project:** Funded by Youth Music, the Key Change project empowered young people from West Northumberland to plan and deliver their own music festival, Find Festival. With over 2,000 visitors, the event showcased the capabilities and creativity of the young people. *"It's a good opportunity to show adults that kids can take responsibility and create something for everyone to enjoy."* Hannah, Queen Elizabeth High School student *"I can't believe Hexham pulled this off! It looked good on publicity but was even better!"*

**Hexham Lantern Parade:** For the third consecutive year, QHA successfully managed and found funding for the Hexham Lantern Parade. Community workshops enabled participants to create lanterns, nurturing a sense of achievement and pride among young creators. The event was a joyful celebration of creativity and collaboration. *"I had a great time - what a happy place we live in."*

**Queen's Hall Youth Theatre Ensemble:** Our Youth Theatre continues to flourish, providing an inclusive and collaborative space for young people to express themselves. Leaders observed remarkable progress in participants' confidence, culminating in a performance featuring all members

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
*For the year ended 31 March 2024*

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)**

**Summary of main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)**

on our main stage. Feedback from parents and participants underscores the transformative impact of the youth theatre experience.

**Community Engagement and Educational Visits:** QHA welcomed numerous schools and nurseries, with performances and exhibitions like *The Tiger Who Came to Tea*. These visits sparked creativity and curiosity, with positive feedback reflecting the experiences of children and teachers alike.

*"It was really good seeing how they control the lights on stage, I didn't know they had that many controls in one room!" "It was messy and fun making the lanterns, I felt proud of the lantern that I made" "It was funny seeing the actors practising their lines, I loved the expressions on their faces" We look forward to organising further events in partnership with the Queen's Hall in the near future.*  
" Year 4 children, St. Mary's R.C. First School

**Christmas Productions and Events:** In collaboration with Alnwick Playhouse, we staged *Snow White*, which saw increased ticket sales and audience engagement. We widened our whole Christmas programming to cater to a diverse audience, culminating in sold-out performances, including two shows by *The Unthanks* at Hexham Abbey

*"Snow White was brilliant this evening! Genuinely one of the best pantos we have been to!"*

*"Funny and charming."* North East Theatre Guide

*"We giggled, booed and cheered our way through this performance of Snow White and were in awe of the singing, acting and comic-timing!"* Hallbankgate Village School

**Addressing Economic Pressures and Sustaining Resilience**

Throughout 2023/24, Queen's Hall Arts faced the realities of rising costs and evolving audience expectations with proactive strategies aimed at maintaining accessibility and financial sustainability. We began to turn around our finances through initiatives such as "pay ahead" for Christmas performances and strategic cost-saving measures. These efforts, supported by diversified programming, helped us navigate financial pressures while prioritising our mission.

**Fostering Long-Term Sustainability and Innovation**

To bolster our resilience, we implemented several organisational and financial strategies:

- **Enhanced Staffing Structure:** Our Senior Management Team now leads efforts to optimise delivery and expand funding channels.
- **Expanded Revenue Streams:** Increasing bar, retail, and private hire income has supported our operational budget while enhancing visitor experience.
- **Governance Strengthening:** Strategic board recruitment has enriched our leadership with diverse expertise and a shared commitment, aligning our mission with sustainable, future-focused growth.

**Looking Ahead**

As we reflect on this transformative year, we look forward to continuing our journey, guided by an unwavering commitment to our community and a vision for an inclusive, accessible arts landscape.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
*For the year ended 31 March 2024*

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)**

**Summary of main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)**

Our focus on community partnerships, audience engagement, and artistic innovation will remain central to our development as we work to deepen our cultural impact and strengthen Queen's Hall Arts for the future.

We are also committed to documenting our wellbeing impacts and the economic benefits our work brings to the region, positioning QHA as a leading cultural organisation in the North East.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
*For the year ended 31 March 2024*

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)**

**Financial Review**

The out-turn for the year is an unrestricted deficit of £(101,800) (2023: Deficit £166,739). The deficit will be deducted from Unrestricted Funds, leaving a balance on Unrestricted Funds at 31 March 2024 of £706,909.

The financial landscape in 2023/24 continues to pose significant challenges for Queen's Hall Arts. International uncertainty and the ongoing cost-of-living crisis have introduced new levels of unpredictability, requiring us to continuously adapt and recalibrate our financial strategies. Rising energy prices remain a major strain, significantly impacting operational costs, while the necessary maintenance expenses continue to grow with the increased costs from suppliers.

However, despite these financial pressures, we continue to see growing audiences and increased ticket sales, demonstrating the community's strong support for our work. This resilience reinforces our commitment to navigating these challenges while delivering valuable arts and cultural experiences to our communities.

**PLANS FOR THE FUTURE**

What are the ambitions and challenges for the next 12 months?

Led by our mission to be the creative heart of the community, enabling great art experiences and supporting professional and aspiring artists, the main focus of the organisation for 2024/25 will be to:

- Expand our audiences to include a wider demographic and measure the geographic spread of our audiences.
- Work in partnership with a community steering group to deliver Hexham Pride.
- Create a new partnership with Dance City to pilot dance activity to over 55s.
- Further widen our income streams through our bar and retail offer.
- Relaunch our Friend's scheme and expand the number of membership options.
- Reduce our energy consumption with improvements to our heating and hot water systems
- Continue to strengthen environmental thinking and share our strategy with cultural sector in Hexham.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
***For the year ended 31 March 2024***

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES**

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of Queen's Hall Arts for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments 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 financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

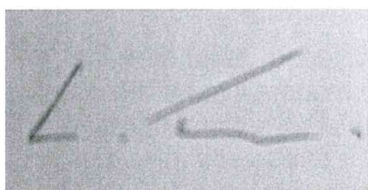
The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the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

**Audit Enquiries**

As far as Trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware. Each of the Trustees has taken all steps that they ought to have taken as Trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of such information.

**Auditors**

Cocke, Vellacott & Hill were appointed as auditors during the year.



Signed on behalf of the Trustees

**Lynn Turner**  
**Trustee**  
**Company Registration Number 03929839**

**27 November 2024**

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**AUDITORS' REPORT**  
*For the year ended 31 March 2024*

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Queen's Hall Arts for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, summary income and expenditure, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2023, and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

**Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

**Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**AUDITORS' REPORT**  
***For the year ended 31 March 2024***

We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Other matter**

This is the first year in which this charity has had to have an audit in accordance with statute. The comparative figures in these financial statements have not been audited.

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

**Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 10 the trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

**Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud**

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

We have obtained an understanding of the charity's policies and procedures through discussions with senior management.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**AUDITORS' REPORT**  
***For the year ended 31 March 2024***

We also drew on our existing understanding of the work that the charity does and reviewed available third party information about the charity.

We understand that the charity complies with its responsibilities through close involvement of the CEO in the day to day running of the business and regular liaison between him and the Chair of trustees. Were there any litigation or claims they would come to the attention of the CEO directly.

The charity also holds quarterly board meetings and quarterly Finance and Risk Committee meetings at which all such matters are discussed. Financial and governance matters are discussed in detail along with attendance trends and future strategy. We have reviewed the minutes of all board meetings, and no irregularities were identified.

In the context of the audit, we considered those laws and regulations which determine the form and content of the financial statements, which are central to the charity's ability to conduct business and where failure to comply could result in material penalties.

We have considered the disclosure requirements of the Charities Act 2011, along with the Charities SORP FRS102 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 as part of our finalisation processes.

We discussed the possibility of fraud with senior management and whether they had any knowledge of any actual, alleged or suspected fraud. We designed our audit tests to cover all areas of activity at the centre.

In common with all audits under ISAs (UK) we also performed specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override. We assessed that the charity's control environment is adequate for the size and operating model of such a charity.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Cocke, Vellacott & Hill*

**COCKE, VELLACOTT & HILL**  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor  
Unit 15 City Business Centre  
Lower Road  
LONDON SE16 2XB

Date: 27 November 2024

Cocke, Vellacott & Hill is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income</b>					
Income from Investments	2	1,120	-	1,120	200
Income from Grants, Donations & Legacies	3	247,479	165,045	412,524	460,116
Income from Charitable Activities	4	580,860	-	580,860	420,299
Other Income	5	59,247	-	59,247	9,031
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>888,706</b>	<b>165,045</b>	<b>1,053,751</b>	<b>889,646</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Cost of Raising Funds	6	3,750	-	3,750	1,250
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	7	986,756	225,230	1,211,986	1,038,110
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>990,506</b>	<b>225,230</b>	<b>1,215,736</b>	<b>1,039,360</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>		<b>(101,800)</b>	<b>(60,185)</b>	<b>(161,985)</b>	<b>(149,714)</b>
Balance brought forward at 1 April		808,709	105,925	914,634	1,064,348
<b>Balance carried forward at 31 March</b>		<b>£706,909</b>	<b>£45,740</b>	<b>£752,649</b>	<b>£914,634</b>

The notes on pages 19 to 31 form part of the financial statements.

All of the activities of the company are classed as continuing.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION/BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 MARCH 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Fixed Assets	10	731,483	769,685
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Stocks	11	2,848	2,500
Debtors	12	122,277	86,982
Cash At Bank & In Hand		70,768	249,541
		<u>195,893</u>	<u>339,023</u>
<b>Creditors – Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year</b>	13	(174,727)	(194,074)
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)		<u>21,166</u>	<u>144,949</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	14	<u><b>£752,649</b></u>	<u><b>£914,634</b></u>
<b>Represented by:</b>			
Unrestricted Funds	15	706,909	808,709
Restricted Funds	15	45,740	105,925
		<u><b>£752,649</b></u>	<u><b>£914,634</b></u>

The notes on pages 19 to 31 form part of the financial statements.

The Trustees are satisfied that for the year ended 31 March 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption under section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

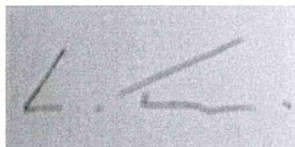
The Trustees also confirm that the Members have not required the charity to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

(i) ensuring that the charity keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and

(ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charity.

**These financial statements were approved and signed by a Member of the Board of Trustees on 27 November 2024.**



**Lynn Turner**  
**Trustee**  
**Company Registration Number 03929839**

# **QUEEN'S HALL ARTS (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

### **1. Accounting Policies**

#### **Basis of Accounting**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 – 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland' ('FRS 102'), and with the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP FRS 102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, modified to include certain financial instruments at fair value.

Advantage has been taken of the provisions in the SORP for Charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a statement of cashflows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.

#### **Taxation Status**

Queen's Hall Arts Limited is a Charity registered under the 1960 Charities Act and is accorded exemption from liability to taxation on its income under S505 Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

#### **Going Concern**

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

#### **Income**

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, any performance related conditions attached have been met or are fully within the control of the charity, the income is considered probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Donations and legacy income is received by way of donations, legacies, grants and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.
- Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Income from charitable trading activity is accounted for when earned.
- Other income is accounted for when receivable.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**1. Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**Operating Leases**

The charity classifies the lease of certain types of equipment as operating leases as the title to the equipment remains with the lessor. Rental charges are charged against income on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

**Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation**

Depreciation is provided on any fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the assets over their remaining useful lives as follows:

Motor Vehicles	- 25% straight line on cost
Plant & Machinery	- 10% straight line on cost
Fixtures & Fittings	- 25% straight line on cost
Long Leasehold	- 10% straight line on cost
Property Improvements	- 10% straight line on cost

A full year's depreciation charge is applied in the year of acquisition and no charge is made in the year of disposal.

**Impairment of Fixed Assets**

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

**Financial Instruments**

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost where there is a material adjustment.

**Fund Accounting**

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

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

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**1. Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**Stocks**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

**Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. There are no significant judgements or estimation uncertainty included within the financial statements.

**Pensions**

The charity operates a defined benefit pension scheme for 1 qualifying employee. The scheme is not open for others to join. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

Pension benefits for other staff are provided through a defined contribution scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in a separately administered fund. The charity makes contributions to this pension scheme and acts as an agent in collecting and paying over both the employee and employer contributions.

For both schemes, the charity makes contributions to this pension scheme and acts as an agent in collecting and paying over both the employee and employer contributions, whilst the amount charged to the Statement of Financial Activities for pension costs is the contributions payable in the year. Differences between contributions payable in the year and contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments in the Balance Sheet.

**Legal Status**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1. The company law members of the charity are the members of its Board of Trustees.

**2. Income from Investments**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Interest Receivable	1,120	-	1,120	200
	<b>£1,120</b>	<b>£-</b>	<b>£1,120</b>	<b>£200</b>

The 2023 total of £200 was wholly attributable to Unrestricted Funds.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**3. Income from Grants, Donations & Legacies**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
Arts Council England (ACE) – National Portfolio Organisation	120,321	-	120,321	120,321
ACE – Small-Scale Capital	-	-	-	(30,081)
ACE – Cultural Recovery Fund	-	-	-	21,529
ACE – Cultural Capital Kickstart	-	-	-	3,065
Arts Society – Book Festival Intern	-	3,000	3,000	-
Community Foundation – Tynedale Community Choir	-	-	-	2,780
29th May 1961 Charitable Trust – Roof Repairs	-	6,000	6,000	-
Smith (Haltwhistle and District) Charitable Trust	600	-	600	-
Hadrian Trust – Youth Theatre	-	1,000	1,000	-
Historic England – Beneath Our Feet	-	1,750	1,750	9,850
National Foundation for Youth Music - Key Change Project 2023	-	43,120	43,120	-
National Foundation for Youth Music - Key Change Project 2024	-	40,768	40,768	-
Northumberland County Council (NCC)	120,008	-	120,008	5,000
NCC – Hexham High Street Heritage Action Zone	-	-	-	7,000
NCC - Ignite	-	2,253	2,253	77,748
NCC – Illuminated Sheep	-	-	-	45,000
NCC - Platinum Jubilee Event/Beacons	-	-	-	74,811
NCC - Revenue	-	-	-	95,777
NTCA – Illuminated Sheep	-	36,244	36,244	-
NTCA - Lanterns	-	29,178	29,178	-
Ray Wind Fund – Beneath Our Feet	-	-	-	6,000
TNC Community Fund - Hexham Pride	-	-	-	8,500
UNESCO - Ukrainian Artists in danger	-	-	-	5,322
	<b>240,929</b>	<b>163,313</b>	<b>404,242</b>	<b>452,622</b>
Donations	6,550	1,732	8,282	7,494
	<b>£247,479</b>	<b>£165,045</b>	<b>£412,524</b>	<b>£460,116</b>

Of the 2023 total of £460,116, £244,721 was attributable to Unrestricted Funds and £215,395 to Restricted Funds.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**4. Income from Charitable Activities**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
Ticket Sales & Commission	414,004	-	414,004	265,459
Theatre/Room Hire & Library Service Charges	140,440	-	140,440	75,225
Front Of House Sales & Commission	8,854	-	8,854	8,021
Recharge Income	17,562	-	17,562	71,594
	<b>£580,860</b>	<b>£-</b>	<b>£580,860</b>	<b>£420,299</b>

The 2023 total of £420,299 was wholly attributable to Unrestricted Funds.

**5. Other Income**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
Museums & Galleries Exhibition Tax Relief	-	-	-	(7,813)
Other Income	2,250	-	2,250	165
Café & Ice Cream Sales	49,197	-	49,197	8,879
Café Franchise & Service Charges	7,800	-	7,800	7,800
	<b>£59,247</b>	<b>£-</b>	<b>£59,247</b>	<b>£9,031</b>

The 2023 total of £9,031 was wholly attributable to Unrestricted Funds.

**6. Expenditure on Raising Funds**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
Fundraising Consultancy	3,750	-	3,750	1,250
	<b>£3,750</b>	<b>£-</b>	<b>£3,750</b>	<b>£1,250</b>

The 2023 total of £1,250 was wholly attributable to Restricted Funds.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**7. Expenditure on Charitable Activities**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Cost of Sales</b>				
Advertising, Design & Publicity	49,190	-	49,190	17,879
Box Office Software/Card Charges	30,728	-	30,728	24,770
Exhibition Costs	11,036	-	11,036	4,199
Film Costs	7,102	-	7,102	5,604
Freelance Fees	12,516	-	12,516	45,758
Front Of House Costs	7,434	-	7,434	7,854
Performance Fees & Settlements	233,157	-	233,157	165,665
Project & Activity Expenditure	23,732	222,230	245,962	305,311
Purchases/Stock	28,471	-	28,471	4,478
Salaries & On Costs	316,302	3,000	319,302	253,650
	<b>719,668</b>	<b>225,230</b>	<b>944,898</b>	<b>835,168</b>
<b>Support Costs</b>				
Building/Equipment Maintenance	25,469	-	25,469	42,425
Depreciation & Amortisation	57,472	-	57,472	59,382
Heat, Light & Water	99,137	-	99,137	57,741
ICT, Telephone & Website	33,917	-	33,917	8,918
Insurance	9,390	-	9,390	2,476
Other Premises Costs	7,564	-	7,564	8,606
Other Administration & Running Costs	17,226	-	17,226	18,882
	<b>250,175</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>250,175</b>	<b>198,430</b>
<b>Governance Costs</b>				
Accountancy & Audit/Examination	11,250	-	11,250	4,512
Legal & Professional	5,642	-	5,642	-
Trustee Meeting Costs	21	-	21	-
	<b>16,913</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,913</b>	<b>4,512</b>
	<b>£986,756</b>	<b>£225,230</b>	<b>£1,211,986</b>	<b>£1,038,110</b>

Of the 2023 total of £1,038,110, £840,990 was attributable to Unrestricted Funds and £197,120 to Restricted Funds.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**8. Net Income/(Expenditure)**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Auditor's Fees	5,000	-
Independent Examiner's Fees	-	1,500
Independent Examiner – Other Services	-	600
Depreciation of owned Fixed Assets	57,472	59,382

**9. Staff Costs & Trustees' Remuneration**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Gross Salary Costs	290,954	226,721
Employer's National Insurance	16,368	12,501
Employer's Pension Contributions	11,980	14,428
	<b>£319,302</b>	<b>£253,650</b>

No employee received remuneration of more than £60,000 during the year (2023 - Nil).

The charity defines Key Management Personnel as the Trustees and the members of the Senior Management Team. Remuneration of £127,398 (2023: £102,504), including employer's pension contributions, was paid by the charity during the year to Key Management Personnel.

The average number of staff employed during the year, calculated as full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
Artistic Production and Support	16	13

The charity operates a defined benefit pension scheme for all qualifying employees (1 Employee). The scheme is not open for others to join. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

Pension benefits for other staff are provided through a NEST Group Personal Pension Scheme, which is a defined contribution scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in a separately administered fund. The charity makes contributions to this pension scheme and acts as an agent in collecting and paying over both the employee and employer contributions.

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**9. Staff Costs & Trustees' Remuneration (Cont.)**

In the year to 31 March 2024 Queen's Hall Arts made an employer's contribution of 3% of pensionable pay, provided that the employee makes a minimum contribution of 5%.

These amounts are paid over to the scheme on a monthly basis. No contributions were outstanding at 31 March 2024 (2023: £Nil).

The charge to profit and loss in respect of all pension schemes was £11,980 (2023 - £14,428).

No remuneration has been paid to any Trustees/Directors in the year (2023: £Nil).

No reimbursement has been made of any Travel and Subsistence expenses to Trustees in respect of their attendance at meetings of the charity (2023: £Nil).

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**10. Tangible Fixed Assets**

	<b>Leasehold Improvements £</b>	<b>Plant &amp; Machinery £</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2023	950,583	44,942
Additions	-	16,439
At 31 March 2024	950,583	61,381
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 April 2023	226,498	44,942
Charge for year	32,320	1,644
At 31 March 2024	258,818	46,586
<b>Net Book Value</b>		
At 31 March 2024	<b>£691,765</b>	<b>£14,795</b>
At 1 April 2023	£724,085	£-
	<b>Fixtures &amp; Fittings £</b>	<b>Total Fixed Assets £</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2023	159,317	1,154,842
Additions	2,831	19,270
At 31 March 2024	162,148	1,174,112
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 April 2023	113,717	385,157
Charge for year	23,508	57,472
At 31 March 2024	137,225	442,629
<b>Net Book Value</b>		
At 31 March 2024	<b>£24,923</b>	<b>£731,483</b>
At 1 April 2023	£45,600	£769,685

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**11. Stock**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Finished Goods for Resale	2,848	2,500
	<b>£2,848</b>	<b>£2,500</b>

**12. Debtors**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade Debtors	28,694	9,671
Grant Debtors	57,253	51,600
Other Debtors	12,750	7,426
Accrued Income	10,865	8,187
Prepayments	12,715	10,098
	<b>£122,277</b>	<b>£86,982</b>

**13. Creditors – Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other Taxes & Social Security Costs	18,513	10,576
Income Received In Advance	136	-
Trade Creditors	43,146	9,984
Other Creditors	54,530	58,587
Accruals	58,402	114,927
	<b>£174,727</b>	<b>£194,074</b>

**14. Analysis of Net Assets between Funds**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Fixed Assets	731,483	-	731,483	769,685
Stock	2,848	-	2,848	2,500
Debtors	65,024	57,253	122,277	86,982
Cash at Bank and In Hand	82,281	(11,513)	70,768	249,541
Creditors – Amounts Due Within 1 Year	(174,727)	-	(174,727)	(194,074)
	<b>£706,909</b>	<b>£45,740</b>	<b>£752,649</b>	<b>£914,634</b>

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**15. Analysis of Charitable Funds**

	<b>Fund at 1 April 2023 £</b>	<b>Incoming Resources in Year £</b>	<b>Resources Expended in Year £</b>	<b>Fund at 31 March 2024 £</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
Charity General Fund	808,709	888,706	(990,506)	706,909
	<b>808,709</b>	<b>888,706</b>	<b>(990,506)</b>	<b>706,909</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
29th May 1961 Charitable Trust – Roof Repairs	-	6,000	-	6,000
Arts Society – Book Festival Intern	-	3,000	(3,000)	-
Community Foundation – Beneath Our Feet	7,486	-	(7,486)	-
Donations – Roof Repairs	-	1,732	-	1,732
Hadrian Trust – Youth Theatre	-	1,000	(1,000)	-
Historic England – Beneath Our Feet	9,850	1,750	(11,600)	-
National Foundation for Youth Music - Key Change Project 2023	-	43,120	(43,120)	-
National Foundation for Youth Music - Key Change Project 2024	-	40,768	(2,760)	38,008
Northumberland County Council - Fundraiser	3,750	-	(3,750)	-
Northumberland County Council - Ignite	29,046	2,253	(31,299)	-
NTCA – Illuminated Sheep	-	36,244	(36,244)	-
NTCA - Lanterns	-	29,178	(29,178)	-
Ray Wind Fund – Beneath Our Feet	6,000	-	(6,000)	-
TNC Community Fund - Hexham Pride	8,325	-	(8,325)	-
Youth Music – Key Change	41,468	-	(41,468)	-
	<b>105,925</b>	<b>165,045</b>	<b>(225,230)</b>	<b>45,740</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>£914,634</b>	<b>£1,053,751</b>	<b>£(1,215,736)</b>	<b>£752,649</b>

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**15. Analysis of Charitable Funds (Cont.)**

<b>Name of Restricted Fund</b>	<b>Description, Nature &amp; Purpose of the Restricted Fund</b>
29th May 1961 Charitable Trust / Donations – Roof Repairs	Towards the cost of future roof renovation and repairs
Arts Society – Book Festival Intern	Towards the cost on an intern role to support work on Hexham Book Festival
Community Foundation / Historic England / Ray Wind Fund – Beneath Our Feet	To support artistic activity in schools
Hadrian Trust – Youth Theatre	Towards the costs of youth theatre work
North of Tyne Combined Authority – Lanterns	Towards the costs of a lanterns festival
Northumberland CC / North of Tyne Combined Authority - Illuminated Sheep	To support a county-wide visual art trail
Northumberland CC – Fundraiser	Towards the costs of engaging a freelance fundraiser
Northumberland County Council – Ignite	Towards the costs of the Ignite programme
TNC Community Fund - Hexham Pride	Towards the costs of the 2024 Pride event
Youth Music – Key Change	To support a youth-led music festival

**QUEEN'S HALL ARTS  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**16. Related Party Transactions**

The charity has a close working relationship with Arts Council England which is a registered charity and has provided significant funding which enables the charity to carry out its charitable objectives. In total, grant funding of £120,231 (2023: £114,834) was recognised from Arts Council England in the year. At 31 March 2024, no sums were owing to Queen's Hall Arts from Arts Council England (31 March 2023: £Nil).

The charity also has a close relationship with Northumberland County Council (NCC) which provides essential core funding to the charity, as well as occasional project-based funding. In addition, the Queen's Hall, where the bulk of the charity's activities take place, is leased from NCC at a peppercorn rent whilst the charity operates sub-leases at the Queen's Hall to NCC Customer Services.

Ongoing NCC funding is subject to annual reviews and agreements on performance targets.

In total, grant funding of £187,683 (2023: £305,336) was recognised from NCC in the year. At 31 March 2024, £57,252 was owing to Queen's Hall Arts from NCC (31 March 2023: £45,000).

There were no other transactions in the year with related parties, such as are required to be disclosed (2023: Nil).

**17. Taxation**

The company is a registered charity and no provision is considered necessary for taxation.

**18. Financial Commitments**

No material financial commitments have been made in respect of future financial periods.

**19. Company Limited by Guarantee**

The charity is incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 and is limited by guarantee, each member having undertaken to contribute such amounts not exceeding £1 as may be required in the event of the company being wound up whilst he or she is still a member or within one year thereafter.

There are currently 11 members of the company (2023 - 10 members).

